

President's Message

It is hard to believe that June is here and this is my last president's address. Looking back, the last 12 months as president went so fast and I enjoyed all of it. Thank you to everyone that served on a committee, helped out, and attended our chapter's events over the past year. Our chapter would not be as great as it is without each and every one of our members.

Next year is going to be a great year! Looking ahead, I am excited for our chapter's future. I think we have a great board slated for next year. Remember our chapter's future depends on the involvement of each of its members, and now is the chance for you to get involved and get your ideas out. Please contact Shelly Kapustka to let her know where you would like to serve. And don't forget to mark your calendars for the July 19th Committee Procedures Meeting.

For everyone that attended the May bowling social, I hope that you had a great time networking and getting to know more about your fellow ASWA members!

Don't forget our next meeting is on June 21st and is our officer installation and membership recognition night. This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate this past year's accomplishments and look forward to our chapter's future.

Again, I just want to say thanks to everyone for allowing me to serve as president of our chapter. Thanks to all of you who served as officers or directors or in committee positions, this year would not have been as successful without all of your hard work. And for those of you thinking about getting involved in various leadership positions -- being involved and attending local and national ASWA events has given me the opportunity to really get to know the wonderful ladies in our chapter and some great ladies across the country. It is an opportunity that I am so thankful, I didn't pass up!

Kristen Van Foeken
President 2005-2006



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Member Recognition & Officer Installation Meeting

Time: 5:30 p.m.
Date: Wednesday, June 21, 2006
Cost: \$25 (members and guests)
Menu: Salmon and a Bacon Wrapped Filet, Potato Pancakes, and Stuffed Grilled Zucchini and Tropical Fruit Flambé
Speaker: Mark Eldridge, "Driving Success, Balancing Life"
Location: Champions Run
13800 Eagle Run Drive
Omaha, NE 68164
Reservations:
Terri Fuqua
tfuqua@fzacpa.com or
496-9100, by noon Friday,
June 16, 2006



Save the Date Committee Procedures Meeting

When: Wednesday, July 19, 2006
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Where: Seim Johnson



Cindy Otten! Cindy has taken a new position at AG Edwards. Her contact information is below:
cindy.otten@agedwards.com
phone: 445-6424
13330 California Street Suite 100
Omaha, Nebraska 68154

Article 1

Use Your Resume To Help Negotiate a Higher Salary

Most job seekers believe that salary negotiation starts once they have an offer in hand, but nothing could be farther from the truth. In fact, your resume can make the difference between negotiating at the top end of the salary range-or the bottom end-in your next job offer. If that sounds strange to you, consider the following points:

- * A prospective employer's first impression of you is created entirely by your resume.
- * The employer's first impression of you will assign a value and build a level of urgency for the employer to contact you-before someone else does.
- * First impressions are nearly impossible to change.

If your resume sells your skills short, then you can't expect to receive offers at the upper end of your salary scale. Your current resume could be losing you thousands of dollars in income power. By making a few key changes in your resume now, you can position yourself for higher salaries in the future.

There are three resume strategies for promoting high salary negotiation success:

1. Show that you are a high return on investment with quantifiable results.

Many job seekers throw around the phrase "results oriented", but they fail to back it up with concrete evidence-leaving the reader to conclude otherwise. You may feel that you have no quantifiable evidence of your value in previous jobs, but every job has quantifiable results that can better reflect your worth on your resume. Revenue, sales

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dollars and material costs are not the only results that use numbers.

Consider using the number of man-hours saved in process improvements, the percentage of repeat customers, or the number of peers helped by a particular efficiency to help reflect your abilities. Every employee is hired to solve problems, and most problems have some quantifiable element at their core.

2. Illustrate the breadth of your experience.

Notice the use of the word "breadth" rather than "length" of experience. Just because a candidate has been doing a job for a long time does not necessarily mean he is worth more. Breadth of experience focuses on quality, not quantity.

There are two key ways to express breadth of experience:

- * Industry knowledge

Since industry expertise is usually in high demand, you can show your value through insider understanding of industry issues.

- * Transferable skills

If your career spans many industries within the same occupation, highlight the transferable skills that have enabled you to bridge the gaps from industry to industry.

3. Entice the reader to want to know more about you.

Job seekers often make the mistake of assuming that the job of their resume is to inform the reader. Not so! The ONLY job of your resume is to entice the reader to want to know more about you.

What that translates to is an understanding of what to include and what to leave off

your resume. Too much detail can distract the reader and lose his interest, but not enough information, and the reader will wonder what you have been doing with your life. A proper balance between detail and result will win the reader's interest and leave them saying, "I've got to call this guy for an interview today!"

