

ASWA FAX RETURN

American Society of Women Accountants — Houston Chapter No. 33 www.aswahouston.org

Member of *The Federation of Houston Professional Women*

VOL. 56 No. 7

January 2008

Membership Meeting February 26, 2008

Speaker: Jerilyn K. Barthel, CPA

Topic: Medicare Hospice Benefit

CPE: 1 hour Level: Basic Prerequisites: None

Where: The Briar Club, 2603 Timmons Lane
(corner of Westheimer and Timmons Lane)

Parking available in the member parking area across the street from the Briar Club. Valet parking is available.

Time: 5:30 p.m. Networking:
6:15 p.m. Dinner
7:00 p.m. Speaker

Early bird reservations by Thursday 5:00 pm prior to meeting:

Members and 1st time guests	\$30
Returning guests	\$35

Late reservations and walk-ins:

Members and guests	\$35
Returning guests	\$40

Administrative Policy: Per ASWA standing rules, if you register and do not attend, you will be charged for the regular meeting price.

Reservations need to be made by the Wednesday preceding the meeting. Special dietary requirements available upon request

IN THIS ISSUE

ASWA Memorial Fund Report—p. 4
Calendar of Events—p. 2
Career Center—p. 4
Change in Meeting Reservations Policy—p. 6
Charitable Project—p. 3
Current Fundraiser — p. 4
FHPW Women of Excellence Call for Nominations — p. 4
FHPW Meeting & News—p. 5
Getting to Know Our Officers—p. 5
Linda Talley's Success — p. 6
Meeting Notice — p. 3
Officer & Committee Chair Info—p. 2
President's Message — p. 1

President's Message By Debbie McKenney

IT'S SCHOLARSHIP TIME! ASWA is happy to present the American Society of Women Accountants Educational Foundation's (ASWAEF) scholarship program.

In addition to the National Scholarship Program, the Houston Chapter of ASWA will be offering scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$1,000 to selected candidates.

Both the National and Local Scholarship Committees will consider the following when making their selections:

- **Leadership**
- **Character**
- **Communication Skills**
- **Grade Point Average**
- **Financial Needs and Circumstances**

The eligibility requirements, outlined by the American Society of Women Accountants Educational Foundation, provide that the applicant:

- **Shall be either a part-time or full-time student pursuing a bachelor's or master's degree in Accounting or an equivalent post-baccalaureate certificate of accounting.**
- **Shall have completed a minimum of 60 semester hours or 90-quarter hours with a declared major in Accounting.**
- **Shall be attending an accredited college, university or professional school of accounting.**
- **Need not be a member of ASWA**

Applications must be postmarked by **March 31, 2008**. If applicants would like to be considered for the National Scholarship as well, the deadline is **February 20, 2008**.

I encourage all qualified candidates to apply.

Kind regards,

Debbie McKenney
ASWA President-Houston Chapter

2007-2008 Officers & Committee Chairs

President H 713-927-2679 W	Debbie McKenney debbie.jensen93@gmail.com C 713-927-2679	Director H 281-419-9323 W 281-569-2751	Arlene Dilworth Dilworth@totalbackoffice.com C 936-443-5947	Publicity
President Elect W 713-584-6451 F 713-935-7701	Kristi DeNardo Newsletter kdenardo@igloocorp.com C 832-595-5587	Director H 281-469-0970 W 713-353-1942	Melanie Norton Meeting Arrangements nortonmelt@hotmail.com mnorton@bvccpa.com	
Vice President H 281-659-7508 W 281-848-0713	Sonia Calloway Programs cpacalloway@yahoo.com C 281-659-7508	Membership H 713-591-8282 W 713-333-4340	Jerilyn Barthel jbarthel@gddcpa.com F 713-621-6907	
Treasurer H 281-478-0778 W 713-374-7784	Julianne Dorsett Member Relations julianne_dorsett@petrochemintl.com C 832-563-3840	Student Activities W (832) 782-5943 C (832) 264-4041	Christine Spray cspray@cfw-cpa.com F (832) 782-5952	
Secretary C 713-906-8060 W 713-561-6528	Adrienne Brown abrown@uhy-us.com F 713-968-7138			
Past President H 281-894-5253 W 281-894-5253	Eileen Neucere Database eneucere@earthlink.net F 281-807-1520			

