

**Seattle Chapter Meeting
Wednesday, April 25, 2007**

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

Social Hour 5:30 pm
Dinner 6:30 pm

Menu:

Salad: Spinach & Bacon Vinaigrette
Entrée: Peppered Steak
Potato: Rosemary Roasted
Vegetable: Broccoli Hollandaise
Dessert: German Chocolate Cake
Vegetarian Option: Vegetarian Pasta

Members/Faculty	\$25.00
Guests	\$27.00
Students 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, April 19

in order to guarantee a spot. Standing reservations will apply. For **reservations**: use the **Online Reservations Form**, send email to reservations@aswaseattle.org, or contact, 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, April 23

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

Wednesday, April 25

1 Hour CPE

Speaker: Karen Ramsey

**Topic: Caring For Your Soul
in Matters of Money®**

You know you have a deeper purpose. What you don't know is what's blocking it.

A powerful, simple method for changing your relationship with money—by getting to the bottom of your money beliefs—not having enough of it, working too hard to make it, constantly arguing about it, badly managing your riches, or being crippled by a “poverty mentality”—you can join scores of people from all walks of life, rich and poor, who are, by living purposeful lives, unencumbered by money baggage

Karen Ramsey, president of Ramsey & Associates, a 16 year old company, and author of two books, is passionately dedicated to her clients' well being. Her personal values are her company values: good relationships marked by trust, straight communication and attention to her clients needs. These values have driven her success with Ramsey & Associates, Inc., which now has over \$160 million under management, and she is working towards similar success with RamseyInvesting.com, an online investment management service that she launched this year.

Karen was named one of Seattle's Five Star: Best in Client Satisfaction by Seattle Magazine in 2007, a Top Wealth Manager in 2005 and 2006 by Bloomberg financial magazine, and one of the 100 Great Financial Planners for 2002 in Mutual Funds magazine. She is a member of NAPFA, the National Association of Personal Financial Advisors, and also leads their Basic Training Conferences.

Her books Think Again, New Money Choices, Old Money Myths, and Caring for Your Soul in Matters of Money® dispel the myths that financial planners are only looking at your pocketbook. Karen cares about what is going on behind the financial decisions.

She has been featured on CBS's "This Morning," and CNN's Financial News shows as well as in the New York Times, Glamour Magazine, Family Circle, 1st for Women, Fidelity Stages Magazine and The Seattle Times. Karen is regularly interviewed as an expert on financial planning issues by Seattle's ABC affiliate, KOMO-TV. She also has appeared on NPR's affiliate, KUOW. Her one-hour program, "The Money Myth with Karen Ramsey," debuted in 1999 on KCTS-Channel 9, in Seattle and Karen is a guest on KCTS's new show "About the Money".

She regularly teaches her Caring for Your Soul in Matters of Money® workshop.

President's Message April 2007

A dear friend sent this to me and I hope you will take it to heart, too.

There Is One Flaw in Women

By the time the Lord made woman; He was into His sixth day of working overtime. An angel appeared and said, "Why are you spending so much time on this one?" And the Lord answered, "Have you seen my spec sheet on her? She has to be completely washable, but not plastic; have over 200 movable parts, all replaceable and able to run on Diet Coke and leftovers; have a lap that can hold four children at one time; have a kiss that can cure anything from a scraped knee to a broken heart; and she will do everything with only two hands." The angel was astounded at the requirements. "Only two hands? No way! And that's just on the standard model? That's too much work for one day. Wait until tomorrow to finish." "But I won't," the Lord protested. "I am so close to finishing this creation that is so close to my own heart. She already heals herself when she is sick and can work 18 hour days." The angel moved closer and touched the woman. "But you have made her so soft, Lord." "She is soft," the Lord agreed, "but I have also made her tough. You have no idea what she can endure or accomplish." "Will she be able to think?" asked the angel. The Lord replied. "Not only will she be able to think, she will be able to reason and negotiate." Then the angel, noticing something unusual, reached out and touched the woman's cheek. "Oops, it looks like you have a leak in this model. I told you that you were trying to put too much into this one." "That's not a leak," the Lord corrected, "that's a tear!" "What's the tear for?" the angel asked. The Lord said, "The tear is her way of expressing her joy, her sorrow, her pain, her disappointment, her love, her loneliness, her grief, and her pride." The angel was impressed. "You are a genius, Lord! You thought of everything! Woman is truly amazing."

