



THE SPOKESWOMAN

Volume 1, Issue 2 Ames Chapter No. 158 Oct 2006

Websites

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



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Ames Chapter Officers & Committee Contacts

President	Pat Jenkins	president@amesaswa.org
Vice President	Ann Kurtenbach	vice-president@amesaswa.org
Secretary	Carolyn Bauer	secretary@amesaswa.org
Treasurer	Dominique Bryant	treasurer@amesaswa.org
Past President	Theresa Samson	past-president@amesaswa.org
Membership	Margaret Munson	membership@amesaswa.org
	Karen Jacobson	
Newsletter	Mary Mosiman	bulletin@amesaswa.org
Program	Cindy Sippel	programs@amesaswa.org
	Donna Gladon	
Scholarship	Jan Duffy(Chair)	scholarship@amesaswa.org
	Dominique Bryant	
	Cheryl Carlile	

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

As I have gotten older, I think I have been worse about putting myself into meetings and social gatherings where I don't know anyone or everyone. I also find myself interacting only with people I already know when I am in a big group. Part of it is laziness and complacency, and part of it is wanting to catch up with people that I haven't seen for a while. When I do make the effort to meet new people, I have a wonderful time and usually add to my list of friends and acquaintances. Many years I've had a schedule conflict for the October meeting with the Des Moines chapter, so I have only been to it once. Next week I plan to take advantage of the opportunity to meet new people and to get faces to go with email names and voices on the telephone. I hope the Des Moines and Ames chapters both have a good turnout. It would be a shame to not be able to take advantage of the opportunity to meet other ASWA members by only having to travel a short distance. Hope to see you all in Ankeny next week.

Pat

October 2006 Meeting Notice

Ames Chapter #157 and Des Moines Chapter #153
Joint Membership Meeting

Tuesday October 17, 2006 5:30 pm-8:00 pm

Traditions Restaurant

1509 S Ankeny Blvd Ankeny Iowa

Price: \$20.00 members, \$25.00 non-members

Directions: North of Oralabor Road, East of MDACC on the East Side of Ankeny
Boulevard, which is NE 14th Street

RSVP by Friday, October 13th to Cindy at

Sippel.cindy@principal.com or Sippel2389@msn.com

Carpooling information...See Announcements!

Standing Reservation List

(Call only if you will NOT be attending)

Cindy Sippel
Kara Mikesell

Jan Duffy
Theresa Samson

Karen Jacobson
Ann Kurtenbach

Kate Mulder

If you would like to be added to the Standing Reservation List, please contact Kate Mulder at 515-382-1500 or cmulder@nev.hfmgt.com

Coming Attractions



Meeting Dates

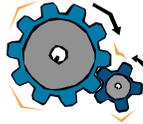
11/15/06

Location/Time

Buford's Restaurant
2601 East 13th Street, Ames
5:30 Networking/6:00 Speaker

Speaker/Topic

Gail Purcell Elliott
Innovations Training



Networking Luncheons

RSVP to Karen Jacobson at 294-9388 or 733-2660..... kjacobso@iastate.edu

(Note there is no "n" on jacobson)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>RSVP by noon on</u>
Mon 10/30	Old Chicago	11:45	Fri 10/27
Fri 12/1	Panera Bread	12:00	Thurs 11/30
Fri 12/29	Aunt Maude's	12:00	Thurs 12/28
Tues 1/30	The Café	12:00	Mon 1/29
Tues 2/27	Olde Main Brewing Co	12:00	Mon 2/26
Thurs 3/29	Dublin Bay	12:00	Wed 3/28
Mon 4/30	Lucullan's	12:00	Fri 4/27
Thurs 5/31	La Fuente	12:00	Wed 5/30
Fri 6/29	Wallaby's	12:00	Thurs 6/28

Agenda

Ames Chapter #157 and Des Moines Chapter #153 Joint Membership Meeting

Tuesday October 17, 2006 5:30 pm-8:00 pm
Traditions Restaurant
1509 S Ankeny Blvd Ankeny Iowa

Welcome and Meeting called to order 5:30.

