

The Spokeswoman American Society of Women Accountants

Ames Chapter No. 158

November, 2001



**November Meeting Notice
Wednesday, November 14, 2001
Chef's Inn
6400 West Lincolnway
Ames, IA**

Social/Meeting: 5:30 Program: 6:00 Dinner: 7:00

Dinner Reservations by noon Tuesday, November 13

**Theresa Samson
(515) 362-0615 (W)
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**Email: samson.theresa@principal.com
Tsamson@crosspaths.net**

**Speaker: Michael Lipsman
Iowa Department of Revenue and Finance
Topic: Iowa and Federal Tax Policy Issues**



President's Message

Have you heard the news? Kate Mulder is our new Area Director! Congratulations Kate!!

Kate is a great example of what ASWA can do for you and what you can do for ASWA. Kate thought hard about this choice and indeed turned it down the first time it came up. She didn't feel that she could make the commitment she would need to make to do the job right. This time seemed to work better for her and she went for it. Kate's energy and enthusiasm will be a great asset to our area. Kate will benefit as well. Think of all the new contacts and friends she will make. Lets all try to support her in any way we can, including helping pull the load for our chapter as she helps others.

October 30, 2001

Speaking of Kate, she and Karen did a great job of selling the pens at the annual meeting. She sold 88 and with what we sold to Des Moines, we need to think about reordering (or getting something else). I guess those deluxe gift boxes and Kate's marketing skills really paid off. We'll look forward to hearing what else transpired at the meetings on Wednesday.

Last month's meeting was fascinating. Great job Theresa on getting a timely speaker and then following through so that he actually showed up he surely had a lot of uses for that time. Hopefully you all met at least one member from the Des Moines Chapter with whom you found some common ground. I met a woman who teaches for Simpson at their Des Moines campus and came away appreciative for my job, as she teaches several different courses every semester.

Theresa has another great meeting in store for us this month. Our speaker is Michael Lipsman from the Iowa Dept. of Revenue and Finance. His topic is Iowa and Federal Tax Policy Issues. Should be interesting with tax time right around the corner.

One bit of sad news for you all. Sue Ravenscroft is not going to be renewing her membership. She is feeling over committed and most of us know how that can feel. Many thanks to Sue, particularly all her excellent work on the Program Committee. The good news is that she still wants to be reminded to donate to the scholarship fund each year.

Hope to see you at the meeting - let's all be there.

Job Opportunity

Financial Accounting Analyst

As a Financial Accounting Analyst, you will be responsible for the financial analysis and interpretation of information to enable the business units to accomplish their goals. You will work with global member companies performing financial analysis and research and identifying trends and variances on a timely basis for use by management and other operating areas. You will also assist in developing and maintaining sound accounting and administrative procedures and/or computer systems.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in accounting or equivalent experience required; four to six years of relevant experience preferred as well as CPA or other applicable certifications
- Must have strong problem solving, leadership, and analytical skills
- Excellent communication, interpersonal, customer service and organizational skills required
- Demonstrates the ability to embrace and understand the change process, and effectively guides others through change
- PC and/or system skills required
- Travel may be required

We offer a competitive total compensation package along with a comprehensive benefits program. Send your resume and cover letter with reference to job code AASWA9107 to:

Principal Financial Group
HR Employment - AASWA9107
Des Moines, IA 50392-0550
FAX: 515-283-5432 or 800-388-4740
E-mail: careers@principal.com
EEO/AA Employer www.principal.com

Reprinted from the Flint, MI ASWA Chapter Newsletter

IRS tables show audit statistics and other data - *IRS Publication 55B, 8/30/2001*

IRS has issued its 2000 Data Book (Pub 55B) which contains statistical data about IRS's audit activities in fiscal '99, i.e., for audits conducted from Oct. 1, '99 through Sept. 30, 2000 for returns filed in calendar year '99.

