

North Cascades
Chapter No. 115

Volume 33, Issue 5
November 2010

ASWA DINNER MEETING: Tuesday, November 16, 2010 at 6:00 PM

*City of
Bellingham
Finances –
Navigating the
challenges of the
Great Recession*

**Past – how did we get
where we are now?**

**Present – challenges
and opportunities**

**Future – What are the
prospects for the next
1 – 3 years?**

John Carter serves as the Finance Director for the City of Bellingham. In this role John is responsible for all Financial accounting, Budgeting and Treasury functions for the city which has a budget of over \$200 million annually. He actively manages a treasury portfolio in excess of \$120 million. He was appointed to his current position by Mayor Dan Pike in January 2008 and serves as an advisor to the Mayor regarding economic development and policy issues. He has over 20 years in the public sector including 17 as the CFO for the Port of Bellingham where he was a key player in the 2004 acquisition of the Georgia Pacific property along Bellingham Bay. John is actively involved in Economic Development and serves on the Executive committee of the Northwest Economic Development Council.

John came to Bellingham in 1983 when he was offered the position of CFO at Dealer Information Systems which at the time was a locally funded software start-up. While at DIS John lead the company through multiple rounds of venture capital and personally directed the acquisition of two complimentary software companies and in an equity partnership with IBM.

He is a CPA and also a graduate of Central Washington University where he received his BS in Accounting.

Course Level: Intermediate

Field of Study: Economics

Course Prerequisites: None

CPE Available: 1 Credit

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 final authority on the acceptance of individual courses for CPE credit. Complaints regarding registered sponsors may be addressed to the National Registry of CPE Sponsors, 150 Fourth Avenue North, Nashville, TN 37219-2419.

*Location: Harborside Bistro at the
Hotel Bellwether*



Reservations are required by 5p.m. Thurs, Nov 11 (for this Nov 2011 month's meeting only, normally Tuesday the week before) Please contact Paula Shoemaker, at Reservations@aswa115.org to make your reservation. Please specify if you'd like the vegetarian dinner option. We pay for meals ordered, so **"no-shows will be billed"**.
Cost: Dinner & Program: \$25 members, \$30 non-members; \$20 for Students, Program Only: \$ 15.

Dinner Meeting Menu (vegetarian option available)

Wedge of Iceberg Salad

with Gorgonzola Cheese, Walnuts & Herb Lemon Vinaigrette

Mediterranean Marinated Flat Iron Steak

with Olive Oil, Chili Flakes, Garlic, Lemon & Oregano

Chef's Choice Starch

Seasonal Vegetables

Rolls & Butter

Freshly brewed Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee and Assorted Teas - Ice Tea and Lemonade

Dessert - chef's choice

The mission of this Society shall be 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.

President's Message:

Meeting Location:



Harborside Bistro in
the Hotel Bellwether
on the Bay

*ASWA is the home
for all women
accounting
professionals
whether
new to the field,
experienced or
considering a career
transition.*

Special Thanks to October Panel:

Construction
Tony Mocerì -
Vice President of
Mocerì
Construction
Real Estate Greg
Grant - Managing
Broker at
Coldwell Banker
Real Estate
Employment Dr
Reinhold
Groeple -
Regional Labor
Economist for the
Workforce
Development
Center



