

President

Renee Cooper, CPA
P.O. Box 3374
West Chester, PA 19381-3374
215-601-6846

tnt_cpa@hotmail.com

President Elect

Pam Wenner
Beucler, Kelly & Irwin, Ltd.
125 Strafford Avenue, Suite 116
Wayne, PA 19087
H-610.892.9503
W-610-254-8961 ext 23

pwenner@bkicpa.com

Vice-President

Kathleen Brunner
Complete Back Office Solutions.
303 Green Tree Tavern Rd.
North Wales, PA 19454
H-215-591-0656
W-215-327-2077

kbrunner@completebackoffice.net

Treasurer

Cynthia J Makarczyk
J H COHN LLP
997 Lenox Drive Suite 102
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648-2317
H-215.639.6740
W-609.896.1221 ext 3031
Fax-609.896.1288

cmakarczyk@jhcohn.com

Secretary

Marian Derr
CBIZ Accounting Advisory Services, LLC
401 Plymouth Rd, Suite 200
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462
H-610-406-8304
W-610-862-2407
F-610-862-2457

mderr@cbiz.com

Directors

Mary-Claire Corcoran, CPA
Barbara Weisenbach
Angela Wilsey, CPA
Anne Zmijewski

Immediate Past President/

Lori Lucente-McKeage, CPA
: seagem.llm@comcast.net

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

1-800-326-2163

INTERNET ADDRESS

www.aswa.org

www.aswa-phila.org

National Regional Director

WEBSITE

Mary Duff, CPA
Duff Accounting Solutions, LLC
PO Box 1682
Southeastern, PA 19399-1682
W-610-304-4560
H-610.666.1036

mduff@duffaccountingsolutions.com



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members and Friends of the Philadelphia Chapter:

“Wow!” is the word to describe the tax update given by Pam Wenner and Marian Derr. I always say as long as there is a Congress we accountants will have jobs. It always amazes me how much so few can do in a year to make things “simpler” for us. The tax update was very informative and gave us a taste at what is happening both at the individual and business level. I think kudos must be given to all accountants that try to keep track of everything that our government decides to do during a year so that we can provide the best service to our amazing, diversified and oh so creative clients.

Our 2009/2010 Mentor/Mentee program is off and running and they have picked a great book that I think we as a chapter should all read. If you are not part of the program this year I encourage you to get your application in early, as these ladies are all about having a good time while learning from each other. To keep up on what our teams are doing join us on Facebook to keep abreast of the activities.

Tick, Tock, Tick, Tock time is running out for those scholarship applications, and just a hint, we only have one application so far, so your chances of winning are pretty darn good. Mentors please encourage your mentees to apply for our scholarship. Applications for the scholarship are available on our website. All **applications are due February 2, 2010.**

Remember to join us on LinkedIn ASWA-Philly group. We are trimming the emails you will receive and posting more of our information on LinkedIn, so check it out.

Our next major event is our 70th Anniversary Celebration. We need volunteers to man the different committees to make this event a fabulous success as only we in Philadelphia can make it. Ladies and gents, if you are new to us as a group, this is a great way to help with something that is going to be phenomenal. Even if you have an hour just to attend a meeting, we would love your input. We will be reaching out to you to help with the different committees. Please remember it is a committee so you are not on your own.

The weather is cold and sometimes it snows like today but we accountants do not mind as we are office bound until the new leaves of spring open up. I hope everyone had a great Holiday and that you are looking forward to a Prosperous New Year.

As always, we have great ideas and great expectations, but it takes the continued support of you, our members, to make these ideas and expectations come to fruition.

See you at our Women Healthcare Issues meeting in February.

