

Connecticut Chapter National Association of Tax Professionals

May, 2009 Newsletter

Presidents Comments by Bill Van Hall, EA

As we always say another tax season is over and planning for next year is already in process. Go to www.natptax.com for information on The 2009 National Conference to be held in Reno, Nevada on July 20-23. Also be sure to see Jerry Van Duinen's article and flyer on the Connecticut NATP Chapter's June 4 seminar to be held at the Marriott in Cromwell.

This season I found much confusion resulting from the stimulus payment that the taxpayers received last year. They wanted to know why I needed that information. They were sure it was not taxable and did not have to be reported. After I explained the process, those who ended up with more money were pleased.

The other item I found interesting was the different mileage rates for the first half of the year and the second half. However, I was not too surprised to find that most drove more miles in the last half of the year than the first half.

I hope everyone saw my email that the Connecticut Legislature is considering implementing a sales tax charge on Income Tax Preparation Service. If you did not see the email, contact me and I will see that you get a copy. *The Hartford Courant* ran an article on April 3 that covered this plan along with a number of other income producing options the legislature is considering.

It does not seem right that the state would be telling State of Connecticut residents, that not only do they want you to pay your income tax, but they want to charge residents a sales tax as you comply with that obligation.

Be sure to contact your Senator or Member of the House of Representatives to voice your opposition to this plan. Also, if possible, have your customers contact their representatives.

Your Connecticut Chapter is in need of individuals who want to become Board Members. We need people who are willing to work on education programs and individuals who can become officers of the board. Go to www.natptax.com and select state chapters to find the board member for your area and contact them to discuss what is involved in being a board member. Contact any of the officers to discuss what is involved in being a board officer.

Vice Presidents Comments by Jerry van Duinen, MS, EA, CSA

Now that the 2009 tax preparation cycle is behind us it is time to plan for the maintenance and up-grading of our professional skills. Your CT Chapter of NATP has planned help in this area of professional skills maintenance with a tax seminar planned for June

Date June 4, 2009

Place Courtyard Marriot, Cromwell, Ct.

Time 7:30 Registration

8:00 Seminar begins

Topics/Speakers AM

-IRS tax updates and ethics

-Annual meeting and election of chapter officers

Lunch

Topics/Speakers PM

-Michael Lynch, CFP, instructor and author on tax matters

-Elder tax issues

-Elder estate planning

-Keeping the house or not

THIS SEMINAR QUALIFIES FOR 8 HRS CPE
INCLUDING 2 HRS ETHICS

Our November tax seminar was very informative and well attended. Our June seminar looks to be even more attuned to the issues faced by our clients.

Seating is limited so if you're interested in attending, please register as soon as possible. A paper registration form is attached to this newsletter, or if you prefer to register online and pay by credit card, please select the following link: <http://www.natptax.com/ct.html#Education>

CT NATP Annual Meeting

June is the month that the CT NATP holds their annual chapter meeting. This meeting is required by our chapter bylaws. At this meeting our annual financial statement is submitted to all members. We will elect the Board or Directors. A representative from the national office of The National Association of Tax Professionals will swear in new board officers and provide updates on the association activities. We invite all members to be present for this annual meeting.

Tax Amnesty Program

by Bill Van Hall, EA

By now I hope everyone has heard about the State of Connecticut Tax Amnesty Program. However, there may be someone out there who has not heard about the program.

The state is offering a tax amnesty that they have labeled "Come Clean". It is available from May 1, 2009 to June 25 2009. Complete details can be found at the Department of Revenue Services web site www.ct.gov/DRS.

Some of the highlights are both business and individuals are being asked to first complete a tax return or an amended tax return for the year involved and calculate the amount of tax that is due. To apply for the program you must do so electronically through the DRS web site. No paper submissions are being accepted.

There will be a form the tax payer completes giving information to identify the tax type, tax year and the amount that is due, based on the results of the tax return or the amended tax return. The web site will calculate the interest due based on the information the tax payer provides and give the taxpayer a total amount due, including interest. There will be no penalty and the interest rate will be reduced by 25%. Businesses must pay by direct payment, ACH Credit or Credit Card. Individuals will have these options along with pay by check.

The program does not cover business or individual who are already in a payment plan or have received a tax bill or are on audit or under criminal investigation by the Department of Revenue Services. However, they could apply for amnesty for years not involved in these situations

You can also visit www.comecleanct.com for more information.

