

ASWA Orange County Chapter Newsletter

Issue: # 9

May, 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.

President's Message

Millie Culpepper



Our chapter recognizes the importance of providing our members and the community the ability to receive quality, affordable continuing education. Please join us for our upcoming dinner meeting on Wednesday, May 16 as Diane Mancinelli, a seasoned attorney who has been specializing in bankruptcy law for over two decades, shares her insights and expertise on the topic, demystifying the process, and outlining a strategy for survival.

There is still time to sign up for the Southwest Regional Conference "Fun in the Sun" in Chandler, AZ on May 24-25, 2012 this is over the Memorial Day weekend. Earn 16 CPE units. For more information reference the article below.

On Saturday, April 21st, 2012, we came together: members, colleagues, friends as well for an early Mother Day's outing for our annual after busy tax season fun event. This year was held at The Tea House on Los Rios in San Juan Capistrano, CA. All in all, it was a lovely day at the Tea House including shopping on Los Rios Street for our well deserved break. Many of us enjoyed it so much that plans are underway to do it again in June.

National News:

Have you heard the news from ASWA National Board's proposed new name for members' consideration, which ASWA President

Monika Miles unveiled on April 25th, 2012. The new name has unanimous support from the National Board of Directors because it is powerful enough to attract and welcome more members, and it aligns better with our mission and long-term strategic plans. ASWA members are encouraged to watch the video and share the recommendation frequently with the full membership in the upcoming months so that all of our members are aware of and are considering this important decision that may come up for a vote at the Annual Business Meeting in San Diego, Calif., on Oct. 23, 2012.

[Watch the new video](#) to find out what the proposed new name is! Have you noticed it yet?

The national [ASWA website](#) has been refreshed with new photos. Also, there is a new link to the People to People delegation to China that will be led by Cheryl Heitz, ASWA President-Elect November 3-12, 2012. It's a great opportunity to travel and meet other accountants across the globe!

It's official... ASWA is on [YouTube](#)... "Why Did I Join ASWA?" video was posted on national website and on YouTube. Filmed at the 2011 Conference in Charlotte, various members provided their reasons for joining ASWA. Check it out; the YouTube video is the latest national initiative to market ASWA to potential new members. National is looking into doing more webinars and instructional videos to help chapters with their needs.

Have you read the ASWA [Blog](#) this month? This month's blog discussed our Special Report that will be published later this month on Diversity in Accounting & Finance. Contributors included leaders of NABA (National Association of Black Accountants, ALPFA (Association of Latino Professionals in Finance and Accounting, and ASCEND (Pan-Asian Pacific Leaders).



Members! Please join our LinkedIn group

Connect and network online with other professionals, start discussions and more! [Click here to view our group profile.](#)

For additional ASWA networking click below:

[Face Book](#), [Linked In](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#), [Blog](#)

May Dinner Meeting

Bankruptcy Myths and Reality

Diane Mancinelli of Mentis Law Group PLC

Wednesday, May 16, 2012
6:00pm to 8:30pm
Registration at 5:30pm
Doubletree Hotel
201 East MacArthur Blvd
Santa Ana, CA 92707

Salad: Mixed Green Salad with Cucumber, Tomatoes & Carrots
Main Dish: Blackened Mahi with Mixed Vegetables
Side Dish: Rice Pilaf
Dessert: Carrot Cake

The economic uncertainty and challenging job market of the past few years have created desperate financial straits for many people. As a result, filing bankruptcy may become the only viable option for some. Myths and inaccuracies about this topic and its consequences abound, and it can be a confusing and unsettling process to navigate without a guide.

Join us as Diane Mancinelli, a seasoned attorney who has been specializing in bankruptcy law for over two decades, shares her insights and expertise on the topic, demystifying the process, and outlining a strategy for survival.

Diane's presentation will provide a broad overview of the topic, exploring the following highlights.

- Most common reasons for bankruptcy including garnishments, levies, threats of seizure and tax debt
- A look at the most common chapters of bankruptcy, 7 and 13
- Chapter 13 as an alternative to an offer and compromise
- Ramifications of filing
- The pros and cons of a corporate bankruptcy
- How bankruptcy attorneys and accountants can partner together to assist their clients
- How a bankruptcy can save your clients from the perils of a 1099C
- Hot topic of debt cancellation

About Diane Mancinelli:

Diane is the owner of Mentis Law Group, PLC, a local Orange County firm specializing in business and bankruptcy law. Prior to

opening her own firm, Diane served in the corporate sector as Assistant General Counsel for Volt Information Sciences, and was also an associate with the firm of Savig & Dawe. Diane received her undergraduate degree in political science from Hope College, and her Juris Doctorate from the University of San Diego School of Law. She has been practicing locally in the Orange County area for the past twenty seven years.

