



The Bulletin



East Bay Association of Enrolled Agents
*To Enhance and Protect the Professional, Economic, and
Educational Interests of all Enrolled Agents*

June 2007

NEXT MEETING Wed, June 20, 2007

Place: **PLEASANTON Crowne Plaza Hotel** (go to http://www.ihotelsgroup.com/h/d/cp/1/en/hotel/sfopl?_requestid=103835 then click on Map/Directions)

4:30 Board Meeting

6:15 Hospitality

6:45 Dinner Buffet

7:15 Program: **"Learning to Love S Corporations"**

Cost: \$35.00 with reservation by Friday June 15
\$45.00 with reservation after deadline

June Topic: "Learning to Love S Corps" Speaker: Andrew Rogers, EA

Although they're not for everyone, they can save some clients money. Andrew will cover:

- When an "S" Corporation is appropriate, when it is not and why,
- Where the savings comes from, how much clients can save and why it's good for your business,
- How to charge your clients more for a corporate return, and why they're happy to pay you,
- Differences between the Schedule C and the 1120S and where to find the info,
- What one thing to always ask for to keep the tax return "in balance,"
- What is the M-1 and M-2 Schedule on the 1120S
- The Nevada/Delaware incorporation fallacy for companies doing business in California,
- Limitations on Retirement Plan contributions for owners of an "S"
- Three things every corporation needs to do each year to stay "legal."

Andrew S. Rogers, E.A. has been giving seminars for the US Small Business Administration in San Francisco to rave reviews for more than a year. Andrew has also given seminars for the Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center, and the East Bay Association of Enrolled Agents, among others. Andrew has been a licensed Enrolled Agent since 1999, and runs his own business, Tax Buddha, where he and a staff of CTEC's prepare taxes and offer QuickBooks consulting year-round. This year, Andrew will present a Basic Payroll Tax Seminar in association with the IRS and EDD.

by Phil Fiegler EA, Program Co-Chair

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Tom Johnston, EA

Thank you for your trust and confidence by electing me President of the Association. I accept the legacy and opportunity to serve.

Many others have preceded me and left a great legacy of service and accomplishment. The greatness of our chapter is in the involvement of many throughout the years who have visibly and/or quietly worked to advance the goals and ideals of the chapter and the advancement of Enrolled Agents. While the officers and board of directors are more visible, there is an army of volunteers working behind the scene to accomplish in large and small ways the work of the association. I am appreciative of all the contributions of many currently serving as well as those who served before us and have left us such a rich legacy.

I am acutely aware that we have a few things that are broken and need fixing in the organization. But we have much that is functioning - like a well oiled machine quietly performing; sometimes unnoticed and feeling unappreciated, but still doing its job and making a contribution to the organization. In this coming year let us begin a new page. Let us appreciate and recognize the contributions of all those helping to make this organization great. Let us reason and work together on solutions where there are problems. It will not be enough to squirt some oil at some of the squeaky and

laboring machinery. It will take the best in all of us to look for solutions. Dwelling on blame is unproductive and only harbors ill feelings. Certainly knowingly or unknowingly I as well as others have contributed to some of the problems we currently have. While our goals may have been honorable, our results have been far less than our expectations. For those who have been offended or harmed in any way or their service to the chapter has been made more difficult, on behalf of myself and the chapter I apologize and ask for your forgiveness.

As we work on solutions and advance the work of the association let us focus on the core purpose, values and goals of the association. While there is a certain amount of business that must be transacted, let us dispatch it efficiently and concentrate more time on achieving our core purpose which is: "To assist Members as they protect and serve taxpayers." Goals and core values were not intended to be hidden out of view in a book somewhere. They are intended to be used.

Let us *Remember the Legacy and Accept the Opportunity to Serve with Purpose.*

SPECIAL ENROLLMENT EXAM CLASS

Once again, we are offering a SEE prep class for all prospective EAs. Due to the changes made to the EA exam, our format has also changed. There will be nearly one month of class, then a short break to take that part of the exam before the next session starts. It is expected that this method will allow the highest retention of important information and thereby increase your prospects of passing the exam on your first try. The SEE class qualifies for 60 hours of EA and CRTP continuing education. Note that the DISCOUNT DEADLINE IS JUNE 15, so please sign up now! More information is available from the flyer enclosed or by contacting Tom Johnston at (925) 828-4500 or at taxtomea@comcast.net

CRITICALLY IMPORTANT - NEW DINNER REGISTRATION PROCESS STARTS NOW!

by Bonnie Buhnerkempe EA, CFP®, CSA

Yes, you no longer have to wait for someone to answer the phone or call you back. You can register for the dinner meeting on-line by going here:

<https://www.123signup.com/calendar?Org=ebaea>

For now, PLEASE bookmark this URL. We have set up a link directly from our website so when you get the bulletin you can register at the same time. You can even register for all dinner meetings through June. The first time you go to register you will need to put your contact information into the system. In the future you will only have to put in your name then proceed with what event you want to register for. When you register you will get an email back confirming your registration.

