MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Greetings to everyone. I hope that you all enjoyed your summer, that harvest went smoothly and that you beat all projections.

Much has happened since our last newsletter including the chapter and National annual meetings. We had a good turnout for our chapter annual meeting in Hood River. It was great to see you all there. What a beautiful setting and a great program. The program and meeting committee attempted to “kick it up a notch” this year and they really succeeded. In the annual business meeting we elected new directors and officers and chose the site and date for next year's meeting…see the details further on in this newsletter.

Okay, this is just my opinion but the National meeting in Monterey was outstanding. The Far West chapter did a great job of hosting the event and the program was tremendous. Almost as good as the program in Vancouver that our chapter hosted. I counted 16 attendees from our chapter which was a fabulous turnout. Thank you all for attending and I hope you enjoyed it. At the meeting I was elected as the National Director from our chapter. Thank you for your support. With that election I am required to relinquish my position as President. In our chapter annual meeting Phil Blakney was elected to fill that position for the coming year. So, this is my last President’s message but don’t despair, I will have future opportunities to bloviate via the National Director’s report.

Thank you to Phil Blakney who finished his second and final term as our National Director. Also thank you to Regina Wood for her years of service as Newsletter Editor. Both of them spent considerable time in these roles and we very much appreciate their efforts.

An organization such as NSAC flourishes as a direct result of your participation. Our chapter has an outstanding group of folks who are dedicated to serving cooperatives. We have good participation but we could make it great. We all learn and grow the more we are around each other, so my challenge to all of you is to become more involved in your NSAC. Both the chapter and National meetings are outstanding so look at the calendar of events and mark your calendars now so you can plan to attend upcoming events.

Thank you all and I look forward to representing our chapter on the National Board.

Randy Fenich
Chapter President
National Director's Report

It is with some sadness, I am writing my last National directors report. When I was elected in 1999, the Society’s National office was located in Alexandria, Virginia. We had three full-time employees and operating expenses were in excess of revenue. The board struggled with this issue for many years and in January 2004 we elected to close the Alexandria office and hired Advanced Management Concepts, Inc. to manage the society. Based upon my impressions, I believe we are receiving better service and for the year ending December 31, 2005, the Society expects to show a “profit” of $50,000 from operations. This profit will be used to rebuild reserves and to increase services to members.

I hope you had a chance to attend the Pacific Northwest Chapter Meeting in Hood River. We had some outstanding presentations. The next years meeting has been scheduled for May 9th & 10th in Wenatchee. If you would like to help with the meeting please let me know. The Chapter is also planning to present a cooperative accounting class on Monday, May 8, 2006.

New National Director

Randy Fenich was nominated by the Chapter to serve as its National director and was elected at the National Meeting in Monterey, California. I hope you will give him the same support you gave me.

Finally, I would like to thank the Chapter for allowing me to serve as your National director for the last six years. I know of no other organization where big cooperatives and little cooperatives and big accounting firms and little accounting firms work together for the benefit of cooperatives. I have met many wonderful professionals through my activities on the board and by serving on many National committees and encourage you to get involved.

Phil Blakney
PNW Chapter NSAC
National Director
NSAC Pacific Northwest Chapter Annual Meeting Highlights

The Pacific Northwest Chapter Annual Meeting was held June 20-21, 2005 in beautiful Hood River, Oregon. It was centrally located for the convenience of all our members. The conference was held at the Hood River Inn located along the banks of the Columbia River. It was a conference for the entire family, as there are so many activities in Hood River to keep your family busy while you were at the conference.

INFORMATIVE TOPICS AND SPEAKERS

This year’s meeting was filled with fun and learning as we brought in speakers with expertise in such topics as Human Resources, Technology, Corporate Governance, Legislative Issues, Motivation/Humor and, of course, the infinitely popular Legal, Accounting and Tax Update.

SPEAKERS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDED...

