

THE VOUCHER

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

Volume 60, Number 2

September 2010

September Meeting

Managing Difficult Conversations

Have you found yourself in this situation? You dread going to work since you have a meeting with a demanding client. The overall work results indicate a costly and unexpected problem. Since it is your account, you are to be the discussion leader. How do you best lead this conversation to help the client and save the business relationship? Everyone at some point in their careers faces this type of scenario.

With this in mind, the Officers and Board are offering a two hour session (**2 CPE**) to the members September 21st covering the topic of "Managing Difficult Conversations". This extended session is tailored to allow our group to discuss in greater detail several important aspects of the topic. Examples include: discussion preparation techniques, methods to discern when a detour in the conversation has occurred and corrective measures to undertake, and monitoring body language.

Back by popular request, we welcome as our session leader Kathleen Ames-Oliver from the University of Kansas. She will provide the group with useful tools to handle these situations with more confidence. Do you have a situation somewhere in your business or personal lives where a difficult conversation could occur? Would you like to be better prepared? This will be an excellent place to discuss it further and garner new ways to move through it to produce a positive outcome.

Kathleen Ames-Oliver is the manager of Learning and Development at the University of Kansas where she facilitates a wide range of programs for faculty and staff. She is a certified professional coach with a special interest in employee engagement and leadership development. She has a bachelor's degree in Sociology and Performance Theatre and a master's degree in Counseling from the University of Missouri at Kansas City. She has also completed coaching programs through Coach U and Retirement Options and is a certified Franklin Covey facilitator. Ms. Ames-Oliver has

PRESIDENT: Tammy Lawson
Email: tlawson@hntb.com

EDITOR: Jessica Galati
Email: jessica.galati@hotmail.com

MEMBERSHIP: Teresa Kazemi
Email: teresakazemi@gmail.com

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

served as a consultant to a variety of organizations in the public and private sector and has published a number of articles on the topics of leadership and organizational development. She enjoys working with both groups and individuals to discover their strengths and maximize their effectiveness.

We encourage you to invite other people in your world (work, volunteer, or family) to join us for this session. While we cannot guarantee the outcome in every situation, attendees will begin the process of becoming more comfortable during difficult conversations. Note the change in the timing for the meeting. We will begin social time at 5 pm and the meal will be served at 5:30 pm to allow us to complete the two hour session at or near the usual time. Contact me directly with your questions at 913.754.6456.

See you September 21st!

Aneita Remus, Program Committee Chairman

When: Tuesday, September 21, 2010

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

Cost: Members \$40.00
Non members \$45.00

(2hrs CPE)

Where: HNTB

715 Kirk Drive
Kansas City, MO 64105

Menu: Chef Salad (mixed greens, ham, chicken, egg, tomatoes, red onions, black olives, croutons) with dressing, Dessert, and Beverage

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 **5:00 pm on Friday, September 17th**.

Note: All standing reservations have been cancelled. In addition, any cancelled reservations must also be received by Friday, September 17th. Any cancellations received after this time will be billed for the meeting.

Officer's Message

In January of 2009, I officially entered the accounting program at the University of Missouri – Kansas City. Upon enrollment, I expected to learn about GAAP, financial statements, the tax code, and other related topics. After reflecting on my time spent in the BSA program, I have come to the realization that I have gained much more than just the technical knowledge needed to be an accountant.

I now have a group of friends who form the basis of my peer network. Not only has each friend influenced me individually, but collectively, they have helped me grow and mature into a more well-rounded person. Additionally, we supported each other in difficult classes and assignments, further emphasizing to me the importance of teamwork. I believe my experiences with fellow students will enable me to be a stronger team member upon entering the accounting profession.

I have also had the pleasure of interacting with professors who continuously challenge me. At times I felt like giving up, but instead, I persevered. I am grateful to these instructors for pushing me to be the best I can be and I know I will be a better accountant because of their continual insistence of excellence. Furthermore, I will be less fearful of accepting challenging assignments during the course of my career.

These are only a few examples of the unexpected benefits I have received while pursuing a college education. I received another surprise at the end of March when I was notified that I had won an ASWA scholarship. Initially, I thought the only benefit of winning this scholarship was a reduction in the financial burden associated with completing my Bachelors of Science degree in Accounting. However, in addition to the monetary aspect of the ASWA scholarship, I received a year's membership in the American Society of Women's Accountants. After attending several ASWA meetings, I can honestly say this membership is far more valuable than the scholarship money awarded. I have been able to network with and learn from many women currently working in the field of accounting. My discussions with ASWA members have included relaxation techniques, guidance on work/life balance and, tips on succeeding as an accounting professional. I find the advice from these women to be invaluable.

