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MEETINGS

Everyone welcome - Members, spouses, friends, non-members, subscribers, IRS & CDOR personnel and any other interested individuals!!

Your Board wants to see you!!! This month and in future months at our regularly scheduled dinner meetings. They are one of the best places to meet new members, share your ideas, learn new resources and actually have fun while earning CPE credits.

Reservations may be called into C.J. Whiteley at 303-819-3278 or email to cj.whiteley@comcast.net no later than the Sunday before the meeting.

No shows will be billed if a reservation is made.

DINNER MEETINGS

May 22, 2012 Meeting

Date: Tuesday, May 22, 2012
Time: 4:30 pm Board Meeting
6:00 pm Dinner
Meal - Lasagna
7:00 pm Program
Place: Ramada Inn
Program: New IRS Fresh Start Initiative
Speaker: Goretta Lysek,
IRS ACS Department Manager

June 26, 2012 Meeting

Date: Tuesday, June 26, 2012
Time: 5:00 pm Board Meeting
6:00 pm Dinner
Meal - Charbroiled Tuna
7:00 pm Program
Place: Ramada Inn
Program: Gov't Benefits & Taxing Thereof
Speaker: Frank Evans, Esq.

Cost for Dinner & Program:

Members	\$30.00
Non-members	\$35.00
Program Only	\$20.00

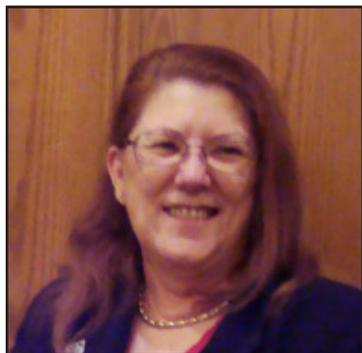
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO CoSEA - NO SHOWS WILL BE BILLED!

MONTHLY MEETING LOCATION

Our meeting site is at the Ramada Inn (formerly Holiday Inn) at the Mousetrap. The address is 4849 Bannock Street, located northwest of the intersection of I-25 and I-70.

Here's how to get there: *Going east on I-70:* exit onto Pecos, go left (north) over the freeway to 48th Ave. Go right (east) to Bannock, turn left to 4849 Bannock. *Going west on I-70:* exit onto Pecos, turn right (north) to 48th, turn right (east) to Bannock, go left. *From I-25:* exit at 58th Ave., go west to 2nd light west of freeway, at Bannock, turn left (south).

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Well now that tax season is over we can take a short breather before we work on those extensions!

May 1, I head to Washington DC for the NAEA Fly-In. I believe there are a total of three

Colorado members attending this year. It is always interesting when one goes to the "Hill" to speak with our legislators.

I also will be attending the APEX meeting (both as CoSEA's President and as member of NAEA's Affiliate Council) and the NAEA Board meeting. When I return, I will share all the exciting news with you.

CJ Whiteley has been working on getting some exciting programs for our monthly meetings. She would like to hear from our members what topics are of interest to you. As a reminder, don't forget to bring your PTIN numbers to the meetings for the registration process.

CoSEA has been asked to remind our members that the individual members DO NOT turn in any continuing education information to OPR. As a registered sponsor, CoSEA will be submitting each program's registrations.

See you at the next meeting

Linda

Linda Ward, EA

linda13@lward.biz

Paul's Points to Ponder



Well, we all seemed to have survived another tax season. I do not know about you all, but did this tax season seem much harder and longer than previous ones? Maybe it's just because I am a year older?

This will be a short newsletter, since the usual contributors are still coming down from April 17th.

We would appreciate it if any of the members would like to write a short piece on anything they found interesting, especially if it had to do with the past filing season [i.e. how to go paperless, use and abuse of the scanner, tips on improving efficiency around the office, how to organize your office, descriptions of workflow and paper flow].

I would also like to know if the membership would be interested in participating in an anonymous price charge survey [what the members charge for various types of returns]. Completely anonymous but would be enlightening.

Starting with July - August issue, I will have one or two of the Board members answer some questions regarding their background, likes and dislikes, areas of specialization [much like the Playboy Playmate question checklist, without the vital statistics].

Since we are all burned-out from tax season [at least I am], I am forgoing the Q&A portion of the newsletter. Will come back doubly strong next issue.

