



THE SPOKESWOMAN

Volume 1, Issue 4 Ames Chapter No. 158 January 2005

Websites

National <http://www.aswa.org>
Local <http://www.amesaswa.org>



MISSION STATEMENT: *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.*



President's Message

Greetings and Happy New Year!

Our ASWA year is half over already. Wow! I hope all of you had a happy holiday season and are ready for 2005. Also, that you are all shoveled out from the recent snowstorm.

Our Christmas Party was a huge success and our Scholarship Fund raised \$705. Another Wow! Thank you to everyone there and those who donated, but couldn't come. Thanks also to our resident auctioneer for leading the spirited bidding during the auction. We had several "extra" gifts we used for the auction. Perhaps we could do that again next year. It helped increase our total. The White House ornament given in Beverly's memory auctioned off for \$100. Still another Wow! Lots of laughter, good food, and fellowship.

Attached to this newsletter is the report from the National Nominating Committee for 2005-2006. Our very own Kate Mulder will be serving as a director for two years beginning July 1, 2005. Congratulations, Kate! Although the slate has not been announced for the ASWA Educational Foundation, our very own Kathy Strum has interviewed for one of the positions. Good luck, Kathy! It is really exciting to see our small (but mighty ☺) chapter represented on the national level by such capable people. Remember it all started with getting involved on the local level and then attending regional and national ASWA conferences. What opportunities for personal and professional growth if we just take advantage of them!

January begins a busy time for most, if not all, of us. Please try to schedule a break on our meeting nights during this busy period. We all need to “refresh” and getting together for dinner and a meeting with our ASWA colleagues does just that. Or come to the networking luncheons if you can’t make an evening of it. More good food and fun.

Hope to see many of you at the January 19th meeting.

Karen Jacobson
President

January Meeting Notice
Wednesday, January 19, 2005

Starlight Village
Buford’s Restaurant
2601 East 13th Street
Ames, IA

Networking 5:30

Speaker 6:00

Dinner/Meeting 7:00

Topic: Tax Update
Speaker: Dave Howe

Dinner Reservations by noon Tuesday, January 18, 2005

Kara Mikesell
515-232-7080

Email: klmikesell@mcleodusa.net

Standing Reservation List

As Program Committee, we are implementing a "**Standing Reservation List**" for members who would like to be confirmed as attending each meeting. This means that these members will NOT need to RSVP for the meal count. However they will need to let us know if they WILL NOT be attending. If the Chapter has to pay for a meal for a person with a standing reservation when they are not present and have not notified us they will not be attending, that member is responsible for paying for that meal. We will have the "Standing Reservation List" published with each newsletter. You can be added or removed from this list at anytime by contacting us.

If you are interested in be included on the Standing Reservation List or have questions, please email Marsha at marsha.peterson@mchsi.com or Kate at cmulder@nev.hfmgt.com .

Cindy Sippel
Kara Mikesell

Jan Duffy

Karen Jacobson

Kate Mulder

Speaker Information

Dave Hove is a Tax Partner at LWBJ, LLP is a full service accounting, tax and business consulting firm of over 35 people with offices in Ames, West Des Moines and Marshalltown.

In addition to being responsible for setting the firm's tax policies and maintaining the quality control standards of all tax services provided by LWBJ, Dave provides business consulting and tax services to businesses of all sizes and their owners. Dave has worked extensively with corporations in the manufacturing, technology, distribution, transportation and construction industries, including businesses with multi state and international operations. Dave is heavily involved with mergers and acquisitions and providing consulting to all types of businesses on tax accounting methods and cash flow strategies. Prior to joining LWBJ, LLP Dave was a Tax Director with KPMG, LLP where he was the Iowa leader of the commercial federal, state and international tax practice, where his client base included many publicly held companies with revenues in excess of \$1 billion dollars. Dave started his career with the Internal Revenue Service as a Revenue Agent in the Des Moines office.

Dave is on the Board of Directors for the Iowa Taxpayer's Association where he is responsible for working with current legislators and the Iowa Department of Revenue in drafting business tax legislation, specifically legislation related to S Corporations. Dave has also been a frequent speaker and CPE instructor on such topics as Multi State Planning and Developments, Tax Planning for Exporters, Wealth and Asset Protection, Real Estate Tax Strategies and Like-Kind Exchanges, Forensic Accounting, and Tax Issues of Divorce. Dave has also spoken to various accounting clubs and students at Iowa State University, Drake University and local high schools.

Dave graduated from Iowa State University in 1983 and is currently a member of the AICPA and ISCPA.

