

**Seattle Chapter Meeting
Wednesday, May 26**

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

Dress code requirement: no jeans, please

**5:30 – 6:30 Social Hour & Networking
6:30 – 7:30 Dinner & Announcements
7:30 – 8:30 Speaker**

Menu:

Entrée: Blackened Salmon Penne Pasta

Dessert: Chocolate Cake

Vegetarian Option: Grilled Vegetables in a Portabella
Mushroom

Members/Faculty	\$27.00
Standing Res	\$26.00
Guests	\$29.00
Students Members	\$19.00
Student Guests	\$21.00
Coffee Only	\$ 5.00

Reservation/Cancellation Policies

Three options:

Use the on-line form

Call Arrangements Chair 206-467-8645

Send email to reservations@aswaseattle.org

Reservations deadline:

5 pm, Thursday, May 20

Cancellations deadline:

Noon, Monday, May 24

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

May 26, 2010

Dinner Speaker 1 Hour CPE

**Speaker: Deborah Asavarahapun,
President of AFSB, Inc. (Accounting
for Small Business, Inc.)**

**Topic: Hiring & Overseeing
Bookkeepers**

Speaker Bio:

Deborah began contract bookkeeping in 1995 providing bookkeeping and accounting services to small businesses. In 2007 she incorporated her business which currently has a staff of six accountants and bookkeepers. With two QuickBooks Pro Advisors they support & install QuickBooks accounting software, provide client and bookkeeper training and data file cleanups.

Deborah co-founded Grassroots Business Association – a group of small business owners dedicated to education and support for small business.

In addition to her accounting and education work Deborah is currently a partner in a janitorial/maintenance business and for 18 years was the managing partner of a wholesale manufacturing jewelry business which is currently being run by her eldest daughter.

In between Deborah's various business experiences she worked for two public accounting firms. Most recently, in 1993 while working for John Patterson, CPA, she had the privilege of working under the firm's auditor.

Deborah brings close to forty years of business and accounting experience to her clients.



This is another short snippet written by my friend Karen Buchholz. Like most good things in life, ASWA gives back only what you put into it. The friendships, the learning and the growth that we all value so highly from this organization are only possible when we stay involved, stay flexible and stay committed to one another.

– Rachel Petrich

ECHO

I took my young children for a walk in the mountains in Sitka one great day. Suddenly, our daughter fell and hurt herself and screamed: “AAAhhhhhhhhh!!!”

To her surprise, she heard the voice repeating, somewhere in the mountain: “AAAhhhhhhhhhhh!!!”

Curious, she yelled: “Who are you?”

She received the answer: “WHO ARE YOU?”

Angered at the response, she screamed: “Coward!”

She received the answer: “COWARD!”

She looked to me and asked: “What’s going on?”

I smiled and said: “Kit, pay attention.”

I then screamed to the mountain: “I admire you!”

The voice returned: “I admire you!”

Then I yelled: “You are a champion!”

The voice answered: “You are a champion!”

Kit was surprised, but did not understand. So I explained: “People call this an ECHO, but really this is LIFE. It gives you back everything you say or do. Our life is simply a reflection of our actions. If you want more love in the world, create more love in your heart. If you want more peace, create or help create more peace. If you want more competence in your team, improve your competence.

This relationship applies to everything, in all aspects of life; Life will give you back everything you have given to it.”

LIFE IS NOT A COINCIDENCE. IT’S A REFLECTION (OR ECHO) OF YOU.

Have a terrific day and BE SAFE.

By Karen Buchholz

Calendar of Events

2010:

- | | |
|------------|---|
| May 12 | May Board Meeting |
| May 26 | May Dinner Meeting |
| | Topic: Deborah Asavarahapun, Hiring & Overseeing Bookkeepers |
| June 9 | June Board Meeting |
| June 18-19 | NW Area Conference - “Stop and Count the Roses” |
| | Portland Crowne Plaza – Portland Convention Center |
| June 23 | June Dinner Meeting |
| | Topic: Meena Cheng, CFP – “How to Maximize Social security” |
| July 28 | July Dinner Meeting |
| | Topic: Karen O’Brien, CPA, CFP - Roth IRA Conversion Strategies |

Community Service Committee News

PAGE AHEAD BOOK DRIVE - May Dinner Meeting

Sponsored by ASWA Seattle Community Service Committee April 28th - May 31st

Who is Page Ahead?

A Local non-profit that...

- Provides new books to at-risk children to choose, keep and treasure.
- Engages parents and recruits community volunteers to read with children.
- Helps schools and social service agencies operate successful literacy programs.

This year, Page Ahead is providing 142,933 books to 51,618 children.

How Can I Help?

By donating...

- Books (new books only, see sample from wish list below)
- Cash (each increment of \$5 means one new book to an at risk child)

Where do I donate?

- Online: <http://www.firstgiving.com/aswa-seattle>
- Amazon.com: <http://tinyurl.com/2gy9eg6> [Amazon donates an additional 15% of purchases]
- Books are shipped directly to Page Ahead when ordered through Amazon.
- Note: if you aren't sure what to buy once you get to Amazon, click on the blue "wish list" button in the upper right hand corner (to the right of the shopping cart button).
- ASWA May dinner meeting: Bring your new book or cash donations and give them to Kim Wilson, Noreen Florio or Rhonda O'Leary.

PRIZE!!!

