



American Society of Women Accountants

Footnotes

Birmingham Chapter #47

August 2008

Jessica Pope with Alabama Department of Revenue to update us on Sales & Use Tax Information

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Please join us for our August monthly luncheon on Wednesday, August 27, 2008 at The Harbert Center on 4th Avenue North between 20th and 21st Street at 11:30 A.M.

Our speaker will be Jessica Pope with the Alabama Department of Revenue Sales and Use Tax Division.

Ms. Pope is a sales tax examiner for the Alabama Department of Revenue, Sales and Use Tax Division. She has a B.S. in Accounting, worked in the Sales, Use & Business Tax Dept. of the Jefferson/Shelby County Taxpayer Center

for 5 years. She also has prior experience in Computer Implementation and Medical Office Management.

Bring a friend and enjoy a delicious lunch and get some quality networking time with your fellow ASWA members.

Our chapter appreciates the involvement of its members and strives to contribute to the future development of the accounting profession.

The cost of lunch is \$20 for members and guests, \$10 for students. If you would like to join us for

lunch, email Jennifer Weigant at the address in the purple box to let her know you plan to attend.

Email Jennifer Weigant at Jennifer.Weigant@compassbank.com

We look forward to seeing everyone on August 27!

"Do not go where the path may lead; go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."
—Ralph Waldo Emerson

Special Points of

Interest:

- September PD classes are every Friday AM & PM
- National Conference Oct, 28-30 in Dallas, Texas
- Football Season is on the horizon. Root for your favorite team!

FOOTNOTES IS BACK!

Footnotes is a very valuable asset for our chapter. It gives the members a chance to read about our speakers beforehand, provides some very interesting articles. We also get to share our personal and professional achievements, exciting news

of babies, weddings, promotions, birthdays, and news that our children have graduated from college or have received a scholarship.

This bulletin belongs to the members and loves to get articles, quotes, recipes, and other interesting tidbits

from you.

I look forward to getting your feedback and sharing all of ASWA's good news with you .

Thanks!
Susie Wilkerson

President's Message

WELCOME BACK FOOTNOTES!

I would like to thank Susie Wilkerson for making the commitment to bring back the monthly bulletin. The bulletin will help us to communicate upcoming Chapter events in a timely manner and hopefully provide useful information as it relates to the accounting profession. I encourage everyone to think of ideas for the newsletter and submit articles so that Susie's job will be easier.

The first meeting of the 2008-2009 board members occurred July 17th. Everyone became familiar with the bylaws and procedures of the Chapter. We are all eager to serve the Chapter to the best of our abilities. Included in the bulletin this month is a list of chapter committees and its chairperson. I ask everyone to look at the list and consider volunteering for the committee that most interests them. The participation of each member is vital to the Chapter's success.

If you have not attended a regular meeting in awhile, I would like to encourage you to do so. This will enable you to

interact with your peers while enjoying a nice meal and an informative program. The speaker this month is Jessica Pope, a sales tax examiner with the Alabama Department of Revenue. In September, our speaker will be Suzanne Durham, CEO of the YWCA of Central Alabama. We will be taking donations for the YWCA and presenting the items to Suzanne at the September meeting. A list of items needed by the YMCA has been included in this bulletin.

As October rapidly approaches, many of us are beginning to focus on our CPE reporting for the year. The UAB/IMA/ASWA seminars are scheduled for each Friday in September. The program was emailed to all members earlier this month and additional information is provided in this bulletin. Your attendance benefits the Chapter financially because the Chapter receives proceeds according to the number of members that attend the CPE. This is a major source of funds for the Chapter which allows us to continue the goal of providing



scholarships to deserving accounting students. Also, the CPE programs are excellent and reasonably priced.

I am very excited to serve as your President this year and look forward to getting to know each of you better. Please feel free to call me or any of the board members with any suggestions for ways to improve our chapter.

Allison

ASWA Birmingham Chapter is always looking for ways to improve our membership involvement. If you have any suggestions or want to get more involved, contact Allison Webster at Allison.Webster@compassbank.com

"Humor involves a sense of proportion and a power of seeing yourself from the outside" ~ C. S. Lewis

Birmingham Chapter #47 2008-2009 Officers & Committee Chairs

Officers:

President-Allison Webster

Vice President-Jennifer Rowe

Secretary-Tosha Yunker

Treasurer-Joy Barron

Director-Latrell Sherrod

Director-Sharon Robertson

Director-Rachael Harvey

Ex-Officio-Shirley Holt

Job Bank-Rachael Harvey

Historian/Webmaster-Shirley Holt

Long Range Planning-Joy Barron

Member Relations-Pat Anderson

Membership-LyKeithia Pierce & Sharon Robertson

Nominating-Shirley Holt

Programs-Allison Webster

Public Relations-Nancy Clevenger

Publicity-Latrell Sherrod

Reservations-Jennifer Weigant

Scholarship-Jennifer Rowe

Student Activities-LyKeithia Pierce & Latrell Sherrod

Committee Chairs:

Bulletin-Susie Wilkerson

Bylaws/Standing Rules-Jennifer Rowe

Chapter Development-Rachael Harvey

Education/Legislation-Tosha Yunker

If you are interested in serving on a committee,
contact Allison Webster at
Allison.Webster@compassbank.com

Tidbits and Other Fun Stuff

Weekly September PD Classes:

9/05 a.m. Red Warning Flags When Auditing IT Systems*

9/05 p.m. How To Plan and Protect Your Investments

9/12 a.m. Investigative Accounting: Tools and Techniques*

9/12 p.m. Cyber Security

9/19 a.m. Thinking for Understanding: A 21st Century Requisite for Professionals

9/19 p.m. Employment Law Update

9/26 a.m. FASB Update*

9/26 p.m. Auditing Developments-What's Happened

All PD classes are held at the Double

Tree Hotel at 20th & University Blvd.

**These classes are qualified for Accounting and Auditing CPE credit.*

Daily parking for September PD attendees is \$5.00. Please tell the parking attendant you are attending the PD Sessions.

ASWA Dates of Interest:

9/24-Suzanne Durham, CEO, YWCA

10/22-TBA

<http://www.ywcabham.org/Opportunities/wishlist.asp>

10/28-10/30-ASWA National Convention in Dallas, Texas

Note for September:

We will be donating items to YWCA that are listed on their wish list. We would like each member to donate one or more items that are on the wish list. You can view the complete wish list at the following web site:



Mark your calendars!

"Enthusiasm is contagious. Be a carrier"

—Susan Rabin

We Asked “Y”: Survey of Gen Y Workers Sheds New Light

Ever since members of Generation Y began entering the workforce, employers have been struggling to get a better sense of what motivates and inspires this unique group. To gain insight into the Millennial mindset, Robert Half International and Yahoo! Hot-Jobs went straight to the source, commissioning a national survey of more than 1,000 workers ages 21 to 28. Based on those findings, here are tactics that can help you recruit and retain Gen Y employees:

Offer competitive compensation. Gen Y survey respondents said salary is their single most important job consideration. Moreover, 33 percent of those polled said financial security is their top career concern, followed by job stability (25 percent) and career satisfaction (23 percent). And when asked what factors would most influence them to leave one job for another, “higher pay” topped the list, beating out advancement opportunities, more interesting work, better work environment, shorter commute and more prestigious

job title.

To ensure that your compensation standards are above or at least on par with competitors in your region and industry, use resources such as the Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics and the annual *Salary Guides* from Robert Half International.

Keep your door open. Gen Y grew up with ongoing supervision and validation from authority figures. Many will likely look for similar guidance and frequent feedback from you. In fact, 35 percent of Millennial workers surveyed said they want to communicate with their bosses several times a day, while 25 percent want to touch base at least once a day. Given their communication needs, consider giving periodic “spot reviews” as tasks and projects are completed instead of waiting until annual-review time to offer assessments.

Pay attention to perks. In addition to healthcare

coverage and retirement plans, perquisites such as in-house training opportunities, paid time off to attend professional development events, flexible scheduling, recognition programs and mentoring initiatives all appeal to Gen Y because nearly 3/4 of the respondents said it’s likely they will return to school starting or expanding tuition-reimbursement programs.

Accountemps is the world’s first and largest temporary staffing service specializing in the placement of accounting, finance and bookkeeping professionals. The company has more than 360 offices worldwide, and offers online job search services at www.accountemps.com.

Tactics to recruit “Y” Generation:

- Offer competitive compensation.
- Keep your door open.
- Pay attention to perks.

Job Opportunity

Position: *Accountant*
Client: *Steel Products Processing Company - Birmingham, Alabama*
Search: Hinky Verchot Toll free: (866) 663-1301 ext: 32
Consultant: Fax: (205) 663-1306 Email: Solutionsgroup@aol.com

An established, profitable, and growing Steel Products Processing Company, headquartered in Birmingham, Alabama and with over 35 years of success, has a unique career opportunity for an Accounting professional. Our client needs an achievement oriented professional with career advancement potential and a desire to work collaboratively in a team environment to serve as Corporate Accountant - position is located in Birmingham, Alabama.

This role is a critical and strategic member of the Corporate Financial Management Team and reports to the Corporate Controller. The Corporate Accountant will meet the accounting needs for several operational Divisions. The selected candidate will join a financially secure and growing company using state-of-the-art production equipment and systems. This role is an opportunity to provide financial analysis and support to the Division Managers. The position is a strategic and key member of the Corporate Financial Management Team and will have a significant impact on the company's continued success.