The journey to complete my Bachelors degree has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. In December, I will be graduating and transitioning into uncharted territory. While there are many unknown elements associated with starting a career, I know I am well prepared for a staff accountant position and that I can always seek advice from my fellow ASWA members.

Therefore, I have to believe that this new chapter will be as satisfying as the previous one.

Melissa Kehoe
Kansas City Chapter Scholarship Winner

Monthly Question

A new tradition began by asking an "icebreaker" question at the beginning of each meeting. In the process, 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.

Who's your favorite author?

2010-2011 Kansas City Chapter Officers and Directors

The following members have been elected to the 2010-2011 Board of Directors:

President:	Tammy Lawson
President Elect:	Megan Sumners
Vice President:	Aneita Remus
Secretary:	Bridget Sturr
Treasurer:	Marie Lafever
Director:	Teresa Kazemi
Director:	Rachel Speth

2009-2010 Kansas City Chapter Committee Chairs

Bulletin:	Jessica Galati
Budget:	Marie Lafever
Chapter Dev:	Tammy Lawson Megan Sumners
Member Handbook:	Pamela Fraley
Membership:	Teresa Kazemi Krista Johnson
Program:	Aneita Remus Bridget Sturr
Scholarship:	Mary Roach Rachel Speth
Web Site:	Jessica Galati

Meet Your Board

President-Elect: Elected by the membership to assist the president in leading the chapter. Only a person who has previously served as a member of the board of directors of the chapter is eligible to serve as president-elect. Some of the duties of the president-elect include:

- * Attends all the chapter meetings, functions, and board meetings
 - * Works closely with the president to learn the Chapter's operations, policies, committees, goals, and progress
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- * If a vacancy in the president position occurs, the president-elect completes the term and also the term for which they were elected
- * Chairs a committee
- * Becomes familiar with all the Chapter Bylaws and Standing Rules

Megan Sumners, President-Elect 2010-2011

Employer: UMB Financial Corporation

Member since: 2005

Other positions held: Director, Treasurer

Hobby/Interests: Volleyball of any kind – indoor, sand, grass

Favorite thing about ASWA: At first it was the idea of getting a good meal (I am not the best of cooks!) I still enjoy the delicious meal, but also enjoy the variety of topics outside of tax.

Other Interesting Facts: I am in the process of planning my destination wedding in Sonoma, CA.

Celebrating Sixty Years

As the Kansas City Chapter of the American Society of Women Accountants embarks on its 60th Anniversary, we think back to our 50th Anniversary. June 1-3, 2001, the Kansas City Chapter hosted the South Central Regional Conference. The conference was the “Jazz Jubilee in KC – A Celebration of Friends, Education and Fifty.”

The National Board of Directors of ASWA had their spring meeting during the conference, with the 2001-2002 National Officers and Directors being installed at the Saturday evening banquet. They actually thought we had professional event planners, when it was just the two of us, along with wonderful committee chairmen (the workers).

Some of the highlights of the conference were: Education Foundation Basket Raffle, Fun Night at Union Station, and twelve hours or CPE including FBI Agent Lou Ann Stovall (complete with gun) speaking on “Crime in the Computer Age”, Dr. Sandra Byrd’s topic of “Business Internet Etiquette”, Mary McBain speaking on “Acquisition of Financial Management Systems”, and Donita Whitney-Bammerlin’s session on “Stimulating Creativity in a Corporate Environment”. It’s interesting that many of the topics the program committee selected ten years ago are still very much discussed.



Twenty past Kansas City Chapter Presidents attended the banquet. In celebration of our fiftieth birthday, Mary

Jo McCann (a founder of the Kansas City Chapter and still a member) was surprised with members contributing to the Kansas City Chapter’s Scholarship and Awards Fund in her name. After ASWA members from other chapters found out this was planned, more donations were given in her honor.



Pamela Fraley, Mary Jo McCann, Mary Roach

We’re amazed how quickly the ten years since then have flown by. Our chapter has welcomed new members, with many of those accepting leadership roles. It was then, and still is, a pleasure and honor for us to be associated with so many women working so diligently to promote ASWA.

Pam Fraley and Mary Roach
Jazz Jubilee in KC Co-Chairmen

2010 Joint National Conference

Do not miss your opportunity to attend this year’s Joint National Conference in Nashville, TN. The conference will be held September 27-29, 2010 at the Music Station Sheraton. This is a great way to network with ASWA members and earn CPE. More details can be found at www.aswa.org.

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, September 28, 2010 in Nashville, TN. Please review the following proposals along with the rationale. If you have any concerns regarding the vote at Nationals, please contact one of this year’s Chapter Delegates.

PROPOSAL #1: BYLAW AMENDMENT FOR 2010 ANNUAL MEETING

Proposed Amendment to Article XI – Dissolution

Amendment #1 Amend Article XI, Section A by eliminating “The Educational Foundation for Women in Accounting, if it exists, or” and adding “The ASWA Educational Foundation, if it exists, or”; and Section B by adding the words “women in” and “and finance”.

