

President's Message

Happy Spring! I can officially say that now.

Congratulations to our scholarship winners!! Thanks to Paula Eastman and her entire committee for their work on this endeavor. See the details on the committee's selections elsewhere in the bulletin.

Congratulations also to our newly appointed officers! These ladies will serve our organization for the next fiscal year July 2005-June 2006. Please support them in their new leadership roles. The next step will be to fill the committee chair and member positions so please contact Kristen Van Foeken to let her know the committee that interests you.

Those who attended the March meeting were treated to a fun St. Patrick's Day theme, and a wonderful speaker. Mr. Ross Ridenoure filled in on short notice for our regularly scheduled speaker who was ailing, and gave an entertaining presentation on leadership principles.

Don't forget the UNO Women's walk on April 16. Our team will be checking in walkers starting at 8 am that morning. If you are interested in helping out, walking or not, you can contact Linda Aust. This is always a fun event, with a lot of great prizes to be won as well.

I hope you can find time to share lunch with us on April 20. Theresa McClatchey from US Bank will be speaking about Banking Issues and Trends. Theresa is also a new member to our chapter, so please come to show your support!

Kelly Martinson
President 2004-2005

April 2005 Meeting

Dinner: April 20, 2005

Time: 11:30-11:50 Registration, buffet and networking

11:50 Business meeting followed by speaker

Menu: Stuffed Peppers, Chef's choice of side dish

Cost: \$10.00 per member
\$11.50 per guest

Location: Champions Run Club
13800 Eagle Run Drive
Omaha, NE 68164

Speaker: Theresa McClatchey, US Bank

Topic: "Current Banking Issues & Trends"

Reservations: Tricia Riggins
triggins@fzacpa.com or 963-4315 by
NOON, Friday April 15, 2005

****Note:** If you register to attend, but are then unable to make it you will be billed for the cost of the meal.

New Member Bio

Annette Wells is a Senior Tax Accountant with KPMG. She has been there 3 1/2 yrs and spent a year with Arthur Anderson prior to that. She has been married for 3 years and her husband's career is in technology. They do not have children yet, but they do have a dog named Ginger. Her hobbies are sewing and she and her husband enjoy camping.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Elaine Clark!! She was promoted to Director of Accounting with Coldwell Banker Commercial World Group.

March Speaker Recap

Ross Ridenoure entertained and inspired us with his take on leadership principles.

He creatively discussed topics such as employee types, motivation, employee standards, how to over communicate, accountability, positive attitude and trusting your instincts.

He elaborated on which types of employees to spend your time with and creative ways to motivate and show appreciation. His personal favorite being a hand written note!

April Speaker Info

Theresa McClatchey is currently a Vice President of Commercial Banking for U.S. Bank in Omaha. She received her bachelor's degree from Doane College in Crete, NE in 1993 and has completed several courses toward her MBA at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

Previous positions with U.S. Bank include a Retail Branch Manager, Commercial Credit Analyst and Treasury Management Sales Consultant. With the exception of working one year as a banking recruiter for Robert Half International, she has worked for U.S. Bank (previously FirstTier Bank and First Bank) since 1993. She is a former board member of the Association of Financial Professionals and is currently active with the Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce.

Theresa's primary work responsibilities include managing and growing a commercial banking depository and loan portfolio. Customers and target prospects include businesses with annual revenues between \$5-250 million. By first understanding a businesses' industry and goals, she matches the wide array of banking products, services, and specialized personnel to the need. Originally from Omaha, she is married and has a one-year old daughter. Hobbies include volleyball, running and enjoying the outdoors.

Article

Amy Derksen from Accountemps submitted the following article.

ENCOURAGING STAFF

CREATIVITY

Driven by new regulations and increased emphasis on corporate governance, the accounting field has undergone dramatic reforms in recent years. Though internal control- and compliance-related activities require strict adherence to laws and procedures, managers should still encourage employees to "think outside the box," to come up with innovative approaches to their work. As a supervisor, you can

help your staff go beyond their comfort zone and foster a fresh outlook. Here are a few suggestions:

- **Encourage new ideas.** Your team should feel confident offering suggestions. Be sure they understand your company's mission and the objectives of your department so they can keep big-picture goals in mind when developing proposals or making decisions.
- **Act on suggestions whenever practical.** Recognize all recommendations submitted, and at staff meetings give a status report on ideas that are being implemented to demonstrate that you take the input seriously. You risk damaging staff morale if you ask for suggestions but never act on them.
- **Promote collaboration.** For many employees, interacting with coworkers and helping on projects outside of their normal responsibilities provides a fresh perspective on their own work. Brainstorming sessions are ideal for creative thinking. The goal of these discussions should be to generate as many ideas as possible, without the threat of ridicule or criticism.
- **Foster a safe-to-risk environment.** Acknowledge prudent risk taking; show your employees they won't be reprimanded for a well-thought-out proposal that fails. If an idea doesn't work, discuss what changes would have made the proposal successful.

March 15th, 2005 Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER:

The March meeting of the Omaha Chapter of the American Society of Women Accountants for the fiscal year 2004-2005 was held at the Champions Club. Kelly Martinson, President, called the meeting to order at 6:17 p.m.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the February regular meeting were distributed via e-mail for review by the membership. Motion for approval by Sue Blake; seconded by Kay Myers; approved.

QUORUM:

A quorum was present.

ATTENDANCE:

There were 23 members and 2 guests present at the meeting. Total attendance was 25.

CORRESPONDENCE and ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Guest Registration Forms and Membership applications are available at the check-in table.

The current membership roster is available at the check-in table for everyone to pick up.

Current chapter membership is 91 members. In order to accomplish the 90% retention goal, membership needs to grow to 95 members.

PROGRAM:

Our speaker today was Ross Ridenoure, OPPD, who spoke on "Leadership Principles".

TREASURER'S REPORT: LaTonya Bennett

February YTD financial statements were distributed. We have year to date net income of \$5,252.36. Our checking balance is \$14,091.70 and the CD is \$29,361.94.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTING:**
Deyna Rouse/ Kristen Van Foeken

Administrative Reporting: (Kristen Van Foeken)

Bylaws:

Internal Audit:

Long Range Planning:

- **COMMUNICATIONS:** Kay Myers / Marcile Katt

Bulletin: The next deadline is March 25, 2005 – send submissions to Kerry Clark.

Publicity:

Roster:

Website:

- **MEMBER SERVICES:** Terri Fuqua / Chris Carlson

Chapter Development:

Member Services:

Public Relations:

Student Activities: Three applicants have been selected as this year's chapter scholarship winners. One of these individuals has had their application forwarded to National to be considered for the ASWA national scholarship.

- **Hospitality/Program:** Shelly Kapustka / Stacy Funk

Education/Legislation:

Program: The presentation at next month's meeting will concern current banking issues and trends.

Hospitality:

Community Events: Ten members have signed up to participate in the Diet Pepsi/UNO Women's Walk to be held April 16th. Please contact Virginia Klug tonight if you would like to participate.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

The membership voted on the slate of officers submitted at last month's meeting. The following individuals were elected to the chapter board for fiscal year 2005-06:

President:	Kristen Van Foeken
President Elect:	Shelly Kapustka
Past President:	Kelly Martinson
Vice-President:	LaTonya Bennett
Treasurer:	Paula Eastman
Secretary	Kerry Clark:
Directors:	Stephanie Setlak, Caryn Kirkebak, and Tricia Riggins

Motion to adjourn was made at 6:29 p.m. by Kerry Clark and seconded by Deyna Rouse; motion approved.

Linda Stehno

Kelly Martinson

Secretary 2004-2005

President 2004-2005