Very truly yours,

Renée Cooper
President of the Philadelphia Chapter

EMPLOYMENT

Lori Lucente-McKeage, CPA
Isdaner & Company, LLC
Three Bala Plaza
Suite 501 West
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004-3484
W-610-668-4200 x 2017
Fax-610-667-4329
H-856-582-5294
C-609-504-8956

seagem.llm@comcast.net

MEMBERSHIP

Mary-Claire Corcoran
324 Woods Road
Glenside, PA 19038
H-215.885.1006
Fax-215.885.1186

corc2chel@aol.com

NEWSLETTER /PUBLICITY

Jan Spiegel
1854 Lippincott Road
Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006
H-215.947.8617

isrspiegel@comcast.net

SCHOLARSHIP

Marian Borzelleca
The Radio Agency
1400 N. Providence Rd.
Media, PA 19063
W-610-892-7300
H - 610-745-745-6659

mborzelleca@aol.com

STUDENT NIGHT

Angela Wilsey, CPA
Ernst & Young, LLP
2001 Market Street
Two Commerce Square, Suite 4000
Philadelphia, PA 19103
W - 215-448-4095
H - 610-721-6528

angela.wilsev@aol.com

Elizabeth Kolar
Philadelphia CPA Review
P.O. Box 300
Solebury, PA 18963
W-877-472-4272

liz@philadelphiacpareview.com

MEETINGS

Margarita Stanislavskaya
Mercer County Improvement Authority
640 S Broad St., 3rd Flr
Trenton, NJ 08650

mstanislavskaya@mercercounty.org

PROGRAMS

MEMBER RELATIONS

LEGISLATION

Open Positions

BY LAWS

Mary Feeney-Bonawitz, PhD, CPA
Penn State University
Schuylkill Haven, PA 19797-2208

Mfb5@psu.edu

MENTOR PROGRAM

Theresa Copeland
170 Fariston Drive
Philadelphia, PA 19120

territess@yahoo.com

February Meeting Notice

Event: Women's Healthcare Issues

Location: Bala Cynwyd Library
131 Old Lancaster Avenue
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004
610.664.1196

Date/Time: Wednesday, February 3rd at 6:00 pm

Cost:

Members:	\$ 20.00
Non-members	\$ 25.00
Students	\$ 15.00

RSVP: Please contact Margarita Stanislavskaya by end of day, Friday, January 29, 2009 by email MStanislavskaya@mercercounty.org or call her days at ☎ (609) 278 - 8134

Topic: Federal, PA and Local Individual and Business tax updates will be reviewed.

About our Speakers:

MARIA C. DeMARIO, D.O.

Dr. DeMario has been a doctor at Prime Health Networks upon completing her residency at West Jersey Family Practice in 1994. She is currently the President of the Delaware County Medical Society Board and has certifications from the American Academy of Family Practice, the Board Certified Osteopathic Medical Examiners and the American Society for Laser Medicine and Surgery, Inc. She has been honored and published numerous times in her field.

Members in the News

One of our newest members is Robert Walter. Robert attended his first ASWA meeting at Student Night in November and has since joined ASWA looking for a supportive organization to help him further develop his networking skills and to assist him in his current search for full time employment. Robert resides in Doylestown, PA. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting from Cabrini College in May 2005. He has worked in accounting firms such as John Frost, P.C. and Tait, Weller and Baker, LLP, both of which are located in Center City, Philadelphia. He worked last tax season for Burton & Browse, LLP in Newtown, PA. He is currently working to finish the CPA exam as he has passed three of the four parts, with the Business Environment and Concepts to pass. His immediate career goals are to complete the CPA exam and find an accounting position in the area of tax.

Please welcome Robert at our next meeting if you have not met him.

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Congrats To.....

Valerie Rothermel for passing in the CPA exam in December 2009. A job well done Valerie, please offer Valerie congratulations at the next meeting.

.....and now a word on our Mentor/Mentee program.....

Hello Members!