Paul



May 22, 2012	New IRS Fresh Start Initiative, Ramada Plaza (old Holiday Inn), Meal: Lasagna	Goretti Lysek, IRS ACS Department Manager
Jun 26, 2012	Gov't Benefits & Taxing Thereof, Ramada Plaza (old Holiday Inn), Meal: Charbroiled Tuna	Frank Evans, Esq.
Jul 24, 2012	How to Respond When IRS Encourages Voluntary Compliance with Penalties on the Preparer, the Taxpayer or Both. Meal: Luncheon at DENVER MARRIOTT SOUTH	Frank Rooney, Rooney Law Firm
Aug 28, 2012	The Mechanics of Death and Dying, Ramada Plaza (old Holiday Inn), Meal: Stuffed Chipotle Chicken	Al Woodward, Woodward Wealth Management
Sep 25, 2012	Ethics, JOHNSON'S CORNER (Northern Colorado), Meal: TBA	Frank Rooney, Rooney Law Firm
Oct 23, 2012	Colorado Update, Ramada Plaza (old Holiday Inn), Meal: Mexican Fiesta Buffet	TBA
Nov 13, 2012	IRS Update, Ramada Plaza (old Holiday Inn), Meal: Taste of Sicily - Buffet	Deborah Rodgers, IRS Senior Stakeholder Liaison
Dec 2012	Holiday Party	TBA

A Touch of Humor

Because of a holiday, the deadline for taxes was April 17th, so you have 2 extra days to dig through restaurant dumpsters for receipts.

On April 1st, April Fools' Day, people try to fool their friends and relatives. Do not confuse that with April 15th, when people try to fool the IRS.

Nothing has done more to stimulate the writing of fiction than the itemized deduction section of the income tax forms.

U.S. Tax Code



Coming Clean

Quite often people approach me with their tax problems talking in terms of “*coming clean*” telling dramatic and deeply personal stories many of which have little or nothing to do with the tax matter at hand. People seem to want to essentially ‘get issues off their chest’ or ‘confess their sins’ as it were which presupposes that I also serve as a pastor, priest, minister, rabbi etc. Having spent years talking to many good friends and fellow tax experts about directing taxpayers when their conversation drifts away from taxes the general conclusion is to redirect and stay focused on the area of expertise, tax. With many of our clients as we all know this can be excruciatingly difficult. They come to us seeking relief yet our licenses as Enrolled Agents require us to inform taxpayers of their delinquencies as they are reported or discovered and that can be hard to do under most any circumstances. I always make sure to have a full box of tissues on the ready.

When in these situations as opposed to projecting my own morality on the tax payer as a gut check I have found it quite beneficial lately to have clients read and reflect on the following two very true stories that combined help bring an understanding to the fact that action (and even inaction) have corresponding consequences reaching far beyond the mechanics of defending or correcting a tax return. I don’t know who authored the following text to give credit but it is worth reading. My friend and fellow EA, Joe Coscia sent me these stories. I started using them as a tool to help coach taxpayers that seem conflicted as to the best course of action when resolving their disputes. The nice thing about using these stories with clients is that together they speak to what is important to many of us in life without incorporating religion. Perhaps you’ve read these before.

STORY NUMBER “ONE”

Many years ago, Al Capone virtually owned Chicago. Capone wasn’t famous for anything heroic. He was notorious for enmeshing the windy city in everything from bootlegged booze and prostitution to murder. Capone had a lawyer nicknamed “Easy Eddie.” He was Capone’s lawyer for a good reason. Eddie was very good! In fact, Eddie’s skill at legal maneuvering kept Big Al out of jail for a long time. To show his appreciation, Capone paid him very well. Not only was the money big, but Eddie got special dividends, as well. For instance, he and his family occupied a fenced-in mansion with live-in help and all of the conveniences of the day. The estate was so large that it filled an entire Chicago City block.

Eddie lived the high life of the Chicago mob and gave little consideration to the atrocity that went on around him. Eddie did have one soft spot, however. He had a son that he loved

dearly. Eddie saw to it that his young son had clothes, cars, and a good education. Nothing was withheld. Price was no object. And, despite his involvement with organized crime, Eddie even tried to teach him right from wrong. Eddie wanted his son to be a better man than he was. Yet, with all his wealth and influence, there were two things he couldn’t give his son; he couldn’t pass on a good name or a good example.

