



Treasurer's Report

Dear Members,

What is the one thing you are looking forward to as the busy season winds down and the daylight begins to last longer? Is it the freshness of spring with new life in the air? Is it quiet time with the strangers you once called family before the busy season started? How about just sitting back and counting all the money you made? I don't know about you, but *I* am looking forward to a trip back to Myrtle Beach SC for the National Chimney Sweep convention with the keynote speaker Michael Gerber. I have read his book "The E-Myth Revisited" at least six times now and every time I do, I cannot help but to bow my head in reverent awe to his ability to describe my plight as a small business owner. He knows the agony and headaches of running a small business, and the thrill of accomplishment and running a successful (profitable) business. The concepts Mr. Gerber lays out are nothing short of electrifying. If you aren't planning on being in Myrtle Beach in February to hear him speak personally, at least spend twenty bucks and buy his book. It's an extremely easy read, entertaining, and exciting. You will gain a new hope for your business and your future, I promise...plus he's giving me part of the royalties. Just kidding. Take it from me, this book is a MUST-READ for all small business owners.

Enough of the book tour, the time has come for me to write my first Treasurer's Report. It has been a hectic start for me, and I have been learning by the seat of my pants, but the Guild's Finances are in order and looking quite flush with all of your

membership renewals. Currently, the Balance in the B of A "cookie jar" is \$34,378.35. A good sight to behold, and to be proud of as members. We ought to be able to buy at least one politician's influence with that kind of cabbage (ha ha).

Currently, I am working on getting the Guild's Taxes squared away with Uncle Sam, and recently fought off a pack of hungry Sacramento City Tax collectors who had their hands out looking for a buck from the Guild...a little explaining and proof of our Non Profit Tax Exempt status finally satisfied the little rascals.

On a more serious note, I'd like to comment briefly on the outpouring of love and concern on behalf of Keith and Melanie Jackson. As you all know, they lost just about everything in last summer's southern California Wildfires. As soon as the news about their loss circulated through the guild, Checks have been pouring in. In their behalf, thank you, and God bless you. I am humbled by the generosity of the guild and the cohesion exhibited by this outpouring.

Well, I guess that's it for now. Have a wonderful spring, and we'll see you at Jeremy Crane's House for the Southern CA Workshop (or Myrtle Beach).

Sincerely,

Aaron Zambrana, Treasurer