CT DRS News

Follow these simple directions to register for *DRS-E-NEWS* and our other e-alert options. You may register to receive any one or all of the following email alerts:

DRS-E-NEWS - Tax news and notification, legislative updates, and links to all new publications and forms

**Employer's withholding tax information,
Press releases,**

TSC-BUS - information about our online business tax filing system

e-File (fed/state income tax electronic filing)

Top 100 List

Connecticut Tobacco Directory - information about additions or deletions from the Directory of all tobacco product manufacturers and brand families that are certified as being in compliance with Connecticut law.

TO REGISTER:

If you are not yet registered* on our site, go to the Registration Page at:
http://www.ct.gov/drs/guestaccount/registration_for_m.asp

Type information in the required fields. (Choose "Guest" from the drop down box for "User Category".

Create a User ID and Password. (Write them down.)
Press the "Submit" Button.

On the next page, subscribe to our e-alerts by checking one or more of the boxes.

Press "Subscribe".

To ensure our messages are delivered properly to your inbox (not bulk or junk folders), add drs@po.state.ct.us to your Address Book or Safe List.

*If you are already registered and want to add *DRS-E-NEWS* or other e-alerts to your subscription, simply log in and then scroll to the bottom left side of the page to select "Subscribe Now or Update Your E-Alerts".

It is not necessary to log on to our site in the future unless you need to change your email address or other information. Otherwise, simply visit the site as you usually do. Your e-alerts will come to your email address. There will be a link in the e-alert that will bring you to the information.

FORGOT YOUR PASSWORD?: If you do need to log on again but you have forgotten your password, simply go to "Log in" on the lower left side of the homepage. On the log in page, click "Forgot Password". Your Log In ID and password will be emailed to you as long as the email address matches the address you used when you registered. (For your convenience, write down your ID and password and keep them in a safe place.)

TO CHANGE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS: To change your email address, log in at

<http://www.ct.gov/drs/guestaccount/login.asp> and then go to "Update Profile" below "Quick Links" on the left side of the page. Type in the corrections and press "submit".

UNSUBSCRIBE To unsubscribe, log in at

<http://www.ct.gov/drs/guestaccount/login.asp> and then go to "Subscribe Now or Update Your e-alerts" below "Quick Links" on the left side of the page. Remove the check mark to unsubscribe from any or all e-alerts. Press "Subscribe" to save your changes.

We hope that you will enjoy and benefit from *DRS-E-NEWS* and from our e-alert system.

Welcome New Members

By Mary Aresimowicz, EA

Welcome to the following members who have recently joined the Connecticut NATP chapter:

Jim Crainich, Derby
Kathleen Devanney, Milford
Jill Evans, Milford
Thomas Hogan, Stamford
Yan Goldstein, Stamford
Norman Grill, Fairfield
Cynthia Munoz, Middlebury
Prince Scott, Bridgeport

Welcome New Board Members

Welcome to the following people who have volunteered to join the CT NATP board of directors:

Dana Andrews
Brenda Burton-Seldon
Leonard Tashman

Newsletter Submissions

If you would like to submit anything for the next CT Chapter newsletter, e-mail your information to gparch1@aol.com.



Connecticut Chapter
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF TAX PROFESSIONALS

William Van Hall, EA President 203-798-9528

NATP Spring Conference

Cromwell Marriott Courtyard 4 Sebethe Drive Cromwell, CT 06416

860-635-1001

June 4, 2009

Come and meet with us in preparing for another successful tax year. Your chapter will sponsor 8 CPE Credits based on topics presented by the IRS and by Michael Lynch.

Registration: 7:30 – 8 AM

Meeting: 8 AM – 5 PM including AM coffee, lunch and afternoon refreshments

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Topics/Speakers AM

-IRS tax updates and ethics

-Annual meeting and election of chapter officers

Lunch 12:00 – 12:45

Topics/Speakers PM

-Michael Lynch, CFP, instructor and author on tax matters

-Elder tax issues

-Elder estate planning

-Keeping the house or not

THIS SEMINAR QUALIFIES FOR 8 HRS CPE INCLUDING 2 HRS ETHICS

Seating will be limited and registrations should be received by May 29. Please send in your registration as early as possible.

Registration fee of \$100 for members includes lunch and 8 CPE credits. Non-members pay \$125. If you are not a member of the National Association of Tax Professionals and send in an application with the first year's dues, you will be eligible to register at the member price. Here is a link to a pdf with a 2009 Enrollment Form - <http://www.natptax.com/membershipapplication.pdf> .

Registration for Spring Seminar

Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____

State _____
Zip _____

E-mail _____

Amount _____

**Registration fee of \$100 for members includes lunch
and 8 CPE credits. Non-members pay \$125**

Register online by credit card or
Mail registration to:

**Mary Aresimowicz
211 New Britain Road Suite 209
Kensington, CT 06037
(860) 827-8787**