One day, Easy Eddie reached a difficult decision. Easy Eddie wanted to rectify wrongs he had done. He decided he would go to the authorities and tell the truth about Al “Scarface” Capone, clean up his tarnished name, and offer his son some semblance of integrity. To do this, he would have to testify against The Mob, and he knew that the cost would be great. So, he testified. Within the year, Easy Eddie’s life ended in a blaze of gunfire on a lonely Chicago Street. But in his eyes, he had given his son the greatest gift he had to offer, at the greatest price he could ever pay. Police removed from his pockets a poem clipped from a magazine. The poem read:

“The clock of life is wound but once, and no man has the power to tell just when the hands will stop, at late or early hour. Now is the only time you own. Live, love, toil with a will. Place no faith in time. For the clock may soon be still.”

STORY NUMBER “TWO”

World War II produced many heroes. One such man was Lieutenant Commander Butch O’Hare. He was a fighter pilot assigned to the aircraft carrier Lexington in the South Pacific. One day his entire squadron was sent on a mission. After he was airborne, he looked at his fuel gauge and realized that someone had forgotten to top off his fuel tank. He would not have enough fuel to complete his mission and get back to his ship. His flight leader told him to return to the carrier. Reluctantly, he dropped out of formation and headed back to the fleet.

As he was returning to the mother ship, he saw something that turned his blood cold; a squadron of Japanese aircraft was speeding its way toward the American fleet. The American fighters were gone on a sortie, and the fleet was all but defenseless. He couldn’t reach his squadron and bring them back in time to save the fleet. Nor could he warn the fleet of the approaching danger. There was only one thing to do. He must somehow divert them from the fleet.

Laying aside all thoughts of personal safety, he dove into the formation of Japanese planes. Wing-mounted 50 caliber’s

continued on page 5

Coming Clean *continued from page 4*

blazed as he charged in, attacking one surprised enemy plane and then another. Butch wove in and out of the now broken formation and fired at as many planes as possible until all his ammunition was finally spent. Undaunted, he continued the assault. He dove at the planes, trying to clip a wing or tail in hopes of damaging as many enemy planes as possible, rendering them unfit to fly. Finally, the exasperated Japanese squadron took off in another direction

Deeply relieved, Butch O'Hare and his tattered fighter limped back to the carrier. Upon arrival, he reported in and related the event surrounding his return. The film from the gun-camera mounted on his plane told the tale. It showed the extent of Butch's daring attempt to protect his fleet. He had, in fact, destroyed five enemy aircraft. This took place on February 20, 1942, and for that action Butch became the Navy's first Ace of W.W.II, and the first Naval Aviator to win the Medal of Honor. A year later Butch was killed in aerial combat at the age of 29. His home town would not allow the memory of this WW II hero to fade, and today, O'Hare

Airport in Chicago is named in tribute to the courage of this great man. The next time you find yourself at O'Hare International, give some thought to visiting Butch's memorial displaying his statue and his Medal of Honor. It's located between Terminals 1 and 2.

In conclusion I am finding that generally speaking once a client realizes the connection between these two stories is that Butch O'Hare was Easy Eddie's son a brighter vision of the future tends to usually emerge. It has also helped me many times over close files that have heretofore lingered for quite literally years. Give it a try and let me know what you think.

Respectfully submitted

John Dundon, Vice President
Colorado Society of Enrolled Agents
<http://johnrdundon.com>
(720) 234-1177 (Cell)

STATE UPDATES

COLORADO UPDATES

If you are not currently getting the Colorado Tax Professionals updates via email from the Taxpayer Service Division, you may sign up at tpspublicinfo@spike.dor.state.co.us and put SUBSCRIBE in the subject line.

Have You Updated Your Profile Lately?

The details of your NAEA profile can impact whether you are matched with a potential new client. To update your profile, go to www.naea.org, log in (User name is your NAEA ID and password is your zip code) and click on **"View/Edit My Profile."** You can change your login & password, see financial history, change your specialties and edit you contact information (click on "Edit" at bottom of screen). There you can change all your contact information and also enter a description of your practice in the "Supplementary Information" tab. In addition, please check and update your information on the Colorado website, go to www.taxproco.org. Use the same User name and password as for NAEA website.

Please send your updated contact information, *i.e.* addresses, phone numbers and/or e-mails to Richard Van Buren at (303) 660-2295 or email to rmvanb84@aol.com This will help your Board stay current and ensure that all notices, newsletters, etc. will be delivered to you in a timely manner. Please note that your newsletters are e-mailed to you by Joan Lipinski of Misteren Graphics, our printer. This is not spam, so please do not block this e-mail. As a Board we have been trying to stay on top of all changes submitted but would like your assistance in verifying that everything is correct for you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Welcome New Members

Chris Flanagan, EA

20/20 Tax Resolution, Inc.
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Mitchel Schiff, EA

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At the April 24th dinner/CPE meeting, Dale Lukenbach won a dinner/CPE meeting for some future date.

