



Golden Gate Chapter Newsletters

California Society of Enrolled Agents

Welcome to GGCEA!

Mark Your Calendar!

GGCEA News Page (formerly the Monthly Newsletter)

Chapter Events

Educational Seminars

Tax Agency Contacts

Thinking About Becoming An Enrolled Agent?

Enrolled Agent Locator (CSEA Link)

Employment Exchange Bank

Newsletter Archive

Governance

Contact Us

The Monthly Newsletter

is now **The GGCEA NEWS PAGE**

Next Dinner Meeting is September 2nd



Golden Gate Chapter News

California Society of Enrolled Agents
September 2010

Monthly Chapter Meeting

Thursday September 2, 2010

The Golden Gate Chapter proudly presents:

ROBERT VALE, ESQ

2010 ESTATE TAX UPDATE

- * DISCOVER IF THERE WILL BE ANOTHER ESTATE TAX
- * LEARN HOW THE ESTATE TAX WILL BE COMPUTED, IF ENACTED
- * THE SECRETS OF HOW THE STEP UP IN BASIS WILL WORK, AS ENACTED
- * DISCOVER THE ESTATE PLANNING TIPS AND TRICKS AVAILABLE



Monthly Chapter Meeting

Thursday September 2, 2010



Come in your Hawaiian Wear

Grosvenor Airport Inn

380 South Airport Blvd., South San Francisco

4:30 pm Board Meeting - All Members Are Welcome

6:00 pm Social/Networking

6:45 pm Dinner

7:30 pm Continuing Education

Dinner: The Great Western Cookout
Marinated Chicken Breast, New York Steak, BBQ Pork Ribs
Served with all the fixin's

No Host Bar & No Host Wine

Please make your reservations as early as possible. We would appreciate credit card payments. Cash & Checks can be delivered at the door. If you miss a meeting your payment will be carried forward to the next meeting once.

Attendees with reservations - \$40 Attendees without a reservation - \$45



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September 2010 President's Message

President's Message

By Denis Maurer, EA

Our summer seems to be just flying by and it is almost time to consider our upcoming tax season. The first item for September is to "refresh" our PTIN numbers. The IRS has decided that rather than issue new PTINs they would "refresh" the PTIN numbers of existing holders. As an Enrolled Agent we do not have to complete a competency exam, but we will have to pay the new annual fee of \$50.00

The IRS is still asking for feedback on the proposed 1099 regulations. The published feedback is very negative and against this new reporting requirement. It will cost our clients and ourselves time and money to implement. Please make your opinion known, contact the IRS at: Notice.Comments@irs.counsel.tres.gov. Include "Notice 2010-51" in the subject line.

This November 11-13th is our annual Fall Update. We have an excellent speaker lineup, as always, and I would ask our members to support your Chapter by attending the seminar. On August 1st, Chapter members attended our PIA event at AT&T park to watch the Giants beat the Dodgers and complete the sweep of the series. I hope more members can attend this enjoyable event next year.

We had an excellent turnout for our August "Western Wear" dinner meeting and I wanted to remind you that September's dinner meeting theme will be "Hawaiian Shirt or Dress" night.

Enjoy the remainder of the summer and hopefully we will have our good weather back in September.

Board Meeting Minutes - August 5 Meeting

Board In Action

Meeting Minutes

The Board of Directors met on Thursday, August 5th. President Maurer related current information regarding PTINs. It has been decided that those who hold PTIN numbers can continue using the same number after it is registered with the IRS. He also reported how e-filing requirements of preparers will change from mandatory for those preparing 100 or more returns in 2010-2011 to mandatory for those preparing 11 or more in 2012.

President Maurer and Director Dito submitted a report summarizing a recent CSEA Public Information and Awareness (PIA) workshop. Of potential interest to the membership was the presentation of the new CSEA logo. It was noted the logo might require revision depending on the final determination regarding any change to our "Enrolled Agent" designation.

Director Boston and Chairman Golden reported that the chapter newsletter is now web based and resident on the chapter website. President Maurer will inform the members at the dinner meeting and invites all members to explore the website and its many new features.

A motion was passed to allocate \$500 to the PIA Community Outreach Subcommittee to obtain t-shirts, buttons and other paraphernalia. These items will be provided to chapter members who volunteer in this year's "Always Serving the Public" drive. The matter is referred to Finance and Budget for review.

