

American Society of Women Accountants

The Bulletin



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PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Welcome to the 2009-2010 year for American Society of Women Accountants. I am so excited for this year! Over the summer the board of directors and many volunteers have been planning and preparing and it is stacking up to be a great year.

I hope you are able to join us for our Kick Off meeting on Tuesday, August 11th at the Omaha Country Club. We are featuring a favorite speaker of the group, Bob Bolden from Wine Styles. The evening will be a great opportunity to network with members, learn more about the art of wine, and of course sample some of Bob's finest wines! Guests are always welcome at a meeting, so bring a friend to learn more about our group.

The year is packed with many other great events such as the Student/Membership Drive in September. The evening will highlight a panel of our members who will talk about their industry of accounting, and give us some tips for success. Start making a list of potential members and student members you want to invite to this event.

If you have been perplexed and overwhelmed by the thought of adding LinkedIn and other Social Networking to your life, then you cannot afford to miss the October lunch meeting. We are hosting a LinkedIn specialist to demystify the wonders of social networking and the benefits you can get from joining the ASWA-Omaha LinkedIn Group.

Taking center stage for the year is the annual Public Relations Dinner, half day CPE session, and the Basket Raffle Fundraiser on Tuesday November 10th at the Omaha Country Club. This dinner is always a great opportunity to showcase our organization to your employer and clients, while enjoying keynote speaker Joan Squires, President of the Omaha Performing Arts Society.

In addition to the monthly meetings, we have two great volunteer opportunities this year including Race for a Cure and Omaha Designer Show House. As a group, we love to learn and network, but we understand the importance of giving back to our community.

This is just a glimpse of what is in store for the first half of the year! I hope you are able to attend many events this year, because you are what makes ASWA a great organization!

August Wine Tasting at Omaha Country Club featuring Bob Bolden

Date: Tuesday, August 11, 2009

Time: 5:30p.m.

Location: Omaha Country Club
6900 Country Club Road

Cost: \$25.00

Reservations: tkclark1@cox.net or 861-7124 by Tuesday, August 4, 2009

Menu: Tray of Fresh fruit, French bread and crackers during wine tasting

Market greens with Sun dried Tomato, Shaved Asiago, Focaccia Croutons and Balsamic Vinaigrette. Almond crusted walleye Pike finished with lemon Beurre blanc and capers. Starch and garden vegetable du jour. Raspberry sorbet garnished with mint and fresh berries. Coffee, Tea, Rolls, Butter

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 17th-October 4th – Volunteer Opportunities at the Brandeis Mansion

Tuesday, September 15th – Student Member Night (OCC) – Dinner Meeting

Sunday, October 4th – Race for the Cure

Tuesday, October 13th – Lunch Meeting – Social Networking (LinkedIn)

October 19th – 21st – National Conference

Tuesday, November 10th – Public Relations Dinner & half-day of CPE

RACE FOR THE CURE – Sunday October 4, 2009

To register please go to www.komennebraska.org, select "Komen Race for the Cure" along the top menu (in pink), then "Join an Existing Team". Browse to the ASWA team name. Follow the instructions for your personal registration. As the team captain, Terri Fuqua will be able to pick up the registration packets and the t-shirts for the team. She will get the t-shirts to you before the day of the race. Feel free to sign up your friends and family under this team. You just need to let Terri know who to deliver the race packets and t-shirts to.

PUBLIC RELATIONS DINNER

Please mark your calendars to join ASWA Omaha Chapter 101 for our Annual Public Relations Dinner at the Omaha Country Club on November 8, 2009. Our featured guest speaker will be Joan Squires, President of Omaha Performing Arts and she will be presenting on

- the impact of the arts in Omaha
- community leadership & visibility
- the on-going business challenges of running an organization dedicated to bringing high-quality arts to Omaha.



Sheila Schutz married Bo Hansen on Saturday August 2, 2009.

Lylah Ericson was born on July 23, 2009. Mom: Kristine Ericson and Grandma: Karen Hosier.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Public Relations Dinner Committee needs your help to make our November 8th dinner a success. Committee members would like to meet together at the August regular meeting Tuesday August 11th to keep the wheels rolling on this wonderful event! Contact Betty Dudzik at 963-2764 or bdudzik@huskerglass.com.

4-5 Volunteers are needed to:

- Solicit & update the invitation list, stuff invitations in envelopes
- Take reservations, convey info to Virginia Klug for dinner numbers, convey necessary info for Janet Redick below.
- Prepare nametags for attendees and assign seating for dinner
- Greet attendees and hand out nametags, work reception table at event
- Assist Janet Redick with past President recognition during the event
- Pre-set dinner tables with programs for event
- Collect unused programs after event is over
- A go-to person for last minute details!

Are you LinkedIN?

We encourage our members to join LinkedIN and become a part of the ASWA – Omaha Chapter Group and the national American Society of Women Accountants Group. Joining is free, and is a great way to connect with other ASWA members. Each month we will post a new question for you to share your ideas about. We invite you to also post discussions questions, if you're looking for some new ideas for your business.

This month's LinkedIn Topic: What is the best career advice you have received?

You can respond to the question on our new LinkedIn group, or reply to Jessica (jward@lutzcpa.com) and we will publish your responses in next month's bulletin.

See last month's responses later in the bulletin.

BASKET RAFFLE DONATIONS

We are starting to pull together donations for the basket raffle, so if anyone would like to donate items or knows someone who might be interested they can contact Stephanie at stephanies@bocatc.org.

LADY VESTEY WOMAN OF ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

See the attached nomination form for further information on this award and how to go about nominating someone.

ASWA Corner

This is the first in a series of articles to introduce our members to the many aspects of ASWA.