NOTE FROM THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE:

Beginning immediately, the first request for reservations to our monthly meetings will be sent out no later than the 2nd Friday before the meeting. A second request will be sent out no later than the Wednesday before the meeting. The Program Committee asks that all reservations be received no later than the Sunday before the meeting. When we receive reservations late - or not at all, the hotel staff does not have ample time to set up an appropriate meeting room and, in addition, the chef needs to know how many meals to prepare.

We cannot stress how important this procedure is to ensure that all members attending the meeting will have an enjoyable experience.

Thank You – Program Committee

MEMBER NEWS

If you have been in the news recently or have received some award, or know of a member who has been in the news, please let us know so we can celebrate their achievements. Contact Paul Ketcham, the Newsletter Editor.

What Interests You? Know a Speaker?

The Program Committee needs your suggestions on topics and speakers.

Contact C.J. Whiteley at 303-819-3278 or email her at cj.whiteley@comcast.net



“Get Ready To Learn”

Published bimonthly by

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www.taxproco.org

ON-LINE CPE TESTING

NAEA has launched the online CPE testing for the EA Journal. The CPE tests are based on the articles in each issue of the EA Journal. With the online tests, your results are immediate! Read the articles, log on and take the test. Go to www.naea.org for all the details.

COMING EVENTS

2012 MONTHLY MEETING PROGRAMS

- July 24, 2012 -** How to Respond When ITS Encourages Voluntary Compliance Luncheon at Denver Marriott South
- August 28, 2012 -** The Mechanics of Death and Dying Stuffed Chipotle Chicken
- September 25, 2012 -** Ethics Johnson’s Corner
- October 23, 2012 -** Colorado Tax Update Buffet - Mexican Fiesta
- November 13, 2012 -** IRS Tax Update Buffet - Taste of Sicily
- December 2012 -** Holiday Party

CoSEA is looking into and working on various philanthropic activities, including a food drive, hosting a TV help line and a few others.

Paid Advertisements for Services to CoSEA Members

Advertisements in this newsletter are **paid advertisements** for services available to CoSEA members and their clients. Submit invoices with payments to Paul Ketcham, EA, 220 Grove Street, Denver, CO 80219-1516. Make checks payable to CoSEA. Paul will forward all to treasurer Audrey Dean upon verification for newsletter. **Please contact Paul at paulketcham@qwestoffice.net with your word copy advertisements. Sizes and pricing are available on the back page of each newsletter.** The editor will inform you when the board approves your ads for a newsletter issue. **Please call Paul at cell phone: 303-667-4560 if you have any questions on your ad.**

Visit our website at
www.taxproco.org

ADVERTISING RATES

Full Page	\$138.00
Half Page Horizontal	\$ 78.00
Half Page Vertical	\$ 78.00
Quarter Page	\$ 44.00
Eighth Page	\$ 26.00
Column Inch	\$ 18.00

Classified bimonthly ad rates are \$1.75 per line (or partial line) per issue, with a \$10.00 minimum.

Open rates are subject to change, and open rate advertising is subject to space availability. For further information, call Paul Ketcham, EA, cell phone: 303-667-4560.

All contents and design are subject to publisher’s approval. Publisher reserves the right to reject or cancel any advertising at any time. Advertiser agrees to indemnify the publisher against any loss, damages or expense arising from the use by advertiser of any unauthorized names, photographs, sketches or words protected by copyright or trademark.

The newsletter is sent bimonthly to all members of the Colorado Society of Enrolled Agents, nonmember subscribers, selected members of the National Association of Enrolled Agents, government officials and others. Additional mailings are targeted to other Enrolled Agents and/or other tax professionals.

Deadline is the 15th of the month prior to cover date (i.e. June 15 for July-August issue). Submit Word attachments to paulketcham@qwestoffice.net. Submit invoices with payments to Paul Ketcham, EA, 220 Grove Street, Denver, CO 80219-1516. Make checks payable to CoSEA. Paul will forward all to treasurer Audrey Dean upon verification for newsletter.

Please contact Paul at cell phone: 303-667-4560 or e-mail him at paulketcham@qwestoffice.net for question about advertising or rates.

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