



eBULLETIN

WALA

Wichita Area Chapter

A Chapter of the Association of Legal Administrators

January 12, 2010

Jana's jottings . . .



After a busy, event-filled holiday season, I have found myself in a bit of a funk at home. Both my children traveled from other states, voluntarily, to spend time with us, which was wonderful. Now I am going through the motions of daily living, but without much enthusiasm or interest. Post-holiday blues, or something. I think

we can fall into that trap at the office, as well, at different times throughout the year. We get past the big project or the flurry of end-of-year tasks, and we take care of business as usual, but where is the fun? Where is the challenge?

The best medicine for me when I am feeling bored and lethargic is to find a new project that will require me to stretch. Learning a new skill, researching, developing a better way to perform a task always adds a little spice to the day. I cannot know what that might be for you, but I encourage you to take the time to look around and do some strategic planning instead of just fighting fires all day. Maybe work on your firm's disaster recovery/business continuity plan with the template the chapter developed last fall (see walanet.org past meetings)? Or say "yes" when you are asked to serve on WALA's board for a year. Because life is more interesting when it is challenging and fun, right? Let's see, there's that quilt project I've been putting off because I will have to master a new technique . . .

WALA Comp & Benefits Survey

It is once again time to complete the chapter's annual Compensation & Benefits Survey. For the first time, data will be submitted electronically directly to our independent surveyor. You will be receiving the survey as a spreadsheet which you will complete on your computer and submit by e-mail. This will improve the entire process, from submission to tabulation to publication of results. Data will be submitted as of December 31, 2009. We hope to have the results available immediately after the expiration of the required 90-day waiting period, which will be April 1, 2010.

It is important for as many firms as possible to participate. Even if your firm does not plan to purchase the results, your input is needed to assure as complete a picture of compensation and benefit trends as possible. For the benefit of those who do utilize this valuable tool, please take a few minutes and complete the survey! Don't put it off!

Upcoming events

January 27, 2010

Employee Benefits Update

Eric Namee from the Hinkle Elkouri Law Firm will be joining us for his usual interesting update of new laws in the area of employee benefits.

February 24, 2010

Ergonomics 2010: Are you really working safely?

Melissa Smith, OTR/L CEAS, Occupational Therapist, will share insights about computer safety/computer use.

May 3-6, 2010

ALA Conference

Submit your scholarship request to Jana Waltman by Jan. 27 if you are interested!

Goodbye Jackie

Jackie Barnes recently announced her retirement effective January 1st. Her WALA career over almost 20 years included stints as



President as well as committee service to WALA and the WBA, and most lately as our voice to vendors. We are indebted to Jackie for keeping our treasury replenished for the last several years so that we could take advantage of educational opportunities. We will miss you, Jackie – stay in touch!

Questions or comments? E-mail the editor at jwaltman@gh-wichita.com. To remove your name from this mailing list, you may reply to this E-mail with "Remove" in the subject line.