The official cancellation and other policies will be finalized after we get a bit of experience with the system. For now, if you cancel before the deadline we'll either credit your payment towards a future event or cut you a refund check. If you cancel after the deadline, you can either consider your registration a contribution to the Association or you can find someone to go in your place and notify us accordingly.

BYLAWS CHANGE

by Duncan Sandiland, EA, Nominating Chair

At the Annual Meeting on May 16, the Association Bylaws were changed as follows:

The first sentence of Article 4.02 of the Bylaws was amended from the current text:

"The Board consists of 15 persons: President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, the Immediate Past President, and nine members selected from the membership at large, all of whom must be active members in good standing of the Association."

to the following text:

*"The Board consists of **12** persons: President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, the Immediate Past President, and **six** members selected from the membership at large, all of whom must be active members in good standing of the Association."*

NEW BOARD ELECTED

by Duncan Sandiland, EA, Nominating Chair

At the Annual Meeting on May 16, the following individuals were elected to serve during our 2007-2008 fiscal year:

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| President: | Tom Johnston EA |
| 1 st Vice President: | Walter Nygaard EA, etc |
| 2 nd Vice President: | Peggy Hall EA |
| Secretary: | Don Wayne EA |
| Treasurer: | Tim Hintzoglou EA |
| Director 2007-2009: | Dagmar Bedard EA |
| Director 2007-2009: | Lonnie Gary EA |
| Director 2007-2009: | Ravi Sundarraj EA |
| Director 2007-2008: | Greg Crofton EA |
| Director 2007-2008: | Phil Fiegler EA |
| Director 2007-2008: | Barbara Sparks EA |

AUGUST MINISEMINAR

by Diane Jaworski-Faulhaber EA, CFP®

"THE EA'S GUIDE TO ESTATE ADMINISTRATION" presented by **Art Werner**

August 23, 2007, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

\$189 for 8 hours CPE including lunch

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Pleasanton

What you will learn:

Way too many neat things to list here - More information is available from the flyer enclosed.

YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO MISS THIS CLASS!

NEW CHAPTER OFFICE DUTIES

The Chapter Office has been split into five separate bite-sized positions with the following approximate job descriptions, **AND NOW WITH COMPENSATION OFFERED FOR EACH POSITION.** For more information, please call Bonnie:

- Dinner Meeting Coordinator
- Seminar Registrar [**position filled**]
- Bulletin Editor [**position filled**]
- Webmaster
- Chapter Office

Dinner Meeting Coordinator (est 4 hours/month)

This position takes care of all administrative (non-Program) aspects of the monthly dinner meetings, including:

1. Site selection (book venues one year out for maximum planning time)
2. Menu selection
3. Liaison with hotel staff, including calling in final head count
4. Input future events into online reservation system
5. Maintain list of prepaid and complimentary dinner subscribers
6. Provide final registration list to greeters
7. Provide Member registration assistance as necessary

Compensation: one free dinner subscription

Webmaster (est 5 hours/month)

This position takes care of all aspects of the Chapter website and email channels, including:

1. Update the webpage with each new issue of the Bulletin
2. Update the webpage with each new Chapter educational event
3. Coordinate with Dinner Meeting Coordinator and Seminar Registrar to ensure all registration-enabled events are properly accessible through the Chapter website
4. Maintain appropriate other website content
5. Maintain email distribution lists for Bulletin and News subscribers
6. Format and transmit email broadcasts as appropriate
7. Perform annual synchronization with CSEA email database
8. Maintain and de-spam incoming generic Chapter email accounts
9. Set up and maintain dedicated Chapter topic-based list servers

Compensation: one free dinner subscription

Chapter Office (est 6 hours/month)

This position is the public persona of the Chapter, and also takes care of all banking and archive aspects of Chapter administration, including:

1. Answering the Chapter toll-free phone line, making referrals as necessary
2. Receiving all Chapter faxes and forwarding them to the appropriate parties
3. Receiving Chapter mail via POBox and transmitting mail to the appropriate parties

4. Maintain current membership lists and related lists
5. Make bank deposits at least twice monthly as needed
6. Store historical Chapter records (1 filing cabinet+)
7. Update and maintain Chapter records per the Chapter record retention guidelines
8. Coordinate SEE class inquiries and registrations
9. Oversee other four positions to maintain overall accuracy and consistency

Compensation: one free dinner subscription

CONGRATULATIONS LONNIE!