Director Ellison submitted a report from the CSEA Legislative Affairs Committee. Chapter members are being asked to contact their geographical representatives. CSEA will provide with materials to deliver along with summaries of issues and positions to discuss with representatives or their staff. Interested members should contact Director Ellison.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on Thursday, September 2nd at 4:30 p.m. All Chapter members are welcome.



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Membership Corner

Membership Corner

Auction Items needed for Fall Update Seminar

Our **2010 FALL UPDATE SEMINAR** will have a silent auction. The proceeds will be used for our Chapters Public Information and Awareness campaign.

Members who have items they would like to donate to the auction, please contact **Jim Southward** or **Bruce Lacina** - [LINKS TO THEIR EMAILS ARE SHOWN BELOW](#)

ATTENTION ATTENTION ATTENTION

For those who are currently or previously Enrolled Agents: scholarships for tuition (including registration, fees and books) for courses in the field of taxation, finance and accounting are now available. Examples of courses that qualify include Tax Court, NTPI, C-Star, etc.

For additional information, please contact the CSEA Education Foundation (916) 366-6646 or go to their website—[LINK SHOWN BELOW](#) and use **Form S-2**. You can also contact **Lydia Mazer EA** - (650) 593-1401 - [HER EMAIL LINK IS SHOWN BELOW](#)

CALLING ALL GOLDEN GATE CHAPTER MEMBERS

The CSEA Education Foundation is now accepting donations for their annual on Line Auction to be held October 1-November 30, 2010. Donations can include timeshares, hot air balloon rides, seminars, wine tasting events, etc.

Contact Lydia Mazer - (650) 593-1401 - [HER EMAIL LINK IS SHOWN BELOW](#)

You can go to CSEAeducationfoundation.org. for an application. The foundation needs to raise money to able to provide scholarships for both Enrolled Agents and prospective Enrolled Agents.

If you hear of any Golden Gate Chapter Members who are under the weather, contact **Jeanne Gerritsen, EA** at (650) 995-9903

[HER EMAIL LINK IS SHOWN BELOW](#) - so an appropriate memento can be sent.



Introductions & Bios

Get to Know Your Fellow Members



Denis Maurer
GGCEA President

INSIGHT INTO OUR ILLUSTRIOUS PRESIDENT

Denis Maurer majored in Accounting at Boston University School of Management and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. Following a 20 year, career as a General Contractor in the construction industry in California and Massachusetts, in 1998 he saw the light and moved to San Francisco, returning to the field of accounting by opening his own bookkeeping and tax preparation company in Potrero Hill. Lucky Golden Gate Chapter!

Denis is a member of the Golden Gate Chapter of Enrolled Agents, CSEA, and NSEA. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Golden Gate Chapter for the past three years and is currently the President of the Golden Gate Chapter. Because of his many contributions to the Chapter, he was voted Member of the Year for 2007-2008.

MEET OUR NEW MEMBER!

Keith Anglen joined the Golden Gate Chapter in April 2010. He has quite an extensive and interesting background. After graduating from the University of Colorado where he studied the physical sciences, Keith worked in the Colorado IT industry in the area of systems development, sales, and project management. He provided ERP (*Enterprise Resource Planning*) project management solutions in the areas of mining, transportation, banks, and financials and filled assignments in London, Singapore, Brazil, and the United States. He currently does full time EA work in tax representation.



Keith Anglen
NEW GGCEA Member

Welcome, Keith!



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IRS Announces New Return Preparer Application System and User Fee;

IRS Also Releases Proposed Regulations to Amend Circular 230 Rules

WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service today announced that a new online application system for compensated tax return preparers is expected to go live in mid-September. The IRS has proposed to require all individuals who receive compensation for preparing all or substantially all of a federal tax return or claim for refund after Dec. 31, 2010, to have a Preparer Tax Identification Number (PTIN).

Under the proposed regulations, compensated tax return preparers will need to obtain, or reapply for, a PTIN and pay a user fee using this new comprehensive system, which is part of a series of steps planned to increase oversight of federal tax return preparation. Tax return preparers will be creating PTIN accounts with the IRS when they use the new system.

"This is an important first step because it lays the groundwork in our efforts to ensure the quality and integrity of professional tax return preparation, which most taxpayers rely on in one form or another," said IRS Commissioner Doug Shulman.

Compensated tax return preparers would pay a \$64.25 user fee the first year for a PTIN based on two underlying costs. The IRS proposes to collect \$50 per user to pay for outreach, technology, and compliance efforts associated with the new program. And the third-party vendor will receive \$14.25 per user to operate the online system and provide customer support.

