

## President's Message

The August kick off meeting was a huge success. Jerry Rambo and Hank Sterba, of Nebraska Wine & Spirits, both did a fantastic job presenting at our wine tasting event. A special thank you goes out to everyone who took time out of their busy schedule to join us for a great meal, a fantastic selection of wine, and wonderful conversation.

Our next event will be the Annual Student and Membership Drive Night to be held on September 27<sup>th</sup> at Champions Club. I encourage everyone attending to bring a guest and to reach out to any accounting contacts you may have at local universities to help promote this event. I believe that our organization offers many networking opportunities for students looking to become more integrated into the local accounting market. Also, we are still looking for event sponsors and door prize donations. If you are interested in helping with this event, please contact Kerry Clark @ [kclark@sjsq.com](mailto:kclark@sjsq.com).

Race for the Cure will be held on October 8<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Debbie Zadina @ [dzadina@fzacpa.com](mailto:dzadina@fzacpa.com) or Terri Fuqua @ [tfuqua@fzacpa.com](mailto:tfuqua@fzacpa.com) if you would like to participate as a member of our team.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our September meeting!

*Shelly Kapustka*  
President 2006 – 2007



## CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Adam & Caryn Kirkebak on the birth of their baby girl. Claire Renee Kirkebak was born on August 10th at 11:08 p.m. weighing in at 7 lbs and 20 inches long.



## September Meeting

We are very excited to present Beth Rehr, from Younkers Oakview for our Annual Student Night/Membership Drive. Beth has been a Fashion and Special Events Coordinator for Younkers for the past 15 years. She will be showing us how to update our career wardrobe for the fall. Please remember to bring a friend!

**Date:** September 27, 2006

**Time:** 5:30 pm

**Menu:** Cheese and appetizer trays and mini desserts.

**Cost:** \$7

**Location:** Champions Run Club

13800 Eagle Run Drive

Omaha, NE 68164

**RSVP:** Debbie Zadina at 496-9100 or

[dzadina@fzacpa.com](mailto:dzadina@fzacpa.com) by NOON, Friday

September 22, 2006

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## [August Speaker Recap](#)

Cheers! To a wonderful kick off meeting! Our first meeting was an evening of great food and great wine. Jerry Rambo and Hank Sterba from Nebraska Wine & Spirits, Inc presented four different wines for the evening, magically paired with delicious entrées. Jerry made sure to include a little humor and a lot of answers throughout the evening. The wines presented were:

Ferrari-Carano, Fume Blanc  
Pepperwood Grove, Pinot Noir  
Penfolds "Thomas Hyland", Shiraz  
Schramsberg, Cremant

## [Save the Date:](#)

The Public Relations dinner date has been set; mark your calendars for November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

## [Annual Basket Raffle:](#)

Right now is a great time to start asking your employers to donate to the basket raffle; which will take place at the Public Relations dinner. Please contact Angela Tompsett at [atompsett@woodmen.com](mailto:atompsett@woodmen.com) if you are interested in helping out on the basket raffle committee or if you would like to make a donation.

## [Race for the Cure](#) [Sunday, October 8, 2006](#) [Omaha Civic Auditorium](#)

Hello, ladies! For those of you who would like to participate in this year's Race for the Cure as a member of the ASWA team, please fill out the attached registration form and mail it to Debbie Zadina, 11404 West Dodge Road, Ste 700, Omaha, NE 68154 **by September 20**. Also, be sure to write your T-shirt size somewhere on the entry form. We will pick up your T-shirts and entry packet information for you before the race. Additional

information regarding meeting time and place for the race will be sent to those participating after the 20<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Debbie Zadina [dzadina@fzacpa.com](mailto:dzadina@fzacpa.com) or Terri Fuqua [tfuqua@fzacpa.com](mailto:tfuqua@fzacpa.com) at 496-9100.

