



Volume 58

Issue 7

## Scholarship Committee Meeting

Tuesday - March 8, 2005

Winking Lizard Tavern  
6901 Rockside Road  
Independence

6:00PM dinner

(choose from menu)

Review submitted scholarship applications for selection of National submission and chapter award.

**President**

Sonia "Sunny" Shellito, CPA  
(W) (216) 898 - 0678 (fax)  
(H) (216) 276 - 4120 (voice msg)  
email: SShellito@msn.com

**Secretary**

Hilary Hilow  
(H) (216) 661 - 6162  
email: clare\_h0@yahoo.com

**Treasurer**

Catherine A, Feola, CPA  
(W) (440) 842 - 8868  
email: caf916@sbcglobal.net

**Scholarship**

Kathy Novak  
(W) (216) 514 - 1818 ext. 100  
(H) (216) 587 - 4145  
email: kavak@apk.net

**Bulletin Editor**

Denise T. Brock  
(W) (216) 622 - 8310  
(H) (440) 944 - 7256  
email: dbrock@calfee.com

**Membership**

Jennifer Earley  
(W) (216) 696 - 7700 ext. 23  
(H) (440) 668 - 0456  
email: jennyearley@yahoo.com

Chapter web site: [www.aswacleveland.org](http://www.aswacleveland.org)

National web site: [www.aswa.org](http://www.aswa.org)

P R E S I D E N T ' S   M E S S A G E

In **insurance** news, American women today embrace more career and lifestyle choices than their mothers ever imagined. But when it comes to protecting loved ones through life insurance, many are still stuck with the mentality of the 1950s and 1960s. Society and economics have changed dramatically since our parents' era. Recent studies show most women are underinsured at a far more dramatic rate than men. The deficiencies go across the board to include stay-at-home moms, working women and single mothers. The average death benefit for men is \$143,100, compared to \$76,000 for women, according to the most recent statistics by the Life Insurance Marketing Research Association (LIMRA).

Many women underestimate the value of the services they perform in the home. Life insurance for the working mom is sometimes not considered when the husband is the primary wage earner. The need for insurance is clearer when the mother is single or divorced.

Whatever the situation is, the family would be greatly affected if the mother's contributions were lost. Women can NOT afford to be without life insurance. Life insurance is as essential to the family's financial well-being as health and disability insurance.

In **banking** news, legislation was introduced mid-March in Congress that, if passed, would give consumers quicker access to their monies. It's about time!

The current law allows financial institutions to hold deposits to a maximum of eleven (11) days. Longer holds can save a bank on interest paid and mean more in overdraft fees (just ask my husband!). Bank hold policies have existed for years. However, the practice became more controversial since October, when the federal law "Check 21" took effect. Check 21 allows banks to make digital copies of checks and clear them electronically, on the same day, when the checks are presented for payment.

In **local** news, Cleveland State University's Beta Alpha Psi (BAP) chapter is starting its annual Pledge program after March 1. ASWA Cleveland and IMA Cleveland Chapters will jointly present to BAP on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Also, the Cleveland Chapter's Scholarship Committee will be meeting for dinner in Independence on March 8<sup>th</sup> to review the scholarship applications and determine the scholarship winners. This is one of my favorite events. Please advise if you'd like to join us!

\*\*\*\*\*

Proposed Slate of Officers for 2005 – 2006

(Please advise if you are interested in any of the positions or capacities – we'll be glad to accommodate)

President: Sunny Shellito  
Treasurer: Catherine Feola  
Secretary: Hilary Hilow  
Membership: Jenny Earley  
Bulletin Editor: OPEN  
Scholarship: Kathy Novak  
Program: OPEN  
CPE Reporting: OPEN  
Web Site: Sunny Shellito  
Special Events: Ilona Daw-Krizman

## Trees and Peace

What do Trees have to do with Peace? An African woman, Dr. Wangari Maathai, is this year's Nobel Peace Prize Laureate. Her story:

Thirty years ago, in the country of Kenya, 90% of the forest had been chopped down. Without trees to hold the topsoil in place, the land became like a desert. When the women and girls would go in search of firewood in order to prepare the meals, they would have to spend hours and hours looking for what few branches remained.