Dear ASWA Members,

The 2010-2011 National membership campaign is in full swing. If our chapter retains at least 80% of its current membership and recruits a minimum of 10 new members by May 31, we will receive a free registration to the 2011 JNC in Charlotte, NC for one of our members. That's a nice incentive, but the real prize would be the addition of new members in our group. More people to help us achieve our purpose –to help accountants do their professional best and to help pave the way for others in the future. We are well on our way! I would like to announce new member Judy Wayt. We have enjoyed her company at the last few meetings and I welcome her to our Chapter and our community. It is exciting to see our group grow and each person has unique contributions to make. Last month's student night was a huge success with 28 students! That event was very well executed and I am once again impressed by the very capable women in our group. It is a good example of how you can step up to be a key leader in our group, at any level. I was in San Francisco last week hearing a speaker on the new CEO's of today. It is us! She said today's leaders are at every level of the organization, that the old leadership model of a triangle with the CEO at the top is over. It is more of a block now. She went on to describe a very successful organization that practices leadership at all levels, not just the top, where the players are interchangeable and not threatened by another's success. And then said, "Where the pitcher can step in as the pinch hitter. Who am I talking about?" The room all together answered "the San Francisco Giants!" Yes, it was. As a San Fran native, she couldn't resist, because the World Series parade had just ended (the streets were crazy packed with people still celebrating outside) and she felt the SF Giants were the perfect example of a team where each player stepped up to perform whatever role was asked of him. The players were flexible to perform each position and move around interchangeably, making a strong team, and making history. The success of the organization depends on all of us contributing our unique skills and knowledge, at multiple levels, in whatever opportunity we are presented with. Instead of the leadership being one lone person at the top, today's success depends on many leaders rising up at all levels. We need to assume leadership where we are, in our own way. Darene Follet and Shannon Orr have been working on Fundraising. They organized a monthly dinner meeting raffle and are planning a Dessert Auction event for 2011 to provide scholarships to students.

Note: In October there were 42 tickets sold for the jam & scones gift basket and the winner was Bev Bergsma. The proceeds will help fund a Dessert Auction in 2011 which will be used for Student Scholarships. Darene mentioned at the last meeting, that if we raise \$2,000, there may be a matching state grant available. I look forward to hearing more about this from her.

There is opportunity to lead here: to do good, to learn, serve and have fun at the same time!

Looking back on my time serving the chapter in a variety of positions, I appreciate how ASWA helped to develop the leadership skills that have helped me in what many of us refer to as our "paying" jobs. Don't underestimate what you can learn while giving back to ASWA.

Marci Hanson, CPA

North Cascades Chapter #115, President

Announcements :

Welcome New Member Judy Wayt!

Thank you Khim Sim, Bev Bergsma, Paula Shoemaker, Deidre Kent and all who worked on the fantastic Student Night Oct 19, 2010

ASWA Controllers Seminar Friday, April 29th 2011

Mark you calendars for one full day of CPE at the Bellingham Golf and Country Club.

Our speakers will cover the following topics in eight 50 minute CPE hours:

- ✓ Employment Law
- ✓ International Accounting Standards
- ✓ Business Growth & Development
- ✓ Credit for Businesses
- ✓ Surviving an IRS Audit
- ✓ Cost Accounting
- ✓ Department of Revenue Multi State Nexus

Watch this space for more details

Rosie Rayborn and Andrea Neil co-chairs

The Scholarship Raffle prize for the November ASWA meeting will be a Fabulous Cookie Platter ... a PLATTER of Treats just in time for your Thanksgiving Celebrations.... raffle tickets will be sold for \$1 each. Please join our fund raising, it is for the opportunity to participation in the education of someone soon to join our profession. October's Inaugural Scholarship raffle resulted in \$42. Thanks to all who participated!!

Feature Member: Jennifer Bordi

Jenny Bordi's background is in full-charge bookkeeping with an industry focus in construction. She got her start in 2002 as the Office Manager at StoneArt Tile & Design, Inc. in Friday Harbor where she stayed until 2008. She has also been a full-charge bookkeeper with Passing Paws Press, Inc., her mom's venture, and in 2007, she began her own business, Bumblebee Bookkeeping Services. Jenny is a Certified QuickBooks ProAdvisor and she volunteered with VJTA preparing income tax returns for the public for the first time last year, which she says she "thoroughly enjoyed".

In 2008 Jenny attended Skagit Valley College "for the explicit purpose of transforming from a bookkeeper into a CPA". She graduated with an A.A. in Business from SVC in June and was honored with the President's Medal for completing her degree with a cumulative 4.0 GPA! Kudos, Jenny!! This fall she and her three year old son moved to Bellingham to begin her first quarter at Western. Jenny expects to be eligible to sit for the CPA exam in the first quarter of 2013.