What are the chances of being examined? A total of 617,765 individual income tax returns were audited during fiscal '99 out of a total of 124,887,100 returns that were filed for calendar year '99. This works out to about .49% of the individual returns that were filed. This is a decrease of 482,508 from the total number of returns audited in fiscal '98 (1,100,273, or .90%). About 60.2% of the total audits of nonbusiness individual returns in '99 involved returns with total positive income of less than \$50,000, down from 70.9% in '98. About 2.43% of returns with a Schedule C showing gross receipts under \$25,000 were audited, down from 2.69% in '98.

The following table shows the chances of being examined in fiscal '99 as compared to fiscal '98. The figures include correspondence examinations, office examinations and field examinations. The data is classified by types and amounts of income, type of returns, etc. The percentage of returns examined is shown separately for each category based on the number of returns filed in that category.

Percentage of returns audited	'99	'98
Individuals--Nonbusiness (based on total positive income (TPI))		
Under \$25,000 (1040A)	0.60%	1.36%
All other returns by size of TPI		
Under \$25,000	0.37	0.58
\$25,000 to under \$50,000	0.21	0.36
\$50,000 to under \$100,000	0.23	0.37
\$100,000 and over	0.84	1.14
Individuals filing Schedule C showing gross receipts as indicated		
Under \$25,000	2.43	2.69
\$25,000 to under \$100,000	0.93	1.30
\$100,000 and over	1.48	2.40
Individuals filing Schedule F showing gross receipts as indicated		
Under \$100,000	0.35	0.68
\$100,000 and over	0.80	1.23
Estate and Trust Income Corporation (based on assets)	0.22	0.19
Under \$250,000	0.29	0.46
\$250,000 to under \$1,000,000	1.10	1.68
\$1,000,000 to under \$5,000,000	2.96	6.99
\$5,000,000 to under \$10,000,000	4.93	10.30
\$10,000,000 to under \$50,000,000	11.67	14.68
\$50,000,000 to under \$100,000,000	14.90	16.49
\$100,000,000 to under \$250,000,000	17.42	18.83
\$250,000,000 and over	31.43	35.70
S Corporations	0.55	0.81
Partnerships	0.33	0.43
Estate tax (based on gross estate)		

Under \$1,000,000	3.40	4.78
\$1,000,000 to under \$5,000,000	8.92	10.95
\$5,000,000 and over	0.72	0.91
Gift tax	27.81	33.83

CDC Health Advisory – Distributed via Health Alert Network

HOW TO HANDLE ANTHRAX AND OTHER BIOLOGICAL AGENT THREATS

Many facilities in communities around the country have received anthrax threat letters. Most were empty envelopes; some have contained powdery substances. The purpose of these guidelines is to recommend procedures for handling such incidents.

DO NOT PANIC

1. Anthrax organisms can cause infection in the skin, gastrointestinal system, or the lungs. To do, so the organism must be rubbed into abraded skin, swallowed, or inhaled as a fine, aerosolized mist. Disease can be prevented after exposure to the anthrax spores by early treatment with the appropriate antibiotics. Anthrax is not spread from one person to another person.
2. For anthrax to be effective as a covert agent, it must be aerosolized into very small particles. This is difficult to do, and requires a great deal of technical skill and special equipment. If these small particles are inhaled, life-threatening lung infection can occur, but prompt recognition and treatment are effective.

SUSPICIOUS UNOPENED LETTER OR PACKAGE MARKED WITH THREATENING MESSAGE SUCH AS “ANTHRAX”:

1. Do not shake or empty the contents of any suspicious envelope or package.
2. PLACE the envelope or package in a plastic bag or some other type of container to prevent leakage of contents.
3. If you do not have any container, then COVER the envelope or package with anything (e.g., clothing, paper, trash can, etc.) and do not remove this cover.
4. Then LEAVE the room and CLOSE the door, or section off the area to prevent others from entering (i.e., keep others away).
5. WASH your hands with **soap and water** to prevent spreading any powder to your face.
6. What to do next...
 - If you are at **HOME**, then report the incident to local police.
 - If you are at **WORK**, then report the incident to local police, **and** notify your building security official or an available supervisor.
7. LIST all people who were in the room or area when this suspicious letter or package was recognized. Give this list to both the local public health authorities and law enforcement officials for follow-up investigations and advice.