The Omaha Chapter was chartered in 1976. The Chapter is one of approximately 100 ASWA Chapters across the country. The Omaha Chapter has 75 members and nationally there are 4,000 members. With so many Chapters it is possible to relocate to another city and never lose touch with your ASWA network.

The Chapter meets once a month. Meetings usually have a business or professional development presentation. There are also a couple of social events each year. The national organization sponsors an annual conference with 24 hours of CPE. All ASWA members are welcome to attend the national conference.

The Omaha Chapter is governed by a board of directors. These Chapter officers serve a 1 year term. There are also several committees that are in charge of meetings, speakers, membership, communications, and fund raisers.

The national organization is also governed by a board of directors elected for a 1 year term. These board members are from Chapters all across the country. The purpose of the national board is to serve the members and strengthen and steer the programs and services of ASWA. The board is responsible for developing the strategic goals for the national organization. These are all non-paid volunteers who devote much time and talent to the organization.

There is also a management company that provides support and assistance to the local Chapters and the national board. They handle the day to day activities such as processing membership applications, processing dues payments, assisting with the national conference, maintaining the national ASWA database, and much more.

What is your favorite ASWA - Omaha memory? Following are the responses received from our July LinkedIn topic.

Chris Carlson - I have had several fun memories since joining ASWA in 1994. However, the most recent meeting at Dundee Dell to solicit past members / leaders advice is worth mentioning. I was surprised to leave the meeting with another commitment :) However, I was touched by all the support and willingness to move our chapter forward. I'm looking forward to partnering with friends and learning new ways to live a balanced life.

Elaine Clark - So many years - so many memories. . .

I am proud that I had the opportunity to serve as chapter president for the chapter's 25th anniversary. We had a wonderful turn out for the public relations dinner. Virginia Klug and Gail Reiter found many chapter mementos that were on display for the evening. I also took the opportunity to make Janet Redick a full fledge charter member. Due to a technicality she was not considered a charter member even though she had perfect attendance for 25 years!

I agree with Christi Olsen that you really get to know someone when you travel with them. Everyone should attend a regional or national conference. Sue Blake and I have had many adventures together!

Christi forgot to mention the National conference in Scottsdale. What 2 Omaha members arrived late for the annual business meeting?? That's a good story!

I have met so many wonderful women through ASWA. The networking is great but the friendships can last a life time.

Kerry Clark - I think one of my favorite memories has to be the first wine tasting we did at Champions Run with Bob from Wine Styles. I love wine, food and getting to catch up with everyone. It was overall just a really nice relaxing night during a stressful time in my life.

I have to also add that National convention in Orlando was a favorite also. I not only got to meet new people from many chapters and learn a lot; I also came out of the week with some new good friends from our chapter. I had such a good time with Sue Christi, and Elaine and prior to that I had not every got to spend any time getting to know them. I really look forward to going to meeting to see them and how they are doing.

Betty Dudzik - Though much professional networking has been gained from the relationships developed in this organization, my most treasured memory will remain the amazing support I received from the local members, my board during my presidency and the kind card from many folks at National when I had to leave early from the Seattle National conference in 1999 due to my father's impending death. Not trying to be a downer but there were people I had just MET in Seattle who signed a card given to me. I still have that card. We are people first, professionals second with many common bonds.

Christi Olsen - It is hard to choose, but my fondest ASWA-Omaha memories are mostly the casual conversations with members, the networking with other members and the getting to know other ASWA members. Those are the most special to me; We have a wonderful group of members!!

My experience on the Omaha chapter board was very rewarding; so many great women working together to continue to make our chapter grow and thrive in 1995-96.

My most favorite funny memories seem to always be when the Omaha members get together and attend a regional conference or national conference together: You really get to know people when you room with them or drive with them or travel with them; and it is always a great experience.

Houston: Watching Linda Scholting and her mom trying to carry their luggage on a very long journey to and from the rental car/hotel/airport.

Chattanooga: The infamous Bus trip that Virginia Klug, Linda Aust, Elaine Clark and Sue Blake went on for Robbie's baseball cap.

Wichita: Elaine Clark and I leaving 4 hours earlier than Betty Dudzik and her crew for the driving trip down to Wichita; and all of us arriving at the hotel at the same time. I still wonder at what speed Betty averaged?

Baltimore: Planes, Trains, and Automobiles with Elaine Clark. It was an adventure not to be missed. We traveled by train, by bus, by trolley, and we walked quite a bit too, with our luggage in tow, It was the best!!! Thanks to Elaine for the adventure! Sue Blake and I decided to take a Limo for the trip home.

There are many more.....Christi

Janet Redick - My last meeting as president was in June of 1981. Our speaker cancelled, so I called board members to get some ideas for a last minute speaker. Jean Howard, a charter member who was very interested in women with their own businesses, recommended Margaret Robinson, President of Norfolk Iron & Metal in Norfolk, NE. I sent her a letter (that's right - snail mail) about ASWA and that she was recommended by Jean Howard, and would she be interested in speaking. She sent a letter back (really!) accepting the invitation.

That was the end of our correspondence, and sure enough, there she was right on time at Club 89 on meeting night. We chatted during dinner, but I did not ask her anything about the business because that is what she was going to talk about. My introduction was, "This is Margaret Robinson from Norfolk, NE, president of Norfolk Iron & Metal. I don't know anything about her, except that she came highly recommended by Jean Howard. So now we are going to find out about her."

What a story! Her husband died unexpectedly in his forties while their four boys were still young. Everyone thought that Margaret would either sell or close the business. Ha! She took over as president with no business experience whatsoever and ran it with great success. She is now deceased, but her sons succeeded her and the company continues to be very successful.

I found out after the meeting that one of her sons flew her to Omaha in the company plane, and was waiting for her in the dining room. She didn't even ask us to pick up the bill for his dinner.