

ASWA FAX RETURN

American Society of Women Accountants — Houston Chapter No. 33

Member of *The Federation of Houston Professional Women*

VOL. 53 No. 11

July 2005

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

1 Hour CPE
July 26, 2005

Topic: Consumers' Defense: What the credit card companies don't want you to know.

Speaker: Robert Hinsley (see page 4 for bio)

Prerequisite: None required

Course Level: Basic

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 Dinner
7:00 Speaker

Meeting Prices: \$25 Members with reservations
\$30 Walk-Ins
\$30 Guests
\$15 CPE only (no dinner)

Reservations should be placed with Melanie Norton by 6:00 p.m. Thursday July 21 at 713-353-1942 or mnorton@bvccpa.com

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by: Eileen Neucere

I want to thank you for the honor of being elected the Houston Chapter President for fiscal 2005-2006. I have been a member for many years and have served in many capacities over those years. I cherish the many good friends and colleague relationships I have acquired though the years in ASWA. I feel like ASWA is the best kept secret in Houston, or in the United States, for that matter. The National organization has many plans in the works to promote our organization. This next year, the Houston chapter will be focused on communicating with Houston area women and men to let them know how great we are. But we can always become even greater!

Our new board of directors held the transition meeting on June 4. We decided to retire the current reward program and devise a new program. You will hear more about this later this year. I encourage each of you to do what you can to spread the word about ASWA. Tell your friends, neighbors, co-workers and bosses what you like about ASWA. Bring them to one of our meetings. They don't have to be accountants, but they may know someone who is and may tell them about us. What we need is name recognition. The chapter has launched its website at www.aswahouston.org. Go visit the site and encourage your friends to visit. We have a chapter brochure that is available if you would like some to distribute. We also are members of the Federation of Houston Professional Women (FHPW). This membership gives us the perfect opportunity to let other women professionals know what we are all about, if we utilize it. There is a link to the FHPW website on our website.

continue on page 3

2004-2005 Officers & Committee Chairs

President H 281-894-5253 W 281-894-5253	Eileen Neucere eneucere@earthlink.net F 281-807-1520	Database	Past President C 713-459-5874 W 281-313-9400	Ann White ann.white@rbgltd.com F 281-313-9444	Programs
President Elect H 832-445-0543 W 713-499-7623	Lisa Wilson comberge@yahoo.com C 713-301-3145	Membership	Director H 713-660-8728 W 713-221-8596	Orapin Duangploy duangployo@uhd.edu F 713-226-5238	Student Activities
Vice President H 832-242-5386 W 281-558-1847	Joan Landreth jlandreth@net1.net C 713-542-0198	Member Relations	Director H 713-688-4057 W 713-831-5412	Kathy Pearce papandkap@aol.com F 713-831-8653	Newsletter
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Secretary H 713-817-0318 W 713-926-9936	Colene Blankinship coblank@msn.com F 713-926-9960		Publicity H 281-261-8016 W 713-528-2771	Ellie Moore emoore@cddacpa.com F 713-528-6423	

Deadline for August newsletter: August 1, 2005
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 Work: 713-831-5412
 Fax: 713-831-8653
 Email (home): papandkap@aol.com

Additions and changes to the mailing list or requests to receive electronically should be submitted to Eileen Neucere
 Home: 281-894-5253
 Fax: 281-807-1520
 Email: aggie1978@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.**

Standing Reservations

Loyce Anderson	Melanie Norton
Colene Blankinship	Kathy Pearce
Ellie Moore	Eunice Reiter
Eileen Neucere	Ann White
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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- July 25 FHPW Event
- July 26 Membership Meeting—Briar Club
- Aug 9 Board Meeting—American Gen. Center
- Aug 23 Membership Meeting—Briar Club
- Sept 10 FHPW Women of Excellence Gala
- Sept 13 Board Meeting—American Gen. Center
- Sept 27 Membership Meeting—Briar Club
- Sept 28-
- Oct 1 ASWA/AWSCPA Annual Conference Philadelphia, PA

Federation of Houston Professional Women (FHPW)

Web site: www.fhpw.org

ASWA Delegates:	ASWA Alternates:
Melanie Norton	Pam Ahlers
Kathryn Pearce	Ellie Moore

For more information or to sign up, please contact Melanie Norton at mnorton@bvccpa or by phone at 713-353-1942.

