



American Society of Women Accountants

THE VOUCHER

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www.aswa-kc.com (Kansas City Chapter)
www.aswa.org (National Organization)

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF WOMEN ACCOUNTANTS, KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI CHAPTER #30

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October 2009

October Meeting

Property Taxes

The fourth quarter of 2009 has started. Normally this is the time businesses and individuals begin work on their year end process checklists. A common component on both lists is the need to pay property taxes by the end of the year. Given these challenging economic times, it will certainly be useful for us personally and professionally to have a wider understanding of the background of the assessments.

Our October 27th program will feature area two experts on this topic. Since many of us live and work in one or both states, that evening we will receive an update from leaders of Jackson County, MO and Johnson County, KS. Our evening speakers will be Bob Burnett and Paul Welcome respectively.

Mr. Bob Burnett has worked within the field of property assessment and taxation for thirty four years. He has been serving Jackson County citizens for the past twenty five years and is Deputy Director of the Assessment Department. He has been involved with private ad valorem tax firms representing taxpayer interests in property tax appeals as well as managing turnkey reassessment projects for small counties in Missouri. He also was part of AT&T serving as a District Tax Manager for telecommunication enterprise valuation and compliance. Mr. Burnett was previously an assistant manager in the Missouri State Tax Commission working to monitor assessment performance in Missouri counties.

Mr. Paul A. Welcome, CAE, FRICS, ASA, RMA has worked in the valuation field since 1980. The first ten years of Mr. Welcome's career were spent in Abilene and Austin, TX areas. He has worked as a fee appraiser and also served as Associate Director for Valuations, State Property Tax Board in Austin, Texas. His last position was that of Deputy Chief Appraiser of the Travis Appraisal District. In December, 1991 Mr. Welcome became the County Appraiser for Johnson County,

Kansas. Currently the Johnson County Appraiser's office has a staff of 95. This organization manages the valuation and records for approximately 211,000 parcels. He holds a Certified Assessment Evaluator designation from the International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO), is an Accredited Senior Appraiser by the American Society of Appraisers, and a Registered Mass Appraiser for the State of Kansas. He is a past president of the IAAO (2002-2003) and has served on a variety of committees since 1995. He has taught and consulted for the Valuations Offices in London, England and Belfast, Northern Ireland, as well as serving as an ongoing instructor for the IAAO. He is a member of the Kansas County Appraisers Association. Mr. Welcome received both his Masters of Business Administration and Bachelors of Business Administration from Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH.

Plan to attend this timely update on October 27th (yes, this is the fourth Tuesday). Do invite other interested colleagues/business associates to share in this learning experience. We look forward to seeing all of you!

Aneita Remus, Program Committee Chairman

When: Tuesday, October 27th, 2009

5:30 PM	Social
6:00 PM	Dinner
6:45 PM	Speaker

Cost: Members	\$30.00
Non members	\$33.00
First time guests	\$15.00

Where: Marriott Country Club Plaza
4445 Main Street (Main & 45th Street)
Kansas City, MO 64112

Menu: Chicken Paillard with Herb Polenta with tomatoes, Capers and Mushrooms, Tossed Garden Salad, Chef's Selection of Dessert

Special dietary requests should be made with reservation.

Reservations:

For reservations, please contact Jessica Galati at (816) 508-4103 or by e-mail, jessica.galati@hotmail.com
Reservations are due by **noon Friday, October 23rd**.

Note: All standing reservations have been canceled. In addition, any cancelled reservations must also be received by Friday, October 23rd. Any cancellations received after this time will be billed for the meeting.

Officer's Message

Hello! Well, the year is winding down and the weather has been a reminder that winter will soon be approaching. Many of you are probably completing busy times at work with either quarter ends or extended tax return deadlines. We hope with all of that behind you, you will be able to join us for the October meeting on the 27th.

