



Tucson Affiliate May 2006 Newsletter

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MEETING NOTICE

How to Wow Your Audience with a Great Presentation
Toastmasters: Judy Norris,
Tobie McMasters, and
Bill Luce

Date and Time: Wednesday, May 24, 2006
 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
 (please allow time for check-in, buffet lunch served at noon)

Cost: \$25.00 (non-members welcome)

CPE Counts as one (1) hour of CPE

Place: Montana Avenue Restaurant (6390 E. Grant Rd.)

Choose one:

- 1) **Baby Spinach Salad** – with honeycrisp apple, chicken and bacon (can be served without chicken and bacon for vegetarians).
- 2) **Twin Kobe Burgers** – served with cheddar cheese and sweet dill pickle.
- 3) **Chicken Crepes** – served with smoked corn and havarti fondue.
- 4) **Grilled Cheese Sandwich** – served with Wilcox tomato soup.

Reservations: Notify **Leslie Just** by e-mail: leslie.just@cliftoncpa.com
 or telephone: 790-3500

Reservation deadline: **Friday, May 19th** at 12:00 pm

Note: Participants who sign up but are unable to attend will be billed unless they notify **Leslie** of the cancellation **24 hours** in advance of the luncheon.

A SPECIAL MESSAGE

From our President-Elect
Lynda Nigh



Tax season is over – summer is on its way. Nominations for the 2006-2007 **AWSCPA Tucson affiliate officers/directors** are being accepted now – DON'T MISS OUT ON YOUR CHANCE TO PARTICIPATE – it is rewarding and fosters **strong alliances** and **friendships** – **your future will thank you**. We have many opportunities for all of our members – and as you may have noticed, many of the positions are shared. Working as a co-chair is a wonderful way to help your Tucson affiliate. Or you can offer to help at the meeting registration table, collect the **YWCA Your Sister's Closet** donations, proof our monthly newsletter, greet and mentor a new member, assist with meeting evaluation summaries ... the list goes on and on.

The **board** welcomes all suggestions and is always looking for ways to improve its service to our members – but it is the **members**, EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU, that make the difference. **Stop** and consider volunteering now – call an officer or director and inquire about what their position requires. You will be surprised at how much you receive in return for your investment of time. It's easy to sit back and allow others to do all the “**fun**” stuff – but it is even **more fun** to be a part of the action. This coming year is YOUR year – we welcome your comments, participation, and ongoing support for your local affiliate.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOW AVAILABLE: The Tucson affiliate has beautiful **business card holders** available for purchase. The card holders can be purchased at our luncheons for \$20 each, and the net proceeds from sales will be used for scholarships and/or community outreach projects.

NEWS FROM NATIONAL

Are you considering the **AWSCPA/ASWA National Conference** for CPE this year? It's a great opportunity to learn and network with other accountants – and to have some fun. The conference will be held in **Las Vegas, Nevada, September 18-20th**, and here's some of what you can learn:

- The latest technical developments in accounting, auditing, tax, management, leadership, government and industry, including E-commerce, and budgeting and accounting software applications.
 - Motivational strategies that work.
 - Methods for effective management of people and the marketplace.
 - Effective means of identifying and responding to economic problems.
 - Valuable leadership techniques.
 - Means for achieving effective communication.
 - Professional contacts in a variety of industries.
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RECENT EVENTS

Post Season Luncheon

By Susan Piña



The post-busy season lunch meeting on April 26th combined learning with the celebration of life getting back to normal. We met at John Jacob's El Parador restaurant where Laura C. Belleau, Esq. from Karp, Heurlin, & Weiss, P.C. spoke about Family Law and Divorce Issues. One could tell that this topic was important to many attending because of the great interaction and discussion throughout the presentation. Our speaker began the presentation by explaining that even though she works exclusively with family law issues that she truly believes in the institution of marriage. Her first question to those seeking her services is "Have you tried counseling?" ⁽¹⁾

Laura began with the basic issues that are encountered in a dissolution action. She advised those of us in public accounting to always to keep in mind the community property issues and to educate our clients. They need to know how to keep separate property separate, if applicable, and the ramifications of community property regardless of how happy their marriage is currently. It is important to have a paper trail, and she recommended keeping investment and certain other statements forever. ⁽²⁾ She also recommended not putting the house in your spouse's name if you owned it before getting married. ⁽³⁾ Some other basics she reviewed with us were spousal maintenance, child custody, and child support and the factors affecting their calculation.

The next topic was how accountants and CPAs help her in her work. A marital dissolution requires a distribution of the marital assets to each spouse. One common area in which we provide expertise is tracing community and separate property. This is made easier if individuals have saved their investment statements as mentioned above. Some other areas where we can help are valuations of businesses, retirement plans, and stock options. CPAs also can prepare the maintenance calculations and review exemption and child credit issues.

Overall the lunch meeting was very enjoyable due to the company and a topic that generated lots of interest delivered by a very knowledgeable speaker. There isn't a better way to celebrate the end of our busy season.

(Did you catch the 1-2-3? They're noted above as (1), (2), and (3).)

UPCOMING EVENTS – SAVE THE DATE

5/24/06 at 11:30am	AWSCPA luncheon – See page 1
6/28/06 at 11:30am	AWSCPA luncheon – LaTanya Sheffield, Olympian: Motivation/Team Building
Sept. 18-20, 2006	AWSCPA/ASWA Joint Conference, Las Vegas
September 2006	AWSCPA Fall Fiesta (after our 2-month 'hiatus') – Plan to join us for the fun!!

