



American Society of Women Accountants

THE VOUCHER

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

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September 2009

September Meeting

“Are you LinkedIn?”

This was the opening remark of the session presenter during the 2009 St. Louis ASWA regional meeting. He then polled the large group of attendees as to their level of knowledge and participation with this electronic networking tool. While the room was full of interested women, he quickly deduced that the majority were there to learn the basics rather than share their latest triumph. He launched into the presentation and most of us became enthralled with the aspects of this excellent business tool. The allocated time was far too short. I knew then that this was a mandatory topic for our chapter this year!

Thanks to Michelle Decker, Business Development Manager with Pro Staff and Accounting, we welcome to our September 15th meeting Mr. Alex Freeburne. Alex brings many years of computer industry expertise to the electronic business networking topic. He is currently the Director of Innovation at Benton & Associates, a firm with a track record of maximizing IT budgets for people, software, and hardware in the medical and financial arenas. Mr. Freeburne also serves as the Advisor to the Center for Advanced Professional Studies (CAPS) for the Blue Valley School District (KS). He received his Bachelor of Science in Computer Science at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and his Master of Business Administration (emphasis on Project Management) from the Keller School of Management of DeVry University. Mr. Freeburne has also worked in the fields of telecommunications (Sprint), publishing (Intertec), information technology (Software Innovations, Cerner, Digital Simplistics), and sports (NCAA). Amidst all of his ventures, he also has had a hand in training various professionals in their job transition using LinkedIn as a method to garner proper attention to their accomplishments.

Plan to join the Officers and Board at 5:30 pm Tuesday, September 15th at the Plaza Marriott, 45th at Main, for this exciting yet practical session. Do invite colleagues

and friends as this session is ESSENTIAL for professionals from all industries!

Aneita Remus, Program Committee Chairman

When: Tuesday, September 15th, 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: Lasagna, Vegetable Medley, Tossed Garden Salad, Chef’s selection 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 September 11th.**

Note: All standing reservations have been canceled

Officer’s Message

September has arrived! For financial people that means different things to different people. Tax people realize their extensions are soon over and they have two more filing deadlines in the next 45 days. Finance and treasury folks begin to consider quarter end work. Leaders in the budget area are already beginning work for their deadlines in the coming weeks. Auditors are closing up various projects and beginning prelim testing

on various clients. Workers in the Pension field are considering needs for the year end and enrollment processes. No matter your part in the Accounting profession, reaching this month each year means review of one's commitment to the profession and specific work matters as well as the preparation for the next phase.

Being dedicated team members, we also consider where we individually are in our personal goals for the period. For some this process is aided in the workplace by quarterly or semi-annual reviews. Others intuitively reach inward and scrutinize their situation closely. Regardless of how you reach various conclusions, this is a good time to review your situation and make a plan of ACTION!

In the coming months ASWA offers a variety of ways for you to move ahead and ACT!

- "Speaking of Women's Health" in October provides a day of fellowship, food, fun and special time for personal investment in learning more about one's health. All of these are important to having a balance life. Contact Pam Fraley or Mary Roach for more information.
- Our upcoming monthly programs and socials promise a wide variety of topics to broaden your horizons during these unique times. The Officers and Board are working hard to finalize the program listing. Watch these pages for details.
- If your interest turns to education and aiding future members of the profession with scholarships, Mary Roach will soon be working to release the forms to the local colleges and universities. She is always seeking additional volunteers to help with this vital part of our local chapter.
- The 2009 ASWA Joint National Conference convenes in late October in Las Vegas, NV. Once again members will gather from across the nation to handle the business of the organization as well as hear and discuss timely business topics. As a past attendee, I strongly urge you to accept the invitation of the National Board and Officers to join them for an informative time. Would you like to be a delegate to the Annual Meeting? Rachel Speth would be happy to share additional details as that opportunity. Participating in our organization in that capacity (as a delegate to the Annual Meeting) will definitely be a time of ACTION!!

If you have questions about any of these items, do reach out to contact a Chapter Officer or Board Member. ASWA members regularly recall the friendships developed and the support they have received from fellow members. While September may be a busy time for you personally, do take the time at some point during our fiscal year to ACT for yourself!

See you at the September 15th meeting!

Aneita M. Remus, CPA

2009-10 Kansas City Chapter Program Chairman
2009-10 Member of Board of Directors

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.

What one thing (modern convenience) could you not live without?

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

Proposed Bylaw Amendments

There will be two proposed bylaws amendments that will be voted on by the chapter and member-at-large delegates at the ASWA Annual Business Meeting, on Tuesday, October 20, 2009 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Please review the following proposals along with the rationale. If you have any concerns regarding the vote at Nationals, please contact one of this years Chapter

Delegates.

