

ASWA Orange County Chapter Newsletter

Issue: #5

January, 2012



The mission of ASWA is to enable women in all accounting and related fields to achieve their full personal, professional and economic potential and to contribute to the future development of their profession.

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Upcoming Events

- 01-18-2012
January Dinner Meeting
- 02-23-2012
February Mixer Blue Water Seafood Grill
- 03-08-2012
Joint Mixer with ALPFA
- 04-21-2012 Saturday
Tea Luncheon
- 05-16-2012 May
Dinner Meeting
- 06-27-2012 June
Dinner Meeting

[Visit our chapter website for more details](#)



President's Message

Irene Mack



It's the start of another year, bringing with it opportunities for business and personal growth. I see indications that the economy is turning around, although still more slowly than we would like. Business excitement is on the upswing, and finance, investment

and insurance companies have been offering free Continuing Education opportunities for CPAs, EAs, and other tax, accounting and finance providers. This tells me that business is feeling more encouraged, and we are ready for good news.

It's a challenging time for accountants, with significant changes at every turn. If you are a tax preparer, you undoubtedly have paid attention to the PTIN rules. If you are an auditor, you may now be accustomed to SOX regulations, but still getting a handle on SSARS 19 compilation and review requirements and changes in U.S. GAAP. If you're working in industry, you're probably watching Congressional legislation. And all employees are wondering what will happen to FICA withholding rates this year. In our industry, it's essential to keep up with the times, which both excites and frustrates me simultaneously.

That makes Continuing Education all the more essential. Please join us for our January 18th dinner meeting, where our speaker will be Randy Noe, on the topic of Leveraging Your Strengths and Growing Your Leadership Style. We hope to see you there!

On another note, we are pleased to welcome Noma Bates to our Board as our new Recording Secretary, and to thank Penny Kinnear for her diligent work as our outgoing Recording Secretary.

Dinner Meeting

Leveraging Your Strengths and Growing Your Leadership Style

Wednesday, January 18, 2012
6:00pm to 8:30pm
Registration at 5:30pm
Doubletree Hotel
201 East MacArthur Blvd
Santa Ana, CA 92707

Salad: Caesar Salad with Shaved Parmesan & Croutons
Main Dish: Moroccan Spiced Chicken with Mixed Vegetables
Side Dish: Roasted Red Potatoes
Dessert: New York Cheesecake

Most of us aspire to be recognized as trusted and respected contributors within our organizations, with an eye toward maximizing our future leadership opportunities. The challenge is assessing how successful our efforts have been received by the people who count.

Ask yourself the following:

- How effective are you as a leader within your organization?
- What are the greatest strengths you bring to your current role?
- Are you optimizing your contributions and performance?
- Are you maximizing your opportunities for upward mobility?
- Are you successfully navigating the minefields and challenges generated by your ever-changing workplace?

Join us as Randy Noe, experienced leadership and executive coach, shares his insightful look at how to effectively leverage your individual strengths, behaviors and attitudes to develop a highly effective leadership style that will help you navigate to success. He will challenge your assumptions and add fresh perspective to help you drive your leadership effectiveness to new heights. This is a session you won't want to miss!

About Randy Noe:



Randy is an executive leadership and career coach, working with companies of all sizes, from small businesses to global corporations. His clients include executive leaders at Accenture, Beckman Coulter, Cisco Systems, Edwards Lifesciences, Honeywell, McGladrey, Philips, Quest Software and Thomson Reuters.

Prior to Randy's coaching career, his leadership experience includes over 20 years of executive and senior operations roles in corporate development, business valuation, strategy planning and finance operations. He directed the Southern California regional financial valuation practice for Arthur Andersen; served as Director, Mergers & Acquisitions for a public software company; and was Treasurer and Senior Officer for a \$500MM apparel manufacturing and retail firm. In addition to being certified as a Chartered Financial Analyst, Randy holds an MBA from USC and a BA in Psychology from San Diego State.

Three convenient ways to register:

Online: [Via PayPal](#)

Email: Contact reservations@aswaoc.org
Phone:
Contact ASWA voice mail at 949-862-0777

Pre-registration Price by noon Monday January 16:
Members: \$38 / Non-Members: \$48 / Students: \$28

Late or No Registration Price:
Members: \$43 / Non-Members: \$53 / Students: \$33

HOLIDAY PARTY AT LYNN & DAVE PARKER'S

Millie Culpepper



For those of you who weren't able to join us for this year's Holiday event, you missed a great party! This year's event was held at the home of Lynn and Dave Parker in Yorba Linda. With about 35 members and guests attending, we had a great group who participated in conversation and just had a fun evening enjoying the view over looking high top of the hills of Yorba Linda. We enjoyed a festive holiday Italian dinner along with homemade cookies from several ASWA members who participated in our cookies exchange. We had the opportunity to taste a variety of different cookies throughout the evening, not to mention all the cupcakes and desserts which allowed us to indulge nearly guilt free!