Coming Attractions



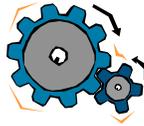
Coming Attractions

Member Meeting Dates

Wed. February 16, 2005
Wed. March 16, 2005
Wed. April 20, 2005
Wed. May 18, 2005
Wed. June 15, 2005

Speaker/Topic

Dr. Mark V Redmond--Effective Interpersonal Communication
Sue Ravencroft--Malls
Dr. Sam Warren--Paperless Office
Computer Technology Security
Effective Networking



Networking Luncheons

RSVP to Jan Duffy at 294-1481 or 232-2213..... jduffy@iastate.edu

Date	Location	Time	RSVP by noon on:
Friday, February 5	Dublin Bay	12:00	February 4
Wednesday, March 2	The Mandarin	12:00	March 1
Monday, April 4	Red Lobster	12:00	April 3
Thursday, May 5	Hickory Park	11:45	May 4
Monday, May 30	Panera	11:45	May 29
Wednesday, July 6	Cazador's (west Ames)	12:00	July 5

January Meeting Agenda ASWA Membership Meeting January 19, 2005

1. Call to Order
2. Quorum
3. Approval of November minutes
4. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Monthly Report
5. Committee Reports
 - a. Membership
 - (1) Presentation of certificates
 - b. Program
 - (1) Report on Educational Seminar
 - c. Bulletin
 - d. Scholarship
6. Regional Director Report (optional)
7. Old Business
8. New Business
 - a. Nominating Committee
 - b. Member of the Year Committee
 - c. Bylaws Committee
9. Announcements
 - a. Next meeting – February 16, 2005, Buford's, Ames
 - b. Networking Luncheon – Friday, February 4, 2005 – Dublin Bay – 12:00 noon
10. Adjournment

Member News

We would like to welcome all of our new members. Carolyn Bauer, Mary Cox, & Yuanxin Liu have recently joined our chapter. We would also like to welcome back Dominique Bryant who has been unable to meet with us recently. We are all looking forward to getting acquainted with all of you.

Pat Jenkins has recently accepted a new position as staff accountant at LGI in Ankeny. Congratulations!

Membership Minutes

Minutes
American Society of Women Accountants
Ames Chapter #158
Membership Meeting
November 14, 2004

Call to Order: The November 2004 Membership Meeting of the Ames Chapter #158 was called to order by President Karen Jacobson in Ames on Wednesday, November 17. Those in attendance were Karen Jacobson, Carolyn Bauer, Kara Mikesell, Kathy Strum, Kate Mulder, Nancy Campbell, Sue Rybolt, Jan Duffy, Theresa Samson, Pat Jenkins, Dominique Bryant, Annemarie Kurtenbach, and Cindy Sippel and guests Elisa Gibson, Judy Anderson and Carol. A quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Kate Mulder and seconded by Sue Rybolt to approve the minutes of the May, September and October meetings. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report was presented and placed on file for review. Based on the discussion from the National conference, there was no change made to the budget for the donation to the foundation.

Committee Reports:

Membership Committee: Two applications for membership were approved at the October meeting. Carolyn Bauer was presented with her membership certificate.

Program: Most programs for the year have been lined up. There was no new information presented on the proposed education seminar.

Bulletin: Please send Kara Mikesell any information you would like published in the bulletin.

Scholarship: Karen Jacobson told the members about a donation to our chapter's scholarship fund of \$100 from Christie Olsen, the ASWA National President. This donation was made in memory of Beverly Wandling.

Regional Director Report: Kate Mulder reported that the ASWA website is a good source of information. There is a new membership recruiting campaign that runs from July 2004 through June 2005. There is also a new ASWA Education Foundation that will provide national scholarships.

Old Business: None

New Business:

ASWA National Conference: The members attending the national conference reported that there were over 300 attendees from 73 chapters. At the business meeting the by law regarding the approval of member applications passed with no comments against it. Karen reported that the current president of the Chapter Presidents' Council was re-elected. As always, the members attending the conference had a great time and recommend it for all members.

New National Membership Campaign: As mentioned above, there is a new member recruitment campaign. Additional details, including prizes, can be found on the ASWA website WWW.ASWA.ORG

Christmas Party: The chapter Christmas party will be held on our regular meeting night in December, Wednesday, December 15. The party will be at Kate Mulder's house beginning at 6:30. A sign-up sheet was passed around for dinner items. Kate and Kathy will be providing lasagna. Bring a white elephant gift to exchange and your checkbook for scholarship donations.

Announcements:

ISU CPE Conference: ISU will be holding a CPE conference on December 6.

