



American Society of Women Accountants

Orange County Chapter #73 Newsletter –MAY 2008

Our mission is to promote the professional interests of women in accounting and to support career advancement through leadership and business development opportunities.

NEXT DINNER MEETING – MAY 21, 2008 6:00 PM
DOUBLETREE HOTEL
201 EAST MACARTHUR BLVD, SANTA ANA
714-825-3333

GAAP Goes Global
(aka:New GAAP:IFRS)

All this fuss about U.S.GAAP (generally accepted accounting principles) not only do accountants go through years of schooling to learn this, but after moving into an accounting career and maybe even obtain a credential or two, you still need to continue to learn GAAP through the Audit and Accounting updates. Now it seems as if we might be headed for a change as to how we do our accounting. The European Union, as well as many other parts of the world, use IFRS (International Financial Reporting Standards) as promulgated by the IASB (International Accounting Standards Board). The FASB (Financial Accounting Standards Board) who keeps issuing all these FAS pronouncements (over 160 now!) has even decided to collaborate with the IASB in their "convergence" projects.

Well, after our relax and unwind event in April, it seems like May is a good month to look into our crystal ball of Accounting Future to see what IFRS may mean to those of us who probably only know about U.S. GAAP. Who better to discuss this with us than an international partner with expertise from Pricewaterhouse Coopers (PwC), Russell Sutton?

Russell Sutton just moved to Southern California for a three year stint to set up an Australian "desk" across the U.S. to assist any inbound Australian work and the U.S. partnership with any required liaison work outbound to Australia. And most important to us, Russell is also an expert in IFRS and will assist the PwC on IFRS training and knowledge leadership for their clients and interested parties across Southern California. Russell is informative and entertaining so come join us for a glimpse into the future and learn something about IFRS and maybe even about Australia.

NOW ACCEPTING CREDIT CARDS

We now accept cash, checks, and most major credit cards. If you will be paying by credit card at the door, our treasurer asks that you bring an address sticker or business card to attach to the credit card charge form that we will be using.

Please remember! Reservations made, including standing reservations, which are not cancelled by Monday at noon preceding the meeting night, will be charged to the person making the reservation

Dinner Menu: Baby spinach with Toasted Filberts and Raspberry Vinaigrette
Grilled Chicken Breast on Penne with Marinara Sauce
Chocolate Marble Cheesecake

We also offer alternative main courses of a vegetarian dish or fruit plate.

Reservations: Contact our ASWA voicemail, (949) 862-0777 by Monday, May 19, 2008 at Noon or email Millie Culpepper at almiku2@sbcglobal.net. Please give your name, dinner choice, phone number and state whether you are a guest or a member.

Members:

With a reservation.....\$38.00
Late reservations or walk-ins..... \$43.00

Student Members: (Must be enrolled in 12 units)

With a reservation.....\$28.00
Late reservations or walk-ins.....\$33.00

Guests:

With a reservation.....\$43.00
Late reservations or walk-ins.....\$48.00

Student Guests: (Must be enrolled in 12 units)

With a reservation.....\$33.00
Late reservations or walk-ins.....\$38.00



The ASWA Orange County nominating committee is very pleased to present to our membership the following slate of nominations to the Board of Directors for the 2008/2009 fiscal year.

Voting will be by the membership present at our May 21, 2008 dinner meeting.

PRESIDENT	Barbara Steelman
1st VP/PRESIDENT ELECT	Jennifer Cavender
2 nd VP/MEMBERSHIP	Jennifer JeanBlanc
3 rd VP/SPECIAL EVENTS	Lynn Parker
TREASURER	Diane Randall
COMMUNICATIONS SECRETARY	Kira Bruno
RECORDING SECRETARY	Mariana Gutierrez
DIRECTORS	Alison Aldrich Irene Mack Diane Ravenscroft Brenda Wallingford





A Message from Your President

Time is flying by! It's almost time for me to hand over the gavel to Ms. Barbara Steelman. I just want to mention what a terrific job Barb has done this year on programs. I thought the April "relaxation" dinner at Waters Restaurant, was a spectacular hit. It was really fun holding our meeting at such a different venue.

