

**Seattle Chapter Meeting  
Wednesday, May 23, 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: College Club Salad Supreme  
Entrée: Veal Parmesan  
Potato: Fettuccini  
Vegetable: Green Beans Almandine  
Dessert: Cheesecake  
Vegetarian Option: Stir Fried Vegetables

Members/Faculty	\$25.00
Guests	\$25.00
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, May 17**

in order to guarantee a spot. Standing reservations will apply. For **reservations**: use the **Online Reservations Form**, send email to [reservations@aswaseattle.org](mailto: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, May 21**

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

**Wednesday, May 23  
1 Hour CPE**

**Celebrating 65 Years!**

**Speaker:** Tama Borriello  
Certified Financial Planner and Financial Advisor,  
Meydenbauer Group at Smith Barney  
**Topic:** Achieve Life Balance!

Have you found that perfect life balance? While everyone's ideal equilibrium is unique, we all struggle with giving equal attention to achieving our personal dreams, financial requirements, and social goals.

As we celebrate 65 years of chapter success, it is a great opportunity to think about the power of successfully integrating our life and social goals. Listen to one woman share her journey on striking a balance in her own life.

Tama Borriello knows how simultaneously vital, yet difficult it is to purposefully live the lives we all dream of. She identifies the inherent conflicts and issues in our lives that hinder us in getting to where we want to be and shares three simple concepts that may be the key in helping you live the balanced life you wish for.

\*\*\*\*\*  
Tama is a former local business owner, single parent, and corporate professional and financial planner with a rich background in balancing acts. She has not only experienced and observed the pitfalls one can create through imbalance, but witnessed the sense of fulfillment that comes from maintaining success personally, financially and socially. Tama is currently a Certified Financial Planner™ and Financial Advisor with The Meydenbauer Group at Smith Barney.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**As part of our evening festivities, we will have a drawing for two \$100 Nordstrom gift certificates, one for our members who bring guests and one for our guests. Members will be entitled to one entry for each guest they bring. Each guest will automatically be entitled to one entry. A special member anniversary surprise too.**



## President's Message May 2007

### Life Doesn't Stand Still

It seems we all have a "Busy Season". We put certain parts of our lives on hold, but life in general just keeps on happenin'. Numerous people have commented that they have gotten to know me through my President's Messages. I have enjoyed sharing my life with you and would like to further share some of the things that have happened in the last few months while I put my life on hold for tax season.

My youngest daughter, 11, played basketball for the Greenlake Wildcats. Coached by my husband, they went on to win the Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation Youth Basketball Championship title! She is now playing softball for her uncle's team. She has taken up go-cart racing. She and her dad have been to Monroe and the Tri-Cities. To be honest, I am not sure which one is having more fun.

My older daughter, 15, has me driving from here to Federal Way at 11 o'clock at night to pick her up from her boyfriend's house. Egads! She has a leading role in the Broadway Bound musical production "High School Musical." She loves to sing and act, and people other than just her mama think she is good at it. She is on the honor roll at Roosevelt High School and is proud to say that she has never worn the same outfit twice to school this year. Thank goodness for "layering."

My husband and his brother flew to Arizona for a weekend when they learned that their father was knocking on heaven's door. With lots of prayers from friends and family, as well as his dad's determination, we are thankful to say that he is now "back among the living."

I have been busy making reservations for: 1) My grandmother's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations in Ohio over Memorial Day weekend; 2) ASWA NW Regional Conference in Spokane June 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>; and 3) National Junior High Conference in Pennsylvania this June with our church. As Roseanne Roseannadanna always said, "Well, Jane (or Jana, in this case), it just goes to show you, it's always something."

The home we are building in eastern Washington near Cle Elum very recently got "signed off." There is still plenty of work to do, but the "Welcome" sign is already out. Stop in if you are passing that way some weekend. We'd love to share our home and a drink with you!

My biggest news is that the owner of the accounting firm I have worked for since 1990 is retiring on July 7, 2007 and I am buying the practice from him, hanging my shingle on July 8th. Heaven help me!

Our next dinner meeting will be May 23<sup>rd</sup>, so mark your calendar today. It will be Guest Night as well as our 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! There will be champagne, cake, and lots of Past Presidents to meet and greet (as well as guests, right? Invite everyone you know). The speaker has chosen: "Achieve Life Balance!"

My term as President of the Seattle Chapter of ASWA is nearly over. I am honored that you gave me this opportunity. I look forward to popping a cork with you May 23<sup>rd</sup> and having you meet my husband and two girls!

Jana Helmuth

[president@aswaseattle.org](mailto:president@aswaseattle.org)



## Announcements

\*\*\*\*\*

### Spring Cleaning

Spring has sprung and that means spring-cleaning is upon us. Come join your fellow ASWA members and board members on **Saturday, May 19th** from **9am – 12 noon**, at **Olympic View Community Church**. (For directions see [www.olypticchurch.org](http://www.olypticchurch.org).) 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, all while helping ASWA get organized and compliant with our records policy!