Three convenient ways to register:

Online: Via [PayPal](#)
Email: Contact reservations@aswaoc.org
Phone: ASWA voice mail at 949-862-0777

Pre-registration Price by noon Monday May 14th
Members: \$38 / Non-Members: \$48 / Students: \$28

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

ASWA Orange County's 2012 - 2013 Board Nominees

Lynn Parker

The 2012 nominating committee, comprised of Lynn Parker, Alison Aldrich, and Diane Randall, is proud to present the following slate of officers and directors for the Orange County chapter of the American Society of Women Accountants for the upcoming year. Congratulations to all of our nominees, and thank you for volunteering to guide our chapter in the coming year!

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| President: | Millie Culpepper |
| President-Elect: | Diane Randall |
| 2nd VP - Membership: | Open |
| 3rd VP - Special Events: | Kristina Diaz |
| Treasurer: | Alison Aldrich |
| Recording Secretary: | Karen Widener |
| Communications VP: | Diane Randall |
| Past President / Director: | Irene Mack |
| Director: | Lynn Parker |
| Director: | Dolores Lara |
| Director: | Open |

The proposed slate of officers will be presented for a vote by the general membership at our upcoming dinner meeting on Wednesday, May 16th. Additional nominations may still be submitted to the nominating committee in advance, and will also be accepted from the floor that evening. Upon acceptance of the slate by our membership, the formal installation of our new 2012-13 Board of Directors will take place during the June 27th dinner meeting.

Member of the Year 2012

Adriana Estrada

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I have the pleasure of announcing this year's Member of the Year Nominees. Each of these remarkable ASWA members has given generously of her time and talent, contributing richly to the ongoing growth and development of our chapter.

Please join us in congratulating two outstanding members of our chapter who have been recognized as this year's nominees:

Millie Culpepper



Millie joined ASWA in 2004 and has held several roles of responsibility on the Board of Directors over the past 8 years. She currently serves as our chapter President, a role she graciously accepted, and has been instrumental in keeping the chapter running during a difficult transition year. Millie also serves as Regional Director for four additional chapters and has volunteered her time as a Regional Conference Consultant. She has been nominated by two of her peers who stated, "She has consistently been someone who jumps in whenever needed, and has a positive attitude that lifts us all up. Millie

exemplifies what a great Member of the Year is all about!"

Millie's educational background includes an AA from Fullerton College and a BS from the University of Redlands. Her concentration in International Business afforded her the opportunity to study abroad at the Institute of Economic and Political Studies at Cambridge, which began a lifelong love affair with traveling. Her career includes 26 years with Beckman Coulter holding various accounting and financial reporting positions, and currently she is the Accounting Manager of Financial Systems & Reporting for Rogerson Aircraft Corporation.

In addition to her love of travel with her husband Earl, Millie also stays busy with her very large family which includes fifteen grandchildren and her youngest child, Tabby, who is a dog that believes she is human! Millie is honored to be nominated as Member of the Year.

Diane Randall



Diane has been an ASWA member since 2008. She is new to the Board of Directors this year serving as our hotel liaison. As a Cal State Fullerton graduate, Diane has been our link to several student events including Student Scholarships, Meet the Firms and Mock Interviews, She has consistently volunteered for whatever is needed including preparing our chapter taxes, which has always been a difficult task to delegate. "Diane has been a real asset to the OC Chapter and has an even more ambitious year planned ahead", stated Alison Aldridge. Diane will be taking on the role of VP of Communications this next year as well as President Elect.

Diane has her Masters of Accountancy from CSUF and became a CPA candidate in August, 2011. She currently works as an Office/Accounting Manager for a local electrical contractor. She states, "I've been able to transition things learned from ASWA to my job. I would not be able to achieve the level of success that I have without ASWA." Her goal is to become a key participant in setting a moral and ethical example in the discipline of accounting through her education and experience within the ASWA organization.

Diane is extremely proud of her accomplishments as a student which include being the recipient of the California Society of CPA's Scholarship, the Alpha Gamma Eta Award for outstanding student and community service and being recognized as a Women of Distinction. As a single parent who struggled to put her own daughter through school, she learned the value of a good education from both a professional and personal perspective. She is honored to be considered for ASWA's prestigious accolade of Member of the Year.

Voting for Member of the Year is open to registered ASWA members and will take place in-person via confidential ballot at the May 16th dinner meeting. Results will be announced during the June installation. If you are unable to attend the May meeting and still wish to cast your vote, please contact Adriana Estrada by phone (310) 408-5535 or e-mail: aestrada@volt.com no later than Tuesday, May 15th.