I would like to thank everyone who helped out by sponsoring a student for our Student Night in March- all 25 student dinners were covered. We had quite a full house that night! I was very impressed with the panel of speakers (who are all members): Dolores Lara, Kira Bruno, and Karen Cole. I thought it was a terrific and informative evening.

Since this is my last article as President, I would like to take a moment to thank everyone who helped make this year a success. It has been a unique and enjoyable experience being your commander-in-chief this year. Honestly, I think I'm going to have a tough time giving up our new cordless microphone!

I encourage all of you to consider what you can do to help Barbara and the incoming Board next year. There will be lots of opportunities to help put our big Community Relations event together and as we all know, many hands make the job much lighter.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Karen Guzman Galang, Student at CSULB
Karen Mayer, Student at CSUF

DO WE KNOW WHERE YOU ARE?

- Email your information to Brenda Wallingford at brenda@johnwallingford.com so our Chapter Directory may be updated.
- Go online to www.aswa.org to update National's Database.

Click on the "Members Only" link at the top of the page and follow the instructions to change your member profile





Member of the Year Voting

It's that time of year to recognize one of our many impressive members. Since our membership includes affiliate members, we now want to include them in our recognition along with our accountants. We have received several nominations for our Member of the Year award and will be voting on them at our May 21, 2008 dinner meeting. To vote, you must be present at the May dinner meeting, or submit a proxy by the deadline (proxy and deadline will be in the April newsletter). The award will be presented at the June Installation Meeting.

Here are the 5 criteria areas to consider when you vote. Please carefully consider the whole person and cast your vote for someone who truly represents each of these areas listed below:

- Contributes to the growth and development of ASWA by participation in Chapter events and on committees or the board.
- Promotes the professional interests of women in accounting.
- Achieves career goals through leadership and business development.
- Sets an example for others with their education and personal goals.
- Participates in community activities.

AND THE NOMINEES ARE...

The nominations are in and we have four wonderful women chosen from among us and one of them will be honored as Member of the Year. We had previously only awarded the Elizabeth Black Accountant of the Year Award to regular members, but wanted to honor all of our deserving members, so the name has been changed to the Member of the Year Award. In our new tradition, I am happy to present the following women as our nominees for Member of the Year; two of whom are affiliate members.

We will have secret written ballot voting by members at our May 21, 2008 meeting and if you cannot make the meeting, please email me the proxy ballot which is included in the newsletter after the nominee biographies. The winner will be presented with her award at the June 18, 2008 Installation Dinner meeting.

And the nominees are: Inhee Carter, Jennifer Cavender, Karen Cole, and Brenda Wallingford. Their biographies follow:



Inhee Carter has been a member of ASWA since March 3, 2006. This is her second year as opportunity draw chair. She has also worked as aid to the hotel liaison, and participated on the following committees: nominating, scholarship, and holiday planning.

She considers it a privilege to be part of an organization that has been warm and welcoming from the first day she showed up for a meeting.

Inhee has a degree in Criminology, Law & Society from UC Irvine. In her previous professional lives, she was a high school English teacher in LAUSD and ran her own business as a professional organizer. Today, as a financial advisor she uses those skills to help organize and teach her clients how to be financially fit. Inhee helps individuals and small businesses with their insurance and retirement planning needs.

She lays claim to the “world’s sweetest husband”, Joshua, and is mama to Haley Blue (3) and Jesse Hayden (5months).



Jennifer Cavender graduated from California State University, Fullerton in May of 2000, receiving a BA in Business Administration with a concentration in Accounting. She began her career at Haskell & White LLP full time in June of 2000 as a pooled staff, doing both tax and audit. In September of 2001, Jennifer committed to the audit department full time and currently serves a variety of clients as Manager in the areas of Not-for-Profit Theatres, Real Estate, Manufacturing & Distribution, and Research and Development.

