



The Bulletin



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

May 2008

NEXT MEETING Wed, May 21, 2008

Place: **NEW SITE: DUBLIN Radisson Hotel**
(go to http://www.radissondestinationguide.com/location/Map.process/OID_EB39EA2D/?hotelCode=CADUBLIN)

4:30 Board Meeting

6:15 Networking

6:45 Dinner Buffet

7:15 Program: **Annual Corporate Meeting +
"Corruption in the Federal Tax System"**

Cost: \$35.00 with reservation by Friday May 16
\$45.00 with reservation after deadline

Sign up online at:

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

(please print out your confirmation to ensure that you clicked all the right buttons to register) Questions: email ebaean@ebaean.org (preferred) or call 800-617-1040.

May Topic: "Corruption in the Federal Tax System"

Speaker: Julie Parodi,

TIGTA Assistant Special Agent in Charge

By Greg Crofton, EA, Program Chair

Did you ever wonder where to report misuse of position by an IRS employee without causing problems for you or your client? Do you know who and what TIGTA is?

After finishing that last tax return for this season and a well deserved period of recuperation, we have a fascinating dinner topic for our next dinner meeting. Rather than dive right back into the tax code, we have a speaker from TIGTA who will speak about Corruption in the Federal Tax System, what TIGTA is and why we want to know about TIGTA.

Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration ("TIGTA") has oversight over IRS activities. Their role is to protect the tax administration process and will

speak to us about the role we play in reporting IRS employee and practitioner misconduct. This topic will qualify for 1 hour toward your annual ethics education requirement.

Speaker Julie Parodi is a graduate of Cal State University Sacramento. She began her law enforcement career in 1987 with the IRS Inspection Service as a Criminal Investigator in San Francisco. In 1998, the Inspection Service was removed from the IRS and TIGTA was created in its place. She continued as a TIGTA Special Agent until January of 2007 when she became the Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the Oakland group in the San Francisco Field Division. She currently supervises seven Special Agents in Oakland, CA and Honolulu, Hawaii.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Tom Johnston, EA

As my year as President draws to a close I would be ungrateful if I did not express my appreciation for the many who have blessed my life this year.

Thank you for those of you who have taken a moment to introduce yourselves to me and chat or express your appreciation. Thank you to all the officers, board of directors, committee chairs and members who have so tirelessly served. Thank you to the Past Presidents and so many others who gave me support and advice when it was needed. Thank you to all of you who in large and small ways quietly work to make the chapter function.

As I reflect on my goals and accomplishments this year, what I have done pales in comparison to the united efforts of others in the association. I am grateful to you all for all you do to advance the profession and association. We have accomplished much this year. Look for our "Year in Review" article in this summer's CSEA magazine. Please welcome and give our new officers and board the same wonderful support you have given me. And please...

Remember the Legacy and Accept the Opportunity to Serve with Purpose.

NEXT YEAR'S BOARD SLATE ANNOUNCED

by Bonnie Buhnerkempe, EA etc, Nominating Chair

Per the requirements of the Bylaws, the Nominating Committee has proposed the following slate of candidates for our 2007-2008 fiscal year:

President:	Peggy Hall EA
1 st Vice President:	Walter Nygaard EA, etc
2 nd Vice President:	Don Wayne EA
Secretary:	vacant
Treasurer:	Tim Hintzoglou EA
Director 2008-2009:	Dagmar Bedard EA
Director 2008-2009:	Lonnie Gary EA
Director 2008-2009:	Ravi Sundarraj EA
Director 2008-2010:	Cherry Comstock EA
Director 2008-2010:	Bob Olsen EA
Director 2008-2010:	vacant

The election for these positions will be held at the May Annual Meeting. Per the Bylaws, eligible Members can run from the floor with no advance notice. However, as a courtesy to those planning the meeting (which is already under a very tight timetable), it is requested that any floor candidate provide advance notice to the Nominating Committee through its Chair, Bonnie Buhnerkempe at (925) 855-0829.

ASK THE ATTORNEY

(Attorney Frank Acuña answers questions frequently asked by our clients (and us). These are general answers and are NOT legal advice. For clarification or other questions, contact Frank at (925) 906-1880 or at ohc@aclawnet.com)

One of my children has a drug or alcohol problem. What should I do?