Under the proposed regulations, compensated tax return preparers will be required to renew their PTINs annually and pay the associated user fee. The amount of the fee may change in future years as the actual program costs are periodically reevaluated.

Under the proposed regulations, the requirement to sign up on the new system will apply to all compensated tax return preparers of federal tax returns regardless of whether they currently possess a PTIN. Tax return preparers who already have a PTIN generally will be reassigned the same number. Any individual who plans to prepare all or substantially all of a tax return for compensation must obtain a PTIN even if the individual is not subject to the testing and continuing education requirements that will be required under Circular 230, according to the IRS' proposed regulation. Access to the online application system will be through the Tax Professionals page of IRS.gov.

The IRS previously announced its portion of the total annual fee in proposed regulations (REG-139343-08) and interested parties have until Aug. 23, 2010, to submit comments on the regulations. A hearing on the proposed regulations is scheduled for Aug. 24, 2010. The launch of the new online application system and proposed user fees are dependent on the publication of final regulations on user fees and final regulations of the requirement to obtain a PTIN.

Proposed Regulations Released Related to Circular 230

The IRS also today released proposed regulations that would amend Treasury Circular 230, the rules governing practice before the IRS. The proposed regulations generally would extend current regulations that apply to attorneys, certified public accountants and other specified tax professionals to all tax return preparers, including currently unenrolled tax return preparers.

The proposed regulations (REG-138637-07) would clarify the definition of practice, establish a new registered tax return preparer designation and the eligibility requirements for becoming a registered tax return preparer, repropose standards with respect to the preparation of tax returns, revise rules regarding continuing education providers, and amend multiple other sections of Circular 230. Tax professionals and other interested parties have until Oct. 7, 2010, to submit comments regarding the proposed regulations.

Existing PTIN Application Process to Suspend Operations

In preparation for the launch of the comprehensive new PTIN system, the IRS will cease issuing PTINs effective Aug. 22 using Form W-7P, Application for Preparer Tax Identification Number, and through e-services – Online Tools for Tax Professionals. If you apply for a PTIN before Aug. 22, 2010, you will have to reapply once the new online PTIN application system begins.



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IRS Requests Public Input on Expanded Information Reporting Requirement

IR-2010-79, July 1, 2010

WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service today invited public comment on how to most effectively carry out a law change that, starting in 2012, will require businesses to report a wider range of payments to contractors, vendors and others, usually on Form 1099. These comments will help the IRS issue guidance that implements this provision in a manner that minimizes burden and avoids duplicate reporting.

Under a proposed regulation, many business purchases made with credit or debit cards would be exempt from the new reporting requirement because they are already reported by banks and other payment processors. The IRS seeks comments on additional circumstances in which duplicate reporting might otherwise occur and on rules that would prevent such duplicate reporting.

The change, enacted in March but not effective until 2012, expanded existing reporting requirements to include a business's payments related to goods and other property, and payments to most corporations. With some exceptions, payments to corporations are currently exempt from this requirement.

There are three ways to submit comments.

- **E-mail** to: Notice.Comments@irs.counsel.treas.gov.
Include "Notice 2010-51" in the subject line
- **Mail** to: Internal Revenue Service
CC:PA:LPD:PR (Notice 2010-51)
Room 5203
P.O. Box 7604
Ben Franklin Station
Washington, DC 20044 .
- **Hand deliver** between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. to:
CC:PA:LPD:PR (Notice 2010-51)
Courier's Desk
Internal Revenue Service
1111 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, DC,

The deadline is September 29, 2010.

Further details are in Notice 2010-51, posted on IRS.gov.

Expansion of 6041 Information Requirements



NAEA News E@lert
June 9th issue

IRS Gears Up to Business-to-Business Information Reporting Requirement

While an excise tax on tanning services was the first health care reform revenue raiser to hit the books, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 also includes new § 6041 requirements with respect to reporting of payments made in the course of a payor's trade or business. For those of you running to your trusty copy of the IRC, § 6041 generally requires information returns to be made by every person (payor) engaged in a trade or business who makes payments (as defined in § 6041(a)) in the course of the payor's trade or business that are in aggregate \$600 or more to another person. Broadly, the new requirements (as reported in E@lert earlier this year) expand § 6041 information reporting requirements to apply to payments made to corporations and to include certain payments of gross proceeds with respect to property.

