
The **ASWA** *Journal*
Seattle

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November 2007

Seattle Chapter Meeting Wednesday, November 28

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

Social Hour	5:30 pm
Dinner	6:30 pm
Speaker	7:30 pm

Menu:

Entrée: Pasta Bar
Dessert: Chocolate Sundae

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

Reservations, need to be made by **1 pm, Thursday, november 22**

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, November 26**

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

Wednesday, November 28

Joint Meeting with Institute of Management Accountants

1 Hour CPE – Technical

Speakers: Rick Downey, CFRE, Senior Director, Planned Giving, Swedish Medical Center Foundation

Topic: Planned Giving: Gifts for all Seasons and Ages

Planned gifts provide an important source of funds for many nonprofit organizations. The speaker will give an overview of the planned giving field, including an explanation of various planned giving vehicles and the tax and personal benefits for donors. Keys for a successful planned giving program and information on the ideal planned giving donor, including case studies, will be presented.

Rick Downey, CFRE (Certified Fund Raising Executive) has over 29 years of fundraising experience primarily as a planned giving professional working for health related organizations. For the past three and a half years, he has worked for Swedish Medical Center Foundation as Senior Director, Planned Giving. Previously he established planned giving programs for a community hospital in Venice, Florida and the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, where he worked for 14 years. Rick has also worked for the American Heart Association, Washington Affiliate and the Boy Scouts of America, Chief Seattle Council. He is a Past President of the Washington Planned Giving Council (WPGC).



President's Message November 2007

Hello Everyone: Welcome to November! October has flown by in a blink of an eye and Thanksgiving is speeding down on us like a locomotive while Christmas is lurking just around the corner, waiting to pounce. Meanwhile, there are Budgets to Balance and Plans of Finance to publish in an effort to get ready for 2008, which is a scant 9 weeks away. If you are anything like myself, those deep breathing lessons have been coming in handy, (and those hiking boots), as I've tried to wring the very last possible glory out of the fading autumn leaves and relieve some of the stresses brought on by Budget season.

The National Conference in Orlando was bigger and better than ever with quality presenters and very interesting CPE, but it was also a bittersweet experience: it saw the dissolution of the Chapter President's Council after 10 years. The CPC is going to be replaced with a forum much closer in function to our Chapter Exchange at the Regional Conferences. There was a lot of excitement from the Chapter Presidents of other regions at the prospect! The National Meeting saw several Honors and Awards bestowed on the Seattle Chapter: we won the **2007 President's Communication Award for the Best Website for a Large Chapter!** Congratulations to our Technology Committee for all their hard work and dedication. We also received our **60th Anniversary Certificate** and our very own **Tina Polf** has been named to the National Nominating Committee. Congratulations Tina!

Closer to home, we are looking at a venue change in February 2008. Until then, we will be meeting at the College Club. See you there!

Rachel Petrich
president@aswaseattle.org

Don't miss our Annual Holiday Social ASWA North Cascades Chapter

When: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2007

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Where: At the home of Pat Watkins -- 6150 Snowden Drive, Ferndale

This year will be potluck, so bring your favorite dish to share. Bring a wrapped Book for the gift exchange (\$10 limit). And if you decide to come at the last minute and do not have a wrapped book to bring, come anyway!! We'd love to see you.

Directions: contact -- Pat Watkins 360-319-0360 or pat.watkins@earthlink.net



Announcements

Beginning in February, the dinner meeting will be at the Rainier Golf & Country Club. Contact the Arrangements Committee for further details.

ASWA/Seattle University Fall Tax Seminar - December 7, 2007

Join us for this year's annual ASWA/Seattle University Fall Tax Seminar. Support women in leadership! We will have all women speakers at this continuing education seminar. Sign-in starts at 8:00 am with classes starting at 8:30 am. See the ASWA calendar page on the ASWA-Seattle website for a link to the registration form. **Registration will close Friday, November 30, 2007, and we are limiting attendance at 45 participants.**

This year we are opening up the seminar to the tax division of the Washington State Bar (courtesy of Jennifer Gellner) and to Certified Financial Planners (courtesy of Michelle Fait). We are working to certify the CPE for both of these organizations.

Susan Weihrich with Seattle University and the ASWA Fall Tax Seminar Committee are doing our best to sponsor a 'green' seminar: we will save 3,000 pieces of paper by having the speaker materials emailed to you prior to the seminar. No more wondering what is in those notebooks on your bookshelves! You will now be able to cut and paste from the materials and search for ideas and references electronically! No plastic bottles will be used and you will be able to make choices from a mini-buffet to reduce materials that have to be discarded or recycled. Each participant will receive a mug so that you will already have a container for coffee, tea or water. **You can win a prize if you arrive via something other than a single occupant vehicle.** Additionally we have incorporated your suggestions for extra hot water, a better offering of teas, and more healthy choices for breakfast items.