AWSCPA MISSION

The **American Woman's Society of Certified Public Accountants (AWSCPA)** is a national organization dedicated to serving all women CPAs. The **AWSCPA** provides a supportive environment and valuable resources for members to achieve their personal and professional goals through various opportunities including **advocacy, networking, LEADERSHIP TRAINING, education, and public awareness.**

CHARITABLE ENDEAVORS

In an effort to give back to the community, the Tucson affiliate of **AWSCPA** has started a tradition of collecting donations in the fall for select charities each year. This year we will be collecting clothing (as further described below) for the **YWCA Your Sister's Closet** at our luncheons. So, clean out your closets and drawers for a good cause!

YWCA - Your Sister's Closet provides unemployed women with clothing that is appropriate for job interviews and to begin employment. They need professional clothing that is stylish, clean and preferably ON HANGERS.

SCHOLARSHIP Additionally, the Tucson **AWSCPA** has a scholarship program for female accounting students who have taken a non-traditional path to their education. Our 05/06 recipients (see our "Announcements" on page 2) will be awarded their scholarships at the January luncheon. There are several ways that you can help fund these scholarships.

\$\$\$ Give and receive... participate in the 50/50 raffle at each meeting – one ticket for \$1 or six tickets for \$5. The proceeds are split... half to the winner and half to benefit the scholarship fund. **OR** you can purchase tickets for the next raffle by sending your check (made out to: AWSCPA) to: **Kristen Smith, AWSCPA Treasurer (fbo scholarship), 75 W. Calle De Las Tiendas, Suite 103B, Green Valley, Arizona 85614.** Indicate "Raffle tickets" and the number you want to purchase on the memo line.

This year we are adding another opportunity for you to help this cause ... through a tax-deductible contribution to our scholarship fund at the UA Foundation. You can do this by using the contribution form below, which can be mailed to the UA Foundation or given to a Board member at the next luncheon.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and support.

Please accept my donation of \$_____ to the AWSCPA Scholarship fund.

Donor name: _____

Address: _____

Phone (optional): _____

Make your check payable to The University of Arizona Foundation, with "fbo AWSCPA Scholarship" on the memo line.

Mail this form with your check to:

The University of Arizona Foundation
Attention: Lori Hoby, CPA
PO Box 210109
Tucson, AZ 85721-0109

THE 2005-2006 BOARD OF DIRECTORS...

President -	Anne Hoff	327-8530	annehoff@earthlink.net
President-elect -	Lynda Nigh	299-5575	lnigh1@qwest.net
Past-President -	Kelly Crandall	886-3181	kellyc@cpahammel.com
Secretary/Treasurer -	Kristen Smith	323-1040	kristensmithcpa@yahoo.com
Programming -	Lori Hoby	621-1993	lhoby@al.arizona.edu
	Therese Herzog	296-4551	tdttherese@aol.com
Membership -	Lynda Nigh	299-5575	lnigh1@qwest.net
	Lynnae Fritz	321-4600	lfritz@bfcocpas.com
Hospitality -	Leslie Just	790-3500	leslie.just@cliftoncpa.com
	Dee Ann Brower	770-4907	browerde@hartcool.com
Newsletter -	Kelly Crandall	886-3181	kellyc@cpahammel.com
	Susan Pina	321-4600	spina@bfcocpas.com
Scholarship -	Barbara Ericks	790-3500	barbara.ericks@cliftoncpa.com
Member-at-Large -	Darlene Brady	733-2530	darlene@taxandmoneywise.com
	Deborah Hutchinson	790-3500	deborah.hutchinson@cliftoncpa.com

WELCOME TO AWSCPA!

AWSCPA is dedicated to serving all women CPAs. As a member of this national organization, you will find yourself in a **supportive environment** with valuable resources to help you achieve your **personal and professional goals**. You will also find rewarding opportunities for **leadership, networking and education**.

MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS Membership in the **AWSCPA** is open to **all individuals** (male and female) who are or who are **aspiring** to become **Certified Public Accountants**.

READY TO JOIN? If you would like **more information** and a **membership application**, please contact **Lynnae Fritz** (lfritz@bfcocpas.com) or **Lynda Nigh** (lnigh1@qwest.net). You may also speak to any board member at our monthly luncheons.

ALREADY A MEMBER? Let your associates know how valuable your **AWSCPA** membership has been to you! Just a reminder: when you renew your annual dues, **please** be sure to include the **Affiliate Fee of \$30** for your local group. This fee enables us to continue providing high quality programs in Tucson!

We appreciate your support and attendance at our programs! Please feel free to contact any board member if you have questions, concerns or suggestions! You may also visit the website of the AWSCPA National Office at www.awscpa.org.

WE'RE ON THE WEB!! Visit our website: <http://www.awscpa.org/tucson/index.html>

JOB FORUM – IT’S ALL ABOUT YOU!

The **Tucson AWSCPA affiliate** strives to develop more networking **opportunities** for our members and meeting attendees. As part of this networking, we are providing the **forum** for employers with positions available to match these **opportunities** with individuals seeking employment. This will be a *confidential* service if you are seeking employment.

For those **seeking employment** contact **Darlene Brady** (phone: 733-2530 or email: darlene@taxandmoneywise.com). For those with **positions available**, contact **any Board member** to announce your opening at a monthly meeting or in our newsletter.

PLEASE communicate this employment connection to your employers for future employment **opportunities** for others. This is a **FREE** service for those looking for great CPA’s – that’s you!

Job Openings

- - - T H I S S P A C E - - -
CURRENTLY AVAILABLE FOR YOUR USE!

If you have any openings
that you would like to advertise
in our monthly newsletter,
please contact **Darlene Brady**.
(contact information as noted above)