
The **ASWA** *Journal*
Seattle

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<http://www.aswaseattle.org>

October 2005

**Seattle Chapter Meeting
Wednesday, October 26, 2005**

College Club of Seattle
505 Madison Street, Seattle, WA 98104
(206) 622-0624

Social Hour 5:30 pm
Dinner 6:30 pm
Scholarship Dessert Auction

Menu

Entrée: Baked Potato and Taco Bar

Dessert: You Decide!! Will it be chocolate, raspberry or other or a little of all of the above? It's up to you on the scholarship dessert auction.

Members/Faculty	\$25.00
Guests	\$27.00
Student Members	\$17.00
Student Guests	\$19.00
Coffee Only	\$ 3.00

Reservations, even if selecting the coffee only option, need to be made by **1 pm, Thursday, Oct 20**, in order to guarantee a spot. Standing reservations will apply. For **reservations**: use the **Online Reservations Form**, send email to reservations@aswaseattle.com, or contact Nina Buffington, Arrangements Chair, (206) 467-8645 (ASWA voice mail).

For **cancellations**, please call, use the online form, or send an email to cancel no later than noon on **Monday, Oct 24**, before the meeting. No-shows and late cancellations will be billed. Walk-ins are welcome but with no meal availability guarantee.

**Wednesday, October 26, 2005
Dinner Meeting**

SCHOLARSHIP DESSERT AUCTION

Back in the fall of 1994, we launched the idea with four desserts and a basket of chocolate. Eleven years later we invite you to the 12th annual Scholarship Dessert Auction, at our regular dinner meeting **Wed., Oct. 26th** at the College Club. You have made this auction so successful that we are able to limit our scholarship fundraising activities to this single event each year. Since 1962, the Seattle Chapter has awarded more than \$130,000 in scholarships to accounting students. This is one way of supporting the mission of ASWA and benefits the women who will join us in this profession.

There will be no program or speaker at the dinner meeting. It's all about raising Scholarship Funds amidst the camaraderie of ASWA members and guests. This is one fun and delicious evening! **You MUST have a reservation to attend.** Coffee-only is an option. Please make your reservation now. Invite friends and co-workers – the more the merrier. Consider making or sponsoring a dessert – let Patricia Angell know what that will be so space can be reserved for your sweet contribution (tel: 206-236-1932 or e-mail: angellp@u.washington.edu). All the costs of this auction are underwritten by ASWA-Seattle members, so every dollar raised goes directly to scholarships!

If you are unable to attend or cannot participate for any reason (*allergic to fun?*), you can help by sending your check to the ASWA Scholarship Fund (or the ASWA Scholarship Endowment Fund). Please mail your check in care of Patricia Angell at 6018 E. Mercer Way, Mercer Island, WA 98040.

Thank you to everyone who is already supporting this event!

Remember. It is *all* about *scholarship!*



American Society of Women Accountants
Box 237
800 5th Avenue, Suite 101
Seattle, WA 98104-3191

President's Message October 2005

Each month we will feature a table topic at our dinner meetings, which will serve not only as an icebreaker amongst the members and guests at the table, but also give some feedback to the Board and the Strategic Planning Committee for the future direction of the Seattle Chapter of ASWA.

The August table topic was: given declining membership, declining dinner meeting and CPE attendance – and increased competition for your CPE dollars, how can the Seattle Chapter of ASWA maintain its financial or fiscal viability?

One table surveyed themselves as to why they continued as members, what benefits they derived from membership, or why they attended that particular meeting if a quest. Another table suggested we improve search engines' ability to locate us; market our ASWA chapter to other organizations (women and/or accounting focused); more widely distribute our ASWA Seattle and National brochures. One table thought we ought to *sell* the building of leadership skills in a safe environment (public speaking, networking, etc.). Another suggested we target smaller businesses and/or the isolated accountant/bookkeeper, where resources are thin and networking with peers is limited. All are great ideas.

I see a fundamental challenge here. This is a volunteer organization and we do not have enough volunteers currently to effectively recruit and retain members, expand our contacts and market our Organization, and meet the needs and expectations of our members. We're spreading the effort over too few people. Please consider how you can help!

Every member needs to be a good ambassador for ASWA. Every member needs to work on recruitment or staying in touch with member-friends -- talk to them, ask questions; find out how ASWA can help. Tell them about the ASWA resources (job bank, roundtables, CPE, camaraderie, interacting with peers, etc.). Find out why they have stopped coming to dinner meetings.