Agenda:

- Premier Networking Events!! Secret Handshake Contest and Guest Contest
- Introductions –Honor Guests and All members
- Dinner 6 pm
- ASWA Totes from Ames and Entertainment Books from Des Moines
- ASWA JNC Update
- 9 in 9 member recruitment plan
- JNC 2007 Disney in Florida Oct 24 2007
- ASWA Educational Foundation Update- Kathy Strum
- Amanda the Panda-Unwrapped gifts needed- Gina Slack
- November Des Moines Chapter Meetings
- Any other New Business
- Introduce Speaker Gina Slack: Kay Palan, PhD Iowa State University 6:50 pm
 - Topic: Customer Relationship Management

Adjourn meeting 8:00 pm

Minutes
American Society of Women Accountants
Ames Chapter #158
September 19, 2006

The September 19 meeting was held at Buford's Restaurant in Ames.

In attendance were Karen Jacobson, Pat Jenkins, Laura West (guest), Annmarie Kurtenbach, Stephanie Rosco (guest), Penney Strum (guest and former member), Kathy Strum, Dominique Bryant, Carla Danielson, Cindy Sippel, Donna Gladon, Kate Mulder, Jan Duffy, Kara Mikesell, Margaret Munson, Carolyn Bauer, Brenda O'Neill-Smith, Theresa Samson, Mindy Rife (scholarship winner), and Cheryl Carlile.

The meeting was called to order by President Pat Jenkins. A quorum was present. Introductions of members and guests were made.

Carla Carlile was presented her membership certificate.

Pat presented scholarship winner Mindy Rife with a check. Mindy has applied for membership in the Society.

Cindy Sippel moved that the minutes of the July board meeting and membership meeting be approved as amended. Seconded by Karen Jacobson. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer, Dominique Bryant, presented the June and July reports and the August proposed Budget. The June and July reports were placed on file for review. In discussion of the projected Budget, Margaret Munson and Karen Jacobson, Membership Committee, explained the \$100 requested for membership activities and asked for support of that item. Cheryl Carlile made a motion to approve the Budget as presented. Seconded by Ann Kurtenbach. Motion carried. The Budget will be filed for review.

Committee Reports:

Membership Committee: Karen Jacobson described the committee's active attempt to recruit members using lists from the seminar and similar sources. The recruiting effort is still in the planning stage. The first networking luncheon of the year had a great turnout. A one-page survey was distributed, to be completed prior to the end of the meeting and returned to the committee. Margaret Munson requested that any member without a nametag decide whether she wanted a magnet, pin, or clip style and nametags will be procured. The regular meeting was suspended for a brief board meeting to consider a membership application.

President Jenkins called to order a board meeting. Karen Jacobson moved that all business be suspended except consideration of the membership application for Mindy Rife. Seconded by Cindy Sippel. Motion passed. Margaret Munson moved that the student membership for Mindy Rife be approved subject to approval from National. Seconded by Theresa Samson. Motion Carried. The board meeting was adjourned.

The regular meeting was resumed.

Karen gave membership applications to Penny Strum and Stephanie Rosco. She noted that chapter dues are \$20.50 in addition to the National dues. Pat Jenkins and Karen Jacobson noted that they had received no response from Carla Sacco regarding her membership renewal.

Program Committee: Cindy Sippel reported that there is no scheduled list of programs yet and items on the web-site are subject to change. The next meeting will be the joint meeting with the Des Moines chapter, to be held at the Boulevard in Ankeny on Tuesday, October 17. The presentation will be on Customer Relationship Management.

Bulletin Committee: Mary Mosiman was not in attendance. Some e-mail addresses need to be corrected.

