

**Seattle Chapter Meeting
Wednesday, March 24**

**Rainier Golf & Country Club
11133 Des Moines Memorial Drive South
Seattle, WA 98168
(206) 242-4460**

Dress code requirement: no jeans, please

**5:30 – 6:30 Social Hour & Networking
6:30 – 7:30 Dinner & Announcements
7:30 – 8:30 Speaker**

Menu:

Entrée: Roasted New York Sirloin Strip with Wild Mushroom Butter

Dessert: Mixed Berry Crisp

Vegetarian Option: Wild Mushroom, Chevre Cheese, Filo Wrapped Strudel

Members/Faculty	\$27.00
Standing Res	\$26.00
Guests	\$29.00
Students Members	\$19.00
Student Guests	\$21.00
Coffee Only	\$ 5.00

Reservation/Cancellation Policies

Three options:

Use the on-line form

Call Arrangements Chair 206-467-8645

Send email to reservations@aswaseattle.org

Reservations deadline:

5 pm, Thursday, March 18

Cancellations deadline:

Noon, Monday, March 22

**No-shows and late cancellations will be billed.
Walk-ins are welcome but with no meal availability guarantee.**

March 24, 2010

Dinner Speaker

1 Hour CPE

**Speaker: Chuck Johnston from
SeeYourImpact.org**

Topic: Accounting in the Tech Age: server security, social media, software, and emerging accounting technology

Bio:

Chuck Johnston has extensive knowledge and experience working with accountants to help them maximize accounting software and new technologies. He is a lover of technology and his philosophy is using technology to speed up normal tasks and increase interaction between clients and business owners. He currently works for SeeYourImpact.org, a non-profit organization using technology to enable giving and allow donors to connect one to one, as the Marketing Manager.

Prior to this position, he was the Marketing Director for LinkedCPA, an accounting software company aimed at helping accountants with new technologies and emerging tech issues. There he specialized in helping accountants navigate the world of Social Media and understand the dangers and pitfalls of technology. In addition to his marketing and technology work, Chuck Johnston spent several years working for the Boy Scouts of America in the areas of fundraising, program management, and volunteer management. He graduated from Susquehanna University with degrees in History and Philosophy.



Member News is Back

Our long-time members will remember back to the old days when we printed The Journal and featured an article called Member News. Then years ago when The Journal went on-line on the World Wide Web, we stopped doing member news because of privacy concerns. Recently our Director of Communications and the Technology Committee have cleared the way to bring Member News back. We need to celebrate our accomplishments! Here is some exciting member news to kick off the “new” column:

Lindsey Nagel, our new board Secretary, passed the CPA Exam! Lindsey recently stepped in as Secretary to fill a vacancy on the Board. Lindsey works as a project accountant for McHale & Associates, Inc. Congratulations Lindsey – woo hoo!!!

Jenny Willison has accepted the position of Controller at Seattle’s Underground Tour in historic Pioneer Square. Any ghosts hanging around down there to help out with the accounting, Jenny?

Susan Goegebuer started as Accounting Manager for Seaport Petroleum, a biofuels company. Susan says she can’t decide which is her favorite bennie at her new company, being 8.8 miles from home or the 50 gallon gas card she receives each month.

Mary Fisher went to work as Accountant/Controller at The Defender Association, a non-profit agency located in downtown Seattle. The Defender Association is one of Seattle’s public defender organizations, with 135 attorneys, paralegals, investigators and social workers (and 2.1 accountants).

Send us your member news or your friend or co-worker’s member news. Send your tidbits to Mary Fisher, Editor, at journal@aswaseattle.org.