## [Article 1](#)

### **Is It Time To Update Your Resume?**

The motto "Be prepared," isn't just great advice for Boy Scouts; it's also great career advice. You never know when the perfect career opportunity will present itself. If a recruiter called you today with your dream job, would you be prepared to send out an up-to-date resume right away?

There are four critical times to update your resume:

- At least once a year
- Any time your career focus changes
- When you anticipate layoffs with your company
- When you begin to feel dissatisfied with your current position

#### **1. Update your resume every year.**

This is where many people fall short. When that recruiter calls with the perfect job, you may suddenly find your resume is years out of date, and you'll have to scramble to catch up.

Keep your resume current by including your best accomplishments each year. Don't count on your memory to recall everything you achieved in years past! You are likely to overlook critical achievements and contributions. If you need assistance, a resume coach may be able to help you through the process with some targeted questions on your most recent jobs.

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## 2. Update your resume when your career focus changes.

If you want to change your career path, then you also need to change your resume. There are several ways to shift the focus away from your current job and toward your new career.

By focusing on the skills that will be useful in your new career, you can position yourself as a stronger candidate for the job. Highlight those transferable skills in your new resume, bringing them front and center.

In addition to highlighting your transferable skills, shift your list of accomplishments to support those skills. Accomplishment statements give credibility to transferable skills and prove your ability to cross industry or occupational lines. Well-crafted accomplishments make a big difference in whether you win the interview or are passed over.

Finally, be sure you understand your audience. As you shift career focus, it is critical to understand the hiring motives of your target market. Use your resume as an effective selling tool by correctly anticipating the recruiter's "wish list" for great job candidates.

## 3. Update your resume when you anticipate layoffs within your company.

A harsh reality of today's economy is the need for corporate downsizing. Layoffs and losses are becoming more and more common. But you can prepare for any worst-case scenario by keeping your resume up-to-date.

Don't make the mistake of being overly optimistic. It's safer to assume that you are on the "out" list. Most people who get caught unexpectedly in a layoff thought they were indispensable to their employers. You might be important or well-liked, but remember that the bottom line always has a louder voice than you do. Get your resume ready as soon as you

see any indications that downsizing is on the way.

Don't mistake company loyalty for a fear of change. Often employees would rather take their chances with a potential layoff than make proactive steps toward finding a new job. Once they're laid off, it's already too late. Remember, as a candidate, you are always more marketable while still employed. Avoid this trap and start your job search early with self-marketing tools (resume and cover letter) that are up-to-date and top quality.

## 4. Update your resume when you are dissatisfied with your current position.

Job dissatisfaction leads to feelings of frustration, worthlessness, and often hopelessness. But there is no reason to stay in a job you hate. Being prepared with an updated resume can help you feel better in your current job. When you have a really terrible day at work, you can respond to job opportunities that same evening with confidence in your up-to-the-minute resume. Taking proactive steps toward a new career will give you back your optimism and self worth.

If it's time for you to update your resume, first decide whether your resume requires a simple update or a complete rewrite. If you have been using the same resume format throughout your career, it's possible that you have outgrown the old look. What your resume promoted ten years ago may not be appropriate or significant for your career choices today. And if you've simply been "tacking on" to your old resume, it may start to resemble a house with too many additions, with little sense or direction.

A professional resume critique can help you decide exactly what you need to move forward. A well-written resume can make an incredible difference in:

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- The length of time it takes to make your career move
- The quality of your next position
- The income potential of your next position
- 

Your resume is your best sales tool in finding a new job, and it deserves the investment of your time and commitment. With a little extra effort now, you'll be prepared for anything that comes your way—and be well on the path to your next great job.

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](mailto:Deb@AlphaAdvantage.com)

## [Article 2](#)

### **Students are Looking for You – Are you Prepared to Look for Them?**

The employment market is bright for today's accounting graduates, and businesses are responding by ramping up on-campus recruiting. In a survey by our firm, 41 percent of executives polled said their companies' college recruiting programs are more active today than they were five years ago. Only 13 percent of respondents noted their activity has decreased.