Current Bylaw

Article XI Dissolution

In the event of dissolution of the Society, any remaining funds will go to a nonprofit organization that is exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code as follows:

- A. The Educational Foundation for Women in Accounting, if it exists, or
- B. A nonprofit organization working for the benefit of the accounting profession to be chosen by the trustees of the dissolution.

Proposed Amendment

Article XI Dissolution

In the event of dissolution of the Society, any remaining funds will go to a nonprofit organization that is exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code as follows:

- A. The ASWA Educational Foundation, if it exists, or
- B. A nonprofit organization working for the benefit of women in the accounting and finance profession to be chosen by the trustees of the dissolution.

Rationale

This amendment will serve to support ASWA's Educational Foundation, in the unlikely event of dissolution of the Society.

The mission of the ASWA Educational Foundation, founded in 2004, is "to promote and advance financial literacy, scholarship and life skills through programs of recognition, mentoring, research and outreach."

The ASWA Educational Foundation has increased its donations every year since formation through the support of ASWA members and chapters and has also correspondingly increased the number of scholarships awarded. In the unlikely event that the Society were to dissolve, remaining funds should first be awarded to the ASWA Educational Foundation. If the ASWA Educational Foundation no longer exists, the trustees are instructed to donate the funds to another nonprofit organization working for the benefit of women in the accounting and finance professions.

PROPOSAL #2: BYLAW AMENDMENT FOR 2010 ANNUAL MEETING

Proposed Amendment to Article III - Members

Amendment #2 Amend Article III, Section 1. Subsection D "Retired", 1. Qualifications, by removing the phrase "as of June 1" in subsections a., b., and c.; adding the word "OR" between the subsections for qualifications, a., b., and c; and adding the phrase "or older" in subsections a. and c.

Current Bylaw

Article III Members

Section 1. D. Retired

1. Qualifications:
 - a. Age sixty-five as of June 1 and a regular or associate member for the shorter of five consecutive years or the life of the chapter.
 - b. Retired from all gainful employment due to disability as of June 1.
 - c. Age fifty-five as of June 1 and retired from all gainful employment and a regular or associate member for the shorter of ten consecutive years or the life of the chapter.
2. Shall retain the rights previously held as regular or associate members.

Proposed Amendment

Article III Members

Section 1. D. Retired

1. Qualifications:
 - a. Age sixty-five or older and a regular or associate member for the shorter of five consecutive years or the life of the chapter, or
 - b. Retired from all gainful employment due to disability, or
 - c. Age fifty-five or older and retired from all gainful employment and a regular or associate member for the shorter of ten consecutive years or the life of the chapter.
2. Shall retain the rights previously held as regular or associate members

Rationale

This amendment serves to make an administrative correction/clarification to the wording of the bylaw regarding retired members. As currently written, it appears that a qualified retired member might have to meet all three qualifications, which doesn't make sense, as they are mutually exclusive. Retired member status can be achieved with any of the three qualifications, so adding the "OR" between subsections is appropriate.

Further, with the change in member anniversary dates for new members since 2008 to correspond with a member's original month of membership, the June 1 measurement date has become outdated. The age requirements should be met as of a member's renewal date.

Trends & Technology Conference and Women to Watch Awards Luncheon

September 17, 2010
KSCPA sponsoring organization

Chapter members learned of this unique event through the announcement of new Kansas City Chapter member Mary McBain, KSCPA Executive Director, at the August meeting. The KSCPA event, to be convened at the Ritz Charles, Overland Park, will honor during the luncheon

portion of the Conference the first group of Kansas "Women to Watch". The awards will recognize women within two categories, Experienced Leaders and Emerging Leaders. Honorees include several Wichita Chapter ASWA members. The luncheon, which runs from noon to 1:30 pm, will feature special guest Bob Harris, current AICPA Chairman, who will provide remarks to the participants and honorees. Tickets for the luncheon portion are \$35 per person.

The Conference begins with registration at 7:30 am and runs through the day with the final session concluding at 5 pm. The conference fee is \$300 which includes a ticket to the luncheon. Topics include Social Networking, Gender Communication, Flexible Work Arrangements, and Flying Solo: Build Your Brand Before You Fly. This dynamic conference honors a fabulous group of women in accounting while providing outstanding CPE sessions. Do share this opportunity with friends, students, and other colleagues. Interested members can register or gather more information about the conference and the honorees by either calling (785) 272-4366 or going to the KSCPA website, www.kscpa.org

Speaking of Women's Health

As of this printing, there are two available spots.