ENVELOPE WITH POWDER AND POWDER SPILLS OUT ONTO SURFACE:

1. DO NOT try to CLEAN UP the powder. COVER the spilled contents immediately with anything (e.g., clothing, paper, trash can, etc.) and do not remove this cover!
2. Then LEAVE the room and CLOSE the door, or section off the area to prevent others from entering (i.e., keep others away).
3. WASH your hands with **soap and water** to prevent spreading any powder to your face.
4. What to do next...
 - If you are at **HOME**, then report the incident to local police.
 - If you are at **WORK**, then report the incident to local police, **and** notify your building security official or an available supervisor.

5. REMOVE heavily contaminated clothing as soon as possible and place in a plastic bag, or some other container that can be sealed. This clothing bag should be given to the emergency responders for proper handling.
6. SHOWER with **soap and water** as soon as possible. *Do Not Use Bleach Or Other Disinfectant On Your Skin.*
7. If possible, list all people who were in the room or area, especially those who had actual contact with the powder. Give this list to both the local public health authorities so that proper instructions can be given for medical follow-up, and to law enforcement officials for further investigation.

QUESTION OF ROOM CONTAMINATION BY AEROSOLIZATION:

For example: small device triggered, warning that air handling system is contaminated, or warning that a biological agent released in a public space.

1. Turn off local fans or ventilation units in the area.
2. LEAVE area immediately.
3. CLOSE the door, or section off the area to prevent others from entering (i.e., keep others away).
4. What to do next...
 - If you are at **HOME**, then *dial "911"* to report the incident to local police and the local FBI field office.
 - If you are at **WORK**, then *dial "911"* to report the incident to local police and the local FBI field office, **and** notify your building security official or an available supervisor.
5. SHUT down air handling system in the building, if possible.
6. If possible, list all people who were in the room or area. Give this list to both the local public health authorities so that proper instructions can be given for medical follow-up, and to law enforcement officials for further investigation.

HOW TO IDENTIFY SUSPICIOUS PACKAGES AND LETTERS

Some characteristics of suspicious packages and letters include the following...

- Excessive postage
- Handwritten or poorly typed addresses
- Incorrect titles
- Title, but no name
- Misspellings of common words
- Oily stains, discolorations or odor
- No return address
- Excessive weight
- Lopsided or uneven envelope
- Protruding wires or aluminum foil
- Excessive security material such as masking tape, string, etc.
- Visual distractions
- Ticking sound
- Marked with restrictive endorsements, such as "Personal" or "Confidential"
- Shows a city or state in the postmark that does not match the return address

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You have received this message based upon the information contained within our emergency notification data base. If you have a different or additional e-mail or fax address that you would like us to use please notify us as soon as possible by e-mail at healthalert@cdc.gov.

2001 - 2002 Member Renewal & Recruitment Campaign

Member Challenge

Sponsor the most new members between July 1, 2001 and June 15, 2002.

1st Prize . . . \$300.00 Visa Check Card

2nd Prize . . . \$200.00 Visa Check Card

3rd thru 10th . . . Certificate of Recognition

*Chapter Challenge**

Recruit and retain members. The chapter within each region with the highest combined current year renewal and growth rate thru June 15, 2002 receives \$100.00 of ASWA products

Top overall performing chapter receives additional \$100.00 of ASWA products.

To be considered, a chapter must recruit a minimum of 5 new members.

Winners to be announced in the August 2002 Communiqué; Prizes awarded September 1, 2002. All winning chapters and members to receive special recognition at the 2002 National Convention.

*This challenge does not replace the "Net 10" or the "90% Retention" awards.

Membership List of Ames Chapter

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Home Phone</u>	<u>Work Phone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
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