Deadline for March newsletter: March 4, 2008		Additions and changes to the mailing list should be submitted to Eileen Neucere
Newsletter Editor:	Kristi DeNardo	
Cell:	832-595-5587	
Work:	713-584-6451	
Fax:	713-935-7701	
Email (home):	kldenardo@hotmail.com	
Home:	281-894-5253	
Fax:	281-807-1520	
Email:	eneucere@earthlink.net	

The FAX RETURN is the newsletter of ASWA Houston Chapter 33. It is published monthly, except December. You can receive the Fax Return by email or by snail mail. **Please let the editor know which form you would like to receive the newsletter.**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- February 23 Beehive Musical—Art Park Players
- February 26 Membership Meeting — Briar Club
- March 15 Mad Potter
- March 25 Membership Meeting — Briar Club
- April 22 Membership Meeting — Briar Club
- April 22 Chocolate Bar —after meeting
- May — Spa Party at Ann White’s —date TBA
- June 24 —New Member Orientation/Getting to Know ASWA with dinner meeting massage

Standing Reservations

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Jeri Barthel | Melanie Norton |
| Colene Blankinship | Eunice Reiter |
| Adrienne Brown | Ann White |
| Sonia Calloway | Kristi DeNardo |
| Julianne Dorsett | Kristy Hughes |
| Suzi Martin | |
| Eileen Neucere | |
| Debbie McKenney | |

The Chapter will bill for reservations that are not cancelled by noon Thursday prior to the meeting.

Please contact **Melanie Norton** to be added or deleted from the Standing Reservations List.
713-353-1942 mnorton@bvccpa.com

Houston ASWA Memorial Fund

The Houston ASWA Memorial Fund was chartered in 1973 with the two-fold purpose of:

- Providing scholarships to deserving accounting students
- Furthering the mission of the American Society of Women Accountants -- "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".

The Memorial Fund receives contributions, in lieu of flowers, for members and their loved ones during times of grief. We receive contributions to celebrate special occasions and in honor of special people.

Please consider the ASWA Memorial Fund as an opportunity to honor or to memorialize the people in your lives.

Contributions should be made payable to:

ASWA Memorial Fund
c/o Eunice H. Reiter
5005 Woodway, Suite 200
Houston, TX 77056-1789

If your contribution is in honor or in memory of someone, be sure to include information regarding where to send the acknowledgement.

Charitable Project

Please remember to gather your sample toiletries when you travel and donate them to Miryam's Hostel which is on the second floor of the Loaves and Fishes Soup Kitchen. It is a place where 6 – 8 women can spend the night, wash their clothes, take a shower and sleep in a bed. Then they are back out on the street. It is sponsored by Magnificat House which is affiliated with the Catholic church. They can use toiletries, towels, twin bed sheets, pajamas etc.

ADVERTISING RATES

The ads are to be emailed to the newsletter chair no later than the 1st of the month in which the ad is to appear.

\$300/ year—full page
\$160/ year—1/2 page
\$ 10/ month—business card size

The Fax return is published monthly except December.

Official National Registry Statement

ASWA is registered with the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) as a sponsor of continuing professional education on the National Registry of CPE Sponsors. State Boards of Accountancy have the final authority on the acceptance of individual courses of CPE credit. Complaints regarding registered sponsors may be addressed to the National Registry of CPE Sponsors: 150 Fourth Avenue, Nashville, TN 37219-2417. Web site: www.nsba.org.

FEBRUARY MEETING

Jerilyn K. Barthel, CPA

Jerilyn K. Barthel (Jeri) is a certified public accountant and certified hospice administrator. She has been in accounting for over twenty years and a hospice volunteer for even longer. Jeri's activities in hospice have included:

- helping a patient's son rebuild the transmission on the family vehicle,
- putting together office furniture,
- sitting with dying patients,
- training hospice volunteers,
- editing various hospice manuals for compliance with federal and state regulations,
- conducting compliance surveys of various hospice programs,
- serving as a hospice administrator, and
- presenting training classes on various aspects of the hospice benefit and on the preparation of the hospice cost report for various state and national hospice organizations.

(continued on Page 4)

February Meeting (continued from page 3)

Jeri spent five years working full time in a family hospice consulting business, EMBI, Inc. During that time, EMBI produced a hospice policy and procedure manual, a staff training manual and a pain medication protocol manual that were used in 47 states and 7 countries, as well as managed hospices in Beaumont, Dallas/Fort Worth, Oklahoma City and Puerto Rico. Jeri served as the hospice administrator for a hospice program in Oklahoma City for one year, growing the program from an average daily census of 35 patients to over 100.