It is never too early to begin planning for the holidays. As you know, each year ASWA supports a charity at the holiday season. Last year we supported Operation Breakthrough by adopting one of their needy families. In the past we have supported organizations such as El Centro, Harvesters, Salvation Army, etc. I would like to elicit some ideas as to what organization we would like to support this year. Please let me know at the October meeting or e-mail me at krista.johnson@mhkcpas.com if you have suggestions.

The officers have also discussed getting small groups of ASWA members and their co-workers and friends together for informal lunches. I will be putting something together for a late October or early November lunch for those of us who work in the Plaza area. If you are interested in getting a group together near your work location, see an officer for the list of members so that you can see who might be close to you!

Look forward to seeing you all in October! Happy Halloween!

Krista Johnson
Director

Monthly Question

A new tradition began last year by our President, Rachel Speth. By asking an "icebreaker" question at the beginning of each meeting, we learned a little more about our fellow ASWA members. We plan on continuing this fun activity, but are now giving you an opportunity to prepare your answers. So, do your homework and come prepared to share a bit about yourself at the next meeting! But do not stress too much, this is meant to be a fun, quick way to learn about

others.....no essays required.

When trick-or-treating as a kid, was there any kind of candy that you didn't like to get?

2008-2009 Kansas City Chapter Officers and Directors

The following members have been elected to the 2009-2010 Board of Directors:

President:	Rachel Speth
President Elect:	Tammy Lawson
Vice President:	Pamela Fraley
Secretary:	Bridget Sturr
Treasurer:	Megan Sumners
Director:	Krista Johnson
Director:	Aneita Remus
Director:	Jessica Galati

2008-2009 Kansas City Chapter Committee Chairs

Bulletin:	Jessica Galati
Budget:	Megan Sumners
Chapter Dev:	Rachel Speth
Member Handbook:	Pamela Fraley
Membership:	Tammy Lawson Krista Johnson
Program:	Aneita Remus Bridget Sturr
Meeting Logistics:	Carla Neely
Reservations:	Megan Sumners
Scholarship:	Mary Roach
Web Site:	Jessica Galati Lana Scroggins

Speaking of Women's Health

October brings about a couple of my favorite things... the World Series and Speaking of Women's Health. While we don't yet know the winners of the World Series, everyone who attended the October 3rd event were all winners. Especially for President Rachel Speth who had the distinction of our first winner of a door prize. Way to go Rachel! Enjoy your day at Serenity Spa.

Annette Sym, one of Australia's best-selling authors, shared with us her struggle with weight loss. During this period in her life she became a low-fat cooking expert and has authored cookbooks that concentrate on easy and quick meals.

Karyn Buxman, a successful nurse and comedian, hails from Missouri. She focuses on humor as it relates to health and business professionals and encouraged all of us to live an amazed and amused life, in mind, heart, and spirit.

Rebecca Gorrell shared her experience and knowledge in how movement affects the body, mind, and spirit. She

passed along many helpful hints regarding exercise and health.

Break-out sessions ranged from diet, financial planning, exercise, memory loss, and cancer to heart disease, along with many others.

Be sure to mark your calendar for October 2, 2010 when the 13th annual Speaking of Women's Health event will again be in Kansas City.

Pam Fraley
Vice President

Join ASWA's LinkedIn Group Today

We encourage you to join ASWA's "LinkedIn Group." LinkedIn is an online network of more than 25 million experienced professionals from around the world.

LinkedIn provides ASWA members:

- The ability to quickly find fellow ASWA contacts nationally for networking and professional information
- An ASWA group discussion forum to ask questions, make recommendations and more!
- The power to connect with industry experts
- Exponential opportunity to increase local, regional and national membership
- The ability to know more than a name – view rich professional profiles from fellow ASWA Group members
- A platform to accelerate careers/business through referrals from ASWA Group members

To join ASWA's LinkedIn Group, all you need to do is click on the [Invitation](#) and build your profile. ASWA's National Membership Committee has assembled a simple to follow set of [ASWA LinkedIn Group Instructions](#) to guide you through the process. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact ASWA Headquarters at aswa@aswa.org.