The Bulletin would like to congratulate Lonnie Gary, EA on having passed the Tax Court Exam. Passing the exam is a huge accomplishment, as only by passing the written admission exam may non-attorney practitioners represent taxpayers before the Tax Court. The four-hour essay exam, covering practice and procedure, federal taxation, evidence and legal ethics, must be passed in one sitting. The exam is only offered once every two years in Washington DC, and normally fewer than ten people pass it each time. It is estimated that there are fewer than 200 USTCPs (US Tax Court Practitioner) in the world! Lonnie is a past Chapter President, a past CSEA President, current Board member, a really nice guy and a wonderful resource for weird tax issues. We suspect this announcement will cause his phone to ring and ring...

2007 TAXTALK SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED

by Diane Jaworski-Faulhaber EA, CFP®

The schedule for TaxTalk is basically 8AM-5PM, Wed, Oct. 31st, Thurs. Nov. 1st and Fri. Nov. 2nd. Pricing is \$480 for all three days or \$189 for any one day, same price for members and non-members this year. The location is the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Pleasanton (or whatever they rename it between now and then).

2007 TaxTalk provides 24 CE hours, including 2 hours Ethics and 4 hours California, thereby completely fulfilling IRS and CTEC/CRTP requirements for 2007 continuing education.

Wed. Oct 31st: Karen Brosi on Stock Options (2 hours) and AMT (2 hours); lunch; Vicki Mulak on CA Update (2 hours) and Domestic Partners (2 hours)

Wed. Oct. 31st: 6PM "Tax Talk After Hours" with Joe Calderaro (no CE, but well worth your time)

Thurs. Nov. 1st: Gary McBride and Tom Daley on Federal Update (8 hours)

Fri. Nov 2nd: Art Werner on Estate Planning and Business Issues (6 hours); Ethics Panel (2 hours)

Watch your mailbox for the flyer or go online to register now and ensure you get the earliest discount pricing!

HUMOR (thanks to Bob McKenzie)

Any Joe can hang a shingle and prepare income tax returns. There are no requirements at all. It's incredible that we have legal requirements for a barber to cut your hair, but there are no requirements for someone to prepare your taxes. Senate Finance Committee Chair Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, Tax Analysts 4-5-06

The tax advisor had just read the story of Cinderella to his four-year-old daughter for the first time. The little girl was fascinated by the story, especially the part where the pumpkin turns into a golden coach. Suddenly she piped up, "Daddy, when the pumpkin turned into a golden coach, would that be classed as ordinary income or a long-term capital gain?"

How much do taxpayers dread preparing their annual tax returns? A recent survey from 2nd Story Software Inc., developers of TaxACT (a preparation software), found that 53 percent of respondents would rather clean their house or visit their in-laws than prepare their taxes. The TaxACT survey also discovered one other tax-related tidbit. Nearly 40 percent of survey respondents said they would least like to have actress, model and socialite Paris Hilton prepare their taxes.

2007 - 2008 Board of Directors and Committee Chairs

Web Page <http://www.ebaea.org>

President: Thomas Johnston EA 925-828-4500
1st VP: Walter Nygaard EA, etc 510-547-0440
2nd VP: Peggy Hall EA 925-388-1040
Treasurer: Tim Hintzoglou EA 925-930-7737
Secretary: Don Wayne EA 925-472-0990
Past Pres: Bonnie Buhnerkempe EA, etc 925-855-0829
Director 2007-2008:
Philip Fiegler EA 510-530-1174
Barbara Sparks EA 925-634-8630
Greg Crofton EA 925-218-2301
Director 2007-2009:
Dagmar Bedard EA 510-537-3883
Lonnie Gary EA, USTCP 650-559-5124
Ravi Sundarraj EA 925-984-1219

Communication Committee, (2nd VP)

Chair: Walter Nygaard EA 510-547-0440
Membership: Barbara Sparks EA 925-634-8630
Judy Gilmer EA 925-373-1468
Outreach: (vacant)
Public Affairs: Michael Barrick EA 510-339-7039
Social Affairs: Janet Bridges EA 510-505-0818
CSEA Directors: Walter Nygaard EA 510-547-0440
Peggy Hall EA 925-388-1040