Scholarship Committee: Theresa Samson reported that she and Karen Jacobson had met with the Ames ABWA group and need to get back to them about when our members are available to work at the Christmas wrapping booth at North Grand Mall. Karen requests information on the number of hours each of our members can work so that outside volunteers can be procured for those hours not covered. A question was posed on the location of the Society banner. Cindy Sippel is going to order

a new banner. Margaret Munson will look to see if she still has one. Theresa Samson would like a listing of scholarships, amounts and years given to be incorporated into the display for gift-wrapping at the Mall. A Christmas tree will have one ornament for each year showing the dollars given with a grand total on top. Underneath the tree will be one present with our grand total and one with ABWA's grand total. The gift-wrapping booth opens the Friday after Thanksgiving and runs through Christmas Eve.

Jan Duffy reported that the committee composed of herself, Dominique Bryant and Cheryl Carlile, had reviewed the scholarship application and had developed a two page application. She distributed copies of the proposed application and criteria. (see attached) They propose that an Iowa State student who is enthusiastic about becoming an accountant will be the recipient. The amount of the scholarship (baseline amount) will be \$600 and will be able to float from year to year as will the number of scholarships awarded, based on fundraising. In cases of special merit, greater amounts may be awarded. The scholarship will be based on academic success, leadership, financial need, and enthusiasm for the profession. We must make sure we are in compliance with the by-laws.

Deadline should be November 1 and received by the November meeting. Recognition of winners will be at the January meeting. A discussion followed regarding limiting the scholarship to Iowa State students only. Kathy Strum moved that the eligibility criteria should be the same as in the past, i.e., residents or attending school in Story, Boone, or Marshall Counties. Seconded by Karen Jacobson. A vote was taken with three no votes and one abstaining. Motion passed. Kathy moved that the requirement be a student in the second year of an associate program, the third or fourth year of a four-year program, or a Master's degree student. Seconded by Jan Duffy. A friendly amendment added that it be the second year in a declared major in accounting or a master's of accounting. The vote was taken with four no votes. Motion passed. A motion was made by Margaret Munson that the deadline for the scholarship be moved to November 1. Seconded by Kate Mulder. Motion passed. Jan Duffy moved that the language regarding the amount of the scholarship be approved to read, "The chapter will normally give \$600 scholarships. The number will be determined on an annual basis and based on the amount available in the scholarship fund at the beginning of the fiscal year. If the Scholarship committee feels that an applicant shows special merit or extreme need, fewer scholarships may be awarded and/or a greater amount may be given to an individual applicant." (the word "several" has been removed from the original proposed form) Seconded by Kathy Strum. Margaret Munson suggested a friendly amendment that money generated from the planning meeting be included in the amount available for scholarships and the language changed show the amount available on September 1. Motion carried. Criteria – Jan Duffy moved and Cheryl Carlile seconded that the criteria be accepted as written. Motion passed.

Old Business:

Donation to National Scholarship fund: Kathy Strum noted that the amount in the budget approved earlier in the meeting is \$350. She moved that if the chapter would commit \$350 per year for three years, then Kathy would add \$150 personally to make the donation amount a philanthropist donor level. Cindy Sippel seconded the motion. The motion carried with one vote opposed. Karen Jacobson noted that last year the donation to the National Scholarship fund was given in honor of Kate Mulder who was on the national board. She moved that this year the donation should be made in honor of Kathy Strum. Seconded by Kara Mikesall; motion carried.

Karen Jacobson will be attending the National Convention and would like to go "uninstructed" and will use her judgment in voting as our representative. Pat Jenkins has faxed in the credentials.

New Business:

Kate Mulder described ASWS business cards and will continue her research and develop a proposal. Goals were in the July minutes and will be published in the bulletin.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn N. Bauer
Secretary

Announcements

From the Gift Wrap Committee:

Attention all Wrappers! We will have a short gift-wrap training on the November agenda. Prior to the November meeting, you will be sent a training manual. Please go through the manual before the November meeting and be ready with questions. We all love those short meetings, and reading ahead of time will make the training go much faster. The committee is very excited about this project and hoping for great results!

Networking Note:

Bring extra business cards to our joint meeting on October 17th, and remember to share them and network with the Des Moines Chapter. This is a great opportunity to expand our ASWA network.