Save the Date for next year's NW Regional Conference

May 12 - 13, 2011, Billings, Montana. 16 Hours of CPE, Two Tracks.

November Bulletin Deadline will be Tuesday Nov. 30

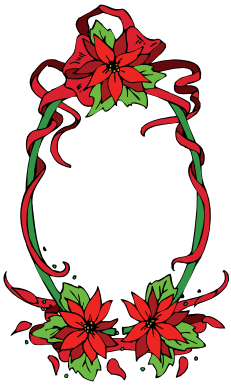
This bulletin is published monthly by the North Cascades Chapter of the American Society of Women Accountants. For more information contact Bulletin Editor, **Marci Hanson** at marcih@SPIE.org

To learn more about us, visit the ASWA North Cascades website at www.aswa115.org or our national website www.aswa.org

The mission of this Society shall be 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.

Upcoming Meetings Bellingham, ASWA North Cascades Chapter:

- **November 16, 2010 dinner meeting:
John Carter, Finance Director, City of Bellingham**



Holiday Social at Darice's house

December 14, 2010

please bring a favorite new or used book

-gift wrapped

Watch for details and mark the date!

- **January 18, 2011 dinner meeting:
Todd Burgers, Manager Larson Gross – Tax Update**
- **February 15, 2011 dinner meeting:
Dewey Desler, Deputy Administrator,
Whatcom Co. Assessor's Office**

Monthly **Board meetings** are held prior to the dinner meeting at 5:00 pm

ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.

Other ASWA Northwest Area events:

- **Wednesday, Nov. 10**
CPE (4:30) & Dinner meeting
at LaQuinta Inn
Mt. Rainier Chapter of IMA – www.mtrainierima.com
“Tax Update”- Melani Markovich, CPA, Patrick Rhodes CPAs
6:30 Dinner speaker– David Batker, Founder
“Earth Economics – Triple Bottom Line Anyone?”
Reservations: <http://mtrainierima.com/meetingregistration.aspx>
- **Tuesday, Nov. 16**
Dinner meeting at 5:00 pm
at Harborside Bistro
Hotel Bellewether, Bellingham
North Cascades ASWA Chapter #115 – www.aswa115.org
TBD - John Carter, Finance Director, City of Bellingham
Please E-Mail reservations to: reservations@awsa115.org
- **Tuesday, Nov. 16**
Dinner meeting at 5:45 pm
Coast Bellevue Hotel
625 – 116th Ave NE, Bellevue
Bellevue ASWA Chapter #159 – www.aswabellevue.org
Dessert Auction
Arrangements Chair at 425-455-9444 for reservations
- **Wednesday, Nov. 17**
In the Billings MT area?
Big Sky ASWA Chapter #100 meeting - www.billingsaswa.org
Noon@ Yellowstone Art Museum
- **Wednesday, Nov. 17**
Dinner meeting at 5:45 pm
at Rainier Golf & Country Club
11133 Des Moines Memorial Dr., Seattle
Seattle ASWA Chapter #9 – www.aswaseattle.com
IFRS, SEC developments, and general accounting & reporting practices
Dave Follett, CPA, Partner and Chair - Firm SEC Practice Group,
MossAdams LLP
Contact Arrangements Chair at 206-467-8645 for reservations
- **Thursday, Nov. 18**
Dinner meeting at 5:30m
The Lincoln Center
1316 N Lincoln St, Spokane
Spokane ASWA Chapter #4 – www.aswa4.org
“Business Plan Implementation”
Please E-Mail reservations to: reservations@awsa4.org
- **Tuesday, Dec. 5**
Dinner meeting at 6:00 pm
At Talbot, Korvola & Warwick LLP
Portland ASWA Chapter #66 – www.portlandaswa.org
Ornament Exchange and Personality Testing
Please E-Mail reservations to: info@aswaportland.org
- **Monday, December 13**
Dinner meeting at 5:45 pm
at LaQuinta Inn
Tacoma ASWA Board Meeting prior to the meeting at 5:15 pm
” Helping Yourself Manage Work Stress and Change” – Joseph Marth
Holiday Dessert Auction to benefit scholarships