

ASWA FAX RETURN

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

Member of *The Federation of Houston Professional Women*

VOL. 55 No. 12

June 2007

<p style="text-align: center;">Membership Meeting June 26, 2007</p> <p>Topic: Induction of Officers for 2007-2008</p> <p>Where: The Briar Club 2603 Timmons Lane (corner of Westheimer and Timmons Lane)</p> <p>Parking available in the member parking area across the street from the Briar Club. Valet parking is available.</p> <p>Time: 5:30 p.m. Networking: 6:15 p.m. Dinner 7:00 Speaker</p> <p>Prices: \$25 Members with reservations \$30 Guests and walk-ins \$15 Students</p> <p>BACK MASSAGE WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR AN EXTRA CHARGE</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by: Eileen Neucere</p> <p>WOW AGAIN! We have had another successful year!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To date we have recruited sixteen new members.• We earned a free national conference registration to be used this fall by a first-time attendee.• We awarded \$3,000 in scholarships to worthy students and had a successful scholarship luncheon.• Patricia Long, one of our scholarship winners also won a National scholarship.• We served our community by working at the Loaves and Fishes Soup Kitchen.• We launched the Controller's Corner web portal at www.controllerscorner.com.• We had fun with an After Tax Season Spa Night, Walkathon for Breast Cancer, and dessert at the Chocolate Bar.• Sonia Calloway was selected as our honoree for the Women of Excellence Banquet held by the Federation of Houston Professional Women.• At our Holiday Party we received over \$1,600 in donations and gathered numerous suits and business attire for Dress for Success.• We held a very successful Student Panel Discussion at UHD with about 100 students in attendance.• We offered eleven hours of continuing education at the monthly dinner meetings.• We had a successful transition board meeting on June 9 and Debbie McKenney has many exciting ideas for the new fiscal year.• <p>Thank you for your hard work and commitment to ASWA this year!</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">IN THIS ISSUE</p> <p>Calendar of Events—p. 2 FHPW Meeting & News—p. 7 June Meeting Article—p. 3 Member News—p. 3 Member Relations Report—p. 6 Memorial Fund Information—p. 3 One Minute Organizing—p. 4 Officer & Committee Chair Info—p. 2 President's Letter—p. 1 Publicity Luncheon Report—p. 5 Success-Linda Tally—p. 6</p>	

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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

- June 26, 2007 Membership meeting—installation of officers
- July 10, 2007 Board of Directors meeting
- July 24, 2007 Membership meeting
- Aug 14, 2007 Board of Directors meeting
- Aug 28, 2007 Membership meeting
- Sept 29, 2007 FHPW Women of Excellence Awards Banquet—Sonia Calloway is the ASWA Houston honoree!
- Oct 25-27, 2007 Joint National Conference, Orlando, FL

Standing Reservations

Loyce Anderson	Eileen Neucere
Jeri Barthel	Debbie McKenney
Colene Blankinship	Melanie Norton
Adrienne Brown	Kathy Pearce
Sonia Calloway	Eunice Reiter
Julianne Dorsett	Ann White
Suzi Martin	

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.

Member News

Sonia Calloway will be starting a new job with Helix Energy Solutions as a senior tax analyst on June 29.

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.

JUNE MEETING

The June meeting will be the induction of officers for the new fiscal year 2007-2008. Please make plans to attend.

This meeting will not have a speaker so that we can all visit and talk about the goals and objectives that our new chapter president has for our chapter for the coming year.

We will have two massage therapists at the meeting for a wonderful and relaxing back massage. I am looking forward to that.

One Minute of Office Organizing Redefining 'Normal Business Hours'

by: Denise Landers

· *92% of studied respondents say they make or take work-related communications outside of the office, including during vacations.*

· *Nearly three-fourths say they stay 'switched on' during weekends.*

· *A fifth have interrupted a date for work reasons.*(Lexmark International Study)

The common lament is that it is difficult to find a balance between work and personal lives. Work follows you home in the form of email, cell phones, and incomplete projects. You can often access your business computer from home, or work on your laptop and synchronize it the next day. People wonder what happened to “normal business hours”?

Despite complaints about lack of time due to excessive work, when people are asked if they would like time off or prefer to work more hours for additional money, the majority choose the opportunity to earn the money. If you took away all of the electronic devices now, many would feel that they have less control because the ability to keep in touch allows other liberties during the work day, when you can be away from the office and still handle requirements.

On the opposite side, there is no point pretending that all personal activities get done on “personal” time. After all, the biggest internet shopping day of the year is the Monday after the Thanksgiving weekend. Other non-business activities include social conversations with co-workers in both personal and electronic form, switching to personal email during the day, checking game scores or the news online, and phone calls to book appointments or check on children.

