

**Seattle Chapter Meeting  
Wednesday, January 26, 2011**

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

Dress Policy: No Jeans Please

**5:30-6:30 Social Hour & Networking**

**6:30-7:30 Dinner & Announcements**

**7:30-8:30 Speaker**

**Menu:**

**Entrée:** Seafood Cannelloni

**Vegetarian Entrée:** Grilled Vegetables in a Portabello Mushroom

**Dessert:** Cheesecake

<b>Members/Faculty</b>	\$27.00
<b>Standing Res</b>	\$26.00
<b>Guests</b>	\$29.00
<b>Students Members</b>	\$19.00
<b>Student Guests</b>	\$21.00
<b>Program Only</b>	\$ 5.00
<b>Program Only-Stud Guest</b>	\$ 7.00

**Reservation/Cancellation Policies**

Three options:

**Use the on-line form**

**Call Arrangements Chair 206-467-8645**

**Email to [reservations@aswaseattle.org](mailto:reservations@aswaseattle.org)**

**Reservation deadline: 5 pm, Thursday, Jan. 20**

**Cancellation deadline: Noon, Monday, Jan. 24**

**No-shows and late cancellations will be billed.**

**Walk-ins are welcome but with no meal availability guarantee.**

**January 26, 2011  
Monthly Dinner Meeting  
1 Hour CPE**

**Speaker:** Michael Surkan

**Topic:** Podcasting: The indispensable tool for making business relationships

**Speaker Bio:**

Michael Surkan is a product and program manager at a software startup in Bellevue and when he is not helping individuals and businesses learn how to use podcasting as a tool to grow their careers and businesses. Michael worked in product marketing and program management for 9 years at Microsoft. Before that he was a managing editor with PC Week Labs and IT manager and a software engineer.

After losing his job at Microsoft in July 2009 Michael re-invented himself through podcasting. He is the host and producer of multiple podcast shows including "Entrepreneurs Northwest", "Tales from the job search trenches" and "Practical Software".

**Next Month – February Meeting  
STUDENT NIGHT**

**Speaker:** Jill Walser with I got the job!

**Topic:** Interview Tips from a Pro  
Please plan to invite students and aspiring accountants!



## President's Message

It's hard to believe that a new year is here. Most of you know that this year is quite the year of transition for the Seattle Chapter of ASWA. Rhonda O'Leary and Jo Smitchger have worked very hard to bring us the ability to use your debit/credit cards for dinner meetings and the Dessert Auction. We still have some bugs to work out for the website, but we continue to move forward to provide access to pay via the website.

Which brings me to the website. In January we will begin the process of storyboarding to rebuild the website. Those of you interested in participating in the process or if you have suggestions, please email me at the *president@* address and I will either add you to the team list or add your suggestions to the file. Some of you will be hearing from me shortly to get the first step of our think-tank session going.

Our dedicated Marketing Team led by Sharon Lee and assisted by Sue Danbom, have been very busy making sure our new members are connected with Jo Smitchger and to feel comfortable and welcome into our organization. The "New Member Tea" date has been set for January, so please see the website calendar to get the details of when and where.

Marilyn Wilt has been working diligently to bring the Mentoring Program to membership, and we now have members getting connected for mentorship opportunities. I would encourage any of you wishing to receive or share lessons learned and to build lasting relationships to email Marilyn for details.

I would also like to thank Cindy Bean-Walker for her dedication to locating and securing speakers in what has turned out to be a challenging year for lining up speakers in advance. We have had two speaker cancellations at the last minute and she has still been able to find a speaker for each dinner meeting. If you have any speakers you think would be interested or would like to submit for the upcoming year, please email *Program@* and give Cindy the contact information. We have tentative speakers up to May, so we are still looking for June through November.

### NEW YEAR WISHES

I would like to thank the Board, Directors and Chairs along with the Committees and their amazing group of Volunteers that have made the past six months of the 2010 – 2011 term such a joy. We have had many challenges and each person has worked hard to ensure your membership has value and opportunity to meet both the Chapter's goals as well as your own. Please don't be shy in thanking them next time you see them.

I would also like to ask that those that attend the dinner meetings say thank you for the great service the Rainer Catering Staff have been providing. Their flexibility and professional manner, while expected, is still greatly appreciated.

I would also like to encourage each and everyone of you to wish all our loved ones that are near and far, to be safe and well. Whether they are overseas, traveling or celebrating afar, kind thoughts are powerful indeed.

*Best Wishes for the New Year – Carol Bacon, President*

## Calendar of Events

### 2011:

- Jan 22           New Practice/Practitioner Roundtable & New Member Tea – see article page 3
- Jan 26           January Dinner Meeting – see details page 1
- Feb 8 7-9 PM   Theo Chocolate Factory Tour & Tasting with Bellevue Chapter – see article page 3
- Feb 23           February Dinner Meeting – Student Night  
                           Speaker: Jill Walser with I got the job!  
                           Topic: Interview Tips from a Pro
- May 12-13      Northwest Regional Conference, Billings, Montana
- Oct 24-26      Joint ASWA-AWSCPA National Conference, Charlotte North Carolina



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

**You Are Invited: Two Events on January 22, 2011**  
**NEW PRACTICE/NEW PRACTITIONER ROUNDTABLE**

Initial meeting of a new mentoring roundtable group, to be held quarterly, 9 AM to 11 AM. Please download the flyer at the [www.aswaseattle.org](http://www.aswaseattle.org) website for more details about the program, the facilitators, and additional information you are asked to bring to the roundtable regarding your practice. Although there is no formal registration required, you are asked to reserve a place via email (see the flyer!). Cost \$10.