Dan Coyne ~ Executive Director of the Washington State Council of Farmer Cooperatives
Dave Sartell ~ CoBank
Don Butwill ~ Moss Adams LLP
Don Franklin ~ Miller Nash LLP
Jack Sebastian ~ Norpac
Jeff Dieleman ~ Moss Adams LLP
John Foltz ~ Interim Associate Dean and Director of Academic Programs, University of Idaho
John McCulley ~ Agricultural Cooperative Council of Oregon
Larry L. Brown ~ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Mac Bledsoe ~ Author of Parenting With Dignity
Susan Eberle Stahlfeld ~ Miller Nash LLP
Tom P. Potiowsky ~ State Economist for the State of Oregon
Welcome Sauer ~ former president of the Washington Apple Commission
William P. Hutchison ~ Foster Pepper Tooze LLP

The annual meeting began with a Board meeting on Sunday with a welcome reception in the evening. Monday we had a continental breakfast and lunch and a wonder aray of speakers. A Monday evening reception/dinner took place at Lakecliff Bed and Breakfast. Tuesday we had a continental breakfast with another wonderful half day of speakers, adjourning at noon. The weather was beautiful and the reviews were high. All in all it was a very successful event.
MESSAGE FROM THE **NEW** EDITOR

Greetings chapter members, this is my first newsletter and I just have to start by saying thank you to Regina Wood, our former newsletter editor. Regina has done an outstanding job in generating both informative and visually pleasing newsletters for the Pacific Northwest Chapter. I welcome any suggestions you may have to continue the precedent that Regina has established.

Preparing this edition, I started out by sitting on my deck on an early summer evening. The temperature was a pleasant 85 degrees and the wind was non existent (I absolutely love Eastern Washington summer evenings) now fall has taken over and the temperature has fallen to a brisk 40 degrees, so I am finishing up this edition inside. I hope you all had an enjoyable summer and that you have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday. I will see you all at the next NSAC meeting.

*Jeff Dieleman, Moss-Adams, LLP*
*Newsletter Editor*

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**NSAC ~ Website Links of Interest**

- **Hot Topics**
- **Up-Coming Events**
- **NSAC Mission Statement and Long Range Goals**
- **2005 National Annual Meeting – See What You Missed**
Upcoming Events

Fruit Industry Conference
Wenatchee, January, 2006 - The conference will include more basic bookkeeping such as Payroll tax, B & O tax, and Excel software training

Accounting Class and Pacific Northwest Chapter Annual Meeting
Wenatchee, May 8-10, 2006

2006 National Annual Convention & Tax Seminar
Nashville, August 7-9, 2006

Silver Star Update

★ We are currently waiting for information from National ★
★★ We will bring you up to date in our next issue ★★

Ken Knappert
Silver Star Program Director
Our spotlight falls on Don Franklin this month...

It was purely by chance (or was it?) that Don Franklin was assigned to work for attorney Tom Macbride when Don arrived for work at the law offices of Macbride, Sax and MacIver in Seattle in September, 1970. Tom represented many agricultural cooperatives in the Pacific Northwest and wasted no time in delegating cooperative matters to Don. Because cooperative law is not taught in law school, Don learned by doing. After Tom Macbride retired seven years later, Don inherited Tom's practice and continued to build upon the foundation of solid clients Tom had nurtured over the years.

In the early 70's, Don was involved in and IRS matter involving a fruit co-op in Wenatchee. It was during the course of that matter that Don met Mel Henkle, a CPA in town. Mel encouraged Don to apply for membership in the NSAC. Today, brightly colored issues of The Cooperative Accountant dating back to 1977 sit outside Don's office on a bookshelf. "The NSAC and the relationships I have enjoyed with other NSAC members have been an invaluable resource over the years" Don recently commented.

After 11 years, Don launched his own office in 1981. Eighteen years later, Don merged his practice into Miller Nash, LLP which was founded in 1873. Don practices out of Miller Nash's Seattle office and continues to spend the majority of his time representing cooperatives. Don and his wife of 37 years, Shirley, have three grown children and six grandchildren.
PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEWEST DIRECTORS ON THE BOARD

Lisanne Currin, Chief Financial Officer

Lisanne was born & raised in Montana, where she graduated from Montana State University with a bachelors degree in accounting. After passing the CPA exam, she worked in Montana at a Public Accounting Firm for 5 years, then married her husband and moved to Oregon where she was the Finance Director for Morrow County for 8 years. In February of 2001, she took her current position as Chief Financial Officer for Morrow County Grain Growers, Inc., a grain and farm supply cooperative located in Eastern Oregon. Lisanne and her husband Steve live on his family's 5th generation cattle ranch and have 2 beautiful children, a boy Kolby age 6, and a girl Jacee age 4.

Jim Davis, Chief Financial Officer

Work: Snokist Growers, Staff Acct to Controller to CFO, (Yakima, WA)  
Northwest Lodging, Internal Auditor (Seattle, WA), 1991 - 1992

Education: BA Accounting, Western Washington University

Jim lives in Yakima. He is has been married for seventeen years and has two daughters, ages seven and three. When he has time he enjoys Golf, watching the Seattle Mariners and going to Disney World with the family.