Continued from page 1 President's message:

I also encourage all of you to give your board of directors feedback on how the chapter can be improved. We value your input. Board meetings are open to all members, so come to as many board meetings as you like. I look forward to seeing you there.

Board News

The ASWA Board of Directors met June 30 for the July Board meeting and transacted the following business:

Approved two membership applications and these will be sent to National for processing.

Started the budget process and will complete this process at the August board meeting.

The member relations chair has several ideas for special events and will be distributing a survey about these during the July meeting.

Ratified the appointment of Joan Landreth as Vice-President and Kathy Pearce as the second Director.

Discussed lots of new ideas for most of the committees.

Discussed the Federation Banquet (see article in this issue).

The Cookbook is ready for publishing and should have it ready for sale at the National Conference in Philadelphia.

STORAGE

We are looking to consolidate our storage of historical information (boxes) and would like to know if anyone has room for storing our boxes. Also we are calling for information (boxes) that need to be stored. Please look in your attic or garage to see if you have any old ASWA boxes and let us know how many you have. We would like to get an updated number so that we can make a decision of where and how to store our information.

FPHW

Chris Noble, FHPW President has made the following requests of each member organization:

- Have all members of the organization sign up for the FHPW news group. (Go to FHPW.org, select News Subscription, and follow simple directions)
- Attend the quarterly events. Reservation forms may be downloaded from the FHPW website (www.fhpw.org). The July 25 event will be held at the Junior League of Houston and the event is titled Nordstrom Salutes the Federation of Houston Professional Women. Be sure and get your reservations in early.

June Meeting

Our dinner meeting in June was Great and the food was wonderful! Six guests attended the dinner; Julianne Dorsett, Nancy Gilmore, Carol Guillory, Suzi Martin, Quinese Rhea and Claudia DeMore

Ellie Moore conducted the installation of officers and her presentation was filled with scents. If you did not attend the meeting you will need to ask about this.

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. phone 615-220-4200. Web site: www.nsba.org

Special Event

July and August Meetings - Donation items for Loaves and Fishes

In August we will be volunteering at the Loaves and Fishes shelter. The shelter houses 12 women each night. They provide them with a meal, a shower, a bed and wash their clothes. As in the past, we will be collecting linens, soaps, toiletries, first aid supplies, women’s clothing and food (just to name a few of the items they need). If you can’t make it to the shelter to help, please bring anything you wish to donate to the July and/or August meeting and we will make sure the items get to the shelter. Travel size items are preferred, but large bottles are also appreciated.

August 27 – Loaves and Fishes 9am Across the street (I-59) from Minute Maid Park

The Loaves and Fishes shelter provides Houston’s homeless people a meal every day for lunch. Volunteers are needed to make this happen and we are going to be there on Saturday, August 27 at 9am. We cook the meal, set the tables and serve the food along with giving them a sack lunch to eat at a later time. Everyone always has a great time but we need to give the organizers a head count. Please let me know if you can join us - (friends and family are always welcome). Joan Landreth 713-542-0198 or jlandreth@net1.net.



July 1, 2005

AICPA Ethics Rule on Outsourcing Becomes Effective

Today is the day the American Institute of CPAs’ new ethics rule on outsourcing goes into effect. Applicable to members who outsource client work to third-party service providers, the new ethics ruling under Rule 102, Integrity and Objectivity, requires that, prior to sharing confidential client information with the service provider, a member must inform the client, preferably in writing, that he or she may be using a third-party service provider when providing professional services to the client. The ethics rule does not require members to inform clients about third-party providers used to store records, host software applications or provide authorized e-file tax transmittal services.