We look forward to networking with you on ASWA's LinkedIn Group!

2009-2010 National Nominating Committee

Do you know someone who would be a good candidate for the national board of directors or a regional director?

Have you reached a point in your career where you are ready to give back to the profession and the Society?

If the answer is yes....the Nominating Committee is looking for you! The Nominating Committee will interview candidates for both the national board and regional director positions in Las Vegas, Nevada during

ASWA's 69th Annual Conference, October 19-21. We encourage you to submit your biographical information now. Please [click here](#) for a biographical information sheet or contact ASWA headquarters at 703-506-3265.

Requirements for the board position:

- Must be a Regular member in good standing
- Have served or are currently serving on the chapter board of directors
- Able to attend two, in-person board meetings annually – one held in conjunction with the Joint National Conference in the fall and one held at a regional conference in the spring

It is also very important to have the support of your chapter, your employer and your family.

The role of the regional director is primarily focused towards chapter mentoring. The regional director will also have the opportunity to serve on one of the national committees – Chapter Partnering, Membership or Communications. The regional director is a representative of the national organization and attendance at the annual conference and regional conferences are very important.

Nominations must be received via email at aswa@aswa.org or fax to 703-506-3266 by Friday, October 9th or at the JNC registration desk by October 19th. If you have any questions, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee. We want to hear from you!

Barbara W. Covington, Chair bcovington@cricpa.com
Joyce Towne joyce_towne@comcast.net
Jeanette Ding jeanette.ding@roberthalf.com

The Compass

ASWA members can access articles of interest in the "Four Points" categories of Accounting & Auditing, Controllership, Leadership and Tax. All you need to do is click on the category of interest on the compass icon to the left and enter your member ID and password. This month's "Four Points" articles include:

Accounting & Auditing: "[IFRS Ripples throughout the Profession](#)" - By Rose Marie L. Bukics, CPA, Alaina Masler and Samantha Speer

Rose Marie L. Bukics, CPA, is the Thomas Roy and Lura Forrest Jones Professor of Economics and Business at Lafayette College in Easton, and is a member of the Pennsylvania CPA Journal Editorial Board. She can be reached at bukicsr@lafayette.edu.

Alaina Masler and Samantha Speer are independent study students at Lafayette College. They can be reached at maslera@lafayette.edu and speers@lafayette.edu, respectively.

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Controllership: "Finding Career Opportunity in Adversity" - A recent article by Robert Half International.

About Robert Half International

Founded in 1948, Robert Half International is the world's first and largest specialized staffing firm. Robert Half's financial staffing divisions include Accountemps®, Robert Half® Finance & Accounting and Robert Half® Management Resources, for temporary, full-time and senior-level project professionals, respectively. For more information about Robert Half, please visit www.rhi.com.

Leadership: "The Slow Leadership Dialogue" - By Anthony Silard and Carl Honore

Anthony Silard is the president of The Executive Leadership Institute (www.execleaders.com) and the author of *Full Alignment: A Practical Guide to Transforming Your Life Vision into Action* and the upcoming *Beyond the Goal: The 11 Contrarian Principles of Leadership* (scheduled for release in spring 2010).

Carl Honore is the bestselling author of *In Praise of Slowness and Under Pressure*.

Tax: "R&D Tax Credit Audits Wreaking Havoc with Manufacturers" - By Karim Solanji, JD and Mark Lauber

The authors are Karim Solanji, J.D., Director, with Paradigm Partners, and Mark Lauber, VP of Marketing at Paradigm Partners. Paradigm Partners is a national tax consulting firm specializing in niche tax services such as the R&D Tax Credit, the IC-DISC, WOTC and Cost Segregation. Their website is www.ParadigmLP.com.