New local web page: The chapter web page is now located at WWW.AMESASWA.ORG

Next meeting: Wednesday, December 15, 2004 at Kate Mulder's house, 4705 Dover Drive, Ames.

Networking Luncheons: Tuesday, November 30, Wallaby's at 12:00 noon.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Sippel
Acting Secretary

News from National

The December issue of ASWA's THE COMMUNIQUÉ is now available online at http://www.aswa.org/files/members/December_2004.pdf

This issue contains:

- The 2005 ASWA/AWSCPA JNC Call for Presentations
- Information about ASWA's eDirectory
- "Quick Tips on ASWA's Membership and Renewal Process"
- Tips for "Planning Successful Meetings"
- The 2005-2006 Dues Rate Form
- Upcoming National and Regional Events
- 2004 ASWA/AWSCPA Joint National Conference Recap

In every issue:

- Upcoming Calendar of Events
- Regional Director Listing

If you have trouble logging in or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at ASWA at aswa@aswa.org or (703) 506-3265.

From the National Nominating Committee

Betsy Ann Scott, CPA
Chair, 2005-2006 Nominating Committee

Tonia Matheny
Member, Nominating Committee

Anne Christensen
Member, Nominating Committee

The report of the 2005-2006 National Nominating Committee is attached. This report is to be presented to your chapter at your regular January meeting or at a special meeting held during January for that purpose.

The Committee is grateful to all chapters who submitted names of members for consideration and is confident that the affairs of the Society will be in capable hands if entrusted to the members listed.

In the event your chapter desires to place additional names on the ballot, attention is called to Article V, Section 3 of the National Bylaws, as amended October, 1985, which reads, in part, as follows:

Article V, Nominations and Election

Section 3--"Additional nominees may be added to the ballot provided consent of the member has been obtained, a petition has been signed by at least ten members from each of five chapters and is mailed to the President to be received not later than February 8."

If you have any further questions, please contact National Headquarters.

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF WOMEN ACCOUNTANTS
REPORT OF THE 2005-2006 NATIONAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE

President	Elected in the spring of 2004 for a term starting July 1, 2005 Debbie L. Michael, CPA	Billings, Chapter
President-Elect	To serve as National President in 2006-20007 Joy N. Barron	Birmingham Chapter
Vice Presidents	Karen J. Gunther Sarah R. Wheatley	Boston Chapter Denver Chapter
Secretary	Tracy L. Johnson, CPA	San Antonio Chapter
Treasurer	Barbara W. Covington	Fort Walton Beach Chapter
Directors	To serve two years, July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2007 Stacey L. Craig, CPA Susan R. Triepi Catherine A. Mulder, CPA Cheryl Willers	Phoenix Chapter Akron/Canton Chapter Ames Chapter Flagstaff Chapter
Director	To serve one year July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006 Barbara A. Sheetz, CPA	West Palm Beach Chapter
Immediate Past President	Christi L. Olsen, CPA	Omaha Chapter
Directors	Serving the second year of a two-year term. Elected in the spring of 2004 to serve until June 30, 2006 Monika P. Miles, CPA Jeanette Ding Vivian L. Moller, CPA	Silicon Valley Chapter San Diego Chapter Milwaukee Chapter

Other News

Free Credit Reports Available

Starting December 1, 2004, US residents will be able to receive copies of their current credit reports free. Under the Fair and Accurate Credit Transaction Act, all US residents will be allowed one free credit report per year from each of the three main national credit bureaus. This Act is intended to assist people in protecting their credit ratings and curbing identity fraud. The following is the schedule as to when the credit reports will be available:

Western States	December 1, 2004
Mid-Western States	March 1, 2005
Southern States	June 1, 2005
Eastern States	September 1, 2005

To obtain your free credit reports, you have several different options:

- Online: www.annualcreditreport.com
- Phone: 877-322-8228
- Mail: Annual Credit Report Request Service
PO Box 105281
Atlanta, GA 30348-5281

You will be required to provide your name, address, Social Security number, and date of birth.

TO: Professional Tax Preparer
FROM: Iowa DNR- Wildlife Diversity Program
RE: Tax Checkoff funding source

The "Fish/Wildlife Fund" Checkoff is the main funding source for the Iowa Dept. of Natural Resources- Wildlife Diversity Program. The Webfile and Telefile version has a **built in "prompt"** that asks if the user wishes to contribute to any checkoffs. Research has shown the webfile/telefile format of submitting taxes has nearly **TWICE** the participation over e-file and traditional filers.

Conversely, the traditional/e-file version has no automatic "prompt" at-the-desk (so to speak). We feel that by reminding the tax preparers to "prompt" their client at-the-desk, we can realize a similar participation rate among e-filers. With nearly 800,000 e-filers and only 45,000 webfile/telefilers, the funding potential is significant.