[AICPA Ethics Rule on Outsourcing.](#)

Speaker Bio

Robert B. Hinsley has 40 years of experience in trial litigation and consumer law and has developed a sub-specialty: representing individuals in reducing their credit card debt without bankruptcy or consolidation.

He is a long-time Houstonian, who graduated from Reagan High School in 1956, The University of Texas in 1961, and University of Texas Law School in 1964. He practiced with the firm of Schlumberger, Hinsley and Westmoreland for 10 years; practices now as Robert Hinsley & Associates, focusing on Consumer Trial Law. He has been a Member of the Houston Bar Association from 1964 to the present. Mr. Hinsley is a longtime Houstonian whose ancestors settled in San Felipe, Texas around 1840.

Robert B. Hinsley is a prolific and entertaining public speaker and makes numerous speeches each month. He is readily available to speak on a variety of legal subjects to groups of all sizes.
Community Service:

Chairman of the State Bar of Texas Grievance Committee

Houston Bar Foundation Fellow
While Chairman of the Juvenile Delinquency Committee of the Houston Bar Association, the Committee won the American Bar Association's prestigious “Best Committee in the U.S.” Award
Chairman of the following Houston Bar Association Committees:

- Juvenile Delinquency Committee
- Membership Committee
- Law Office Economics Committee
- Lawyer Referral Service Committee
- Boards of Directors and Positions Held, past and present:
 - Chairman, District 4-A, Texas State Bar Grievance Committee.
 - Member of National Speakers Association (Houston Chapter).
 - Instructor at Richard Alderman Annual Consumer Law Symposium.
 - Member of National Association of Consumer Advocates (NACA).
 - While Member of the National Big Brothers–Big Sisters Board of Directors–(Prepared their

(Continued on page 6)

A Positive Attitude

by Brendan Rehman

Attitude is fundamental to long-term stress management. Where your attitude is negative, opportunities seem like problems or even disasters. If you are hostile, you will create stress by alienating and irritating other people. On the other hand, with a positive attitude, you can maintain a sense of perspective and recognize the elements in any situation which align with your purposes or from which you can learn valuable lessons. You will find others to be more helpful and co-operative as they find you a pleasure to work with. Which attitude you adopt is really a matter of choice - your choice.

When you are under stress it is very easy to lose perspective. Problems that are relatively minor can take on an apparent size that makes them seem intimidating. Naturally this feeds your feeling of stress, which makes your problems feel worse, which feeds your feeling of stress.

If you take a positive approach, trying to find a good side to every situation, then you will find that you are much less prone to stress. You will worry less, sleep better and enjoy life more. Consider: What good has worrying ever done you?

Start to view mistakes as valuable learning experiences - if you have learned something you did wrong, and then the whole experience has a positive value. When you face what seems to be a huge and overwhelming problem, ask yourself the following questions:

Is this really a problem at all? If you view it in a different way, is it actually an opportunity to do something well? If it really is a difficult problem, then most other people will probably fail at it or give up. If you can deal with the situation, then this will be a major triumph for you. If you take the problem on, then what will you learn from it, whatever the outcome?

Is this a problem that another person also has or has had? If so, find out how they dealt with it or just talk to them to share the problem - they may be glad to talk. If you are facing a problem at work, talk to older or more experienced colleagues whom you trust. They will probably have seen the problem before and may be able to help to put it in perspective. Also you can learn from their mistakes.

Can you break it down? With a little thought you can usually reduce seemingly huge and impossible problems to a number of smaller, more manageable problems or tasks.

If you are facing a lot of problems, can you prioritize them? This helps you to work out the order in which you should approach tasks, and helps you to distinguish between important jobs and jobs that can be deferred.

Does it really matter anyway? If everything goes wrong, will it really matter anyway? If it does, will it matter in six months or a year? Bear in mind that you will probably have plenty of opportunities to correct any failure, or to shine in other ways if things go wrong. As long as you have done your best, and learn from any mistakes you make, then you cannot do any better.