Tea Time Saturday April 21, 2012

Gail Campbell

Enjoy some pics from our fun Tea Time!

The Tea House on Los Rios







ASWA Southwest Regional Conference

Millie Culpepper

Join the ASWA Mesa East Valley Chapter for
"Fun in the Sun" at the
2012 Southwest Regional Conference
May 24 - 25, 2012
Crowne Plaza San Marcos Golf Resort
Chandler, AZ

Earn 16 hours of CPE with two full days of educational sessions. Thursday includes three fabulous keynote speakers! Start the conference off with an empowering session by Nona Lee, learn the keys to successful leadership from Raelynn Mackenzie and experience a new spin on ethics with Marcy Maslov. Mix things up on Friday with your choice of sessions from our Tax/Audit and Industry/Nonprofit tracks.

No Regional Conference would be complete without a Chapter Exchange. Bring your questions and suggestions to share with ASWA members from across the Southwest.

Support the ASWA Educational Foundation and have fun outbidding the competition for baskets of goodies. Members and chapters are welcome to help us with donations. Extend your stay in the Valley of the Sun for a great cause or two:

- Support the ASWA Educational Foundation by joining us at our Fun Night, Wednesday, May 23rd at Chase Field as the

- Arizona Diamondbacks take on the Los Angeles Dodgers!
- Support the ASWA Paula Zanni Memorial Scholarship at the first "Putting 4 Paula" golf tournament fundraiser Saturday May 26th!

Are you excited yet? Mark your calendars, book your flights and pack your business cards and sandals. We'll see you in May!!

Conference details and registration information are available on the [Mesa East Valley Chapter website](#) and on the [ASWA Events Page](#).

Follow us on Twitter @aswa_mev for updates on the #2012SWRC.

April Tea Opportunity Drawing

Nancy Liming

Congratulations to Last Month's Opportunity Drawing Winners!

Millie Culpepper

Won two guest passes to "The Huntington Library" donated by The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens!

Brenda Fabro (friend of Alison Aldrich)

Won a \$25 gift certificate for the "Yard House" donated by Susan G. Komen for the Cure

Nancy Liming

Won a Spring "MK Gift Basket" donated by Millie Culpepper!

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.

What Can I Teach You, Colleague?

Accountemps

Broadening the Benefits of Mentoring

A senior staff member imparting knowledge and offering advice to a less-seasoned worker has long been the model for mentoring arrangements in business. Now, however, more employers are offering mentoring opportunities aimed at employees at any level in the firm.

One factor prompting this change is the multigenerational workforce. As the results of Robert Half's recent Workplace Redefined survey reflect, employees of all generations want to take part in professional development and learning opportunities and nontraditional mentoring can help fill that need.

Some firms have embraced arrangements such as "reverse" mentoring, where junior employees take the lead in mentoring senior staff, and peer-to-peer mentoring programs. Through these less-traditional relationships, employees have been able to demonstrate how they can provide value to the business in ways beyond their basic job description and regardless of their experience level.

Creating benefits for both sides

The mentoring arrangements you establish at your firm will vary based on the unique needs of your business and the specific skills, knowledge and experience of your employees. But here are two examples of how a nontraditional mentoring arrangement could be structured:

Example 1: An employee well versed in social media applications can mentor a colleague who needs to refine these skills so she can help the firm earn more business through online channels. In return, she can help her tech-savvy counterpart improve his business writing skills, so he is able to articulate information more clearly to clients through monthly reports.

Example 2: You could offer a new employee a mentor who is a veteran staff member but not part of the worker's immediate team - or who might even work in another part of the business. Through this arrangement, the new staff member may feel freer to ask questions about company processes or culture he might be hesitant to bring up with his direct supervisor. This arrangement also

provides an opportunity for two employees who might not otherwise have reason to interact so closely to build mutual respect for each other's functions, an attitude they will likely take back to their respective work groups.

Structuring arrangements for success

While less traditional mentoring arrangements are gaining popularity, you may need to address some potential hurdles up front such as participants' preconceived notions about who should be in the role of "teacher" or "student" in the relationship.

Clearly explain what you would like both parties to gain and encourage them to avoid stereotyping based on age or experience. In addition, have the mentor and mentee agree on:

- What each would like to achieve through the process
- Where and how often they will meet or communicate

Finally, be sure to provide enough time for both parties to work together and take an interest in the relationship's progress. A strong mentoring program can help create an inviting culture where people are constantly sharing knowledge, generating ideas, and are mutually committed to building a successful company.

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