There are a number of alternatives which may fit your family's situations. Delayed distributions or incentives to promote healing; annuities to provide guaranteed retirement income; or, a lifetime trust with limitations on pre-approved expenses can be drafted into the estate plan instead of providing for an outright distribution.

Each of these alternatives will insure an inheritance for a loved one. However, you should also carefully consider who should serve as trustee. Professional fiduciaries, such as banks, attorneys, or other certified specialists, can serve as a trustee and relieve a responsible family member from the strain of dealing with a drug or alcohol dependent child who is exerting pressure for more money.

Do I need to record any of my estate planning documents? What if I have previously recorded a power of attorney?

Recording estate planning documents is not required. The only document that is required to be record

ed is the deed which transfers real estate that you own into your trust. In most situations, it is not recommended; a living trust is a private document which only needs to be shared with the persons of your choosing. However, in some situations, it may be advisable to record powers of attorney to give notice that the agent has the legal right to act on a disabled adult's behalf or to give notice that a previously-recorded power of attorney has been changed.

IRS PRIORITY TELEPHONE LINES

Practitioner Priority Service	(866) 860-4259
IRS Individual Tax Help Line	(800) 829-1040
Business & Specialty Tax Line	(800) 829-4933
e-Help (Practitioners only)	(866) 255-0654
Refund Hotline	(800) 829-1954
Forms & Publications	(800) 829-3676
National Taxpayer Advocate	(877) 777-4778
EFTPS	(800) 555-4477
TeleTax Topics & Refund Status	(800) 829-4477
Forms 706 & 709 Help Line	(866) 699-4083
Employer Identification Number	(800) 829-4933
Excise Tax & Form 2290	(866) 699-4096
Information Return Reporting	(866) 455-7438

More IRS info available at www.irs.gov

For the complete 2008 FTB Directory, go to:

<http://www.ftb.ca.gov/forms/misc/1240.pdf>

Small Group Tax Meetings

Antioch /Brentwood Fridays 8:00am
Brentwood Café, 8500 Brentwood Blvd, Brentwood
Ken Seamann EA (925) 634-8297

Oakland/Berkeley 3rd Fri 10:30am
Park Avenue Grill, 4184 Piedmont Ave at Linda, Oakland
Philip Fiegler EA (510) 530-1174

Danville Area 4th Tue 9:30am
Pascals French Oven, 155 Railroad Ave, Danville
Michael Power EA (510) 366-8836

Livermore Area Fridays 8:45am
Rock House Café on Portola Ave, Livermore
Richard Goudreau EA (925) 606-6672

Castro Valley 3rd Tue 8:00am
Carrow's, 2723 Castro Valley Blvd @ Lake Chabot, CV
Dagmar Bedard EA (510) 537-3883

South Alameda County 1st Wed 9:30am
Dino's, 1 block W of I-880 on Industrial Blvd, Hayward
Sal Romo EA or Walt Thomas EA (510) 487-1691

Want a group in your area? Contact any of the above leaders for advice and assistance.

BULLETIN ADVERTISING POLICY

by Duncan Sandiland, Bulletin Editor

To encourage more Members to use the Bulletin to fill their needs, we present the Bulletin advertising policy:

- 1) All Bulletin notices are run for three months maximum. If you wish to run a notice for a longer period, you must resubmit it.
- 2) Maximum notice size is 1.5 column inches. This equals a space one and one-half inches high by one column (3.5 inches) wide. The standard Bulletin font is Times New Roman 11 point.
- 3) The Bulletin Editor reserves the right to edit any notice for style, content and length.
- 4) All notices must be submitted (and payment received) by the 25th of the month prior to initial publication. Send the desired text to: bulletin@ebaea.org
- 5) Member notices seeking or offering employment, clients or EA-practice-related matters are run at no charge as a Member benefit. This includes an ad run by a firm which employs a Member. Member notices offering other services or products, and all non-Member notices are run at the standard fee of \$150 for the three-month insertion. The Bulletin Editor reserves the right to modify or reject any notice which, in the sole opinion of the Editor, violates any of the principles of EBAEA.