501(c)(3) Charitable Exempt Organization Filing), Served on Committee which arranged the merger of Big Brothers with Big Sisters.

- While Member of the Board of Directors of the American Heart Association, created their 501(c)(3) Charitable Exempt Organization filing.
- While Member of the Board of Directors of the Friends of the Public Library, Prepared their By Laws and 501(c)(3) Charitable Exempt Organization filing.
- 15-year member of St. Cyril's Singers, at St. Cyril's Catholic Church.
- First President of the Parish Council of Prince of Peace Catholic Church.
- Current Program Chairman of the Heights Rotary Club. (Paul Harris Fellow)
- Speaker at numerous charitable and volunteer organizations in Houston.
- Member of the Greater Heights Chamber of Commerce.
- Former President and current member of the North Loop Optimist Club and current member of the Spring Branch-Memorial Optimist Club.

QUOTES

Ethics is knowing the difference between what you have a right to do and what is the right thing to do.

Potter Stewart, former Justice, U.S. Supreme Court

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.

Keeping Life Simple

Seven guiding principles listed in Karen Levine's book are:

1. Relax your standards—don't get stressed with extremely high expectations.
2. Free yourself of stereotypical roles.
3. Take time to figure out what you find most satisfying.
4. Create time for the things you care about.
5. Learn to enjoy what's in front of you.
6. Learn to be flexible
7. Prioritize.

**2005 SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL CONFERENCE
 San Antonio, TX**

We had a great time at the 2005 South Central Regional Conference held in San Antonio in June. Those attending from Houston were, Colene Blankinship, Elaine Johnson, Ellie Moore, Eileen Neucere, Melanie Norton and Kathy Pearce. Listed below are several comments from the attendees.

“Our luncheon speaker, the famous Heloise, was wonderful. She had us laughing almost continuously during her speech and later autographed each book that we purchased. All of the classes I attended were very good, especially the 4 hours of Ethics.” Kathy

“My most favorite classes were Making Room for the Important Things by Denisa Jones and Living your Leadership Legacy by Sharon McGee. In all the classes I attended I learned something new and something that will be beneficial in my career.” Melanie

Trivia questions from the conference.

- Who is Obi-Wan Ginobli?
- What is Go Spurs Go?
- What is Run Hilary Run?

If you don't know the answers, ask someone who attended the conference.

The Chapter Exchange was very interesting and we came out of the meeting with a lot of good ideas.

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

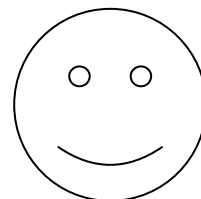
If your contribution is in honor or in memory of someone, be sure to include information regarding where to send the acknowledgment.

FHPW Women of Excellence Gala

Every year the member organizations of FHPW are asked to honor one of their members as their Woman of Excellence. This year the board has decided to honor Judy McMillian as the ASWA Woman of Excellence. The Federation has agreed to posthumously honor Judy.

A lot of our members can tell you about Judy but what I remember the most is her calm demeanor and quite voice. When we would sit and complain about something or someone, she would just smile and not make any comment. She was patient with everyone and when there was a community project, she was there to support ASWA in the rain or sunshine.

If you would like to attend the banquet, please let us know at the July meeting. The Gala will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel on September 10, 2005. For more information, go to the Federation web-site www.fhpw.org.



MEMBER NEWS

"I would like to thank Kathy Pearce for graciously volunteering to assist me with sending out the invitations for the ASWA Luncheon in May. Not only did Kathy help me with stuffing, sealing and labeling some 1000 plus envelopes, a task which lasted into the wee hours, she also recruited her husband Paul to meter and mail the invitations the next day at his office: Inwood Postal Center. I appreciate Kathy and Paul's help as I could not have done it without them.

Melanie Norton

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