And she is! Women have compassion and strength that amaze men. They fight for their ideals and stand up to injustice. They bear hardships and they carry burdens. They smile when they want to scream and sing when they want to cry. They cry when they are happy and laugh when they are nervous. They go without so that their children can have. They go to the doctor with a frightened friend. They love unconditionally and give moral support to family and friends. They are happy when they hear about a birth or a wedding. Their hearts break when a family member or friend dies. They know that a hug and a kiss can heal a broken heart. They'll drive, fly, walk, run, or e-mail you to show how much they care about you. Despite any circumstance, they are strong when they think there is no strength left. The heart of a woman is what makes the world keep turning, bringing joy, hope, and love in all that is seen and unseen.

HOWEVER, IF THERE IS ONE FLAW IN WOMEN, IT IS THAT THEY FORGET THEIR WORTH.

Never forget your worth. It is a treasure beyond measure meant to graciously enrich your life and the lives of everyone around you.

Jana Helmuth
president@aswaseattle.org



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

Announcements

Spring Cleaning

Spring has sprung and ASWA Seattle Chapter has a fun Spring Cleaning event planned but we need your help! Please save this date! Saturday May 19th 9am - 12noon Olympic View Community Church (Northgate). Join fellow ASWA Seattle members, committee members and board members in a Records Clean Up and Organization Session! We will be armed with our records retention policy and will work together to sort through the boxes, drink coffee, munch on fruit and donuts, catch up with each other, celebrate tax season being over all while helping ASWA get organized and compliant with our records policy! Stay tuned, more info to follow ...

Seattle Chapter's 65th Anniversary Celebration - May 23

Please contact Jana Helmuth president@aswaseattle.org or 206-281-8116 to help plan this exciting dinner and to contact as many guests and members as humanly possible. There will be a cake from Queen Mary and a champagne toast. Mark your calendars!

Joint National Conference - October 25 - 27

What do you know? The JNC is just 7 months away! Here's some of what WE know so far: The JNC will be held at the **Coronado Springs Resort** at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida; your steering committee is finalizing some great programs in all CPE tracks, including a potential session providing a "behind the scenes" look at "Accounting Behind the Magic" at Disney; and we are also working on some exciting keynote speakers! You can also be sure that beyond the CPE, you'll enjoy the camaraderie associated with the conference, in addition to the fun things that the "Magic Kingdom" has to offer you and your family. What a great place to see old friends and make new ones. Along with Mickey, Minnie and Donald ... and your fellow ASWA members, there will be plenty of "characters" to go around. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or suggestions you might have. - Monika Miles, ASWA Director and JNC Chair monika@labhartmiles.com. For more details check our website: www.awscpa.org/2007conference/meeting_details.htm.

The 2007 Forum for Women in Accounting

Presented by The Advisory Board and Crosley+Company, with Special Discounted Rates for ASWA Members. This event is for the up-and-coming female professionals in your firm and those responsible for building firm programs. ASWA members will receive a special discount of \$100 off of the registration fee. All you need to do is enter "ASWA Member" in the promotional code box on the registration form. Click on 2007 Forum for Women in Accounting. www.women-in-accounting.com

Association of Latino Professionals in Finance and Accounting

Seattle Chapter Second Annual Gala: *Latinos: A New Era in Leadership*. April 21, 2007. 6:30 pm to 12:00 am. Renaissance Seattle Hotel. 515 Madison Street. ALPFA Member \$65, Non-Member \$85, Student \$40. Contact: events@seattle.alpfa.org.

Guest Night! May 23, 2007

Achieve Life Balance. Listen to one woman, Tama Borriello, share her journey on striking a balance in her own life. We will have a drawing for two \$100 Nordstrom gift certificates.



How to Effectively Plan for Staff Vacations

by Ilga Paskovskis (ilga.paskovskis@rhi.com)

As the weather gets nicer and temperatures rise, so do the vacation requests that land on your desk. But when several deserving members of your staff want the same days off this spring and summer, it can be difficult to determine how to grant the requests without jeopardizing your department's productivity. For accounting and finance organizations, the challenge is compounded by key deadlines related to end-of-quarter financial reports. As a manager, this places added pressure on you to ensure you have enough people to handle the workload during the months when the second and third quarters end.

Following are scheduling suggestions to help you prepare for vacation season:

Develop a plan. Create a system for granting vacation requests, whether it's on a first-come-first-served basis, seniority or otherwise. Also, clearly communicate the dates when you'd like all hands on deck. In addition, if you haven't done so already, explain how much notice you'll require. Remember that the earlier you know which employees want to be out at what times, the sooner you can start crafting a game plan to maintain appropriate staff levels.