Seattle Chapter is currently the only chapter across the country with over 100 members. When I joined in 1987, Seattle had nearly 300 members. In 2005, at least 38% of the chapters have fewer than 30 members. Seattle members have high expectations and high standards. Many other chapters look to us for ideas and solutions to help them combat their dwindling numbers and declining revenues. ***We need to address the same issues.***

John Wooden, long-time basketball coach at UCLA, offered his students, players and family many maxims. Here's one from the coach's corner: *Make each day your masterpiece!*

Let me know how I can help.

Liz Pray
president@aswaseattle.org



Speaker Notes-September

Speaker: Lynn S. Mandel, PhD; University of Washington, Dept. of Obstetrics & Gynecology

In a women's health education talk sponsored by the Ovarian and Breast Cancer Alliance of Washington, Dr. Lynn Mandel discussed her latest ovarian cancer screening research. All women need to be aware of the symptoms of ovarian cancer. Dr. Mandel's studies have proven that symptoms very often do occur in the earlier, more easily treated stages of ovarian cancer.

Women should check with a physician or other health-care professional if they have one or more of these new symptoms which persist for more than three weeks:

- Abdominal swelling or bloating
- Abdominal or pelvic pain or pressure
- Gas, indigestion, nausea or changes in bowel habits
- Vaginal bleeding or discharge
- Urinary urgency, burning or spasms

Risk factors for ovarian cancer:

- Family history of ovarian or breast cancer
- Never bearing children
- Caucasian race
- Jewish descent
- Infertility
- Starting periods at a young age
- Menopause at an older than average age
- High-fat diet

Factors that lower the risk of ovarian cancer

- Use of birth-control pills
- Having many children
- Breast feeding
- Tubal ligation
- Removal of ovaries

For more information go to: <http://www.wcn.org/>

Dress for Success – ASWA September and October Collection

In light of Hurricane Katrina, I feel this is a particularly good time to make a donation of interview appropriate clothing/accessories to the local chapter of the Dress for Success organization. At this point in time it does not appear Washington state will be receiving federal evacuees, however there are people re-locating to the Seattle area on their own. I am making donations and invite other members of ASWA to join me. I will pick up any donations at the September and October dinner meetings and deliver them.

Dress for Success is an organization connected to the YWCA (at least in our area), that provides interview appropriate clothing/accessories to women in need. All donations should be in excellent condition, on hangers and ready for use (laundered/ironed or dry-cleaned/pressed).

All donations are greatly appreciated. The current most critical needs are:

Plus size clothing, wide shoes, handbags/purses, umbrellas, scarves, shopping and garment bags.

For more information please see their website seattle@dressforsuccess.org . Or call me – **Amy Sparks**, ASWA member, at home 206-324-5877.

Thanks in advance for your care and generosity.

ASWA NW Regional Conference
 June 16-18, 2006 - Seattle, WA



REPORT FROM THE FIELD
2005 TOOLS FOR SUCCESS FOR
SMALL BUSINESS FALL SEMINAR

Thank you to the many members whose contributions made this event successful all 'round, the program, the event execution, and the fiscal success!

(Special commendation is due Sharon L. for contributing her fine Saturday to play 'hostess' to all who attended. We couldn't have done this without your help, Sharon!)

We had over 30 members attend plus a couple of unfamiliar faces whom we hope to see at a dinner meeting soon as new members. North Cascades Chapter provided a hospitality suite with Nancy G. presiding from that chapter. The room was packed, the food was finger-licking good, and beverages flowed, cool and smooth. A small contingent kept the party going at a local restaurant and sampled Seattle's fare.

The support from our members for the program was fabulous. A Bellevue/Seattle team, Eleanor S-A. and Susan P., gave a lively talk on Cash and Internal Controls, Mary D. packed two hours with information on Small Business & Not-For-Profit Employee Retirement Plan Options, and Jan A and Tina P. kept the audience on their toes with two hours about Selected Employee and Related Party Tax Issues. The consensus seemed to be that several topics during the seminar warranted more time and a repeat engagement.

The favorite seemed to be our luncheon speaker, Kathleen Bartholomew, who addressed the sensitive topic of boundaries between personal and business at work. She drew a distinction between a team and a community and discussed the power of engaging our fundamental need for community.

