



Gateway to Success

Cleveland Chapter #13

Chartered 1945

VOLUME 60, ISSUE 3

DECEMBER 2006

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Accounting for Kids Day a Success
- Holiday Card Donations being accepted
- Becker Review Course Scholarships being accepted

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Members Participate in OSCPA Accounting for Kids Day

On Wednesday November 15, 2006 three members, Maria Betel, Melissa Marvin and Donna Sakony participated in the Ohio Society of CPAs annual statewide Accounting for Kids Day. Local professionals volunteer for the event in which a stock market game is played with 5th and 6th graders. This group of volunteers held the program at Greenview Elementary School in South Euclid. Even after a small power outage the group managed to have a great experience!



Member Donna Sakony plays the stock market during Accounting for Kids Day.



Ohio Holiday Lights



The state of Ohio has a large amount of activities during the holiday times. Some lighting displays that may be worthwhile to check out include:

- Lights before Christmas at the Toledo Zoo
- Wildlights at the Columbus

Zoo

- PNC Festival of Lights at the Cincinnati Zoo
- Capital Holiday Lights at the Ohio Statehouse
- Legendary Lights at Clifton Mill in Clifton, OH

- Holiday Fest at the Beach in Mason, OH
- Christmas Candlelighting at Roscoe Village in Coschocton, OH

Source: Cleveland Plain Dealer, Holiday Guide

ASWA Scholarship Notes



Happy Holidays! Please help build up our scholarship fund by donating to the Holiday Card fund. We will add your name on the card when you make a donation of any amount. Please let the Scholarship Chair as listed below know that you are donating by Monday December 11, 2006 in order to get your name on the card. Any amount is appreci-

ated! Pledge checks may be mailed to Catherine Feola, 6684 Fernhurst Ave, Parma Heights, OH 44130.

Applications for the ASWA National Scholarships will be available soon. If you or anyone you know is interested in more information contact the Scholarship Chair as listed below.

Melissa Marvin, Scholarship Chair
mmarvin@cp-advisors.com
 216-831-7171



Be sure to make a donation for the Holiday Card!

Web Retailers Having a Good Holiday Season

Online retailers had a better-than-expected start to the holiday season, according to one Internet research firm that tracks online sales.

ComScore Networks Inc. reported a few weeks ago that online sales rose 26 percent to \$608 million on the Monday after Thanksgiving from the same day a year ago. "Cyber Monday" marks the first major spike in spending during the holiday season as people return to work and click onto their computers. ComScore had expected a 24 percent increase in sales.

The strong sales performance was the result of heavy marketing and discounting by retailers who are trying to outdo each other. Walmart.com began on Monday a five-day special on such online-only items as certain flat-screen TVs and cashmere scarves. Barnesandnoble.com is wooing shoppers with a free tote bag if they spend \$75 or more. Circuitcity.com offered special coupons.

To fuel the hype surrounding Cyber Monday, the National Retail Federation launched a new site a few weeks ago called CyberMonday.com,

which pulled together online discounts for both Cyber Monday and through the holiday season from nearly 400 retailers. ComScore said that site attracted 300,000 U.S. visitors on Monday.

ComScore, which excludes auctions, travel and large corporate purchases in its results, forecast 24 percent growth in online spending to \$24.3 billion for the November and December period from a year ago.

Source: *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, 11/29/06

Becker CPA Review Scholarship



This year, the Cleveland Chapter of ASWA is awarding the Becker CPA Review scholarship. The recipient receives a full Becker CPA review course with materials. To be

eligible, individuals must be a member of the ASWA Cleveland Chapter. The application needs to be postmarked to Jenny Earley by January 5, 2007. The application is included on the next page and can also be obtained electronically from Jenny Earley.

MEMBERS: Make sure to apply for the Becker CPA Review scholarship if you are planning on taking the CPA exam in the near future!



**REMINDER:
THERE IS NO BUSINESS
MEETING IN
DECEMBER. ENJOY
THE HOLIDAYS!**

**AMERICAN SOCIETY OF WOMEN ACCOUNTANTS
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FOR BECKER REVIEW COURSE**

Applications must be postmarked no later than January 5, 2007

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone: Home _____ Work _____

Email Address: _____

Employment Information:

Employment status: ___Full-time ___Part-time # Hours worked/week _____

Employer _____

Position _____

Does your employer reimburse for a CPA review course? ___Yes ___No

Is a CPA certificate required for your position? ___Yes ___No

Education Information:

If you are currently a student: ___Full-time ___Part-time # Hours Registered _____

Complete the following information, even if not currently a student:

Name of school _____

Degree _____ Completion/expected completion date _____

Cumulative GPA _____ Accounting GPA _____

Other degrees held/majors _____

Other:

Are you a member of ASWA? ___Yes--Type of membership _____ ___No

If no, would you like information to become a member? ___

When do you plan to take the CPA examination? _____

Have you ever taken the CPA examination before? ___Yes ___No

If yes, when and which parts did you pass? _____

Have you previously taken a review course? ___Yes ___No

If yes, specify course name _____

Any additional information you would like to add (important accomplishments, why you want to be a CPA, why you deserve the scholarship, etc...)