ASWA Holiday Card

Each year the Kansas City Chapter of ASWA has a holiday wish as the front cover of the monthly newsletter. The thought behind this is for the members to sign as their greeting to the other ASWA members. The members are then asked to make a donation to the Scholarship Fund. This donation is based on what the member would spend on cards and postage to send actual cards to ASWA members.

The cover will be available at the October and November meetings. If you are not able to sign, please let Jessica Galati, Megan Sumners, or Mary Roach know; and they will add your name to the cover. Hope each of you has a wonderful 2009 holiday season!!!

September Meeting Recap

Alex Freeburne joined us for the September meeting to share all the fine points of LinkedIn. This professional networking tool can be used in a variety of ways:

networking with others, finding available jobs, searching for potential employees, ability for users to ask others in their "community" business oriented questions, etc. In fact, according to the information provided by Alex's handouts, LinkedIn is currently the largest professional network with over 40 million members.

As a fairly new member to the LinkedIn community, I found this presentation extremely helpful. Alex truly covered many topics and helped clear up questions that I had come across in my own experience with LinkedIn. He covered the basics: how to join, items to be included in your profile, recommendations, and groups. In addition, Alex also provided information on making the tool work better for the individual with covering topics such as account settings, contact preferences, privacy settings, controlling the emails you will receive, and much more.

As seen in this Voucher, the ASWA national website, and previous emails – ASWA is now in the LinkedIn community and is encouraging all of its members to join their LinkedIn group.

In addition, we were pleased to have Gina Slack join us at the meeting. Gina is a National Director of ASWA, as well as being a member of the Des Moines, IA Chapter #153. Gina reminded us of the great opportunity to meet fellow ASWA members at the Joint National Conference and the many regional conferences. One of which will be easy travel for our local members – Wichita is hosting a regional meeting in June 2010. She emphasized the resources and information available to us on both the national website (www.aswa.org) and within The Compass. Gina discussed the kick off of the new membership campaign, "The Membership Stimulus Plan". Chapters will be rewarded for recruiting new members and retention goals set by national. It was great to meet Gina and have the opportunity to spend some time with an ASWA member from another chapter.

Four Simple Steps to Update Your Resume

With the doldrums of Summer hiring behind us, Fall is a great time to update your resume. Labor Day to Thanksgiving is typically an active interview season. Don't be late when opportunity knocks. If you haven't updated your resume in the past year the following four steps will help you bring your resume up to date with new focus and polish.

1. Identify your new career objection.

If you're dissatisfied with your current job this is the time to ask why. Before making any changes to your resume ask yourself the following questions:

- * What part of my job would you rather not do in my next position?
- * What skills, tasks or responsibilities would I like to continue in my next job?
- * What other industry might I use my skills?

* What other occupation might I apply my skills?

Your response to these questions will shed light on the changes in your career path. Write out your answers and do a reality check to see how likely you are to obtain your new career direction.

2. Get rid of the old to make room for the new information.

Your new resume should reflect your current career direction. The first resume rule says that everything within your resume should relate to your career direction. This means you may need to delete information about outdated technology. You may also need to weed out old responsibilities that you no longer want to perform. If your resume includes special training or certifications that are no longer needed take them off as well.

Additionally, check your accomplishments from earlier years. If they do not support your career objection either delete or adjust them to relate. You might even need to take off your earliest employment entries if they represent a completely different career path.

3. Add your most recent employment entry.

Write your current employment entry in light of your new career focus. Do not include responsibilities that you do not wish to perform in your next job. Include only what you want to continue to do. Use job postings as a guide for key words that you'll need to use as verbiage. Job postings also provide clues to transferable skills, technology and education that you'll want to include.

4. Add the final touch, accomplishments.

No resume is complete without accomplishments. They are the talking points of your resume. Even if the past year hasn't been as productive or positive as the past, find something to brag about. Think back on the challenges of the past year and how you solved them. Did you find a way to save time, cut costs or improve performance? Those are your accomplishments. They tell perspective employers that you are a problem solver for today's difficult business environment. If your goal is an internal promotion your accomplishments remind your employer of the value you bring to the organization.