A woman named Wangari watched all of this happening. She decided that there must be a way to take better care of the land and take better care of the women and girls. So she planted a tree. And then she planted another. She wanted to plant thousands of trees, but she realized that it would take a very long time if she was the only one doing it. So she taught the women who were looking for firewood to plant trees, and they were paid a small amount for each sapling they grew.

Soon she organized women all over the country to plant trees, and a movement took hold. It was called the Green Belt Movement, and with each passing year, more and more trees covered the land.

But something else was happening as the women planted those trees. Something else besides those trees was taking root. The women began to have confidence in themselves. They began to see that they could make a difference. They began to see that they were capable of many things, and that they were equal to the men.

They began to recognize that they were deserving of being treated with respect and dignity. Changes like these were threatening to some. The president of the country didn't like any of this. So police were sent to intimidate and beat Wangari for planting trees, and for planting ideas of equality and democracy in people's heads, especially in women's. She was accused of "subversion" and arrested many times. Once, while Wangari was trying to plant trees, she was clubbed by guards hired by developers who wanted the lands cleared. She was hospitalized with head injuries. But she survived, and it only made her realize that she was on the right path.

For almost thirty years, she was threatened physically, and she was often made fun of in the press. But she didn't flinch. She only had to look in the eyes of her three children, and in the eyes of the thousands of women and girls who were blossoming right along with the trees, and she found the strength to continue.

And that is how it came to be that 30 million trees have been planted in Africa, one tree at a time. The landscapes--both the external one of the land and the internal one of the people--have been transformed.

In 2002, the people of Kenya held a democratic election, and the president who opposed Wangari and her Green Belt Movement is no longer in office. And Wangari is now Kenya's Assistant Minister for the Environment.

She is 65 years old, and this year she planted one more tree in celebration and thanksgiving for being given a very great honor: Wangari Maathai has been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. She is the first African woman to receive this award. After she was notified, she gave a speech entitled, "What Do Trees Have To Do With Peace?" She pointed out how most wars are fought over limited natural resources, such as oil, land, coal or diamonds. She called for an end to corporate greed, and for leaders to build more just societies. She added: Our recent experience in Kenya gives hope to all who have been struggling for a better future. It shows it is possible to bring about positive change, and still do it peacefully. All it takes is courage and perseverance, and a belief that positive change is possible. That is why the slogan for our campaign was 'It is Possible!'

On behalf of all African women, I want to express my profound appreciation for this honour, which will serve to encourage women in Kenya, in Africa, and around the world to raise their voices and not to be deterred. When we plant trees, we plant the seeds of peace and seeds of hope. We also secure the future for our children. I call on those around the world to celebrate by planting a tree wherever you are.

As she received the Nobel Peace Prize this week in Oslo, she invited us all to get involved: Today we are faced with a challenge that calls for a shift in our thinking, so that humanity stops threatening its life-support system. We are called to assist the Earth to heal her wounds and in the process heal our own.

December 10, 2004 \* This year's Nobel Peace Prize winner, Wangari Maathai of Kenya, is both the first environmentalist and the first African woman to win the prize, which she receives today in Oslo, Norway - the twelfth woman to be so honored since the first award was first made in 1901, that is in 103 years.

A biologist by training, Ms Maathai was the first woman in eastern Africa to receive a doctorate and become a professor.

Submitted by: Antonnette V. Graham, Ph.D.  
Professor of Family Medicine, General Medical Science (Adolescent Health),  
Psychiatry and Epidemiology/Biostatistics  
School of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University  
Director, Behavioral Science Program, Family Practice Residency Program  
University Hospitals of Cleveland  
Address: 10900 Euclid Ave. Cleveland OH. 44106-4950  
Phone: 216-844-8512 or 216 844-3791  
Fax: 216-844-3799  
Email: avg@po.cwru.edu

---

### POSITION AVAILABLE

#### ***Director of Finance - Columbus, Ohio***

Fortune 500, publicly traded, very profitable manufacturing company has an immediate need for a Director of Finance. This position will report directly to the VP of Finance and Administration, and initially will have relatively few direct reports. A successful candidate will assume more responsibility through time, and ultimately will have virtually all accounting functions directly reporting to this position. Long term will be considered for VP of Finance and Administration position. Initially, this position will involve working directly with the VP of Finance and Administration in the following key areas: Acquisitions; Monthly Financial Review and Analysis; Accounting Issues; Capital Expenditure Projects; Internal Control & SOX Compliance and Special Projects. Bachelor's Degree in Accounting or Finance with a CPA and 5 years of public accounting experience. A strong understanding of both GAAP & SEC pronouncements. Strong financial/analytical skills. Acquisition experience and SOX compliance experience. Base up to \$100K + bonus and relocation package.