Car-pooling Note for Meeting in Ankeny 10/17/06:

Carpool by meeting at the El Azteca parking lot at 1520 S Dayton Rd in Ames (east of the restaurant in the lot between them and the motel). We need to leave at 5 pm since the meeting starts at 5:30 pm. Please confirm carpooling to cmulder@nev.hfmgt.com and provide a cell phone number so we can call if we are ready to leave. (We don't want to leave anyone behind!) We may need additional carpool drivers if enough of our members attend.

October 2006 News Items

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE NEWS ITEMS - IOWA October 2006

- There are a number of electronic seminars scheduled for Iowa. To find e seminars and other workshops in your area, go to [Practitioner Local Liaison Meetings and Seminars](#) page. (link through irs.gov; "Tax Professionals" tab, then "Tax Pro Events").
- PHONE FORUM: *The Automated Underreporter (AUR) Program* reconciles information from W-2s, 1099s, etc., with income tax returns. If AUR is unable to match the information, we may issue notice CP2000, *We Are Proposing Changes to Your Tax Return*. A Question and Answer period will follow the presentation. **Register by October 22, 2006** at: <https://www.atevent.com/rsvpreg.asp> . Enrolled Agents are entitled to 1 CPE Credit.

Wednesday, October 25, 2006

CONFERENCE

CENTRAL	MOUNTAIN	ACCESS CODE
7:00 am	6:00 am	736534
9:00 am	8:00 am	642934
12:00 pm	11:00 am	478012
2:00 pm	1:00 pm	492887

- [Headliner 177: Taxpayers Can Opt to Split 2006 Federal Income Tax Refunds](#)
Speed, safety and choice — with direct deposit you can have it all!
Split your refund among as many as three accounts, including IRA and health savings accounts.
 - [Draft Form 8888](#), Direct Deposit of Refu
 - [Comment on Draft Forms and Publications](#)
- [IR 2006-137](#) Telephone Tax Refunds. Standard amounts that most long-distance customers can use to figure their telephone tax refund range from \$30 to \$60. Individuals can choose to figure their

refund using the actual amount of tax paid. Though businesses and nonprofits must base their telephone tax refund on the actual amount of tax paid, the IRS is looking for ways to make the refund process easier for these taxpayers.

- [Notice 2006-86](#) provides interim guidance for the rule for determining which taxpayer may claim a qualifying child when two or more taxpayers claim the same child.
- There is a [proposed fee change](#) for the special enrollment exam. This fee is in addition to the \$86 per section charge by Prometrics, the firm that conducts these exams. 1

[The Tax Gap](#)

The IRS is reaching out to educate the public about issues contributing to the tax gap. Underreported business income accounts for more than \$100 billion per year in unpaid taxes. In order to educate taxpayers regarding their filing obligations, this fact sheet, [Third Party Reporting Reminders](#), the third in a series, explains the rules pertaining to third-party payer reporting of income.

• [PRIVATE DEBT COLLECTION](#)

Beginning September 7, the IRS will begin assigning accounts to three private collection agencies (PCAs). The IRS released legal guidance outlining the protections in place for the new private debt collection program. The IRS warns not to be fooled by scam artists claiming to be from the IRS.

- Find out what problems the IRS has solved for you in the Issue Management Resolution System [monthly summaries](#).

RECENT TECHNICAL GUIDANCE

- IRS Revising Form 656 for [Offer in Compromise](#) to include the changes mandated by the Tax Increase Prevention and Reconciliation Act of 2005 (TIPRA). IRS created [Notice 1357](#) to notify taxpayers of the TIPRA changes to the OIC Program.

- HURRICANES. Information on benefits for those affected by hurricanes include

- [IR 2006-135](#) Businesses in the Gulf Coast get an additional postponement of filing and payment requirements.
- [IR 2006-133](#) New [Publication 1460](#) summarizes the tax incentives to rebuild the Gulf Coast.
- [IRS Partner headliner 175: Additional Guidance for Those Affected by Hurricanes](#)
- [Help for Hurricane Victims: Information on Tax Relief, Charitable Issues](#).
- [Notice 2006-77](#) explains the 50-percent additional first-year depreciation deduction for qualified Gulf Opportunity Zone property.
- Additional guidance has been added to the [FAQs for Hurricane Victims](#) page on Employee Retention Credits, Estimated Tax Payments, and IRS Notices.