The 2009-2010 Mentor Program participants consist of the following members:

2009-2010 Mentor-Mentee Teams

Green Team: Tammy Foskey (mentor) and Amber Brown (mentee)

Red Team: Pam Wenner (mentor) and Lynette Colon (mentee)

Yellow Team: Mary Feeney Bonawitz (mentor) and (Penn State Student)*

Orange Team: Mary-Claire Corcoran (mentor) and Thanh Huynh (mentee)

Pink Team: Lori McKeage (mentor) and Kim Buziak (mentee)

Blue Team: Tracey Bond-Wright (mentor) and Brianna Castrataro (mentee)

Brown Team: Judy Maira (mentor) and Samantha Wolf (mentee)

Black Team: Angela Wilsey (mentor) and Stephanie Calcaterra (mentee)

Purple Team: Gwen Ruff (mentor) and Allyse Regan (mentee)

White Team: Theresa Copeland (mentor Chair) and Kelly Brennan (mentee)

Student Mentors: Sunny Chanthavong, Pamela Carcione and Katrina Smith

Our Book Club event begins with a discussion between our teams that has been scheduled for **Saturday, February 13, 2010 at 6 pm**. It will be held at the home of Angela Wilsey. Contact Angela at 610-721-6528 for directions. We will discuss the book, "Pitch Like a Girl" by Ronna Lichenburg. It can be purchased on Amazon for under \$10. We are excited about getting together to share our thoughts and opinions about the book.

If you need to contact me, I can be reached at territess@yahoo.com or 215-680-1902. Submitted by Theresa Copeland, Mentor Chair.



Dear Members:

I am contacting you as a current or past member of ASWA. Our Planning Committee, headed by Kathleen Brunner and Pam Wenner, is working on a **70th Anniversary** celebration scheduled for June 17, 2010. Of course, we expect you to join in the festivities and so mark your calendar. As you are the reason our chapter in **Philadelphia is the third oldest American Society of Women Accountants Chapter in the country**, it is most important to get everyone who is or has been a member to participate. Because of your involvement over the years, you have enabled us to support the theme of this Celebration, which is **"70 years of Empowering Successful Women"**.

I have been asked to head the subcommittee pertaining to capturing the History of our Chapter and Honoring Outstanding Members who exemplify our theme in **"Empowering Successful Women"**.

Here is what we need:

- 1) Pictures (give dates, event, and names of members and others noted), documents and programs for events you may have kept, memorabilia, and any other notable items that we can scan or display at the event.
- 2) Your nomination and bio of a member who you feel should be recognized as an outstanding member who exemplifies our theme for the evening. Our committee will choose the specific Honorees, but we hope to spotlight each in the program or pictorial presentation of some kind.
- 3) A quote from you as a member as to what ASWA has meant to you personally that captures the essence of our theme so that we can share with those non-members in attendance that evening. We hope to provide insight as to why the Philadelphia Chapter of ASWA has continued to exist for 70 years and beyond. Please provide the years in which you have been a member and some of the titles and committees you have participated in during your membership.

If you are interested in working on this committee and sharing your talents and ideas of presenting these valuable ASWA treasures to our attendees, I welcome the assistance. If you cannot spare the time for formal participation, **please take a little time at home to seek out the treasures you have saved and memories you can share.**

Please contact me no later than **January 31th** to let me know what you have to send, and to discuss how and when it will be sent. I would appreciate your nominations as soon as possible but no later than the **31th** as we are starting to work on invitations and sponsorship requests for the event and need to have the plan of the evening solidified as soon as possible. I will send reminders for the quotes as we get our committee solidified and have some extra hands and talents to make this all happen.

Please take the time now before most of us hibernate in our offices for the busy season and haven't the time to work on this until after April 15th. I look forward to hearing from you and know that ASWA holds a special place in all of our hearts.

Don't forget to pass this along to your old ASWA buddies, who we may have lost contact with, I am sure they have past memories to share.