**NEW MEMBER TEA**

All of our new members and not so new members are invited to attend our third annual New Member Tea to be held at 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Come enjoy delicious tea, fabulous desserts, and great company. Bring your favorite sweet or savory treat. For more information, contact [tea@aswaseattle.org](mailto:tea@aswaseattle.org).

Both events take place on Saturday, January 22, 2011, at the Olympic View Community Church in North Seattle, 425 NE 95th St., Seattle, WA 98115

**Social Event with Bellevue Chapter**  
**THEO CHOCOLATE FACTORY TOUR & TASTING**

**Tuesday, February 8, 7-9 PM, 3400 Phinney Ave N, Fremont**

The Bellevue Chapter invites the Seattle Chapter to join in a tour and tasting at Theo Chocolate Factory in Fremont. Theo's will entertain you with the story of cacao, including the extraordinary transformation of the cacao fruit into what we know and love as chocolate and the social and environmental issues relating to cocoa and cocoa farmers. Best of all, you will try their amazing products! For information, contact Sally Ghormley, Bellevue Chapter President at 425-591-1137. Cost is \$12 per person.

**January Anniversaries**

**The following members have their ASWA anniversaries this month. We're so glad you are part of us!**

Susanne Lindsley	Diane Cunningham
Mi Tian	Brenda Carey-DiGregorio

**Welcome New Members**

**Welcome to our new members so far this fiscal year. We're glad you've joined us!**

Nicole Nuccio	Jocelynn Fuller	Cheryl Lieberman	Nancy Osborn
Amy Ray	Amal Matan	Carolyn McKenna Goga	Nicole Dresser
Laurie Tish	Gina Kersey	Janet Weisman	Sheila Lozan
Vanessa Martin	Nadine Stewart	Connie Bechtol	

**To help make our new members feel welcome, please seek out our new members and get to know them at a meeting.**



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### ***WHO WE ARE, WHERE WE'VE BEEN AND WHERE WE ARE GOING***

*The following excerpt is from "Seattle Chapter – 50 Years in Review" 1941-1990  
Recollections of Past Presidents*

#### **DORIS PARKS, CPA**

1955-1957

Curiosity led me into accounting. I was curious about the phrase "debits and credits" that I heard bandied about occasionally. After working in Chicago as a secretary for ten years, I quit my job to attend the University of Illinois where I took every accounting course I could crowd into my schedule. I had to make my own way financially, so I held two jobs after school hours.

After graduation I returned to Chicago and submitted my application to ten large accounting firms, chosen from the telephone directory. On my first interview, I was told that particular firm had never hired women and they didn't expect to. Several firms suggested I apply in their typing department. At other places I was told I was over-qualified. Accounting firm number ten said a client needed a full-charge bookkeeper. I took that job although I had never seen an actual set of books. With the encouragement of their auditor, I began taking classes at Northwestern University night school, to prepare for the CPA examination.

I stayed on that job for four years. This was during World War II when accounting jobs began to open up to women. My next position was with Ernst & Ernst (as it was called then), where I worked one year on the field audit staff and the second was spent in the review department. There were three women on the staff of the Chicago office, but we were never assigned jobs out of town because of how it would look to be traveling with men.

The six-month CPA review course at Northwestern consisted of a class each Thursday evening and three hours each Saturday in which we wrote furiously to answer all the CPA exam questions for the prior seven years. It seemed natural that I should attempt the CPA exam in November, at least for the experience. I surprised even myself when I passed.

Through a friend, I had been offered a position at the University of Washington as business manager of the university Dining Halls and instructor to dietetic interns in the Home Economics Department. I said I would accept the job if I could wait until I had taken the CPA exam. I moved to Seattle one month later, in December 1947.

I had never heard of the American Society of Women Accountants or the American Woman's Society of Certified Public Accountants until I moved to Seattle. The national office of AWSCPA invited me to join the group, and soon I was invited to attend local ASWA meetings. I was pleased to be asked to join because I had not met many women accountants. It was the beginning of many friendships. During the 10 ½ years I lived in Seattle I was privileged to participate in many activities of the two organizations. I served as national secretary for ASWA for two Years, 1952-54, when annual meetings were held in Houston and Chicago. Marguerite (Gibb) Doucette was national president those years and we worked well together.

At the joint annual meeting in Seattle in 1956, I was elected a director of AWSCPA. At the annual meeting the following year, held in Edgewater Park Mississippi, I became second vice-president at a time when that organization had 350 members. In the Seattle ASWA chapter I served as president for two years. I moved back to Chicago in July 1957 to accept a position with a client of Ernst and Ernst where I had worked as an auditor ten years before. For twenty years I remained with that office which managed family trusts and other investments.

Now I live in Urbana, Illinois, in a retirement village near the University, so one might say I have "come full circle."



## Announcements

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### **Next Journal Deadline: Monday, January 31, 2011**

The Seattle Chapter of the American Society of Women Accountants, to serve its members' interests, publishes the *Journal* monthly. If you have news, member 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](mailto:journal@aswaseattle.org).

Send us your **Member News** to be included in the *Journal*. New job, promoted, passed the exam, started back in school, major life events, read a great book? Send a brief write-up to [journal@aswaseattle.org](mailto:journal@aswaseattle.org).

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**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](mailto:update@aswaseattle.org) if you can't find your member number.

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**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.