

ASWA Orange County Chapter Newsletter

Issue: #3

October, 2011



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

Irene Mack

It has been a whirlwind month for ASWA Orange County: we hosted a successful mixer at the Bluewater Grill in the Tustin District in conjunction with Professional Women United, and it was good to see several men in the "mix"; we walked in the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure at Fashion Island carrying a beautiful ASWA sign provided by Volt, and the radio announcer at the start of the walk noticed our organization - publicity is good!; several members attended Meet The Firm's Night at Cal State Fullerton, gave us more good publicity, and told students about our November Student Scholarship night. Scholarship applications are rolling in as we speak!

We've had a good time putting together local souvenirs for a California-themed gift basket for the October Education Foundation silent auction at ASWA's National conference. And we're looking forward to our October 19 dinner meeting, with continuing education provided by two of our own members, Barb Steelman and Jenn Cavender.

It amazes me that ASWA Orange County isn't more well known. At the September mixer, I talked with several people who had learned of the evening's event from friends earlier that day, and were happy to discover a thriving women's accounting organization in Orange County. We're a good resource for making connections, for education, for job prospects, and bringing together women who enjoy working and feeling challenged in their careers as accountants, tax practitioners, and "trusted advisors". We're a well-kept secret whose time has come.

Kudos Korner - we are pleased to recognize the following members for outstanding achievements: Diane Randall has recently passed the CPA exam. And Dolores Lara entered a writing contest sponsored by Ledgent to

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Upcoming Events

10.19.2011
October Dinner Meeting

10.24-26.2011
2011 Annual Conference for Women in Accounting
Charlotte, NC

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



vie for a trip to the 2011 ASWA National Conference, and won first prize. Congratulations to both of you!

Dinner Meeting

Risk: How to Identify It, Assess It and Manage It

Wednesday, October 19, 2011

6:00pm to 8:30pm

Registration at 5:30pm

201 East MacArthur Blvd

Santa Ana, CA 92707



Our former chapter presidents, Barbara Steelman and Jennifer Cavender, will be speaking to us on the topic of risk. Jennifer, as audit manager for Haskell and White LLP, addresses risk with every engagement she manages and will give insight into what external parties look at when assessing risk in an organization. Barbara, as an internal audit consultant, helps companies identify, assess and manage risk from the inside and will give us her perspective on what is important for management to consider during the process. It is beneficial for all accountants and organization leaders to understand the importance of risk assessment within their organization in order to set the proper tone both internally and externally. Come hear them address the topic of "**Risk: How to Identify It, Assess It and Manage It**".

[Click here to see Barbara and Jennifer's bio](#)

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 midnight Friday October 14:

Members: \$38 / Non-Members: \$48 / Students: \$28

Late or No Registration Price:

Members: \$43 / Non-Members: \$53 / Students: \$38

ASWA Raises \$2,990 for the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure

Adriana Estrada



On Sunday, September 25th, one of Orange County's largest fundraisers took place to raise money and awareness for the fight against breast cancer. Komen for the Cure has become the largest source of nonprofit funds dedicated to the fight against breast cancer in the world and each year the ASWA OC chapter participates in this event as the ASWA Angels.

Our team consisted of 14 registered participants who worked hard to raise money, as well as many ASWA contributors who also reached out to their network and raised over \$800 in support of our team. Many thanks to all who contributed and a special thank you to our highest fundraiser, Alison Aldrich, who raised a total of \$1040!

Our team goal was set at \$5000 and there is still time to get there as fundraising continues through the end of October. To access our team page and make a contribution, click on the following link: <http://www.komenoc.org/race/aswa>

Members' Corner

Alison Aldrich, VP of Membership



Wow! What a night we had at our mixer at the Bluewater Grill on Sept 22nd. We had a record number of attendees, 41 to be exact, thanks to our joint venture with the Professional Women United group led by Jessi Roper. We had 11 PWU members attend! Thanks to everyone who attended the mixer and helped make this a successful event. And special thanks to Noma Bates who greeted and checked everyone in that night.

We have 2 new members to welcome for the month of September:

Kristina Diaz
Division Director
Accountemps

Sufen Wang
Controller
Wang Solutions

This could be a banner year for membership!