CHAPTER OFFICE HAS MOVED

**Effective immediately, the new address is 30100 Mission Blvd, Suite 6, Hayward 94544. The contact phone remains the same at 800-617-1040, and the new local number is 510-487-2063. The old local number 925-691-1866 has been disconnected. The new fax number is 510-487-1501. The email address remains ebaea@ebaea.org.
PLEASE UPDATE YOUR RECORDS**

SAVE THE DATES!

Tax Talk 2008 will be held on November 5th, 6th and 7th, 2008 at the Radisson Hotel Dublin. Our program is still developing but we have confirmed Mel Kreger on November 5th presenting My Very First 1041, and My Second, and My Third..., followed by Frank Acuna in the afternoon presenting Trust Administration and Funding Trusts. We are also bringing back Gary McBride with Tom Daley on November 6th presenting our Federal & California Updates. Friday morning we open with Lloyd Kendall, founder of Lawyers Asset in San Leandro, 1031 expert & author, former IRS agent, presenting 1031's. Then we have 2 hours ethics, and in the afternoon, Bryan Gates is presenting recent trends in audits for four hours.

Mel Kreger will be presenting **My Very First 1041, & My Second, & My Third** for the two Wednes-

day morning sessions. Fiduciary tax returns are very confusing because the same form is used by a number of different types of entities. For each type of entity there are a number of options that can be applied. In addition, the rules governing the tax reporting can be altered in the document that created the entity. We will spend four-hours demystifying Form 1041 by using extremely simple examples and then showing step by step how to get your computer program to produce the return you want. The novice will learn where to start and what questions to ask, while the experienced preparer will see how to use tools that are often hidden in their computer software. The IRS has announced its intention to significantly increase the number of 1041 audits. You need to be prepared and you need to be confident.

Please feel free to email Diane Jaworski-Faulhaber at synergvf@pacbell.net with suggestions for topics and/or speakers for the rest of our program. See you in November!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 2008

- 19-21** CSEA SuperSeminar A
@ Flamingo Hotel, Las Vegas
- 21** EBAEA Annual Corporate and Dinner Meeting
-> Election of Officers, TIGTA speaker
@ Radisson Hotel, Regional St, Dublin
- 22-24** CSEA SuperSeminar B
@ Flamingo Hotel, Las Vegas
- 29-31** CSEA SuperSeminar
@ Grand Sierra Resort, Reno

June 2008

- 18** EBAEA Dinner Meeting
- 26** CSEA Annual Meeting (Sacramento)

July 2008

- 16** EBAEA Dinner Meeting

HMMMM...

More than 70% of the rebate paid to taxpayers from the 2001 economic stimulus plan was used by Americans to augment their savings or pay off credit card debt (Financial Times).

In 1988, it took taxable income of \$363,000 on a joint return to produce **federal income tax of \$100,000**. Over the last 20 years, Congress has implemented major changes to the tax code (other than normal cost-of-living adjustments) in 1990, 1993, 2001 and 2003. Now 20 years later, it will take 2008 taxable income of \$367,000 on a joint return to produce **federal income tax of \$100,000** – much ado about nothing? (Tax Foundation).

2008 SPECIAL ENROLLMENT EXAM PREPARATION CLASSES

Presented By
EAST BAY ASSOCIATION OF ENROLLED AGENTS

Part 1 – Individuals Dates: July 12, 19, 26 CPE 18 hrs*
Break to take exam on Part 1 if you wish.

Part 2 – Businesses Dates: Aug 16, 23, Sep 6, 13, 20 CPE 30 hrs*
Break to take exam on Part 2 if you wish.

Part 3 -- Representation, Practice, Procedures Dates: Oct 11, 18
CPE 12 hrs* *Take exam on Part 3. *See pg 2 for CPE Info*

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

Location: **Radisson Hotel**, 6680 Regional St, Dublin CA 94568

Instructors: Experienced Enrolled Agents & Former IRS Instructors

Class Fees:

All three parts - \$635

Early bird discount by June 20 - \$585

Separately - Part I \$235, Part II \$385, Part III \$160

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: See CSEA and NAEA Websites for information.

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

To schedule exam: www.prometric.com/irs