



## 2016 AFWA Chapter Achievement Awards

### APPLICATIONS IN THE FUNDRAISING CATEGORY

*The following content has been pulled directly from each Chapter's Chapter Achievement Application. The first Chapter is the winner of this year's award for this category. All other Chapters are listed in no particular order. We hope the ideas presented here will inspire your own Chapter to reach for new goals and achievements.*

#### **WINNER: Denver**

Chapter Website:	<a href="http://www.afwadenver.org">www.afwadenver.org</a>
------------------	------------------------------------------------------------

With quality continuing professional education and networking in mind, the Denver Chapter has hosted the Rocky Mountain Area Conference (RMAC) for 30 years. In the early years, it was co-hosted with the Denver Women's Society of CPAs and the Northern Colorado Chapter of ASWA, subsequent years were hosted solo by the Denver Chapter. In 2000, the RMAC was joined by the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA). Financial Executives International (FEI) participated from 2002 through 2007. The Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) were invited to join in 2005.

Early RMAC's slated three tracks of continuing education over a Friday and Saturday, offering 16 hours of quality CPE. The RMAC's continue to offer 16 hours, but now provide four tracks over a Thursday and Friday. As a bonus for the 2016 RMAC, a Pre-Conference session was added on the Wednesday evening for an additional 2 hours of CPE.

By combining the efforts and networks of the three professional organizations, the RMAC has created a reputation for bringing a stellar slate of fantastic speakers with great topics. It is well-respected in the Denver-Metro area, which explains why it has brought a sell-out 330 registration for seven years and counting!

A large conference requires many volunteers for the many facets of planning, slating, staging, communications, publicity, website, the list goes on. The Chair and Treasurer positions rotate between the organizations each year, and the working relationship of the Denver Chapter, IMA and IIA is amazing. All three organizations work harmoniously for the same common goals: to present a successful, quality conference with energetic and experienced speakers presenting timely, relevant and interesting topics. Our success is defined by the attendee evaluations and the net proceeds divided between the organizations.

Starting each January through the RMAC event, the Denver Chapter invites members to volunteer for the upcoming RMAC. Networking, personal relationships, professional development and communication skills are just a few benefits to be reaped by participating on the committee. We request 2hour, 4hour, 8hour, 3month, even 30minute blocks of time. If a member has time available,



we have tasks ready from proof reading the brochure, attending a conference call with the committee, preparing a spreadsheet, assembling speaker packets to introducing speakers. We have ample opportunities for any level of involvement. AFWA provided volunteers for topic brainstorming, speakers, securing sponsors and vendors, facilities and catering, brochure design, tote bag selection, registration, AV and more. Seventeen volunteers provided a conservatively estimated 300+ hours.

For the 2015 RMAC held September 24th and 25th, 2015, the Denver Chapter received \$27600 in proceeds for its participation. \$20000 was contributed to the AFWA Denver Scholarship Trust.

**CHAPTER: Billings**

Chapter Website:	<a href="http://afwabuffalo.org">http://afwabuffalo.org</a>
Facebook URL:	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/AFWA.Buffalo">https://www.facebook.com/AFWA.Buffalo</a>
Twitter handle:	<a href="https://twitter.com/AFWABuffalo">https://twitter.com/AFWABuffalo</a>
LinkedIn URL:	<a href="https://www.linkedin.com/groups/3942708">https://www.linkedin.com/groups/3942708</a>

Overview

The Billings Chapter has three fundraising events every year. The first two events are a Master Tax Guide/QuickFinder sale and a dessert auction in December. The last event is a golf tournament which is named after the Chapter founder. The golf tournament is held in June. The Master Tax Guide sale and the dessert auction raise money to support educational events for our members such as our fall retreat and to help subsidize member travel to AFWA conferences. The golf tournament raises money to fund the scholarships the Chapter awards every year.

Execution

At the beginning of the year, the Chapter solicited members to sign up for our fund raising activities at meetings and through the Chapter’s newsletter. The Master Tax Guide sales and the dessert auction committee were chaired by the Vice President and the golf committee was chaired by the Past President.

The Master Tax Guide committee prepared a flyer that was e-mailed to members and other interested parties advertising the tax books that were offered for sale.

The dessert committee began meeting early in the year to decide on the location of the venue and other details. This year’s auction was held December 10, 2015 at a local hotel. All dessert and other nonfood items auctioned were donated by Chapter members. The auction included both a silent auction and a live auction. The committee provided light refreshments during the bidding.



The golf committee began meeting after the first of the year to begin contacting sponsors, lining up teams, soliciting prizes, and selling raffle tickets. The golf tournament was held June 17, 2016. The tournament was an 18-hole scramble and also had a putting contest and a “hole in one” contest. All team members received a goodie bag with a granola bar, a sleeve of golf balls, drink tickets, and other stuffer items donated by businesses. Light breakfast items were available and lunch was served after the golfers completed the course. Various prizes were awarded at the end of the tournament. This year, the Chapter awarded two gross and two net prizes, and various flag and door prizes. Raffle tickets were also sold and a grand prize for a Chico Hot Springs overnight retreat was given to the lucky winner.

#### Results

The sale of Master Tax Guides netted \$1,302 and the dessert auction netted \$1,729. The dessert auction had 28 people attend – 19 members and 9 guests. As previously mentioned, all auction items were donated by members. Members helped the night of the auction by filling out the silent auction bid cards, putting items on the tables, and keeping track of the bidding and money.

The 2016 golf tournament made a net profit of \$7,590. There were 19 4-person teams this year and many sponsors. A number of businesses also donated items for the flag and door prizes. Thirty-two of our members were involved in some portion of the tournament. Fourteen of our members played on teams and many others helped by lining up teams, contacting potential sponsors, purchasing and selling raffle tickets, staffing the registration table, handing out the goodie bags, keeping track of the money, putting up sponsor signs, taking team pictures, supervising the putting contest, and handing out the prizes.

Both the commitment of our members and the generosity of our many sponsors made our 2016 golf tournament very successful. The fact that everyone had a lot of fun the day of the tournament was an extra added bonus.