



American Society of Women Accountants

The Bulletin

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President's Message

Happy March!

As most of us are in our "busy" season at work, we need to take time out to recharge our batteries. I hope each of you have found your own unique way to relax and unwind, and escape the pressures of your day at least once in a while. Speaking of relaxation, we have one volunteer so far to help plan a summer social event. If you have an interest in helping out, please let me know.

Our slate of officers appears in this month's bulletin. Please take a moment to review the slate, as we will be voting on the slate at the March 16 meeting. There is still time to add names to the slate, which can be done by contacting Pam Fischer. This is the next leadership team for our chapter so please encourage and support those who take on these roles.

Our chapter is up to 91 members as I write this. I would love to see us get to at least 95 by the end of our fiscal year on June 30. This would mean we achieved 90% retention and would be recognized at the next national conference. Continue to invite others to our meetings, and encourage them to join. If there is someone you know who has thought about joining, consider a personal invite to them to join.

The UNO Women's walk is coming up on April 16. Be sure to mark your calendars, and contact Linda Aust if you are able to participate in the walk, or at least help with checking in walkers that morning. Linda can give you all of the details.

I hope you will celebrate St. Patrick's Day early by coming to the meeting on March 16th. Mike Gayoso from OPPD will be speaking on the topic "Accounting for Public Utilities". See you then!

Kelly Martinson
President 2004-2005

Slate of Members Nominated for 2005-2006 Officers

President	Kristen Van Foeken
Pres Elect	Shelly Lashinski
Past Pres	Kelly Martinson
VP	LaTonya Bennett
Treasurer	Paula Eastman
Secretary	Kerry Clark
Director	Stephanie Setlak
Director	Caryn Kirkebak
Director	Tricia Riggins

We will be voting on this slate at the March meeting. If anyone would like to add names, please contact Pam Fisher.

March 2004 Meeting

Dinner: March 16, 2005

Time: 5:30-6:00 Registration, cocktails, buffet and networking

6:00 Business meeting followed by speaker

Menu: St. Patrick's Day theme menu: Corned Beef and Cabbage, Parsley Potatoes, Dessert, and GREEN BEER

Cash bar also will be available

Cost: \$15.00 per member

\$16.50 per guest

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

Speaker: Mike Gayoso, OPPD

Topic: "Accounting for Public Utilities"

Reservations: Tricia Riggins

triggins@fzacpa.com or 963-4315 by NOON, Friday March 11, 2005

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

February Speaker Recap

Karen Morey, of Results Coaching delivered an inspiring presentation, "Achieve Your Best Year Yet" at our dinner meeting. She introduced the Cycle of Productivity and gave us the Five Principles of Transformation.

1. Appreciate your success
2. Learn your lessons
3. Shift your limiting beliefs
4. Live your values
5. Set and focus on goals

She had us reshaping our goals and shifting our limiting beliefs. Good lessons were relearned and new visions were set. She gave several certificates as door prizes. If you would like to know more about this program please contact Karen Morley at 402-827-5298 or visit www.resultscoaching.us

March Speaker Info

Join us for dinner this month on March 16th for an interesting presentation on the differences between public utility accounting vs. accounting practices in other industries. Michael Gayoso, Manager of Planning & Costs from the Fort Calhoun Nuclear Station-Omaha Public Power District, will give an overview of various topics, such as ratemaking, that require specialized accounting practices unique to the utility industry. Feel free to invite others who you think would be interested in this topic.

UNO Women's Walk

Mark your calendar for Saturday, April 16 for this year's Diet Pepsi UNO Women's Walk to raise money for UNO Women's Athletic Scholarships. ASWA will again be participating in this event. Please let me know if you will be able to be a part of our team again this year. ASWA's team will again be checking in all the walkers that attend. Remember that this is a fundraiser for UNO so please make sure that you can collect donations of at least \$50 for the event. If you are interested in participating in this event, please contact Linda Aust via email at laust@thinksacco.com.

Article

Amy Derksen from Accountemps submitted the following article.

Team Dynamics

As a manager, one of your primary responsibilities is to maintain your accounting group's productivity by keeping motivation high and tensions low. Challenges such as working longer

hours and handling larger workloads due to compliance mandates can frustrate even the most skilled and cohesive teams. As a result may need to take extra steps to ensure your staff stays on track. If you notice declining performances, you'll need to take action.

Below are a few areas to concentrate on to direct your group through these times.

- **Conflict resolution:** Identify potential issues, such as missed deadlines and communication mix-ups, within your team before they blow up into larger problems. Also, observe interpersonal dynamics during group meetings and pay attention to who takes a dominant role and who seems marginalized or detached. You'll want to make sure all team members have a chance to express their opinions and contribute to discussions.
- **Team-building exercises:** Assess the team's level of functionality. Do people interact freely or are there cliques? Pair up staff members that may not be as comfortable with each other if the same employees seem to always team up on projects. Lead activities that encourage teamwork and build rapport.
- **Individual and group objectives:** Review overall goals and clarify the individual roles of each person. Determine if any responsibilities need to be adjusted or re-assigned to another employee to make the unit more productive.

FEBRUARY 15th, 2005 Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER:

The February 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 6:13 p.m.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the January regular meeting were distributed at the meeting. Motion for approval by Sue Blake; seconded by Cathy Carey; approved.

QUORUM:

A quorum was present.

ATTENDANCE:

There were 24 members and 4 guests present at the meeting. Total attendance was 28.

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.

PROGRAM:

Our speaker today was Karen Morey of Results Coaching who spoke on "Achieve Your Best Year Yet! – Five Principles of Transformation".

TREASURER'S REPORT:

LaTonya Bennett

January YTD financial statements were distributed. We have year to date net income of \$4,821.35. Our checking balance is \$13,703.27 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 February 25, 2005 – send submissions to Kerry Clark.

Publicity:

Roster:

Website:

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

Chapter Development:

Member Services:

Public Relations:

Student Activities: Deadline for scholarship applications is February 18th.

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

Education/Legislation:

Program: The speaker at the March meeting is Mike Gayoso, OPPD,

speaking on “Accounting for Public Utilities”.

Hospitality: Nothing at this time.

Community Events: Linda Aust has requested members to become part of a team to participate in the Diet Pepsi/UNO Women’s Walk to be held at UNO on April 16th.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

The nominating committee has met and presents the following slate of officers to be voted on:

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 6:22 p.m. by Brook Petersen and seconded by Kerry Clark; motion approved.

Linda Stehno
Secretary 2004-2005

Kelly Martinson
President 2004-2005