As many universities enter new terms, now is the time for businesses to initiate student hiring initiatives. Following are some areas to focus on to make your firm more attractive to tomorrow's professionals:

- **Job descriptions** – Provide a comprehensive overview of open positions, including the responsibilities, expectations, required skills and education, and, where appropriate, compensation. Giving ample details will provide students with a thorough understanding of what each role entails.

- **Compensation** – Salaries for new professionals are on the rise, putting employers not offering competitive pay and benefits at risk of losing good candidates. Firms that cannot afford to boost salaries can emphasize other areas of their employment packages, such as vacation time or retirement options.

- **Corporate culture** – People at all stages of their careers want to join a company where they enjoy working, and students are no exception. Foster a supportive professional environment and provide advancement opportunities for staff.

- **Challenging assignments** – Employees seek roles that will help them grow professionally. Make sure the projects you assign new personnel will enable them to build their skill sets, and highlight these opportunities in discussions with applicants.

- **Work/life balance** – Consider implementing programs that help staff pursue both career and personal goals. Effective options include flexible schedules and telecommuting.

*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.*

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# Member Profiles

## [Annette Wells](#)

Board Position: Director  
Member for: 2 yrs  
Graduated from: Doane College  
Company: KPMG, LLP  
Position: Senior Tax Associate  
Birthday: January 7, 1979  
Hobbies: Sewing, Yard Work, Reading  
Spouse/kids/pets: Travis (hubby)/Cornelius (on his way)/Ginger (our spoiled dog)  
Most Exciting Events of the past Year:  
ADOPTION! We are eagerly waiting to travel to pick up our baby boy from Guatemala! So far it has been a wonderful process, and I can't wait to have him home in my arms!  
Favorite Ice Cream: Vanilla with Chocolate syrup  
Favorite Movie: Miss Congeniality

## [Kristen Van Foeken](#)

Board Position: Past President  
Member for: 5 ½ years  
Graduated from: Creighton University  
Company: Carlson Holdings, Inc.  
Position: Accounting Manager  
Birthday: October 13<sup>th</sup>  
Hobbies: Reading, Cooking/Baking  
Pets: My cat Maggie  
Most Exciting Event(s) of the past Year: Starting my new job; I am also looking forward to my vacation to California to visit my family and while I am out there -- going to see an Angels/Yankees baseball game  
Favorite Ice Cream: Rocky Road  
Favorite Movie: Sound of Music

## [Kerry Clark](#)

Board Position: President Elect  
Member for: 3 years  
Graduated from: University of Nebraska at Omaha

Company: Harry A Koch Company  
Position: Assistant Controller  
Birthday: April 24, 1979  
Hobbies: Golf, Reading  
Spouse: Tim  
Most Exciting Events of the past Year: Moving to our new house  
Favorite Ice Cream: Mint Chip  
Favorite Movie: Step mom

## [Paula Eastman](#)

Board Position: Treasurer  
Member for: 5 years  
Graduated from: Bellevue University  
Company: Baas & Associates, PC  
Position: Senior Accountant  
Birthday: July 22nd  
Hobbies: Reading, Walking, Travel  
Kids: 4 Grown Sons  
Most Exciting Events of the past Year:  
Traveling to the Grand Canyon area & Hiking with a goat  
Favorite Ice Cream: Anything with chocolate  
Favorite Movie: Lord of the Rings trilogy

## [Stephanie Setlak](#)

Board Position: Director  
Member for: 3 years  
Graduated from: Bachelor's from Creighton University, Masters from UNO  
Company: Lutz & Company PC  
Position: Audit Senior  
Birthday: September 27th  
Hobbies: shopping, watching TV, reading, hanging out with friends  
Most Exciting Events of the past Year:  
Going to a Jimmy Buffet concert, planning trips to Europe and Vegas  
Favorite Ice Cream: Chocolate Therapy by Ben & Jerry's  
Favorite Movie: Steel Magnolias

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