ASWA September Mixer Business Card Drawing Nancy Liming

Congratulations to our "September Mixer" Business Card Drawing Winner!

Barbara Crofts, CPA, MBA

- Free dinner as our guest at our next Dinner Meeting on October 19, 2011.

Please note that 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.

Student Scholarship Night Mapping Out Your Strategic Career Plan

November 16, 2011
Student Scholarship Night
Doubletree Hotel, Santa Ana



**Join us for an evening with our experts as they discuss
"Mapping Out Your Strategic Career Plan"**

Remember the struggles of trying to get through college...the dorm rooms, the bad food, the partying, and the new language called "accounting" with its debits and credits. Or maybe it was trying to work or raise kids while taking classes. Whatever your experience was, wouldn't an extra \$1,500 have been fantastic! The members of the Orange County Chapter of ASWA remember the challenges of getting that accounting degree and then getting that first accounting job. ASWA is here to help at all stages of an accountant's career, but for those who are starting out and taking those first steps into the field of accounting, we want to tell you about our scholarship program.

ASWA will help four hard-working students by providing the following scholarships:

- One scholarship for \$1,500 to any full-time student enrolled in a 4-year college or university in the Fall 2011 semester/quarter with a major or emphasis in accounting.
- One scholarship for \$1,000 to any full-time student enrolled in a 4-year college or university in the Fall 2011 semester/quarter with a major or emphasis in accounting.
- Two scholarships for \$500 to any part-time or community college student enrolled in the Fall 2011 semester/quarter with a major or emphasis in accounting that has completed at least 12 units in business administration classes.

ASWA is reaching out to over 20 colleges and universities in Southern California, both public and private. Recipients will be honored at the November 16, 2011 ASWA monthly meeting. This is a great opportunity to come and support the next generation of accountants.

At the November meeting, we are excited to host a panel of experts as they discuss Mapping Out Your Strategic Career Plan. Even if you are further

along in your career, what a great opportunity to hear about other accounting professionals' experiences.

Scholarship applicant deadline is October 28, 2011. If you are or know of someone interested in applying, either go to www.aswaoc.org/scholarship_info.php or contact Kathy Jow at scholarships@aswaoc.org.

Sponsorship available, please RSVP by October 28, 2011: Since a portion of your dollars will be allocated to our student scholarship fund, you may be interested in sponsoring students to sit at your table. You may want to invite students who you are already in the process of recruiting or we can introduce you to students who would appreciate attending the event and learning more about your organization by joining you at your table.

[Click here to become a sponsor!](#)

For more information visit our website at www.aswaoc.org or contact Millie Culpepper at president.elect@aswaoc.org

Annual Conference for Women in Accounting

October 24-26, 2011 - Westin Charlotte

Charlotte, NC



The American Society of Women Accountants offers several events throughout the year on the national, regional and local levels. The 2011 Annual Conference for Women in Accounting held in conjunction with the American Woman's Society of CPAs offers the opportunity to earn up to **24 hours of continuing professional education** at an affordable price. The Annual Conference provides a program that offers a myriad of opportunities to help you meet your continuing education goals, whether technical or "soft-skills" focused, as well as an opportunity to network with other women of similar backgrounds.

The 2011 Annual Conference for Women in Accounting will be held in Charlotte, North Carolina on October 24-26 at the Westin Charlotte. To make your hotel reservation at the special group rate of \$169 per night, call 866-837-4148. When calling, please be sure to identify yourself as part of the "2011 ASWA & AWSCPA Annual Conference" to receive the group rate. The deadline to make reservations at the group rate is September 30, 2011, subject to availability.

View all conference details, including the preliminary schedule, Charlotte,

NC visitor information and registration details, on the [Annual Conference website](#) or download the [preliminary program brochure](#).

Registration is open!

Sponsorship and exhibit opportunities are available! Please contact ASWA Headquarters at resourcedevelopment@aswa.org or 703-506-3265.

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 for the following committees:

*Networking mixers *Student Activities *November Student Night
*December Holiday event

If you would like to know more about any of the above committees, please contact Irene Mack via email at president@aswaoc.org

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