(Attach additional sheets if necessary)

Send application no later than January 5, 2007 to:

Jennifer Earley

c/o Capstone Management

1120 Chester Ave Suite 420,

Cleveland, OH 44114

jennyearley@yahoo.com



President's Message

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season! In December many of us will spend time visiting friends and family, creating new memories and sharing old ones. The month will go by fast as we take time to reflect on the past year and prepare to meet the new year. Please take a moment to participate in the Season's Greeting Card as we

wish our fellow members a Happy Holiday. Also, I'd like to remind our members we will be awarding the Becker Review Course Scholarship award in January, so get your applications in soon. As always, be safe in your travels and have a Happy Holiday!



**PRESIDENT'S
REMINDER:
REMEMBER TO
PARTICIPATE IN
THE SEASON'S
GREETING CARD!**

A Different Christmas Poem

The embers glowed softly, and in their dim light,
I gazed round the room and I cherished the sight.
My wife was asleep, her head on my chest,
My daughter beside me, angelic in rest.
Outside the snow fell, a blanket of white,
Transforming the yard to a winter delight.
The sparkling lights in the tree I believe,
Completed the magic that was Christmas Eve.
My eyelids were heavy, my breathing was deep,
Secure and surrounded by love I would sleep.
In perfect contentment, or so it would seem,
So I slumbered, perhaps I started to dream.
The sound wasn't loud, and it wasn't too near,
But I opened my eyes when it tickled my ear.
Perhaps just a cough, I didn't quite know,
Then the sure sound of footsteps outside in the snow.
My soul gave a tremble, I struggled to hear,
And I crept to the door just to see who was near.
Standing out in the cold and the dark of the night,
A lone figure stood, his face weary and tight.
A soldier, I puzzled, some twenty years old,
Perhaps a Marine, huddled here in the cold.
Alone in the dark, he looked up and smiled,
Standing watch over me, and my wife and my child.
"What are you doing?" I asked without fear,
"Come in this moment, it's freezing out here!
Put down your pack, brush the snow from your sleeve,
You should be at home on a cold Christmas Eve!"
For barely a moment I saw his eyes shift,
Away from the cold and the snow blown in drifts..
To the window that danced with a warm fire's light
Then he sighed and he said "Its really all right,
I'm out here by choice. I'm here every night."
"It's my duty to stand at the front of the line,
That separates you from the darkest of times.
No one had to ask or beg or implore me,
I'm proud to stand here like my fathers before me.

My Gramps died at 'Pearl on a day in December,"
Then he sighed, "That's a Christmas 'Gram always remem-
bers."
My dad stood his watch in the jungles of 'Nam',
And now it is my turn and so, here I am.
I've not seen my own son in more than a while,
But my wife sends me pictures, he's sure got her smile.
Then he bent and he carefully pulled from his bag,
The red, white, and blue... an American flag.
I can live through the cold and the being alone,
Away from my family, my house and my home.
I can stand at my post through the rain and the sleet,
I can sleep in a foxhole with little to eat.
I can carry the weight of killing another,
Or lay down my life with my sister and brother..
Who stand at the front against any and all,
To ensure for all time that this flag will not fall."
"So go back inside," he said, "harbor no fright,
Your family is waiting and I'll be all right."
"But isn't there something I can do, at the least,
"Give you money," I asked, "or prepare you a feast?
It seems all too little for all that you've done,
For being away from your wife and your son."
Then his eye welled a tear that held no regret,
"Just tell us you love us, and never forget.
To fight for our rights back at home while we're gone,
To stand your own watch, no matter how long.
For when we come home, either standing or dead,
To know you remember we fought and we bled.
Is payment enough, and with that we will trust,
That we mattered to you as you mattered to us."

Submitted by ASWA Member Nancy Kaska



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 Cleveland, Ohio 44115
 E-mail: carrie.benedict@gt.com

The mission of ASWA is 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. Members include partners in national, regional and local CPA firms, financial officers, controllers, academicians, financial analysts and data processing consultants, recent college graduates and women returning to the work force.

Visit www.aswa.org for more information.

Happy Holidays from
 ASWA!!



December 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					IMA Wine Tasting 1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	Hanukkah Begins 15	16
17	18	19	20	21	Winter Begins 22	23
Christmas Eve 24	Christmas 25	Kwanzaa Begins 26	27	28	29	30
New Year's Eve 31						