EAST BAY ASSOCIATION OF ENROLLED AGENTS

POBox 23125
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mark your calendars

June 2007

20 EBAEA Dinner Meeting
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Pleasanton
6/11-6/13 SuperSeminar Las Vegas "A"
6/14-6/16 SuperSeminar Las Vegas "B"
6/19-6/20 CSEA Tax Practice Management
Marriott Ventura Beach Hotel, Ventura

July 2007

14 Chapter Planning Retreat
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Pleasanton
18 EBAEA Dinner Meeting
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Pleasanton

August 2007

15 EBAEA Dinner Meeting
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Pleasanton
23 EA's Guide to Estate Administration
(Art Werner Miniseminar)
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Pleasanton

Education Committee, (1st VP)

Chair: Peggy Hall EA 925-388-1040
Inter-chapter Liaison: (vacant)
Tax Talk: Diane Jaworski-Faulhaber EA 510-538-0948
Charleen Daefield EA 925-872-4075
Program: Philip Fiegler EA 510-530-1174
Scholarship: Norm Madge EA 510-489-8713
Continuing Ed: Joanne Anderson EA 925-938-9086
Town Hall: Ravi Sundarraj EA 925-984-1219
Mini Seminar Team: (vacant)

Administration Committee (IPP)

Chair: Bonnie Buhnerkempe EA, etc 925-855-0829
Audit: Lonnie Gary EA 650-559-5124
Bylaws/SOP: Sal Romo EA 510-417-9492
Budget & Finance: Walt Thomas EA 510-725-8356
Chapter Off.: Bonnie Buhnerkempe EA 925-855-0829
Legislative Affairs: Lillian Lea EA 510-526-2220
Nominating: Bonnie Buhnerkempe EA 925-855-0829
Strategic Advisory:
Bulletin: Duncan Sandiland EA 925-691-1040
TAX Agency Liaison:

(800) 617-1040 fax (925) 465-7474
e-mail: ebaea@ebaea.org

2007 SPECIAL ENROLLMENT EXAM PREPARATION CLASSES

Presented By
EAST BAY ASSOCIATION OF ENROLLED AGENTS

Part 1 – Individuals **Dates: July 14, 21, 28** CPE 18 hrs

Break to take exam on Part 1 if wish.

Part 2 – Businesses **Dates: Aug 25, Sep 15, 22, 29** CPE 24 hrs

Break to take exam on Part 2 if wish.

Part 3 -- Representation, Practice, Procedures **Dates: Oct 20, 27, Nov 3**

CPE 18 hrs *Take exam on Part 3.*

Time: **Saturdays 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM** (Lunch is on your own)

Location: **Crowne Plaza Hotel**, 11950 Dublin Canyon Road,
Pleasanton CA 94588

Instructors: **Richard Goudreau, EA, Gerald Pusateri, EA, Sal Romo, EA**

Class Fees:

Separately - \$225 each

All three parts - \$600

Early bird discount by June 15 - \$525

Text Books are included in class fee

Register online at: www.123signup.com/calendar?Org=ebaea

Information: Tom Johnston at 925-828-4500 or taxtomea@comcast.net

Scholarships: Norm Madge at 408-398-5737 or normmadge@earthlink.net

To apply for Enrollment: www.irs.gov/taxpros/agents

To schedule exam: www.prometric.com/irs

THE EA'S GUIDE TO ESTATE ADMINISTRATION

Presented By
EAST BAY ASSOCIATION OF ENROLLED AGENTS

Speaker
Art Werner

August 23, 2007
8:30 am - 5:00 pm
CPE 8 hrs
\$189
Includes Lunch

Crowne Plaza Hotel
11950 Dublin Canyon Road
Pleasanton CA 94588

What you will learn:

Estate settlement issues, Collection & accounting of assets,
Determining the legitimacy of debts and creditors,
Payment of creditors, Distribution issues,
Probate issues, Will contests,
Inventory of assets, Fiduciary Duties
Rights of Creditors, third parties and beneficiaries,
Federal Estate Tax issues,
Fiduciary Accounting issues, and
Special issues regarding trusts

Contact: Diane Jaworski-Faulhaber, EA at 510-538-0948
e-mail: synergyf@pacbell.net

Register online at: www.123signup.com/calendar?Org=ebaea