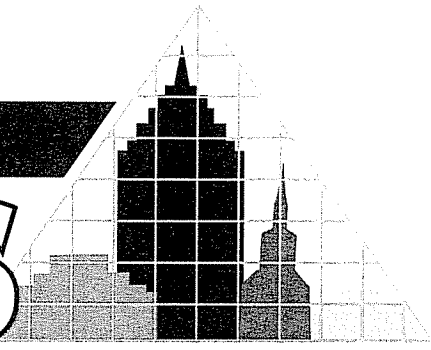


# Gateway TO SUCCESS

C L E V E L A N D



Volume 58

Issue 5

## Membership Meeting

Thursday - January 27, 2005

The Chester Commons Building  
1120 Chester Avenue (East 12th & Chester)  
2nd Floor Conference Room

Self-park in lot or on street (your choice & expense)

5:30PM social, 6:00PM dinner, 6:45PM speaker

\$10.00 members, guests & students

TOPIC: The Top 10 Mistakes Employers Make

*Presented by Robert S. Gilmore, Esq., partner in  
Kohrman Jackson & Krantz's Labor & Employment Law Group*

Please RSVP to Jenny Earley @ (216) 696-7700, ext 23 or  
jennyearley@yahoo.com

by 4:30PM Monday, January 24, 2005

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The annual Season's Greetings card raised approximately \$250 for the Scholarship Fund. Thank you! The newly formed ASWA Educational Foundation expects to announce the annual cash scholarships later this month. We are looking forward to it! If interested, please ensure that Kathy Novak, our chapter scholarship chair, has you on her mailing list.

We plan on discussing at this month's membership meeting listing our chapter scholarship at Scholarships.com. This site includes a free college-scholarship search and financial aid information, and offers its services free of charge to both providers and students.

We realize how valuable scholarships and education are. According to the recent *The Plain Dealer* article (December 8, 2004, page C1), the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that with \$23.64 hourly earnings, white-collar workers in Greater Cleveland collect a larger average paycheck than their peers, including blue-collar workers, in other Ohio metropolitan areas.

In a more recent *The Plain Dealer* article (December 21, 2004), according to the National Low Income Housing Coalition, wage increases have not kept up with increases in rent and utilities. The typical American worker must earn at least \$15.37 an hour to pay rent and utilities, assuming a maximum 30% of the income is spent on housing. This is nearly three times the federal minimum wage of \$5.15 per hour. In Ohio, which ranked in the middle (23<sup>rd</sup>) of America's 52 states and territories, \$12.08 hourly wages is needed to afford rent and utilities for a typical two-bedroom apartment.

The book "Nickel and Dimed" by Barbara Ehrenreich illustrates her attempt at getting by in America as a full-time, low-wage earner for one summer, several years ago. I certainly learned several things from this book. One of the things is that I will not hire a cleaning person for my house, and second, I will respectfully tip at restaurants. No job is truly unskilled or easy.

Similarly, "The Two-Income Trap" by the mother-daughter team-- bankruptcy expert and Professor of Law Elizabeth Warren & business consultant Amelia Warren Tyagi, is a must-read book. Their excellent research shows that today's middle class is suffering from an unprecedented and unexpected financial meltdown. The commitment, of the couple's or single parent's incomes, to the household budget has made families more vulnerable to financial disaster than ever before. Women are particularly susceptible to this phenomenon. The culprit is not over-consumption. Warren and Tyagi offer a set of revolutionary proposals that will change the education systems and protect the future for our children and ourselves. We must educate everyone to the facts and work together to solve the issues. This must be accomplished now rather than later, to ensure needed changes.

Ruth Nowicky says hello and Happy Holidays! She is slowly recovering from recent spinal surgery that relieved a pinched nerve.

I hope to see you later at this month's events. Have a Happy New Year!

Sunny

## The Day After Christmas

'Twas the day after Christmas, and all through the house,  
Every creature was hurting -- even the mouse.

The toys were all broken, their batteries dead;  
Santa passed out, with some ice on his head.

Wrapping and ribbons just covered the floor,  
While upstairs the family continued to snore.

And I in my T-shirt, new Reeboks and jeans,  
Went into the kitchen and started to clean.

When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,  
I sprang from the sink to see what was the matter.

Away to the window I flew like a flash,  
Tore open the curtains, and threw up the sash.

When what to my wondering eyes should appear,  
But a little white truck, with an oversized mirror.

The driver was smiling, so lively and grand;  
The patch on his jacket said "U.S. POSTMAN."

With a handful of bills, he grinned like a fox  
Then quickly he stuffed them into our mailbox.