In order to provide guidance for the new law, which applies to payments made after December 31, 2011, IRS issued a notice requesting public input. While it proposed regs exempting payment card purchases otherwise reportable under § 6050W, the Service did not issue proposed regs for the entire new law, instead opting for an approach that allows more flexibility. The notice allows for a 90-day comment period, closing on September 29, 2010.



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New Insurance Benefits for GGCEA Members

The California Society of Enrolled Agents
in cooperation with American Income Life Insurance Company is
pleased to announce that we are providing additional benefits
to make your membership even more valuable!

These benefits include:



• **\$2,000 Accidental Death & Dismemberment Group Benefit at NO COST!**

• **Health Services Discount Card**
Provides up to 60% discounts on Chiropractic Care, Hearing Care, at NO COST to the entire household! (Optional Discount Dental Available)

• **Child Safe Kits**
This valuable tool can provide information to the authorities if your child or grandchild should ever go missing!

PLEASE CHECK YOUR MAIL FOR A LETTER REGARDING THESE BENEFITS!

To view the letter on-line, visit <http://www.allife.com/benefits/pgape>

Once you return the response card, an AIL representative will set up a convenient time to deliver your benefits and explain additional insurance coverage available.

For more information on your benefits, please contact:

Sara Thrailkille at (925)353-8069 or (888) 252-3550 Ext. 229,
or email (sathrailkille@allife.com)

American Income Life is an International company licensed in 49 States, the District of Columbia, Canada and New Zealand and is a large provider of supplemental benefits in North America. AIL has earned an A+ (Superior) Financial Strength rating from A.M. Best Company. (as of 6/09)

Annual Meeting Reimbursements

Annual Meetings Reimbursements

CSEA Annual Meeting Reimbursement Allowance:

The Chapter is to allocate \$2,500 not to exceed \$250 per person, when available, to provide an allowance to Members attending all business sessions and CSEA Caucus (if any), provided the Member has attended 2/3 of the annual 11 Chapter meetings. Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs of CSEA & NAEA who are unable to attend Chapter meetings due to Society business receive credit for Chapter Attendance. (BM 6/5/97)

NAEA Annual Meeting Reimbursement Allowance:

The Chapter is to allocate funds, when available, to provide an allowance to Members attending all business meetings and the Caucus, if any, of the NAEA Annual Meeting provided the Member has attended at least 2/3 of the prior twelve-month Chapter meetings. Officers, Directors & Committee Chairs of CSEA & NAEA who are unable to attend Chapter meetings due to Society business receive credit for Chapter attendance. (BM 7/10/97) For the 2009/2010 year the reimbursement amount has been set at \$1,500 not to exceed \$150 per person.



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Member Survey Q&A

Answering Survey Questions



Q. Why are the Dinner Meetings so expensive?

A. *The Chapter makes no money on Dinner Meetings. In fact, we usually run in the negative for our Dinner Meetings. The reason the rates were recently raised was to try and cover most of our costs. Over the years, the Chapter has looked into several hotels to have our monthly meeting and provide meals at a reasonable cost. The Grosvenor Hotel has provided the best value at the most reasonable price.*

Q. Why don't we purchase advertising on a billboard on Highway 101?

A. *Unfortunately, the cost of billboard advertising in the Bay area is more than the Chapter can afford. We did look into a billboard by the Bay Bridge and the quoted costs were from \$20,000 to \$40,000 per month. On Highway 101 the costs were less, but still much more than the Chapter budget for one billboard for one month. Our Public Information and Awareness posters on Buses and BART for the past two years have reached more than 6 million people in one month. This was determined to be the best value and use of our funds.*

Q. People are not friendly at Chapter meetings.



A. *I think you will find that the vast majority of members and guests attending are friendly and engaging. The solution to this problem is for members who have stopped attending to come back and be open and willing to make an effort to talk to other members. We have re-instituted our greeters at the meetings, but really, it is on everyone who attends to make an effort to speak with each other. You will find an interesting and lively exchange of ideas on a variety of topics including tax information.*

News Editor / Publisher Contacts

Send your **Articles and Announcements** to:

[Amanda Southward, EA](#)

no later than the 10th of each month before the monthly Chapter Meeting.

(click on her name for email link)

The Editor may edit or reject submissions.

Place your **Employment Exchange Bank** needs with:

[Dahlia Wood, CFP, EA](#)

**1920 Alden Street, Belmont, CA 94002
(650) 520-5601**

(click on her name for email link)



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