Special mention goes to Robin Reinig from Frontier Bank who was equally entertaining and informative about how small businesses can navigate the banking world and how CPA's can work effectively as a partner with the banker on the client's team. People particularly appreciated the depth of her expertise that she shared.

On the whole, the evaluations were good with ratings on a scale of 1 to 5 (5 being the highest) of 4.4, 4.5, and 4.6 for Range of Topics, Facilities, and Geographic Location, respectively. Speakers were well received with overall average ratings of 3.9 to 4.7 for class content, 4.3 to 4.8 for speaker knowledge, and 3.3 to 4.8 for handouts.

--Gina Bourgeois



American Society of Women Accountants
 Box 237
 800 5th Avenue, Suite 101
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ASWA Seattle
2005-2006
Officers, Directors & Chairs

Position	Name	email prefix*
President	Liz Pray	President@
President-Elect	Jana Helmuth	Presidenelect@
Secretary	Janet Stebbins	Secretary@
Treasurer	Diane Cunningham	Treasurer@
Immediate Past President	Tonya Chin	PastPresident@
Administrative Committees:		
By-Laws		
Finance		Finance@
Strategic Planning	Rhonda O'Leary	Strategic@
Historian		
Scholarship Policy	Pat Angell	
	Mary Anne Schmitt	
Endowment Fund Board	Teri Kertson, Susanne Lindsley	
Marketing - Director/VP		
Membership	Sharon Lee	VPMarketing@
Marketing		Membership@
Scholarship		Marketing@
		Scholarship@
Communications - Director/VP		
Arrangements	Gina Bourgeois	VPCommunications@
Newsletter	Nina Buffington	Arrangements@
Employment/Opportunities	Jan Cobb	Journal@
Yearbook	Nina Buffington	Employment@
Database		Yearbook@
Technology	Jan Augustin	Updates@
Website	Kerry Hughes	Technology@
	Susan Goegebuer	Website@
Professional Develop. - Director/VP		
Program		VPDevelopment@
Fall Seminar 2005	Gina Bourgeois	Program@
Regional Conference 2006	Tina Polf & Susan Goegebuer	FallSeminar@
Community Service		NWRC06@
		CommunityService@
Seattle Directors At Large:		
Northwest Area Director	Eleanor Siverts-Akerman	AreaDirector@

*email prefixes are followed by: aswaseattle.org



**IRS Announces Thousands of Estimated Tax Payments
 Sent to San Francisco, Lost in a Traffic Accident (they're in the bay)**

IRS is alerting taxpayers in 13 states, including Washington, that approximately 30,000 estimated tax payments-mostly Form 1040-ES quarterly estimated tax payments-sent to a San Francisco post office box in early Sept. have been lost in a traffic accident when a truck dumped the payments into the bay. After Sept. 30, a taxpayer whose check has not cleared the bank should contact IRS on its toll-free taxpayer assistance line (1-800-829-1040). Taxpayers who contact the IRS will receive instructions regarding how and where to send a replacement check, and IRS will waive interest and penalties for affected taxpayers. In addition, IRS intends to send a notice to potentially affected taxpayers who have previously mailed estimated tax payments to the San Francisco post office box. This notice will include specific instructions, if necessary, for sending in a replacement check, and taxpayers will have 30 days from the notification to send a replacement check.

Calendar of Events

Next Journal Deadline:

Wed, Oct 26, 2005

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") and send to Jan K Cobb via e-mail at journal@aswaseattle.org.**

Oct 26	Board Meeting – 5:15pm Dinner Meeting-Scholarship Dessert Auction, <i>College Club</i>
Nov 16	Board Meeting – 5:15pm Dinner Meeting-TBA, Annual Student Night <i>College Club</i>
Dec 21	Board Meeting – 5:15pm Dinner Meeting-TBA, Joint with Bellevue Chapter, <i>College Club</i>
Jan 25	Board Meeting – 5:15pm Dinner Meeting-TBA, College Club
Feb 26	Board Meeting – 5:15pm Dinner Meeting-TBA, College Club
Mar 22	Board Meeting – 5:15pm Dinner Meeting-TBA, College Club
Apr 26	Board Meeting – 5:15pm Dinner Meeting-TBA, College Club
June 16-18, 2006	ASWA NW Regional Conference - Seattle, WA

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.