

President's Message

I love November, it's the month when the snow begins to fall and you can really enjoy that first cup of hot chocolate. It also doesn't hurt that in my family it is the month of many birthday gatherings and lots of food. And who can forget Thanksgiving; my hope is that all of you get to spend this holiday with ones you love and a table full of home cooked dishes.

Of course what would November be without our Public Relations dinner and CPE event? I am very excited about this year's events. Mary Kay Mueller will be speaking about "How to Feel Good and Stay Positive No Matter What" and we have a great lineup for the afternoon CPE. An email went out a few weeks ago with the invitation for the dinner and the CPE flyer. If you have not seen it and are interested in either event, please contact me at tkclark1@cox.net.

I would like to thank Sue Blake, Elaine Clark, Christi Olsen and Theresa Kokesh for attending the National Conference October 25th thru 27th in Orlando. The conference was a great time and it was so nice to meet other ASWA members from around the country. I would encourage anyone that has the opportunity to attend to do so. On Friday night during the conference, our chapter presented a check for \$150 to the ASWA Educational Foundation at the Wine & Cheese Silent Auction event. I have to say they had

many great baskets, but nothing that could rival our wonderful selection of baskets we will have at the Public Relations dinner!!!

I look forward to seeing all of you at Champions Run for the Public Relations dinner!

Kerry Clark
President 2007 – 2008

Public Relations Dinner

Speaker: Mary Kay Mueller
Topic: How to Feel Good and Stay Positive No Matter What
Time: Cocktails at 5:00, Dinner at 6:00
Date: Wednesday November 14th
Cost: \$40.00
Location: Champions Run
13800 Eagle Run Drive
Reservations: RSVP to Kerry Clark at tkclark1@cox.net by November 8th



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National Website: www.aswa.org



BASKET RAFFLE

Basket raffle time is almost here. So far we have received some wonderful raffle items such as an iPod, Mav's Hockey Tickets, Victoria Secrets gift certificate and much, much, more! If you want a sneak peak at the baskets, we would love your help putting them together tomorrow (Saturday, November 3rd), 2:00 at Ruth Schneider's House. Or if you would still like to donate a basket, please let us know!

Next week we will be sending out a list of all of the baskets so you can SELL, SELL, SELL raffle tickets!

If you have any questions please contact either Ruth Schneider rschneider@insearch-inc.com or Sarah Carse sarah.carse@tdameritrade.com.

Member Profiles

Annette Wells

Member Since: March 2005
Graduated from: Doane College
Company: KPMG, LLP
Position: Senior Tax Associate
Birthday: January 7
Hobbies: Reading, Sewing
Spouse/Kids/Pets: Husband - Travis; Son - Cornelius; Dog - Ginger
Most Exciting Event of the past Year: Adoption our son from Guatemala, he is such a joy! And watching my sister get 1st runner-up in the Miss Missouri Pageant
Favorite Ice Cream: Vanilla with chocolate syrup
Favorite Movie: Miss Congeniality

Chandni Sarawagi

Member For: 2 years
Graduated from: Creighton University
Company: BKD, LLP
Position: Audit Senior
Birthday: March 2nd, 1984
Hobbies: reading, listening to music
Favorite Ice Cream: Chocolate
Favorite Movie: Crash

Emily Nielsen

Member For: 6 years
Graduated from: Creighton University
Company: KPMG, LLP
Position: Audit Manager
Birthday: December 7, 1979
Hobbies: Spending time with family, reading, working out, shopping, etc.
Pets: Golden Retriever named Chase
Most Exciting Event of the past Year: Getting promoted to manager
Favorite Ice Cream: Blue Bunny Cookies & Cream
Favorite Movie: Dumb & Dumber

Erica Schlickbernd

Member For: over 1 year
Graduated from: UNL
Company: Deloitte Tax LLP
Position: Senior Tax Consultant
Birthday: July 31, 1980
Hobbies: Shopping, Traveling, Hanging out with family & friends
Spouse/Kids/Pets: 2 cats
Most Exciting Event of the past Year: Passed the CPA exam
Favorite Ice Cream: Vanilla with M&Ms
Favorite Movie: not sure



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Article **The Importance of Recognizing Employees**

If you want to instill loyalty and create a positive corporate culture, don't underestimate the power of regularly patting accounting staff on the back for a job well done. Praising your employees for stellar work is vital to maintaining morale and boosting productivity.

Offering a simple "thank you" may have more impact on people than you realize. In a recent survey commissioned by Accountemps, workers polled cited frequent recognition of accomplishments as the most effective nonmonetary motivator. Following are excellent ways to show high-performing team members you value their dedication and hard work:

Say it like you mean it. There is no substitute for inspiring employees on a regular basis by offering your gratitude for their efforts. But don't give praise just for the sake of giving praise. Your attempts to motivate will backfire if people don't consider your words heartfelt.

Publicize achievements. Spread the word about noteworthy individual and team accomplishments during meetings or in e-mails to your entire department. When one of your accountants truly goes above and beyond the call of duty, consider acknowledging his or her efforts in the company newsletter or in a memo to senior management.

Explain the bigger picture. People tend to work harder when they know their work matters. To help your staff feel more

personally invested in the success of the organization, share information about the business and how standout efforts contribute to the company's bottom line and overall goals.

Make it formal. While companywide recognition programs may already exist, you can create more targeted initiatives for your team. Tie the program to your department's mission and identify specific actions that merit honors. To encourage buy-in, ask your staff to help establish the guidelines and brainstorm possible rewards.

When your accountants exceed your expectations, complete projects at record speed or come in under budget, remember to show your appreciation promptly. Put simply, managers who take the time to offer kudos reap significant benefits in terms of increased employee output and retention.

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 350 offices throughout North America, Europe and the Asia-Pacific region, and offers online job search services at www.accountemps.com.



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