\*\*\*\*\*

### 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. For scholarship funds please contact Jana Helmuth at [president@aswaseattle.org](mailto:president@aswaseattle.org).

\*\*\*\*\*

### Joint National Conference - October 25 - 27

What's that noise I hear? Buzz about the upcoming JNC? Last month some of us had a chance to visit the conference facility in Orlando to check out the meeting rooms, hotel facilities, and other amenities at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort. For those of you who haven't been to Walt Disney World recently, you are in for a surprise. From the Disney Magical Express (the coach from the airport), to the check-in, to the service at the resort, you won't be disappointed. We have reserved a JNC room block with easy access to CPE sessions and resort eateries. We'll be encouraging you to book your reservations early in order to place yourself within that very convenient room block. Also, be on the lookout for an advance copy of the preliminary CPE sessions to be posted on the website later this month. Mark your calendars now for October 25th – 27th. (I find that drawing a big set of Mickey Mouse ears around the numbers of my October calendar makes me smile! But then I'm a little partial to it, having the same initials as the big mouse and all!) *Monika Miles, ASWA Director and JNC Chair* [monika@labhartmiles.com](mailto:monika@labhartmiles.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

### Recruitment Campaign

**From National** - There are now two ways to help your chapter and help ASWA grow at the same time: in addition to the "9 in 9" campaign, we have added a recruitment campaign. What chapter couldn't use an extra \$100? During the month of May, ASWA is offering three chapters a chance to win a check for \$100! All new members recruited in May will also be counted toward the "9 in 9" membership. Chapters may use the funds for whatever great idea or project they choose.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Renew Your Membership Online!

Did you know that you can renew your ASWA membership online? This year, all members who renew by June 15th will be entered into a special drawing for a free registration to the JNC, the place to network, grab some CPE and share experiences with other inspiring women in your field. So, take advantage of ASWA's online membership renewal today! Simply click on the secure [ASWA Membership Renewal Invoice](#). Questions? Contact [aswa@aswa.org](mailto:aswa@aswa.org)

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Conquering Conflict: Tips to Minimize Office Tension**

by Ilga Paskovskis ([ilga.paskovskis@rhi.com](mailto:ilga.paskovskis@rhi.com))

If you spend a considerable amount of time dealing with staff disagreements, you're not alone. In an Accountemps survey, executives were asked, "What percentage of management time is wasted resolving staff personality conflicts?" The mean response was 18 percent – almost a fifth – of managers' time that executives felt is devoted to sorting out interpersonal issues between employees. What can you do to reduce the amount of time you spend on these efforts?

The key to successfully resolving conflict is knowing when and how to step in. While you don't want your accounting staff beckoning you every time a minor tiff occurs, you can't afford to ignore friction once it starts damaging morale and productivity. Following are tips on promoting camaraderie and mitigating conflict:

Hold a peace summit. Call a meeting and listen objectively to the concerns of all parties involved. Then, encourage those people to brainstorm solutions to straighten out the problem. Although you should guide the discussion to identify the cause of the discord, make it clear that it is the individuals' responsibility to clear the air and find ways to prevent future disputes.

Take corrective action quickly. It's important to act swiftly and assertively when a staff member exhibits negative behavior, such as constantly gossiping, failing to contribute to team initiatives or purposely undermining others.

Talk to the offending person privately and let him or her know that the ability to collaborate and get along with others is a critical job requirement. Your ability and willingness to confront difficult employees will go a long way toward maintaining order and keeping adversarial personalities in check.

Focus on the positive. Be aware of not only problem individuals but those who could be positive role models as well.

Publicly recognizing your office's most affable and consummate team players also can help minimize friction in the office. By doling out praise and choice assignments to individuals who contribute positively to the department, you'll send a clear message that you and your organization value stellar people skills.

Left unchecked, differences in employees' temperaments, abilities and work styles can lead to departmental disharmony. But by being attuned to your accounting staff, proactively addressing problems, and fostering a friendly and collegial environment, you can tame office tension.

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](http://www.accountemps.com).



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,  
 May 23, 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](mailto:journal@aswaseattle.org).

**Calendar of Events**

**May 19, 2007**

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

**May 23, 2007**

**Monthly Meeting: College Club**  
**Guest Night**  
**Recognition of 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**June 1 - 2, 2007**

**NW Regional Conference: Spokane**

**June 27, 2007**

**Monthly Meeting: College Club**  
**Installation of Officers & Directors**  
**Speaker: Alice Rowe**  
**Topic: Work Styles! So That's Why You Drive Me Crazy!**

**July 19, 2007**

**Farestart Guest Chef Night**

**October 25 – 27, 2007**

**National Conference: Orlando FL**

**December 7, 2007**

**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.