MEET THE ALUMNI COUNCIL

Featured in this Issue: Steve & Jared Kass (pg. 3)
The goal of the Whitman Accounting Alumni Council is to develop a network among Whitman accounting alumni and Whitman alumni practicing in the accounting field. By doing so, we hope to assist alumni in reconnecting to the school and University, specifically the Lubin School of Accounting in the Whitman School of Management.

CURRENT ALUMNI POLL:

Q: How closely do you expect to follow SU Football this year?
  A. Road trip! I'll be at every game!
  B. Tailgate! You'll see me at every home game!
  C. I'll be watching at home.
  D. SU has a football team?

To vote, copy and paste the link, below, into your web browser:
http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/K3W2GC8

ANSWERS TO LAST ISSUE’S ALUMNI POLL:

Q: What was your favorite Marshall Street Eatery?
  A. Varsity.................................. 53%
  B. Chucks.................................. 20%
  C. Faegan’s............................... 20%
  D. Syrajuice................................. 4%
  E. Pita Pit.................................... 2%
  F. Cosmo’s................................... 1%

Thanks to those of you who voted!

ACCOUNTING EVENTS

Joseph I Lubin House Events
The latest Accounting Alumni Lubin House event was held on Thursday, June 21, 2012. Successful and well-attended as always, attendees included a wide array of current and future alumni, as well as several members of the Whitman Accounting faculty, including Professors Walsh, Elder, Franklin, & Albring.
ACCOUNTING EVENTS

**Beta Alpha Psi Banquet (cont.)**

Lubin House events are hosted by the Alumni Council on a semi-annual basis and remain a great way to connect, reconnect, and network with former classmates and fellow Syracuse Accounting Alumni. The next Lubin House event is scheduled to take place this winter. Be on the lookout for an e-mail with the event’s date.

**Beta Alpha Psi Banquet**

The next semi-annual Beta Alpha Psi Banquet is scheduled for the evening of Thursday, November 8, 2012 at the Genesee Grand Hotel in Syracuse, NY. Each year, the Beta Alpha Psi (BAP) Banquet sees larger turnouts, expanding to include a continually increasing number of student members and attending professionals. As a result, the banquet is a great way to network with current students, faculty, and alumni alike. If you are interested in attending or would like to receive additional information pertaining to this event, please contact Mitch Franklin, faculty coordinator, at mifrankl@syr.edu.

GIVING BACK

**The Alumni Council’s New Initiative**

During the spring 2012 Beta Alpha Psi Banquet, the Accounting Alumni Council awarded its first ever scholarship to a Whitman student pursuing her Masters in Accounting at Syracuse University. In its initial year, the goal of our newly founded scholarship program is to assist students who are looking to pursue a Masters degree at Whitman. As SU Accounting students nearing graduation are faced with the dilemma of how to fulfill their 150 hour licensure requirement, an increasing number of these students are looking to Whitman’s Masters Program as a way to both fulfill the requirement via a fifth year and obtain their Masters in Accounting. This past spring, our first ever – self funded – scholarship was awarded to the student, Gianna Migliaccio. Gianna, who was selected by her professors, was chosen from a wide array of recommended students who are currently considering a fifth year with Whitman.

Going forward, the Accounting Alumni Council will be holding events in an effort to raise money toward its scholarship fund. Taking the lead in this new initiative, are council members Amy Marcello (’08) & Jared Kass (’10 BS, ’11 MS), who will soon be coordinating their efforts by reaching out with ways for you to help increase our scholarship efforts going forward. If any of our alumni would like to help with these efforts, or

“The goal of our scholarship program is to assist students who are looking to pursue a Masters degree at Whitman.”
Giving Back

The Alumni Council’s New Initiative (cont.)

are interested in making a donation specific to the Alumni Council scholarship fund, please contact Amy or Jared directly, at: Amy.Marcello@us.pwc.com or jskass@syr.edu, respectively.