Gift basket of 12 mystery novels. Books are all hardcover and brand new.

To win: Attend the May dinner meeting and buy a \$5 raffle ticket OR mention that you made a donation to Page Ahead and receive a complimentary raffle ticket.

Sample from Wish List: (see full Wish List elsewhere on ASWA Seattle website)

Picture Books

Alphabet Adventure by Audrey Woods
Boat Alphabet Book by Jerry Pallotta
Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by Bill Martin
Click Clack Moo by Doreen Cronin

Anansi the Spider by Gerald McDermott
Bug Faces by Darlyne Murawski
Clamshell Boy: A Makah Legend by Terri Cohlene
Dinosaur Roar! by Paul Stickland

Chapter Books

A to Z Mysteries by Ron Roy
Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate DiCamillo
Esperanza Rising by Pam Munoz Ryan
Girls of Many Lands series (assorted authors)
Granny Torrelli Makes Soup by Sharon Creech

At the Plate with—Ichiro by Glenn Stout
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl
Frindle by Andrew Clements
Gloria Rising by Ann Cameron
Indian Shoes by Cynthia Leitich Smith

Speaker Highlights April 28, 2010

Downsizing: Do we have to sacrifice internal control?

Presented by Sharron O'Donnell, CPA

Economic Climate Change

- o Adapting to a new business environment
- o Need to adapt controls to fit the new environment
- o Huge opportunity to reassess what your are doing
 - Are we on track? - Is this still useful? - Are we doing it efficiently?

Some things don't change - Five components of internal control:

- Tone at the top
- Risk assessment
- Control activities
- Information and communication
- Monitoring
- o Components actually become more important
 - Tone at top: If management does not take controls seriously then no one else will
 - Risk assessment: Biggest risk is in disbursements. Look at how you spend money.
 - Fraud triangle: Opportunity, Rationalization, and Pressure
 - Control Activities: Written policies and procedures, segregation of duties, etc
 - Control over assets should be separate from record keeping
 - Information & Communication: Reduced staff could mean that someone with less expertise is the user and how can the information be more helpful to the less experienced user.
 - Monitoring: ensuring we identified and adapted changes in the risks & changes in the control activity
- o Disbursements - In a perfect world:
 - Program staff makes purchase - Invoice is approved by program manager
 - Accounts payable enters into the system
 - Checks are printed and given to authorized signer with supporting documents marked paid
 - Signed checks are returned to someone outside the accounting function to be mailed
 - In real world, the person that approves and signs might be the same person
 - Everyone has access to accounting records
 - Worst case is one person does it all and they are not the owner
- o Key Control Activities
 - Clearly define who is responsible for what in written policy and procedures
 - Physical controls
 - Timely reconciliation of bank statements

For more information Contact:

Sharron O'Donnell, CPA Bader Martin, PS

Phone: 206-621-1900 E-Mail: sodonnell@badermartin.com

Speaker Highlights March 24, 2010

Accounting in the Tech Age: Understanding Emerging Technologies

Presented by: **Chuck Johnston, Marketing Manager, SeeYourImpact.org**

Factors in Technology: - Security - Ease of use

Cloud Computing

- o Internet-based computing whereby shared resources, software and information are provided to computers and other devices on-demand, like a public utility.
- o Providers deliver common business applications online which are accessed from a web browser, while the software and data are stored on servers.
- o Big name adopters include
 - Microsoft Azure
 - Intuit Marketplace an app store where applications are verified through Intuit and sold online
 - Google Apps has multiple cloud applications like Mail, Contacts, and Calendar
- o Important definitions:
 - Software as a Service (SaaS) is a model of software deployment over the internet. With SaaS, a provider licenses an application to customers for use as a service on demand, either through a time subscription or a “pay-as-you-go” model.
 - Platform as a Service (PaaS) deliver a computing platform and/or solution stack as a service, often consuming cloud infrastructure and sustaining cloud applications. It facilitates deployment of applications without the cost and complexity of buying and managing the underlying hardware and software.
- o Three types of cloud computing
 - Community cloud: Computers share to lower cost
 - Hybrid cloud: Companies leverage some cloud services
 - Private cloud: Cloud computing without the benefits
- o Advantages: Affordable, easily accessible, software updates, and unlimited storage
- o Disadvantages: Privacy concerns, dependent on internet connection, terms of service, and loss of control. Only way to truly be compliant with SOX is to stick with a community or hybrid model.

Phones as tools

- The name of the game for the future: data accessibility. Anywhere you go the data will be there.
- Geolocation will change how people keep track of expenses and also keep tabs on employees.

Security

- o Exploitable flaws
 - Software: Browsers, Pop-ups, Malicious Code, Advertisements, and Zero Day flaw
 - Passwords: Phishing Scams, Easy passwords – admin/admin, Out in open
- o How to stay safe
 - Update ALL software – never click ignore updates.
 - Make a password so hard you barely remember it. Then remember it.
 - When in doubt, do not click.
 - Keep a good virus software running.



Announcements

Northwest Regional Conference “Train Pool”: several chapter members will ride the train to the Northwest Regional Conference in Portland. The conference will take place at the Portland Crowne Plaza and Portland Convention Center June 18-19. There will be a sign-up for the “train-pool” and roommates at the May meeting.

Next *Journal* Deadline: Friday, June 4, 2010. 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.

Send us your **Member News**. 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.

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 if you can’t find your member number.

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.