During her time at Haskell & White, Jennifer has received her CPA and benefited from memberships in many organizations including the AICPA, California Society of CPAs, CSUF’s Alumni Association and ASWA, of which she is currently the VP of Special Events. Jennifer is an active volunteer in several not-for-profit organizations such as, the March of Dimes, Abundant Life COG and the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

Jennifer was a member of ASWA OC Chapter as a student, but rejoined and became active in 2005. Since then, she has contributed to our organization by, taking the lead on redesigning our newsletter and website last year as the Communications Secretary, organized a fun holiday event of dinner & wine

bottling and organized a wonderful student night in March 2008. She has also been nominated as next year's, President Elect.



Karen Cole has been a member of the Orange County chapter of ASWA for 10 years. During that time she has served as a Director, as the Employment Opportunities Chair, has been a speaker on recruitment issues and has assisted with numerous community relations and scholarship dinners.

Perhaps Karen's most significant accomplishment and greatest passion has been her involvement with the Race for the Cure. Through Karen's leadership as team captain and co-captain, the ASWA Angels raised over \$12,000 for the cure over the past few years and those donations generated \$800 in Yard House gift certificates used in opportunity drawings to fund ASWA scholarships.

Karen has a B.A. from Whittier College and an M.S. from USC. She is certified as a Senior Professional in Human Resources and is currently Director of Human Resources for Pacific Life Insurance Company.

Karen has a daughter, Katie, who recently graduated from UCLA and works for Apple Computer. Karen is an avid runner; she loves to travel and leads a team of volunteers who work with pregnant and parenting teens. Karen is not an accountant but after 10 years as a member of ASWA she says she feels like one! She thoroughly enjoys her involvement with ASWA and appreciates the intelligence, the giving spirit and the camaraderie of the women accountants she has come to know.

Brenda Wallingford has been a member of ASWA since 1999. She has served on the board for the last five years as recording secretary, Programs VP/President Elect, President, Director and this year as Communications Secretary and sends out all those e-mails as the Directory liaison. She has been the controller of Suddath Relocation System for nine years and previously worked for Weyerhaeuser Company for 13 years.

Brenda is the proud mother of two sons who live in Dallas, Texas with her three grandchildren. This year she will be welcoming her second granddaughter which is a great thrill. In a previous life Brenda taught 7th grade math in the Lennox school district. Having lived in many parts of the US while her husband was working for General Electric, she is very pleased to be a 23 year resident of Anaheim Hills.



MEMBER OF THE YEAR PROXY BALLOT

Only Barbara Steelman will see your actual vote, so please make sure to print your name and sign below.

This form hereby authorizes Barbara Steelman to vote in my place at the May dinner meeting of the Orange County Chapter of the American Society of Women Accountants as follows:

_____ Inhee Carter

_____ Jennifer Cavender

_____ Karen Cole

_____ Brenda Wallingford

Print Name _____

Signature _____ Date: _____

Email form to: barbara_steelman@yahoo.com or

Mail to: Barbara Steelman, 4424 E. 14th Street, Long Beach, CA 90804



Member Profile - Meet Kira Bruno



Kira received her BA in Marketing from California State University, Fullerton, School of Business and Economics. She began her career 19 years ago with a southern California recruiting and staffing firm, Accountants Overload where she worked for 10 years. In 1999 she joined a large international firm as regional vice president with responsibility of offices in Southern California. In 2001 she was hired by Remedy Intelligent Staffing to start up their specialty finance and accounting division.

In 2007, Kira made a decision to start her own firm. She is the Founder and Managing Director of FORTIS Resource Partners, LLC. FORTIS specializes in placing top professionals in the areas of accounting, finance and tax on an interim, direct hire and special project basis. Based in Irvine, FORTIS takes a very consultative approach to working closely with accounting and finance professionals who are seeking their first opportunity, changing or transitioning in their roles to find a new opportunity, or sharing market expertise related to the profession as well as expected compensation by role and size of company. Clients work with FORTIS to staff their needs on a direct hire, special project or interim basis in accounting, finance and tax and receive the same

consultative approach to the staffing of their needs.