Here you will find an environment that encourages, fosters, and expects teamwork and a culture based on mutual respect for every employee.

Job Specifications:

- An undergraduate degree in accounting is required. CPA/CMA certification, an advanced degree, and/or continuing education will be a plus.
- Candidate should have a minimum of five (5) years general accounting experience. Accounting experience in a manufacturing/processing environment is preferred but NOT required.
- Candidate will process financial data from the divisions and prepare accurate and timely month end financial reports for each division.
- Skills and abilities are needed to assist the Division Managers and other personnel to analyze, interpret, and evaluate financial data and reports.
- Candidate must possess the skills and ability to participate in monthly corporate financial meetings with the senior management team.
- Candidate must be computer literate and experienced utilizing accounting, word processing, spreadsheet, and database software. Candidate should be literate with MS Word, Access, and Excel. Experience in a MAPICS-AS400 environment will be a plus.

Summer is coming to an end and school has already started for most Alabama cities and counties, but the Labor Day Holiday Weekend is just around the corner. Hope each of you have a very safe and happy Labor Day! Enjoy a fun day with family and friends.

Job Opportunity

L. Kianoff Seeks Corporate Accountant / Controller

L. Kianoff & Associates, Inc., a growing technology services company, is seeking a degreed Accountant with a strong business background to join our team as **Corporate Accountant/Controller**.

The ideal candidate brings the ability and willingness to fulfill diverse responsibilities in the position. Our Corporate Accountant is integrally involved in analysis and financial reporting of all areas of the business and strategic planning. The successful candidate will be able to manage those areas of accounting touched by other team members and fine tune internal accounting processes as accounting impacts all areas of the company. You will be hands-on with Payroll/HR, billings, customer invoicing and collections, inventory, purchasing and payables.

Experience with a fully integrated business management system, such as MAS, Dynamics or comparable system is a must as you will be expected to use our MAS 200 system for accounting. A strong knowledge of MS Excel also required. The ideal candidate is a team player and self starter who can multi-task & work independently with minimal supervision.

L. Kianoff & Associates, Inc., established in 1986, is a Microsoft Gold Certified Partner and the largest provider of integrated business management systems in Alabama. Our client base crosses many different industries, with the common thread the interest in using technology to streamline processes. We offer a competitive salary and bonus, a strong benefits package and an encouraging work environment.

“The great pleasure in life lies in doing what people say you cannot do.”— Walter Bagehot

If you want to be part of this growing technology company, tell us why in your cover letter and send it along with your resume to: alan@kianoff.com

Requirements:

- BA/BS degree in Accounting. CPA Certificate a plus!
- Strong practical experience in a business environment.
- Experience on integrated business management or ERP system.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office, specifically Excel, Word and Outlook

Lisa Kianoff, CPA.CITP

President

L. Kianoff & Associates, Inc.

Strengthening Business Performance Since 1986

1128 22nd Street South

Birmingham, AL 35205

(205) 592-9990

(205) 592-9991 Fax

lisa@kianoff.com

www.kianoff.com

Want to be part of a growing technology company?

Check out the above information on the Corporate Accountant/Controller job opportunity available with Lisa Kianoff & Associates, Inc.

Member's Corner



Happy Birthday to all of our August ladies.

Best Wishes to Rachael Harvey who got married on August 16 in Gulf Shores to Chris Wood.



Congratulations to Dana Flaherty! Her two oldest children have graduated from college with degrees in nursing (Mandy) and pre-law (Brandon). Congratulations Kids!



Baby #2 for Suzanne Russell & husband Wes arrived on June 20, 2008. Adam Wesley Russell weighed in at 7 lbs. 6 oz. and was 20 1/2 inches long. Big brother William now has



Welcome Adam Wesley

someone to play with. Congratulations to the Russell family! Wendy Adams, Past President of the Birmingham Chapter, was recently promoted to Senior Manager at Barfield, Murphy, Shank and Smith, PC. Wendy joined the firm in 2004 and specializes in tax planning and compliance for business and individual clients.

Vicki Hatter-Mobley and Blair Ausbon received promotions when they transferred from Corporate Accounting to the Audit Department at Compass Bank.

Congratulations ladies!!!



"The thing always happens that you really believe in; and the belief in a thing makes it happen."

-Frank Lloyd Wright

"Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn."
~Benjamin Franklin, American Statesman, writer, scientist & printer

A. S. W. A.

Helping women in accounting and related fields achieve their potential.

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
www.birminghamaswa.org

ASWA Mission Statement:

To enable women in all accounting and related fields to achieve their personal, professional, and economic potential and to contribute to the future development the profession.

Attitude

"The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness, or skill. It will make or break a company...a church...a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past...we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude...I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it. And so it is with you...we are in charge of our Attitudes." —Charles Swindoll

Think Positive!

Be Happy!