Or, if you’d like to donate to the Whitman School directly, instructions can be found at: http://campaign.syr.edu/giving-to-su/give-now/*

The Tracy Halpin Memorial Fund

Tracy Halpin was an honor student in the Whitman School who died unexpectedly in January 2006. She had just finished her tenure as president of Beta Alpha Psi and had plans to accept a job offer from PricewaterhouseCoopers in Rochester after she graduated with honors in May 2006. Beta Alpha Psi has set up a memorial fund in memory of Tracy Halpin. Below is the contact information for contributions:

Beta Alpha Psi Honor Society
c/o Mitch Franklin,
Whitman School of Management,
721 University Ave.
Suite 617
Syracuse, N.Y. 13244-2450

*Remember to designate your gift to the Lubin School of Accounting.

In the Spotlight: Steven & Jared Kass

As interviewed by Allison Howgate ('07) & Ellen Firth ('09 BS, '10 MS)

Steven Kass, Co-CEO and Co-Managing Principal of Rothstein Kass, earned his Bachelor of Science degree in accounting from Syracuse University. Steve began his career with Arthur Young (now Ernst & Young). After three years with the then Big Eight accounting firm, he joined Rothstein Kass. Bringing strong skills and a fresh mindset to the Firm, Steven has played an integral role in the Firm’s growth and national presence over the last 20 years and was extensively involved with advising clients within the Firm’s Financial Services Group.

Steve currently serves on the advisory board for the Lubin School of Accounting at Syracuse University, the Alumni Council’s parent organization, through which he remains actively involved in the Whitman Accounting program.

His son, Jared Kass, a recent addition to the Alumni Council’s roster, is a 2010 & 2011 Syracuse University graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting and a Master of Science degree in accounting. He is actively involved in the Whitman Accounting Alumni Council, and will begin as full time auditor for Deloitte in the fall, at their New York City office.
Alumni Council (AC): Any advice for Jared during his first weeks as an entry level staff accountant at a Big 4 firm?
Steve Kass (SK): Try to relax and be yourself. Be observant and engage. Don’t wait to make your presence felt.

AC: This is your last summer vacation before starting work – and you’re choosing to spend it studying for your CPA exam. Have you found it challenging to stay focused? Any advice you can offer to senior accounting majors?
Jared Kass (JK): It is definitely difficult to stay focused when you are studying all day every day, but I am able to keep motivated by reminding myself that this is something that every CPA must go through, and it is just part of the process and a learning experience. My advice to senior accounting majors would be to take many parts of the CPA while you are studying in school. The curriculum at SU provides a great basis for the areas tested on the CPA, plus you want to complete all the parts as soon as possible!

AC: Steve, how important is it to you that your entry-level accountants have their CPA exam completed prior to starting their jobs.
SK: Although not required, passing the exam or parts of the exam demonstrates commitment to career, which is important.

AC: You both continue to actively participate in Whitman’s accounting program through the Advisory Board and Alumni Council, respectively. This question is to Steve in particular: What do you enjoy most about staying involved in Accounting at a college level, especially at Syracuse?
SK: Being on campus helps me understand what is important to our future team members. I have been fortunate to have a terrific career in public accounting. That started at Syracuse and now, I really enjoy giving back to Syracuse and Whitman.

AC: What about you Jared, is there anything in particular you hope to accomplish through your involvement with the Council?
JK: After now being on the council for over a year, I am very thankful that I have had the opportunity to be able to give back to the school as a recent alumnus. As far as what the future holds, I’m excited about the new fundraising initiatives the council has began, and I hope collectively we will be able to promote and give back to the accounting program at Whitman for many years to come.

SK: My Dad was in public and it was very comfortable for me to follow in that direction. Public accounting has been perceived to be a safe career track. As I reflect back over my career, I have come to appreciate that it enables to you to be an entrepreneur, be an owner of a business, and interact with so many interesting people, both Rothstein Kass team members, clients, "Public accounting... enables you to be an entrepreneur, be an owner of a business, and interact with so many interesting people."
and other stakeholders. Not many career paths afford you that opportunity. I recognize that public accounting isn’t for everyone. My advice is not to be too quick in deciding what the best track is for you. Give it a chance, appreciate the positives and challenges.

AC: What is your favorite part of your job? Least favorite?
SK: My favorite part of being the Co-CEO of Rothstein Kass is participating in creating a great organizational culture and engaging people in defining our organization. Least favorite is counseling out under performers.

AC: Jared, any words of wisdom for fellow alumni (from your experiences) or for future graduates of SU’s Whitman School of Management?
JK: As a recent alumnus, I don’t have much expertise or advice to provide other than to enjoy what you do every day and keep learning new things. To future graduates, stay in school as long as you can! Everyone says college is the greatest time in your life, and that has never been truer than at Syracuse University.