Bill after bill, after bill, they still came.  
Whistling and shouting he called them by name:

"Now Dillard's, now Broadway's, now Penny's and Sears  
Here's Levitz's and Target's and Mervyn's -- all here!!

To the tip or your limit, every store, every mall,  
Now chargeaway-chargeaway-chargeaway all!"

He whooped and he whistled as he finished his work.  
He filled up the box, and then turned with a jerk.

He sprang to his truck and he drove down the road,  
Driving much faster with just half a load.

Then I heard him exclaim with great holiday cheer,  
"ENJOY WHAT YOU GOT... YOU'LL BE PAYING ALL YEAR!"

[ Author Unknown -- from Diane Austin, via Tim Davis ]

**ENTERPRISE RISK SERVICES - Internal Audit and IT Audit Professionals**

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Our Enterprise Risk Services (ERS) practice is a global leader in helping clients manage risk and uncertainty, from the boardroom to the network. We provide a broad array of services that allow clients around the world to better measure, manage and control risk to enhance the reliability of systems and processes throughout the enterprise. With core competencies encompassing capital markets, control assurance, internal audit, regulatory consulting, and security services, our ERS professionals offer a wealth of experience across a wide spectrum of industries.

We are looking for individuals that possess a Bachelors Degree with public accounting, IT audit, internal audit or risk consulting experience as well as a strong orientation toward internal control, risk assessment, IT or operational auditing experience. A CPA, CIA, CISA, as well as experience with Sarbanes-Oxley are ideal.

We are currently are looking for security professionals within most major cities in the US. Please visit website as indicated below

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Scroll down the posting and click on the "submit" button

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EDUCATIONAL & EMPOWERMENT BOOKS FOR SALE:

I recently purchased a number of hardcover copies of three favorite "educational and empowerment" books, which I have read in the last several months, at 70% to 90% discounts, off their list (i.e., cover) prices. I intend to sell them at or near their list prices in the next several months, with the net profits going into our treasury. The money could be used where ever it is needed the most. I would prefer that we utilize the money to benefit the scholarship fund.

The three books are:

- 1) "Nickel and Dime: On (Not) Getting By in America" by Barbara Ehrenreich; Hardcover edition for \$23.00;
- 2) "Closing the Leadership Gap: Why Women Can and Must Help Run the World" by Marie C. Wilson; Hardcover edition for \$24.95; and
- 3) "The Two-Income Trap: Why Middle-Class Mothers and Fathers Are Going Broke" by Elizabeth Warren and Amelia Warren Tyagi; Hardcover edition for \$26.00.

The first and third books are/were national bestsellers. All three books were widely acclaimed.

Elizabeth Warren and Amelia Warren Tyagi are a mother and daughter team, with the mother is a professor of law and the daughter has a MBA (off the top of my head). This book is the result of thorough scientific research, and is excellent for persons considering becoming homeowners.

Marie C. Wilson has many credentials, among them the President and Founder of the White House Project, and Former President, Ms. Foundation for Women. The White House Project is an organization dedicated to advancing women's leadership across sectors, including the U.S. presidency. Marie co-created, through the Ms. Foundation for Women, Take Our Daughters to Work. Marie also worked with Mattel to create a President Barbie edition, starting with the 2000 election. There is also a 2004 edition of the President Barbie doll. As with "The Two-Income Trap," this book includes both historical data and current research. They are not difficult to read.

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Cleveland IMA/NACM Joint Meeting

The Cleveland IMA is holding a joint meeting with NACM (National Association of Credit Managers) on Tuesday, January 25, 2005 at the Holiday Inn, Rockside Road, Independence. Cocktails from 5:30-6:30 P.M. Dinner at 6:30 P.M. with speaker to follow. Topic is the financial forecast for our region & the nation by Arun Raha, an economist from Eaton Corporation. Cost is \$26.00 per person, and RSVP by 9:00 A.M. on Friday, January 21, 2005 to Honey Wess at (216) 834-0700, ext. 224 or honey\_wess@yahoo.com.

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:**

January 14, 2005	ASWA Cleveland, IMA & OSCP A Fun Night <i>Menopause The Musical</i> 14th Street Theatre Friday 8:00 pm Show
January 25, 2005	IMA Cleveland Joint Meeting with/NACM "Economic Forecast for 2005" Holiday Inn/Rockside/Independence R.S.V.P. deadline is 1/21/2005
January 27, 2005	ASWA Cleveland Membership Meeting "Top 10 Mistake Employers Make" Chester Commons Building - 2nd floor conference room
September 28-30, 2005	ASWA/AWSCP A Joint National Conference Philadelphia, PA

**American Society of Women Accountants**

Denise T. Brock  
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Wickliffe, OH 44092-2011

**RETURN REQUESTED**