Lori McKeage

Immediate Past President
(609) 504-8956

seagem.llm@comcast.net

Our Sponsors

One of the goals of ASWA is to give back, reach out a helping hand to the aspiring accountant behind us and help them attain our level. Without our sponsors we would not be able to give back as much as we have. Every time a meeting is sponsored both for the location and the food, the meeting fees collected goes towards our scholarship fund. As such we are able to give a scholarship to a needy accounting student so that they may fulfill their dream of becoming an accountant. We give thanks to the following individuals and companies who have contributed to our goals during the past year:



Mary Duff – Duff Accounting Solutions



Lyn Kremer

This month we thank



- Laura Vendzules, Esq

Laura Vendzules, Esq. and her fellow partners of Dilworth Paxson, LLP hosted our February meeting and we thank them for their hospitality and for providing their board room on the 35th floor with an awesome view of Philadelphia's City Hall. Dilworth Paxson conducts a broad and diverse regional law practice representing non profits, a wide variety of clients ranging from Fortune 500 companies and closely held businesses, governmental agencies and individuals. Founded in 1933, the firm proudly embraces its distinguished and rich history and continues to rely on the values of providing clients with quality responsive legal service at a fair price accompanied by a tradition of civic and public service set many decades ago by its named partner, the late Richardson Dilworth. Please visit their website for more details of the services the firm provides www.dilworthlaw.com



2010 Philadelphia Women in the Boardroom

Women in the Boardroom, formerly known as Women on Boards, is an executive leadership event designed to assist in the preparation of board service – better qualifying you and connecting you with the right people and resources. Our panelists are executives with for-profit board experience and a desire to share their knowledge and necessary tools for serving as a director. Although the focus is for-profit boards, much of the knowledge gained can be applied to non-profit service.

Having originated in 2002 in a single city, Women in the Boardroom has now become an annual event, scheduled to be in 15 cities in 2010. Don't let the name fool you. All current presidents, directors and professionals in leadership roles – men and women – are encouraged to attend as an opportunity to mentor, learn from each other or find their next great executive or board member.

The event begins with a two-hour panel presentation and Q&A. Topics of discussion include:

- Role of being a director
- Differences of a non-profit, private and public board
- Board selection process
- Being an effective board member
- Positioning yourself for board service/taking the next step

The role of women on boards continues to evolve, as have all other leadership roles for women in business. In today's corporate climate of increased scrutiny of board governance, boards of directors are being held more accountable than ever. Composition is being closely watched and CEOs and directors are frequently broadening their search for new board members to include women and minorities.

Currently, women represent only 15.2% of Fortune 500 company board membership and Women in the Boardroom is out to change that!

Panel Includes: Doreen Wright – Former Senior Vice President & Chief Information Officer, Campbell Soup Company; Maureen Breakiron-Evans – Retired Chief Financial Officer, Towers Perrin; (additional panelist to come); *Facilitator:* Elva L. Bankins – Senior Partner, Kelleher Associates LLC

For information on the panel, visit the [Women on Boards](#) website

Monday, May 3, 2010 – 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Hyatt Penn's Landing (201 S. Columbus Blvd, Philadelphia, PA 19106)

Cost: \$125 individual tickets. To register online: www.PhiladelphiaWITB2010.eventbrite.com

Women in the Boardroom is held in the following cities: Atlanta, Denver, Twin Cities, Milwaukee, Des Moines, San Francisco, Chicago, St. Louis, Dallas, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Boston, Hartford, Washington D.C. & New York

For more information on our events: www.womenintheboardroom.com, info@womenintheboardroom.com or 952.400.0198. Find Women in the Boardroom on [Linked In](#)



Upcoming meetings:

March, 2010

No meeting – Tax Time! ☺

April 20, 2010

Business Process Outsourcing

Ponzio Restaurant, NJ

June 17, 2010: American Society of Women Accountants, Philadelphia Chapter will celebrate our **70th Anniversary with a Gala at the Knowlton Mansion.** Our theme for this event is “70 years of Empowering Successful Women.” Please plan on being there. Watch this space for more details.

If you would like to serve on one of our many committees for this event, please contact Kathy Brunner or Pam Wenner. Their information is on the first page.

Deadline for inclusion in the next newsletter is February 7th