PROPOSAL #1: BYLAW AMENDMENT FOR 2009 ANNUAL MEETING

Proposed Amendment to Article IV – Chapters

Amendment #1 Amend Article IV Section 1 by eliminating Item A and “OR”

Current Bylaw

Article IV Chapters
Section 1

Chapter charters are approved, granted and monitored by the board of directors. Chapter charter petitions will be accepted from:

- A. Thirty or more members or prospective members eligible for membership submitting the following:
1. Membership applications and dues for the current year for each prospective member or a change form for current members.
 2. The proposed chapter bylaws.

OR

- B. A core group of individuals eligible for membership submitting the following:
1. An approved two-year plan of action for the prospective chapter.
 2. Membership applications and dues for the current year for each of the core group of individuals.
 3. The proposed chapter bylaws.

Proposed Amendment

Article IV Chapters
Section 1

Chapter charters are approved, granted and monitored by the board of directors. Chapter charter petitions will be accepted from a core group of individuals eligible for membership submitting the following:

1. An approved two-year plan of action for the prospective chapter.
2. Membership applications and dues for the current year for each of the core group of individuals.
3. The proposed chapter bylaws.

Rationale

This amendment will serve to clarify the chartering process. It will not change the requirements needed to charter as chartering groups have had the option of item B if they didn't meet the 30-member requirement set forth in item A. Removing item A will strengthen the process, as all chartering groups will be required to submit a two-year plan of action regardless of the number of prospective members involved.

As of June 30, 2009 ASWA had 80 active chapters. 36% of those chapters had 30 or fewer members making up 18% of our total membership. Many of these chapters have been in the small size category for years and have been very dynamic and successful.

Of the 3 chapters that have chartered in the past two years all have followed the procedures of Item B, which includes submitting a 2-year plan of action for the chapter. This was done whether or not they had 30 or more prospective members for the new chapter.

We believe the mentoring provided by the Chapter Partnering Committee of the national board, well before the chartering petition is submitted, encourages a core of chapter leaders with strategic plans to build a strong and vital chapter. A written 2-year plan for development and growth of a chapter plays a greater role in the success of a chapter than the number of members the chapter has when it is chartered.

PROPOSAL #2: BYLAW AMENDMENT FOR 2009 ANNUAL MEETING

Proposed Amendment to Article IV – Chapters

Amendment #1 Amend Article IV Section 2 by eliminating Item C.

Current Bylaw

Article IV Chapters
Section 2

Chapters shall:

- A. Maintain the minimum standards as set forth in the standing rules.
- B. Have fiscal and administrative year coinciding with the national Society.
- C. Any chapter with fewer than seventy-five regular members shall maintain a membership consisting of a minimum of 50% regular members.

Proposed Amendment

Article IV Chapters
Section 2

Chapters shall:

- A. Maintain the minimum standards as set forth in the standing rules.
- B. Have fiscal and administrative year coinciding with the national Society.

Rationale

Article III, Section 2 of the national bylaws states that approval of applications is based on criteria for membership outlined in the bylaws. In order to protect the chapters and the Society as a whole, we can not discriminate against any qualified prospective member. By eliminating item C in Article IV, Section 2, we limit the risk of chapters inadvertently discriminating against members who do not qualify for regular membership.

Chapter Delegates

The Kansas City Chapter's Board of Directors is in the process of selecting delegates for this years' Joint National Conference. Our chapter is entitled to a total of

3 delegates. This is a great opportunity to meet with fellow ASWA members from around the country and participating in the annual business meeting.

If you would like to be a delegate at the Joint National Conference or have any questions regarding this opportunity, please respond to Rachel Speth at Rachel.Speth@kiewit.com by **September 10th**.

Rachel Speth ASWA Certification Scholarship Recipient

Rachel Speth, current President of the Kansas City Chapter of ASWA, is being awarded one of The Foundation's Certification Scholarships. Rachel is starting her second year as President and previously served as Vice President, Secretary, & a Director. She has chaired the Bulletin Committee and started the question of the meeting last year. This helps the members get to know each other better. Additionally, she served as a delegate at last fall's ASWA annual meeting.

Congratulations for your award!

Certification Scholarships and Becker Review Scholarships

ASWA members once again have the opportunity to apply for scholarships from the American Society of Women Accountants Educational Foundation. The two scholarships that are for members only are the Certification and the Becker Review.