The message is simple: **Please ask your client** "Would you like to contribute to any Checkoffs?"

Tax year 2003 proved to show the biggest checkoff increase in four years as a result of about 5% tax preparers participation. With >10% participation among preparers, to "prompt" at the desk, would create an even stronger budget.

I would expect all the checkoffs would benefit from this cooperative effort. On behalf of the Wildlife Diversity Program, Thank you for the consideration.

With a 25% budget decline in 15 years, no other midwestern state "nongame" program is as poorly funded as Iowa's. These times of budget and personnel shortfalls create both the necessity and opportunity to be more resourceful. In the words of any successful hunter- a person does their best hunting when they are hungry. The Wildlife Diversity Program has been *hungrily* implementing successful research and conservation programs with specific wildlife species of concern for 20 years.

Respectfully yours,



Mark McInroy (Mac)
Iowa DNR-Wildlife Diversity Technician

PROMPT your client to Checkoff...
Restore Funding for Wildlife Restoration Success. Wildlife Diversity Program.

	Please ask your client: " 	
		

Research shows double participation by simply asking the individual
-Webfile/Telefile have a built in "PROMPT" to contribute to any checkoffs.
-This creates nearly **double** participation compared to e-file/ traditional filers.

Your "PROMPT" can possibly DOUBLE
Ph: 515-432-2823 Email: Mark.McInroy@dnr.state.ia.us

1436 255th St.
Boone, IA 50036
515-432-2823 office
515-432-2835 fax
mark.mcinroy@dnr.state.ia.us

Job Opportunities

If you are looking or know someone who is looking for a new position, please look here for postings or post your openings here.

CONTROLLER – Large daily/weekly newspaper combination

We have been asked by a major newspaper company to conduct a confidential search for a Controller for a daily/weekly combination. Direct newspaper experience is ideal but not an absolute pre-requisite. We will consider qualified candidates from other industries.

You'll oversee all accounting functions for this high-volume and complex group of newspapers and specialty publications. Strong leadership skills are a must. You'll pull together and submit financial statements to key managers and the corporate headquarters. You'll work with a team of top professionals in developing operating plans and budgets – and, monitoring individual department and overall company performance against budget. We are seeking someone strong in financial analysis who can spot trends and recommend adjustments sooner rather than later. We need someone who can critique advertising and circulation rates to make sure that strategic initiatives will yield revenue and profit at levels consistent with the overall financial plan. You'll monitor cash expenditures and implement controls as necessary. You'll also review all proposals for capital spending and make sure that submitted ROI analyses are realistic.

A degree in business administration, finance, accounting or equivalent experience is required. A solid accounting computer systems background is also necessary.

The qualifications noted above are important, but leadership style and philosophy are of equal importance. You'll be in a team environment, where all department heads work in close collaboration with a singular goal in mind – customer satisfaction. You'll be given the resources you need and be allowed to run your own show.

They offer a competitive compensation program that will depend on your experience and track record. The company provides excellent health and life benefits and a 401K with company match. Interviewing and moving expenses are also included.

This is a confidential search, so we can't reveal the name of the company or it's exact location until we enter into the interview process.

If you have interest, please e-mail your resume and cover letter (with salary history) to slittle@mediarecruiters.com. If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact me directly at 530.342.6036. Scott Little, president, Media Recruiters, Chico, CA.

Sr. Financial Analyst - Columbus, Ohio providing financial planning and analysis leadership to the sales organization; 5-7+ years of related experience; Bachelor's degree in Accounting or Finance; MBA and/or CPA a plus.

Internal Controls and External Reporting Analyst - Columbus, Ohio assisting in preparation of external financial reports and internal control reviews. Bachelor's degree in Accounting; CPA preferred; 3-5 years experience in accounting, analysis or auditing; previous public accounting experience strongly preferred.

Financial Reporting Manager - Columbus, Ohio coordinate the collection and consolidation of worldwide actual, budget and forecast data from SAP and other systems into Hyperion to provide a basis for reporting and analysis. Bachelor's degree in Accounting or Finance; CPA and/or MBA a plus; 5 or more years of finance or accounting experience.

SOX Compliance Auditor; Sr Internal Auditor; Staff Auditor - Neenah, WI

Call for details or review details on our website: www.guthoffassociates.com

Contributions and announcements for the next issue of the Spokeswoman would be gladly accepted.
Please send any contributions or ideas to the newsletter chair, Kara Mikesell,
klmikesell@mcleodusa.net . The deadline for the February issue is January 31, 2005.