- [Headliner 178 Contract Workers in Combat Zones – Do You Know the Rules?](#)

With increasing numbers of civilian workers in combat zones, there are numerous misconceptions regarding the exclusion of income for non-military personnel.

- [Notice 2006-83](#) provides guidance to individual chapter 11 debtors and their bankruptcy estates; employers of these individuals; persons filing Forms W-2, 1099-INT, 1099-DIV, 1099-MISC, and other information returns (including Schedule K-1) that report payments to these individuals; and Chapter 11 trustees in bankruptcy cases filed by these individuals.

- [TD-9283](#), Special Depreciation Allowance, has final regulations relating to MACRS depreciation and the depreciation of computer software subject to section 167.

ESTATES AND TRUSTS

- Definition of “Income” for Trusts and Estates. Final regulations were published in 2004 regarding the definition of “income” for trust and estate purposes. However, questions submitted at recent meetings indicate not all practitioners are aware of the changes. If you prepare estate and/or trust returns, you may want to review the [Plain Language Regulations - January 2004](#).

EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS

- [New Legislation Revises EO Tax Law Provisions](#)

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 was enacted and contains numerous changes to the tax law provisions affecting tax-exempt organizations. Additional information will be posted on the IRS.gov/Charities website as it becomes available.

- The exemption application form used to apply for section 501(c)(3) exemption has been [updated](#) to incorporate new user fee information. Although the new version is preferred, the IRS will continue to accept the previous version until January 2007.
- [Determinations Guide Sheets Exempt Organizations](#) has issued [guidelines](#) to Exempt Organizations Determinations specialists on how to process certain requests.

YOU WANTED TO KNOW

Question: A practitioner's Form 2848, Power of Attorney and Declaration of Representative, was rejected because the span of time between the dates of representative's signature and taxpayer's signature was too great. What is the allowable time frame for the signatures?

Answer: [IRM 21.3.7.7.1\(2\)](#) specifically states that the dated signatures of both the taxpayer and the representative must be within 45 days for domestic authorizations and within 60 days for authorizations from taxpayers residing abroad. The sequencing of dated signatures is not critical although the taxpayer generally signs first, granting the authority, then the representative signs, accepting the authority granted.

Question: Do I need a written consent if my client asks me to send a copy of his/her return to a third party?

Answer: Yes you do. [Reg sec. 301.7216-3\(a\)\(2\)](#) says: "If a tax return preparer has obtained from a taxpayer a consent described in paragraph (b) of this section, he may disclose the tax return information of such taxpayer to such third persons as the taxpayer may direct." Paragraph (b) states: "Form of consent. A separate written consent, signed by the taxpayer or his duly authorized agent or fiduciary must be obtained for each separate use or disclosure authorized in paragraph (a)(1), (2), or (3)..."

Question: Now that new businesses are automatically enrolled in EFTPS (Electronic Federal Tax Payment System), they are not automatically receiving coupon books to make Federal Tax Deposits (FTDs). What can they do if they do not want to use EFTPS?

Answer: While the IRS encourages employers to take advantage of EFTPS to avoid common errors and automate the payment process, FTD coupons are still available. Information on obtaining blank coupons and coupon books can be found in [Publication 15](#).

Question: Why are parts of the on-line version of the Internal Revenue Manual (IRM) missing?

Answer: Per [IRM 1.11.6.7](#), taxpayers can access the IRM from IRS.gov. This version of the IRM is updated weekly; however, it does not contain any "Official Use Only" information. This information is not available in the on-line version.

Question: What are the hours for Practitioner Priority Service (PPS)?

Answer: PPS (1-866-860-4259) is the practitioners' first point of contact for assistance regarding taxpayers' account-related issues. The hours of service are weekdays, 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. your local time (Alaska and Hawaii follow Pacific Time). This information can be found on IRS.gov under [Practitioner Priority Service \(PPS\)](#).