Kira joined ASWA a little over a year ago because she wanted to network with women in the accounting profession and was looking for a volunteer opportunity. She has benefited greatly from the relationships that have developed. She enjoys getting to know the members and considers many of them friends. The experience has also allowed her to grow as a business professional. When she started out on her own, she received a great deal of support from the membership. Recently, Kira was a panel presenter at ASWA's annual Student Night, where she had the opportunity to volunteer her time and skills. She was thrilled at the chance to share her story and give back. In doing so, she hopes to help others feel more confident about representing themselves and their backgrounds, and ultimately achieve their career goals.

Currently, Kira holds the position of Marketing Chair and is slated to be VP of Communications for the 2008-2009 year. In addition to her involvement with ASWA, Kira also serves on the Board of Trustees for Olive Crest Children's Homes, an organization dedicated to preventing child abuse.

Kira resides in Tustin, California, with her husband of 14 years, Keith, and their two children, Nathan and Alexandra. When she is not working or volunteering, her first priority is spending time with her family. She also enjoys golfing, skiing, snowboarding, and watching her children excel on the baseball and soccer fields.

Be sure to root Kira on when she runs the Chicago Marathon in October 2008.



949-600-8274
lara@hemingwaysolutions.com

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Did you know that ASWA offers an opportunity for employers to inform ASWA members of their open positions? If you are looking for a job, did you consider checking the ASWA website? HEAR YE, HEAR YE. Take advantage of this networking opportunity!

If you are looking for qualified accounting professionals:

Posting your open positions on the ASWA website is easy and economical. If you are an ASWA member, you can post a position for 60 days at no charge. You can post positions for free up to 5 times per 12 month period. If you are not a member or have exceeded the 5 posting limit, it only costs \$25 per ad for 60 days.

Simply contact the Employment Opportunities Chair, Dolores Lara at 949-600-8274 or lara@hemingwaysolutions.com. You can also contact her through the website at www.aswaoc.org. Dolores will guide you through the process.

If you are looking for an accounting position:

Be sure to check the website regularly for new positions as they become available. Take advantage of this benefit provided by ASWA. If you obtain a position through an ASWA posting, contact the Employment Opportunities Chair. We want to hear your success story!

The Employment Opportunities Policy is posted on the website for your information. If additional information is needed, please contact the Employment Opportunities Chair. Good luck with the job search!

Dolores Lara
Employment Opportunities Chair

UPCOMING ORANGE COUNTY EVENTS

Board Meeting

Doubletree Hotel, Santa Ana
Wednesday, May 21, 2008, 4:30pm – 5:30pm

General Meeting – Russell Sutton *GAAP Goes Global-New GAAP-IFRS-1 Hour CPE*

Doubletree Hotel, Santa Ana
Wednesday, May 21, 2008, 6pm – 9pm

Board Meeting

Doubletree Hotel, Santa Ana
Wednesday, June 18, 2008, 4:30pm – 5:30pm

General Meeting – Installation of Officers *Appreciation and Installation Night – no CPE*

Doubletree Hotel, Santa Ana
Wednesday, June 18, 2008, 6pm – 9pm

OTHER ASWA EVENTS – REGIONAL & NATIONAL

2008 Southwest Regional Conference

Radisson Woodlands Hotel Flagstaff
May 16-17, 2008

Contact: kelly.robertson@nau.edu

2008 Northwest Regional Conference

Courtyard Marriott Hotel-Downtown Bellevue
May 30-31, 2008

www.aswabellevue.org

2008 JOINT NATIONAL CONFERENCE – ASWA & AWSCPA

The Fairmont Dallas
October 28-30, 2008

www.aswa.org

For more information on the Orange County chapter, visit our website at: <http://www.aswaoc.org/>

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