Jeri is committed to helping people understand the breadth of the hospice benefit so that hospice programs are challenged to provide the best care possible. As her mentor Hazel says, “No one should die alone, in pain or in a wet bed!”

Career Center

Please remember to encourage friends and colleagues to register and that there is not cost to individuals to post their resumes. Members can help by letting their HR Departments at work know about the site. Using the site is a win-win-win-win proposition because 1) employers gain access to a pool of specialized job seekers, 2) individuals seeking employment in accounting and finance can easily connect with employers/recruiters looking for candidates with those skills, and 3) ASWA raises funds that it uses to 4) provide scholarships to worthy individuals.

Support a worthy cause by spreading the news about the ASWA Career Center today!

Federation of Houston Professional Women

Call for Nominations: 2008 Women of Excellence Awards

The Federation of Houston Professional Women (FHPW) and the FHPW Educational Foundation hold a Women of Excellence Awards Gala each year to honor outstanding business women from FHPW member organizations and to raise funds to support scholarships for women in our community.

The deadline for a member organization to submit the name of its Women of Excellence nominee is tentatively March 31, 2008. ASWA Chapter 33 is now accepting nominations from the membership for the ASWA 2008 Woman of Excellence. Nominations should be communicated to Debbie McKenney, President of ASWA Chapter 33, before Tuesday, March 25, 2008.

Current Fundraiser

Our chapter has been registered with the Current Fundraiser Online program. It is very simple—all you have to do is shop online at www.CurrentFun.com and when you check out, select:

State: **Texas** Organization: **ASWA – Houston** City: **Houston.**

Our chapter will receive a check quarterly for 50% of online sales that are attributable to our organization. Tell your friends and relatives, and help raise money for our scholarship fund. You can do some of your Christmas shopping, saving some money for yourself and getting some great products, and at the same time, contribute to the scholarship fund. What a deal!

Getting to Know Our Officers—Jeri Barthel Membership

Trying to fit fifty years of living into a small introductory biography is like trying to see all the facets of a diamond simultaneously, but here goes. I am a native Michigander that moved to Texas 27 years ago to get married. I am keeping the state if not the husband.

I have a degree in elementary education and taught for four years, one in Minnesota and three in west Texas. We relocated to Houston when I was pregnant with our first child, and Melissa was born here in 1988. After nine months in Houston, we relocated again, this time to the Dallas/Fort Worth area. While I was staying home, I took an H&R Block tax course to earn some extra money. I loved it and went back to school at UT Arlington to complete the courses necessary to sit for the CPA exam.

While finishing school, I landed my first job in public accounting with a small firm in Dallas, and have been in public accounting ever since. When I went back to work, my husband opted to stay home. During my first busy season, on March 21, we added another daughter, Nicole. Larry stayed home with the girls for seven years and ran a small business doing routine car maintenance repairs for some of our single female friends and on-site oil changes for three discount rental car chains. The girls learned a lot about cars helping him and still do their own oil changes, brake jobs and other repairs.

After the girls were both in school, we joined my mother-in-law working in hospice consulting. Over the next few years, we managed hospices in Beaumont and Oklahoma City, and did consulting work all over the country as well as in Hungary and Puerto Rico. The hospice manuals we produced were sold in 47 states and 7 countries. I specialized in hospice financial policies and procedures, budgeting and billing. When the hospice cost report was reinstated, I was one of the 3 top trainers in the country giving presentations on how to gather the necessary data and prepare the report.

Three years ago, I found myself at another crossroads and decided that with the kids heading off to college, I could look anywhere in the country for a new opportunity. I found one as an audit manager here in Houston and moved in May of 2005. In March of 2007, I changed firms and now work as an audit manager for Gainer, Donnelly and Desroches, LLP.

This fall, Melissa followed me back to Houston and is finishing her undergraduate studies at Houston Baptist University. She is majoring in biology and psychology and would like to have her own practice someday specializing in pain management. Nicole is a sophomore at West Texas A&M. She is majoring in biology and geography and would like to work in the Peace Corps after graduation. Watching them grow and working to fund their schooling keeps me busy.

Federation of Houston Professional Women

Next Meeting: March 31
Web site: www.fhpw.org

Location: H.E.S.S. Building
5430 Westheimer (between Chimney
Rock and Yorktown)

ASWA Delegates: Melanie Norton,
Arlene Dilworth

Alternates: Pam Ahlers
Debbie McKenney

Federation of Houston Professional Women (FHPW)

The Federation of Houston Professional Women is an alliance of women's professional organizations, chartered by the state of Texas as a non-profit, non-partisan business league. Each FHPW member organization, although diverse in style and structure, has professional or businesswomen members focused on education, networking, specific careers or community service.