Delegate early. Determine which employees are best prepared to take over crucial responsibilities when your senior finance and accounting professionals are absent. Not only will this maintain workflow, it provides an opportunity to evaluate less-tenured workers as they take on new tasks and assignments. Their performance while pinch-hitting also can help you identify excellent up-and-coming candidates for higher-level positions that open up at your firm.

Consider interim support. Engaging temporary accounting and finance staff is another smart strategy for keeping critical projects on track. This approach is particularly helpful when your team is operating at maximum capacity and there are few options for reassigning portions of the workload.

Consider in advance what is needed for initiatives to progress when major players are on vacation and make arrangements for backup support from skilled project professionals. Doing so will keep productivity and morale high by taking some of the burden off your core staffers who remain in the office.

Finally, when it comes time to take your own vacation, trust your team. If you've made good hires, you have a staff of employees capable of making smart decisions and managing whatever issues may arise while you're relaxing and recharging.

Accountemps is the world's first and largest temporary staffing service specializing in the placement of accounting, finance and bookkeeping professionals. The company has more than 350 offices throughout North America, Europe, Australia and New Zealand, and offers online job search services at www.accountemps.com.

What's So Different About Not-for-Profits?

For Accountants and other Financial Professionals Serving on Boards

May 5, 2007, 9:00am - 1:00pm; Trainers: Sharron O'Donnell, Mary Dickenson, Beth McCaw; Location: Mercer View Community Center, Mercer Island; Cost: \$40 per person or \$70 for ED & Board Member Pair or 2 Board Members. This four-hour session will look at accounting and presentation issues unique to not-for-profits, the fiduciary responsibilities of board members and the compliance requirements of not-for-profits. Please note: the session will be geared toward individuals with an accounting/finance background who are serving on boards and interested in the specific industry standards of not-for-profits. This session assumes knowledge of budgets and accounting, it is not a finance basics-level session. For the CPA's - this session will qualify for Continuing Professional Education credits. Details and registration: www.uwkc.org/nonprofit/training/calendar.asp. Questions? workshops@uwkc.org.

Northwest Regional Conference - June 1-2, 2007

The **Spokane Chapter** of the American Society of Women Accountants (ASWA) is hosting the Northwest Regional Conference June 1-2, 2007. This Northwest Regional Conference will be one of only two held nationally this year by ASWA. We have been privileged to enlist the expertise of Dr. Kay Carnes, CPA, Gonzaga University for our Ethics CPE event. Ala Carte options are available for selected sessions. We have confirmation that the **National Board of the American Society of Women Accountants** and the **National Board & Trustees for The Foundation (of ASWA)** will be in attendance at the Northwest Regional Conference. This Regional Conference opportunity will showcase the results of our efforts to promote accounting and education in Spokane.



Strategic Planning Committee Report on Annual Goals:

Program is delivering 10 CPE meetings a year, assuming the speakers as discussed at our last meeting.

Membership: We have approved 19 new members with several new memberships to be approved. We are well on our way to our target of 24.

Member Retention, reconciliation needs to be done between the National Database list of members and our local list of members. We cannot know if our member retention is on target until we know who is in the Chapter!

Member Participation is running at about 60%. That is very far below our goal of 90%.

We felt that all of our Strategies and Action Plans were on target, although some higher level follow-up to ensure that the people responsible for instigating the action knew what, when, where and how they were supposed to act would not be amiss.

The next Strategic Planning meeting will be in April 2007.

Next Journal Deadline:

**Wednesday,
 April 25, 2007**

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 via email to **Marilyn Wilt** at journal@aswaseattle.org.

Calendar of Events

April 25, 2007

Board Meeting: College Club, 5:15pm

April 25, 2007

**Monthly Meeting: College Club
 Election of Officers & Directors**

May 19, 2007

**Spring Cleaning: 9am – noon
 Olympic View Community Church**

May 23, 2007

**Monthly Meeting: College Club
 Guest Night
 Recognition of 65th Anniversary**

June 1 - 2, 2007

NW Regional Conference: Spokane

June 27, 2007

**Monthly Meeting: College Club
 Installation of Officers & Directors**

July 19, 2007

Farestart Guest Chef Night

October 25 – 27, 2007

National Conference: Orlando FL

Friday, December 7

**ASWA / Seattle University Fall
 Tax Seminar**

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.