A professional resume writer can create a resume that sells you as a high return on investment. By portraying you as someone with great breadth of experience and a wide range of critical skills, potential employers will see you immediately as someone of high value, building their vision-and your self-confidence-of you in the upper end of the salary scale.

Deborah Walker, CCMC
Career Coach ~ Resume Writer
Find more job-search tips and resume samples at: www.AlphaAdvantage.com
<<http://www.alphaadvantage.com/>>
Email: Deb@AlphaAdvantage.com

Article 2

The Benefits of Offering Training Programs

As the competition for skilled accounting personnel remains strong, companies can distinguish themselves by highlighting the training programs they provide for staff. Top accountants are continually looking for ways to enhance their abilities and expertise and want to be part of organizations that support these objectives. While individuals rarely accept a job or stay with an employer based exclusively on its training benefits, offering these perks can certainly tip the scale in a firm's favor.

Professional development opportunities present other benefits as well. These programs enable firms to develop a more skilled workforce. They also can help

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ensure personnel stay current on industry trends and understand how to respond to business issues, such as new regulations, as they arise.

There are a number of different trainings companies can provide. However, employers must keep in mind the most effective programs are not necessarily the most expensive, but rather the ones that best align with the goals of the firm and its employees. Companies should consider surveying their teams to gain insight into what skills staff seek and, based on this research, determine the appropriate methods for their organizations. Below are some examples of the options available:

* Classroom-style learning - These opportunities allow participants to interact with their instructors face to face and ask questions, and also are valuable for building relationships among colleagues.

* Online courses - There are sessions available on a number of topics – from financial software applications to technical accounting subjects - and through a number of organizations. One advantage to these resources is they can be used at the times most convenient for participants.

* Mentorships - In addition to helping new employees acclimate to their roles at a quicker pace, mentors can work with protégés to build skills in specific areas. For example, a firm might pair a staff accountant needing stronger presentation abilities with a manager who has extensive public speaking experience.

* Tuition reimbursement - Companies can subsidize the expenses related to continuing education, including credits needed to maintain industry-recognized certifications, employees incur.

* Professional associations - Trade organizations offer a number of learning resources for their members, and companies can help provide access to these tools by paying for their employees' membership fees.

Accountemps is the world's first and largest temporary staffing service specializing in the placement of accounting, finance and bookkeeping professionals. The company has more than 330 offices throughout North America, Europe, Australia and New Zealand, and offers online job search services at www.accountemps.com <<http://www.accountemps.com/>> . For more information, call the Omaha office at (402) 384-8300.

Member Profiles

Amy Thompson

Member Since: 1992, but a member for 9 years (4 years off with small children)

Graduated from: University of Nebraska - Kearney

Company: Rossitto & Associates

Position: Senior Manager

Birthday: September 21

Hobbies: Camping, boating, hiking

Spouse/kids/pets: Husband Steve, daughters

Cassandra (12) and Courtney (3), sons

Kyle (10), Dylan (7) and Blake (6)

Most Exciting Events of the past Year:

Colorado ski trip with my family

Favorite Ice Cream: Chocolate/peanut butter

Favorite Movie: The Sandlot



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Bev Carlson

Member for: 4 years I think
Graduated from: UNO
Company: KPMG, LLP
Position: Senior Information Risk Auditor
Birthday: 6/19
Hobbies: Anything the kids are doing
(soccer mom, t-ball mom, ect.)
Spouse/kids/pets: Chad (married 8 years in
Sept.) Andy (6 years old, just finished
kindergarten), Caila (3 years old, just
started Pre-school), Brandon (expected
arrival into this world, July 28th), our
Angel Baby Cecilia, Jaz the dog,
Spongebob and Patrick the fish
Most Exciting Events of the past Year: I got
central air and a new kitchen, I was
pretty happy about that.
Favorite Ice Cream: Anything with
Chocolate Syrup on it is good to me.
Favorite Movie: Shrek (I don't get out much)

Brook Craig

Member for: 2 years?
Graduated from: Hastings College
Company: Kiewit Corporation
Position: Accountant
Birthday: 12/17/1980
Hobbies: Horseback Riding, Softball, Snow
Skiing, Scuba Diving
Spouse/kids/pets: Spouse: Jason Pets:
Chloe (4.5lb Yorkie/Maltese) & Harlie
(Cat)
Most Exciting Events of the past Year:
OUR WEDDING - AMAZING!!! My
dad arranged for a plane to drop rose
petals on us during the ceremony – it
was an absolutely awesome day all
around!
Favorite Ice Cream: Homemade Vanilla
with chunks of Butterfingers in it
Favorite Movie: Varies with Mood... Right
now probably "Over the Hedge" All
time favorite is one very few have ever
seen called "a slipper and a rose"

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