For more information or questions please contact:

Joanne Davis  
Guthoff & Associates  
614-794-9950  
pguthoff@cs.com  
www.guthoffassociates.com

CLEVELAND CHAPTER - INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANTS (IMA)

Monthly membership meeting: Wednesday, March 16, 2005  
Holiday Inn, Rockside, Independence      Cocktails: 6:00 PM,    Dinner: 6:30 PM      Cost: \$25  
Presented by Ralph Bongiovonne, Satira Data Network  
Technical Session: "Finding What's Missing"  
Controlling identity theft, locating missing persons and private investigation  
Please RSVP to Honey Wess @ (216) 834-0700 or honey\_wess@yahoo.com

---

AKRON-CANTON CHAPTER - ASWA

Monthly membership dinner meeting - Tuesday, April 19, 2005  
Martin Center  
Speaker:      Kurt Minson  
Topic: Professional dress/personal marketing  
Please RSVP to Kathy Porter at porterk@cssbh.org      Cost: \$30 members/ \$35 guests

---

***Sent on behalf of Rachel Query (Past National President)***

Join us at the 2005 Southwest Regional ASWA Conference on April 30, 2005 at Bally's Las Vegas in Las Vegas, Nevada! Early registration for members is \$100. After March 15th the registration fee will be \$125. The registration form is attached.

Eight hours of CPE are available and the topics include:

Keynote: "Transforming Power of Achievement"  
101 Things about QuickBooks\* That Your Accountant Never Told You  
The Accountant as Expert Witness: What the Attorney Expects  
The Audit Function at a Casino  
Investments  
Privacy of Information: How HIPPA Has Affected Us

Call Bally's Las Vegas at 800-634-3434 to make your hotel reservation. Please identify yourself as an ASWA member to get the conference room rate of \$155. This offer expires March 30th.

We are breaking a few traditions with this conference. There is no official Fun Night activity for the conference. Many performances and shows are within walking distance of Bally's which is located in the middle of the famous Las Vegas strip. If you need help finding ticket information, please contact Rachel Query, conference chairman. Our "fun" chairman will have a list of the websites to visit. In addition to the headliners, you might visit the piano bar at New York New York, the coffee and pastry shop overlooking the pool at the Bellagio, the Margarita Bar at the Palms and the Sunday brunch at the Paris -- the best on the strip.

Another tradition we are breaking is the expansion of the area. We want all the chapters from the Southwest Region #5 to come. In fact, since we are going to such a fun place we invite all ASWA members. Change is good, and after a long tax season you need a break. Why not take that break in a world famous fun place!

So come to Las Vegas, see old friends, meet new ones, earn 8 hours of CPE, and experience the excitement that is unique to this city.

If you have any difficulty opening the attached registration form, please contact [rquery@aguilarlaw.com](mailto:rquery@aguilarlaw.com).

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:**

March 8, 2005	ASWA - Cleveland - Scholarship Committee Meeting Winking Lizard Tavern 6901 Rockside Road Independence
March 16, 2005	Cleveland IMA Membership Meeting Holiday Inn/Rockside/Independence R.S.V.P. deadline is 3/11/2005
April 19, 2005	ASWA - Akron/Canton Membership Meeting Martin Center
April 20, 2005	ASWA - Cleveland - Membership Meeting Michelle Morrow - Skylight Financial Group Accountants Training to Become Financial Planners Place : TBA
September 28-30, 2005	ASWA/AWSCPA Joint National Conference Philadelphia, PA

**American Society of Women Accountants**

Denise T. Brock  
2184 Green Ridge Drive  
Wickliffe, OH 44092-2011

**RETURN REQUESTED**