Once you've updated your resume you'll be ready for any opportunity that comes your way. This may be your season for advancement, change or transition—get ready for it!

Deborah Walker, CCMC
Certified Career Management Coach
Read more job-search tips at:
www.AlphaAdvantage.com

Exciting News!!!

Congratulations to Carla Neely who welcomed her beautiful, new granddaughter, Re'Mya Pitts on September 15th!

Anniversaries

The following are celebrating their anniversary this month with ASWA Kansas City Chapter:

Barbara Beadle
Cheryl Johnson
Tammy Lawson
Aneita Remus
Doris Wilson

Reservation Reminder

Reservations for the monthly meetings are due to Jessica Galati by noon on the Friday prior to each meeting date. Those who have made a reservation at any time and are unable to attend will be billed for the meeting cost. The Chapter Officers and Board of Director members appreciate your understanding and cooperation in this matter.

Job Opportunity

El Centro, Inc. has a real opportunity for an outgoing, people person who likes to work with teams they put together!

Title: Director of In-kind Service

Qualifications include: Understanding the marketing process and use of volunteers in organizations.

If this intrigues you or one of your friends, please contact Mary Lou Jaramillo at mljaramillo@elcentroinc.com

Job Opportunity

Miller, Haviland, Ketter P.C., P.A. is a top 25 regional public accounting firm located in Kansas City. We have an immediate opening for a CPA candidate with three plus years of public accounting experience in tax. Salary commensurate with experience. We prefer that the candidate have experience in tax consulting and compliance. Our firm offers excellent benefits: 401(k) retirement plan, paid overtime, medical insurance, CPE, society dues and parking. Negligible travel. Send resume and salary expectation to: Chuck Haviland, Miller Haviland Ketter, 1901 W 47th Place, Ste. 204, Westwood, KS 66205 or chuck@mhkcpas.com.

Member Handbook

The Kansas City Chapter is in the process of updating our Member Handbook. If you have any suggestions, please contact Pam Fraley or any of the current board members. Please keep your eyes open for an email from Pam regarding the Member Handbook in the near future.

ASWA News

The ASWA/AWSCPA Joint National Conference is being held in Las Vegas, NV this year on **October 19-21, 2009**. Sign up now!!!!

Member News

If you have any program ideas for the 2009-2010 meetings please contact Aneita Remus at aneita_remus@hotmail.com.

Contact Information

Remember to update your contact information when it changes on the ASWA web page www.aswa.org.

Footnotes from the Board

Web Site: Check our chapter's web page at www.aswa-kc.com. **All Voucher information is there.** Any comments or suggestions would be greatly appreciated.

Suggestions or News for the Bulletin?

Do you have news to share with the chapter? Weddings, births, promotions, new job, won the lottery? Professional news? Suggestions? If so, please send your information to Jessica Galati at (816) 508-4103 or by e-mail – jessica.galati@hotmail.com

The next voucher deadline is November 4, 2009.



American Society of Women Accountants

Upcoming Events:

Kansas City Chapter ASWA Monthly Meetings:

November 17, 2009	Dinner Meeting
December 8, 2009	Chapter Social
January 19, 2010	Dinner Meeting
February 16, 2010	Dinner Meeting
March 16, 2010	Dinner Meeting
April 20, 2010	Chapter Social
May 18, 2010	Dinner Meeting
June 15, 2010	Dinner Meeting

ASWA Conferences:

October 19-21, 2009	Joint National Conference	Las Vegas, Nevada
May 6-7, 2010	Southwest Regional Conference	Santa Barbara, California
May 21-22, 2010	North Central Regional Conference	Milwaukee, Wisconsin
June 18-19, 2010	Northwest Regional Conference	Portland, Oregon
June 25, 2010	South Central Regional Conference	Wichita, Kansas