FHPW offers quarterly events designed to bring its diverse membership together to promote a place of POWER and INFLUENCE. Quarterly events are open to both members and guests and allow Houston professional women the opportunity to network, have some fun and learn something new.



Have you ever creaked out of bed and said, "Oh God, it's morning"? Happens to many people. And, guess what? That sets the tone for the next minute, the next hour, the rest of the day. In this situation, your physiology was a doggy-downer and so your attitude became a doggy downer. It could also have happened the opposite way around where your attitude infected your physiology. Either way, you have to know when this happens and what to do about it. No offense to the doctors and psychologists, but I believe that some depression is simply an addiction to a monster attitude. It's much easier to say "I am so sad, so depressed, in such a bad mood" than to take action to change it. And, if you are addicted to that attitude and it gets you what you want, ie, attention, visibility, lack of goal achievement, excuses, getting to argue and keep your limitations, etc, why change?

Some people tell me they can't do it without drugs. Maybe that's true and maybe it's not. However, it's your body and your mind and you can change it if you want. This puts you in control rather than being at the effect of other people, your job, your family. And when you are in control, things work much better for you. In other words, if you are in sales, you will make more sales because you are not at the effect of a customer, your boss, the manufacturer. If you are a teacher, you will connect with your students better because it's not about them, their parents, the other teachers, it's about you. If you are in administration, you'll get a lot more done because it's not about the boss, the co-worker, it's about you.

So how do you change yourself? Well, I suggest you begin with your physiology. Sit quietly and smile. You don't have to be smiling at anyone or anything. Just sit there and smile. Do it for at least 1 minute. Notice a change? You bet! You can't help but feel better because you have changed your physiology with a smile. Next, put a great big grin on your face—show those pearly whites and begin saying to yourself: "I love myself, I love myself, I love myself!" Say it over and over again to yourself for at least one minute. Notice a difference? You bet! Now try to be sad or depressed. Doesn't work, does it? Your physiology has just changed your attitude.

Next, change your physiology with your attitude. Stand in front of a mirror and repeat: "I love myself, I love myself, I love myself!" Repeat it over and over while you look at yourself in the mirror. Keep watching because you will begin to see a smile. Don't inhibit yourself! Let the smile come through! You have just changed your physiology with your attitude.

Try these life changing techniques at your next sales meeting, staff meeting and most particularly, on yourself! It's about creating emotion within you and when you know how to do this for yourself, you can share it with others because you know how to create and manage your experiences to create the emotions you want and the results will follow! Don't believe me? Try it!

Change in Meeting Reservations Policy

The Briar Club will be instituting a new policy in February 2008. The Catering Department will need all guarantees 3 business days prior to the scheduled event. The original guarantee number may be increased prior to the event; however. The Briar Club will institute a policy of a 30% up-charge for all guarantee increases within 24 hours of the event. The Chef will automatically prepare extra meals in the amount of 5% over guarantee for any function with fewer than 100 guests. For example, for a guarantee of 20, 1 extra meal will be prepared.

There is a minimum guarantee number of 20 in the ASWA Chapter 33 contract. Should the actual guarantee number or attendance fall below 20, The Briar Club has the right, at its discretion, to hold ASWA responsible for that minimum guaranteed number.

The Briar Club has instituted this policy change because The Briar Club has seen a severe jump in guarantees 24 hours prior to events for some other groups. This puts a strain on the Chef and the Banquet Staff to make sure that everyone gets served.

What does the above policy change from the Briar Club mean for ASWA Meeting Reservations? Simple...If you want to attend a meeting and ensure that a meal will be available for you, advance reservations are a MUST! To qualify for the standard meeting fee, your reservation must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on the WEDNESDAY before the meeting. This deadline is a day earlier than it used to be. Put a reminder on your calendars now! If you miss the advance deadline

ASWA
American Society of Women Accountants
Kristi DeNardo
8810 Lady Laura Lane
Richmond, TX 77459

Return Service Requested

**Printing Compliments of
Kristi DeNardo**

ASWA National Headquarters

800-326-2163

Web site: www.aswa.org

Email: aswa@aswa.org

Region 4—South Central Area Directors—

Patti Bell —pattim@cheneybrothers.com

Mesha Shelburne —mesha.shelburne@ey.com

Janice E. Bass —janbass@charter.net

—Regional Director for Houston

Empowering Women In The Accounting and Financial Professions Since 1938