Calendar of Events

2010:

March 10	March Board Meeting
March 24	March Dinner Meeting Topic: Chuck Johnston, LinkedCPA, Accounting in the Tech Age
April 7	April Board Meeting
April 28	April Dinner Meeting Topic: Sharron O’Donnell, CPA, Internal Controls in Downsized Environment
May 12	May Board Meeting
May 26	May Dinner Meeting Topic: Deborah Asavarahapun, Hiring & Overseeing Bookkeepers
June 9	June Board Meeting
June 18-19	NW Area Conference - “Stop and Count the Roses” Portland Crowne Plaza – Portland Convention Center
June 23	June Dinner Meeting Topic: Meena Cheng, CFP – "How to Maximize Social Security"
July 28	July Dinner Meeting Topic: Karen O’Brien, CPA, CFP - Roth IRA Conversion Strategies



Speaker Highlights: January 27, 2009
Tax Update Presentation to ASWA

Presented by: Tina Polf, CPA

Filing Status and Dependents

- o Custodial parent is the parent with who the child resides the most nights during the calendar year
- o Noncustodial parent should obtain a signed Form 8332 from the custodial spouse.
Attaching a divorce decree may no longer be sufficient.

Income

- o Tax-free unemployment benefits up to the first \$2,400
- o IRS continues to look at gross income reported to make sure all income is reported
- o Increased transportation subsidiary for transit to \$230
- o Enhanced Section 529 college savings plan, qualified education expenses will include expenses for computer equipment and technology, including internet access, in tax years beginning in 2009 and 2010
- o First dollars paid for alimony and child support are first applied to child support

IRAs

- o Contribution limit for 2009 is \$5,000
- o For IRA conversions to Roth IRAs in 2010 only, you can either recognize income in 2010 or average it over 2011 and 2012
- o Tax-free distributions from IRAs directly to charities up to \$100,000 are allowed for 2008 and 2009

Deductions

- o Partial property tax deduction allowed for non-itemizers. The lesser of actual amount paid or \$500 (\$1,000 MFJ)
- o Sales tax deduction for new vehicle purchases for non-itemizers. Standard deduction is increased by the sales paid on the first \$49,500 of the cost of each new vehicle purchased between February 16, 2009 and January 1, 2010
- o New Haiti bill permits cash gifts only from Jan 12 to Feb 28, 2010 to be deducted on the 2009 tax return

Credits

- o Making Work Pay is the lesser of 6.2% of earned income or \$400 (\$800 MFJ) for 2009 and 2010. This will be paid by decreased amount of withholding from paychecks. Schedule M is use to calculate credit
- o First-Time Home Buyer Tax Credit Revisited, 10% of the purchase price of home, up to \$8,000. Must purchase by April 30th and close by June 30th 2010. It also authorized a tax credit of up to \$6,500 for qualified repeat home buyers.
- Revised non-business energy property credit for 30% of eligible energy-saving improvements up to \$1,500. Be sure to obtain a Manufacture Certification Statement

For more information Contact:

Tina Polf, CPA Phone: 425-226-1500 E-Mail: TinaPolf@aol.com



Announcements

Next *Journal* Deadline: Friday, April 9, 2010. The Seattle Chapter of the American Society of Women Accountants, to serve its members' interests, publishes the *Journal* monthly. If you have news, seminars, community meetings, committee meetings or an article you would like published, attach the file (preferably in Word™, single spaced with no tables, boxes or irregular formatting) and send to **Mary Fisher** at journal@aswaseattle.org.

Employment Opportunities Newsletter will be posted after the dinner meeting to the Members Only section of the web site. You will need your 5-digit ASWA member ID number to log in. Send email to update@aswaseattle.org if you can't find your member number.

ASWA LinkedIn Group. Please visit our [LinkedIn page](#) and join our group to network with other ASWA members. This is a great way to get connected – and stay connected. We now have over 525 members in ASWA's LinkedIn group and several have started discussion strings. If you've not already done so, please consider becoming a member and participating in the discussions. There are new ones almost every day.

ASWA Mission Statement

The mission of the American Society of Women Accountants is to enable women in all accounting and related fields to achieve their full personal, professional, and economic potential and to contribute to the future development of their profession.

ASWA Claim Statement

For women who seek advancement in the accounting profession, ASWA is a professional membership organization that provides the leadership skills required for success. ASWA provides experienced mentors and a supportive, non-threatening environment to practice business management and establish a professional reputation among peers.