Seminar topics: Charitable Tax-Exempt Trust Strategies for Smaller Estates; Non-Married Couples Domestic Partnerships, Real Property Issues; Elderly Clients – Handling Capacity Issues; Electronic Back-up and Storage of Financial Data; Fees: Funds, Accounts & Advisory and Tax Treatment of Bonds – Market Discount, OID, Basis Issues. 8 hours of CPE for \$135! Net proceeds from the Seminar accrue to the Seattle Chapter of ASWA!

Hope to see you in December -- The Fall Tax Seminar Committee.

Workers Now More Likely to Negotiate for Higher Pay

by Noreen Florio (noreen.florio@rhi.com)

If you're planning to make new hires in 2008, you may need to boost starting salaries to attract candidates in the hottest specialties and keep pace with competing firms. Many workers – particularly professional-level staff, such as accountants - are receiving higher pay and feeling more optimistic about their ability to negotiate with future employers, according to the recently released 2007 Employment Dynamics and Growth Expectations (EDGE) Report. Now in its third year, the annual survey from Robert Half International and CareerBuilder.com highlights a range of employment, hiring and compensation trends from the perspectives of hiring managers and employees.

Fifty-eight percent of workers polled said they are more likely to negotiate a better compensation package today compared to 12 months ago. This is a noteworthy increase from 2006 when only 29 percent of respondents said they would try to negotiate a more lucrative offer. Moreover, 55 percent of employees polled said their compensation has increased over the last 12 months.

Meanwhile, hiring managers said it's harder to attract skilled workers, especially for professional/technical staff-level positions and supervisory roles. The vast majority (91 percent) of employers said it is equally or more difficult to find qualified candidates compared to 12 months ago. The low unemployment rate (around 2 percent) for college-educated workers is contributing to the recruitment challenges, according to the study.

This is the third consecutive year that hiring managers reported a competitive recruiting environment. Companies should consider loosening the purse strings to attract and retain top performers, in addition to offering appealing programs and work arrangements. For instance, the top perks that workers said would cause them to choose one job over another were flexible schedules (65 percent), telecommuting options (33 percent) and employee stock purchase plans (33 percent).

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.



Report from the Endowment Fund Trustees

The ASWA Seattle Chapter No. 9 Scholarship Endowment Fund was established to encourage, receive and administer gifts in perpetuity for the purpose of granting scholarships for college and post-graduate studies in the field of accounting. During fiscal year ended June 30, 2007, the fund received **\$9,889.00** in permanently restricted contributions. The fair market value of the principal balance was **\$131,551.41**. The Scholarship Endowment Fund earned **\$7,034.11** during the year. This amount has been transferred to the Chapter's scholarship fund.

This year, the trustees decided to engage new professional investment management advice. Karen O'Brien and Joe Hebert of True North Financial Services LLC have agreed to provide the trustees with investment management advice on a pro-bono basis. With their help, we have prepared an investment policy statement that will guide the trustees in management of the Endowment Fund investment portfolio. Using this policy, we have determined an asset allocation plan consistent with our investment objectives, time horizon, and risk profile. We very much appreciate their professional assistance.

Contributions, made payable to ASWA Scholarship Endowment Fund, may be sent to the chapter treasurer or to Susanne Lindsley, Trustee, 1218 Third Avenue, Suite 508, Seattle, WA 98101.

Respectfully submitted, Susanne Lindsley, Trustee; Christina Anderson, Trustee; Linda Landerdahl, Trustee

Next Journal Deadline:

Wednesday,

November 28, 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

November 28, 2007

**Monthly Meeting: College Club
 Joint Meeting with IMA**

December 7, 2007

**ASWA/Seattle University
 Fall Tax Seminar**

December 19, 2007

**Monthly Meeting: College Club
 Joint Meeting with Bellevue**

January 9, 2008

**Board Meeting: TBD
 Executive Committee 5:30 – 6:00
 Board 6:00 – 7:00**

January 23, 2008

Monthly Meeting: College Club

February 13, 2008

Board Meeting: TBD

February 27, 2008

**Monthly Meeting: Student Night
 Rainier Gulf & Country Club**

March 26, 2008

**Monthly Meeting
 Rainier Gulf & Country Club**

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.