While it is true that the line between work and home has blurred, there is more to the issue of balancing work and personal spheres. If you truly focused only on work for eight hours and then switched to home activities, would you feel any less busy and stressed? Your outside activities--community, church, and social--often require as much effort as your business projects.

Our past societies did not have this distinguishing break between work and home. The concept actually developed in the 1950's and 1960's as, typically, Dad went to work and Mom handled the home chores. With the current dual-income family prototype, it is time to stop dreaming of a different era. Both Mom and Dad are working and therefore have to include business requirements and home chores each day.

The concept of working hours would be more accurately represented in today's society as any time that you are not relaxing. You do not need an equal number of hours for each segment of your life, and some people require more “down” time while others are only comfortable when they feel they are keeping in touch.

Although everyone benefits from having time to escape, by yourself or with loved ones, you cannot dictate a formula. Even an extra thirty minutes or an hour each day can help to bring back that feeling of balance. The more accurate questions are to zero in on what causes you stress, and then prescribe a treatment.

- *What relaxes you?*
- *What have you done for yourself today?*



Publicity Luncheon Report

What a great luncheon we had in May at The Briar Club.

Our speaker, talk show host Pat Gray, commented on current events in an optimistic, insightful, informative, and entertaining way in his speech "THE FUTURE'S SO BRIGHT, I GOTTA WEAR SHADES." Ann White's husband listens to him all the time and Ann was able to assist the publicity

committee in arranging for Mr. Gray to come speak to us. Mr. Gray was very optimistic for the political future of our country and our fair city. I am interested in listening to his show and I am sure those that attended will be tuning in as well.

We presented our scholarships to 4 very delightful students, Amanda Chaffin, Elizabeth and Rachel Magee and Patricia Long (see picture below). We are very happy to announce that Patricia Long has also won one of the national scholarships. We want to thank all of you who assisted in making this luncheon a success. And special thanks to the Publicity Chair Arlene Dillworth, you did a great job.





Here are some statistics from the Society for Human Resource Management/CareerJournal.com; Opinion Research Corporation

- 40% of employees surveyed have had an office romance
- 72% of companies surveyed do not have a policy about employees dating
- 83% of women surveyed say it's a bad idea to date the boss
- 70% of men surveyed say it's a bad idea to date the boss

So can you find love in the workplace?

40% said they could and companies seem to be looking the other way when it happens. And, why not? We are working such long hours that it's nice (and inevitable) that this will happen. So the question is no longer, is it a good or bad thing to happen in your place of business, the question is how are you going to deal with it? There are still issues around sexual harassment and retaliation so tread softly and keep this in mind: If you are going to get involved in the workplace, if it's not for love, watch out!

Establishing policy and procedures for how to manage workplace romances can be a real headache. However, taking the time to talk about this issue with staff and getting their perspective is a good place to begin. Not that you have to use their ideas, but at least, you will have an idea of where they're coming from around this issue. If you don't take the time to think and talk about this issue, if it does arise, you could be left holding the bag, or in this case, the mess the office romance might have created.

Member Relations Report:

The first April social event was to assist in serving over 300 meals at the Loaves and Fishes Soap Kitchen located across the freeway from Minute Maid Park. Several of the members volunteered their time and we had a great time visiting while we were cooking and serving the meals.

The second April social event was a Margarita Spa Party. Debbie McKenney, Kathy Pearce, Joan Landreth and Melanie Norton attended and the hostess/consultant was Christine Spray. We had a very relaxing time using the Beauti Control products and letting all of our worries and tense muscles relax. Guess who signed up to be a consultant? Be sure and ask those who attended to find out.

Our membership campaign was successful again this year. Eileen has said that she has another application to approve. Keep up the good work everyone. Listed below are the new members for this year and the month that they joined the Houston Chapter. If you see them at a meeting be sure and give them a big welcome.

Sheree Clinkscales 4/07
Katrina Kiselenchev 4/07
Natalie Mukes 4/07
Tammy Zgaby 4/07
Stacy Milton 4/07
Kelly Everhardt 4/07
Michelle Jones 4/07
Shelia Hardy 4/07
Tina Carter 2/07

Lara Peeler 11/06
Jodi Probst 8/06
April Dilli 8/06
Crystal Whitt 8/06
Karen Genise 7/06
Mary Faris 9/06
Carrie Morris 6/07

Also, Tamalla Green transferred to the Houston Chapter

Federation of Houston Professional Women

Next quarterly Meeting: July 23, 2007

Location: H.E.S.S Building

Web site: www.fhpw.org

5430 Westheimer

ASWA Delegates: Melanie Norton, Kathryn Pearce

Alternates: Pam Ahlers, Eileen Neucere

FHPW QUARTERLY MEETING - July 23, 2007

ONCE IN A LIFETIME

Dream....Achieve.....Inspire

Introducing the 2007 Women of Excellence

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.

ASWA
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Empowering Women In The Accounting and Financial Professions Since 1938