The 13th Annual Speaking of Women's Health event in Kansas City will be held October 1 & 2. The Kansas City Chapter of ASWA has a table of 10 reserved for Saturday, October 2. This is a memorable event that many members have attended for multiple years. The keynote speakers are the following:

Lana Holstein, MD: Throughout her career, Holstein has established innovative programs for women focusing on menopause, osteoporosis and midlife balance. She is most well-known for her expertise in sexuality, having developed workshops for individuals and couples on sexual enhancement.

Jeanne Robertson: specializing in humor based on her life experience, Robertson's message focuses on a positive attitude and how having a optimistic outlook can change the way you deal with people and manage stress.

Joe Piscatella: one of the longest-surviving bypass patients in the US. The goal of his presentation is to move you to living a healthier, more productive life. Piscatella delivers a practical message and gives you the tools you need to incorporate his wisdom into your life.

In addition to these keynote speakers, there are two breakout sessions, a bag filled with many gifts, a wonderful lunch, lots of door prizes, 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.

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!

And now available....the ASWA Kansas City Chapter Group!

Corporate Membership Program

The ASWA Corporate Membership Program was developed to encourage companies to take advantage of the benefits of ASWA membership for their employees by offering discounts and bonuses for multiple memberships. The program has three levels of participation (based upon number of members enrolled) with excellent bonuses for the top two levels. Individuals who become members under this plan will receive all the benefits of ASWA membership at a special discounted dues rate, and the company will be eligible to choose from several corporate bonuses. All members must be employed by the same affiliated group, but may work at different company locations. ASWA requests one group payment and a contact for communication throughout the year and for annual renewal notification. Please see the ASWA National website for a [brochure](#) featuring the details of this new program.

August Recap

When you hear \$2.9 trillion, what do you think of? Is it the federal deficit? Does it sound like the GNP of a small

country? Would you believe that amount is lost globally on an annual basis to fraud? Amazing, isn't it? It's also frightening considering not all fraud is reported. That is just two of the interesting things attendees of the August ASWA meeting learned from Julia Mast, CPA, CFE. Ms. Mast also shared examples of fraud she has seen in her work with BKD.

All three sides of the "fraud triangle" must exist in order for there to be fraud: the perceived pressure facing the individual, the perceived opportunity to commit fraud, and the person's rationalization or integrity. Unfortunately fraud is exacerbated in times of economic downturn.

Ms. Mast provided information regarding perpetrators of fraud, early warning signs, fraud categories and schemes, symptoms of fraud, detection methods, forensic data mining and tips on what to do when fraud has occurred. She also discussed easy things you can do to manage fraud risk and the biggest flaws seen that allow fraud to occur.

While most of what she talked about focused on companies, fraud is also committed against individuals. One of the easiest things you can do to decrease the chances of becoming a victim of fraud is to never let your credit card out of your sight. This may require carrying more cash than normal and not getting the "reward miles/points" attached to your credit card, isn't that better than becoming an addition to the \$2.9 trillion already being lost?

If you would like more information on fraud, Ms. Mast suggests reading "Managing the Business Risk of Fraud: A Practical Guide" (IIA, AICPA & ACRE).

Pam Fraley
Past President

Anniversaries

The following are celebrating their anniversary with the ASWA Kansas City Chapter in September:

Rachel Taylor

Exciting News!!

Congratulations to Marie Lafever on her recent retirement!

Reservation Reminder

Reservations for the monthly meetings are due to Jessica Galati by 5:00 pm 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.

Happy Anniversary

The Kansas City Chapter will be celebrating its 60th Anniversary in January 2011. Please start gathering stories, photos, videos, etc. and share them with a board member. Please also share any ideas you may have on how we may celebrate this anniversary in style!

ASWA News

National Website

ASWA is proud to announce the launch of our new website at www.aswa.org. We encourage you to visit our redesigned site as soon as possible to utilize our online resources.

Member News

If you have any program ideas for the 2010-2011 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 September 28, 2010.



American Society of Women Accountants
Kansas City Chapter

Upcoming Events:

Kansas City Chapter ASWA Monthly Meetings:

October 19, 2010	Lunch Meeting	
November 16, 2010	Dinner Meeting	Roth Conversions
December 2010	Chapter Social	
January 18, 2011	Dinner Meeting	60 th Anniversary Celebration
February 15, 2011	Dinner Meeting	Compensation Issues
March 15, 2011	Dinner Meeting	Property Appraisals
April 2011	Chapter Social	
May 17, 2011	Dinner Meeting	Hiring and Firing Issues
June 21, 2011	Dinner Meeting	Impact of Financial Overhaul Bill

ASWA Conferences:

September 27-29, 2010	Joint National Conference	Nashville, Tennessee
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Other Events:

October 2, 2010	Speaking of Women's Health	Overland Park Convention Center
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