& JUST FOR FUN...

1. **What was your most memorable moment at SU?**
   - **S:** Actually, it was well after I graduated. It was speaking to Beta Alpha Psi in the auditorium on the first floor. It was really gratifying to come back to campus and talk about my experiences.
   - **J:** Graduating. Both Times!

2. **Favorite Campus Bar (Past or Present)**
   - **S:** The Orange
   - **J:** Lucy’s

3. **Most Disliked NCAA team in the Big East**
   - **S:** Georgetown
   - **J:** UConn

4. **Most well remembered Syracuse Accounting Professor**
   - **S:** Horace Landry
   - **J:** Badr Ismail

5. **If you could have any super power, which would you choose and why?**
   - **S:** Super human senses; they would give me the ability to be extremely observant (and be even more passionate about wine tastings).
   - **J:** I’d be able to fly. Who doesn’t want to be able to fly?

6. **If you woke up one morning to find yourself in the other’s body (think Freaky Friday), what would be the first thing you’d do?**
   - **S:** Shave my beard.
   - **J:** Grow back the mustache my dad had in the 70’s.

7. **Ten years from now, where will you be at this moment, on this day?**
   - **S:** Responding to a Whitman Questionnaire.
   - **J:** Playing Golf and celebrating another New York Football Giants Super Bowl Victory!
Mentoring Program

The Alumni Council Mentoring Program was created in order to provide current Whitman students with a contact in the accounting industry, who can be used as a mentor for career preparation in the accounting industry. Examples of discussion topics include: advice on different careers in accounting, tips on obtaining internships/jobs, or general advice on working after college. This relationship should not be used by the student (mentee) to solicit employment from the mentor, unless the mentor initiates the discussion.

There are approximately 125 Whitman students within the mentor program, with more signing up each semester.

The Accounting Alumni Council is looking for Alumni willing to mentor current SU students majoring, or interested in majoring in Accounting. If you are interested in participating, please contact Cheryl Curri at cheryl.curri@gmail.com, or Cindy Hand, at chand@syr.edu.

We want to hear from you!

The Accounting Alumni Council would like to encourage you to share any experiences you’ve had with getting your CPE credits. Examples include what classes you have taken or any fun or unique courses attended.

In addition, if anyone has any thoughts about how to improve future newsletters, ideas for presentations, or suggestions on events you would like to attend with fellow alumni, please email us at SU_ACCOUNTING_ALUM@yahoo.com.

Other Whitman Organization Alumni Events

4th Annual Dinosaur BBQ Picnic in Central Park

The Whitman Alumni Club of NYC invites you to join us at a Picnic in Central Park. Welcome recent Whitman graduates, socialize and network with other Whitman alumni, and learn more about the Whitman Alumni Club of NYC including our plans for 2012-13

The event will be located in the traditional spot of the Great Hill, come ready for authentic Dinosaur Bar-B-Que, friends and Frisbees! This event has become so popular the group has outgrown the picnic table seating so bring a blanket for an old fashioned lawn picnic.

The Whitman Alumni Club is requesting all attendees to register in advance. Please see their website details below for further details.

http://www.whitmannyc.com/
IMPORTANT LINKS!

Please view the Accounting Alumni Council website at:
http://whitman.syr.edu/Academics/Accounting/AAC/

Please view the alumni website at: http://whitman.syr.edu/Alumni/

The Whitman School of Management has a career services page, which includes both career counseling and networking/job postings. If you would like to find out more, visit the Whitman School of Management website at http://whitman.syr.edu/Career/Alumni/

This is a great way to post job openings at your company and find job openings where some of your fellow Whitman Alumni work.

In addition to the above Whitman Alumni website through Syracuse here are some additional networking websites:

LinkedIn  SU Accounting Alumni Group: http://www.linkedin.com/e/gis/94224/3F4AE764F16E


CURRENT WITMAN ACCOUNTING ALUMNI COUNCIL MEMBERS

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<tr>
<th>Members</th>
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<th>Firm/Company</th>
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<td>Anchin, Block &amp; Anchin</td>
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<td>Dan Griffin</td>
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<td>Liz Gallo</td>
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