The Certification Scholarship is for any members who have passed any part of the CPA, CFP, CFE, CIA, CMA or CVA exams between January 19, 2008 and September 18, 2009. Documentation is required.

The Becker Review Scholarship is to provide registration for a Becker CPA Review.

Both applications are due to Mary Roach by October 1, 2009. Applications and instructions are attached. If you have any questions, please contact Mary at: mary.roach@pdqts.com

New ASWA Members

Please join me in welcoming the following members to the Kansas City Chapter:

Kaitlin Chipman
Emily Gooden
Katherine Kastner
Sarah Kongs
Tamara Schantell

Speaking of Women's Health

As of this printing, there are two available spots.

The 12th Annual Speaking of Women's Health event in Kansas City will be held October 2 & 3. The Kansas City Chapter of ASWA has a table of 10 reserved for Saturday, October 3. This is a memorable event that many members have attended for multiple years.

The keynote speakers are the following:

Annette Sym: one of Australia's best selling authors, a low-fat cooking expert (not sure who needs that) and a multi-award winning business woman and entrepreneur.

Karyn Buxman: a successful nurse and comedian who bridges the gap between health care and humor.

Rebecca Gorrell: when it comes to your mind, body and spirit, she is your go-to guru with her expertise in dance, movement therapy and fitness.

In addition to these keynote speakers, there are two breakout sessions, a bag filled with many gifts, a wonderful lunch, lots of door prizes (someday Pam Fraley is going to win the Canyon Ranch Spa trip), multiple health tables, books for sale, flu shot opportunity, free giveaways, etc. Of course the best part is spending the day with other ASWA members. The cost per ticket is \$45 – the bag is worth more than that. Let Mary Roach know if you are interested in purchasing a ticket for the day.

Mary Roach
Past 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, Controllershship, 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: Accounting & Auditing: "Is There a Glass Ceiling for Academic Women?" - By Mary Feeney Bonawitz, PhD, CPA and Nicole M. Anel, PhD

Controllershship: "The Top 10 Ways Corporations Can Reduce Occupational Fraud" - A recent article by Crowe Horwath. Crowe Horwath LLP is one of the largest public accounting and consulting firms in the United States.

Leadership: "Redefining Success: How to Prevent Popular Misconceptions about Success from Controlling Your Life" - By Anthony Silard, President of The Executive Leadership Institute and 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

Tax: "Survival Techniques: Transfer Pricing in a Sick Economy" - By Patricia Gimbel Lewis, Caplin & Drysdale, Chartered, One Thomas Circle, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005. Tel: (202) 862-5017. Email: pjl@capdale.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 September, October, & 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!!!

August Meeting Recap

IFRS will be a mandate for public companies in the U.S.....but when!? Brian Kilbane and Steve Griffith from Deloitte could not specifically answer that question. However, they did provide an overview of IFRS and GAAP differences, with helpful tips to prepare for IFRS.

International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) is a comprehensive globally accepted set of accounting standards. Relative to U.S. GAAP, IFRS is more of a

principles-based approach with greater emphasis on interpretation and the use of judgment and less reliance on bright line rules. Currently, IFRS is used in over 100 countries: Hong Kong, Australia, and European Union countries are among these countries. By 2011, out of the industrialized countries, only the United States and Japan will have not adopted IFRS.

From Brian and Steve's point of view, an IFRS mandate is inevitable in the U.S. It is just a matter of when. The proposed U.S. timeline was issued by the SEC in 2008. This SEC roadmap describes milestones for the mandatory transition to IFRS starting in 2014. Therefore, in order to have comparative financial statements, companies would have to maintain GAAP and IFRS reporting standards in 2012 and 2013 and then report under IFRS rules in 2014. However, with the economic downturn and a newly appointed SEC Chairwoman (Mary Schapiro), the original roadmap is uncertain. Mary Schapiro indicated that an announcement regarding IFRS is coming out in the fourth quarter of 2009.

Though a definitive timeline is not set regarding IFRS mandate, Brian suggests companies should start thinking about IFRS. It might be too early to start allocating dollars to any IFRS projects, but having a committee in your organization that keeps updated on the IFRS convergence project is imperative.

Megan Sumners, Treasurer

Anniversaries

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

Rachel Taylor – 5 years

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.

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 October 8, 2009.



American Society of Women Accountants

Upcoming Events:

Kansas City Chapter ASWA Monthly Meetings:

October 27, 2009	Dinner Meeting
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

Note: The October meeting has been moved to the 4th Tuesday of the month as the Joint National Conference is being held during our regularly scheduled meeting time.

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

Other Activities:

October 3, 2009	Speaking of Women's Health
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