Special thanks to Lynn and Dave Parker for planning and hosting this year's event! We hope that all of our members and guests enjoyed a wonderful holiday season and wish each of you a prosperous and successful New Year!



Guests and Board Members



Dave Parker and Earl Culpepper



Jennifer Cavender and Adriana Estrada

ASWA November Student Night Opportunity Drawing

Nancy Liming

Congratulations to Last Month's Opportunity Drawing Winners!

Haskell & White: Jennifer Cavender
Won two tickets to the Bowers Museum, donated by the Bowers
Museum!

Haskell & White: Jennifer Cavender
Won two tickets to So Coast Repertory's production of "Elemeno
Pea," donated by So Coast Rep!

Thalia Delatorre
Won two tickets to the San Diego Zoo/Safari Park, donated by the
San Diego Zoological Society!

Kristina Diaz
Won \$50 in Yard House gift certificates, donated by the Yard
House!

Lauren Gross

Won the "Roger Prize Pack." She also won the silent auction with her \$220 bid for the Full Scholarship Roger CPA Review Course, a \$1,700 value, donated by Roger CPA Review!

100% of the proceeds from our monthly Opportunity Drawings go toward funding our annual scholarship awards. We are currently in need of donations. If you would like to make a donation, please contact Nancy Liming at director3@aswaoc.org.

Consider Change

Monika Miles, ASWA National President

What Does Change Look Like?

ASWA President Monika Miles has conducted many discussions recently about whether our name - the American Society of Women Accountants - is the name that will carry us forward into the future. Now she has brought her message to YouTube. We encourage you to watch this engaging presentation and consider what a name change might look like, what it might feel like, and what words might be included in a rebranded ASWA. Members are encouraged to join focus groups coordinated by your regional directors to discuss this possible change.

Click on the link below to view the YouTube video.

<http://www.youtube.com/user/ASWAHQ>

Successful Scholarship Awards Night

Millie Culpepper

On Wednesday, November 16th, 2011 we held our annual Student Night and Scholarship Awards Dinner. Due to the generosity of our donors throughout the year and of our sponsors this year, we were pleased to continue our tradition and honored four deserving accounting students by awarding scholarships totaling \$3,500 to help realize their dreams. Other students had the opportunity to meet and network with accountants and recruiters from accounting firms and industry.

2011 Scholarship Winners

Ellen Miranda, Chapman University
\$1,500 Four-Year College/University Award

Karen Zhou, UC Irvine
\$1,000 Four-Year College/University Award

Melanie Yamabe, CSU Fullerton
\$500 Four-Year College/University Award

Diem Hoang, Fullerton College
\$500 Part-Time/Community College Award



2011 Student Night Sponsors

We want to warmly thank our sponsors and all those who donated items for the opportunity drawing and silent auction.



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Individual Student Sponsor:

Ann Marie Broderick, CPA
DKB Associates, Inc. (Mr. & Mrs. D. Kinnear)
Millie Culpepper

This event was a labor of love for the committee chair and members. As we started the planning process, we had three goals:

- * To promote ASWA within the community
- * To raise scholarship funds
- * To increase membership awareness

We were successful on all accounts. On top of that we helped ensure that we will continue to maintain the healthy balance in our scholarship fund that we are used to by raising over \$2,600 from the silent auction and opportunity drawing as well as a portion of the evening's sponsorship proceeds will also be allocated to that fund.

Thanks to our panelists:

Irene Mack, CPA, President, Irene Mack CPA, a PC
Wendy Sobeski, Controller, Habitat for Humanity
Andrea Weinstein, N. America Controller, Epicor Software
Diane Wittenberg, CPA, Audit Partner, Haskell & White, LLP
Michelle Wroan, CPA, Audit Partner, KPMG LLP



I personally want to thank all the volunteers who worked hard and were flexible, pitching in, as needed to get the job done. Whether participating in Meet the Firms-CSUF to pass out the postcards to announce upcoming scholarship awards event, sending out

sponsor letters, scholarship selection process, program, silent auction, selling opportunity drawing tickets, and too many other activities to list, the following people worked together to make this event a success:

Event Committee

Millie Culpepper - Chairman
Diane Randall

Scholarship Committee

Kathy Jow - Chairman
Inhee Carter
Kristina Diaz
Adriana Estrada
Diane Randall

Registration Desk

Diane Randall
Inhee Carter

Website

James and Jennifer Cavender

Silent Auction & Opportunity Drawing

Millie Culpepper
Nancy Liming

Other Volunteers

Alison Aldrich
Penny Kinnear
Dolores Lara
Irene Mack
Lynn Parker

Thank you sponsors, donors, and volunteers!
Let's do this again in 2012.

ASWA Leadership Opportunities

Interested in volunteering? If you would like to contribute to a dynamic organization, we would love to have you. ASWA's Orange County Chapter is looking to fill various committee positions. We have opportunities for short term and annual commitments.

Please contact Irene Mack via email at president@aswaoc.org

American Society of Women Accountants Chapter #73
949-862-0777