



NEW YORK CHAPTER CHATTER – FEBRUARY 2009

Quiz: Where did the month of February go?

Breaking News: See NY NATP President Kathryn Keane’s message below. Some of your clients may have their New York refunds delayed.

As an aside, I always tell my clients who ask when they’ll get their New York refunds that New York is in Never-Never Land, you never know when you’ll get your refund!

General Changes: General changes in New York tax law are shown below.

Software Alert: NY NATP member Victoria Brush has shared with us the fact that ProSeries software doesn’t support e-filing New York City corporate tax returns. There is a solution: let Intuit know you want this capability. See the article for how to do that.

NY NATP Board of Directors: The NY NATP directors and officers and the areas they represent are included in this newsletter.

Fall NY NATP Seminars: We have a “teaser” about the fall seminars NY NATP will be sponsoring. We’re also trying something new this year: a course in basic IT-201 preparation. I’ll include more information in future newsletters as it becomes available – sometime after April 15th!

Welcome to New Members: I’ve included a list of tax professionals who joined NATP in January 2009 in the table below.

I wish everyone a stress-free and profitable tax season. Well, that’s what I wish, but probably not what you’ll get – especially the stress-free part. ☺

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President's Message

Hello Fellow NY NATP Members,

We are sending you this Special Bulletin to alert you that NYS is requesting verification of the withholdings when a refund is higher than the average refund. While we are aware that this is not convenient, we have been told it is part of the State's attempts to curtail fraud.

In my own practice, I have seen over 20 of these letters since Thursday. Funny, most of the impacted taxpayers have been State or City employees! While we can speculate to the State's reasons, no real purpose can be served. We have been assured that as soon as the State receives the hard copy of the W2 (which you can fax to the number on the notice) the refund will be processed.

This is not new to members with New Jersey clients. The Garden State has been doing this to above average refunds for years. It is our hope that this issue at the State is addressed as the proposed budget assesses a "fee" on paper returns.

Unlike other associations, your elected leadership is in the field alongside you, each working our own practices, facing the same issues you do. I have pulled from my software a list of NYS refunds over \$1000 and mailed them a letter to be ready for the NYS notice. Like we have nothing better to do the first week of March!!!!

Wishing you all a great day,
Kathryn
Kathryn M Keane, EA
President, NY NATP

<http://www.natptax.com/ny.html>

General Changes for 2008

- **Strengthened enforcement**

To ensure that all taxpayers pay their fair share, the Tax Department is moving aggressively to further expand and strengthen its fraud-fighting capabilities, reign in evasion, and instill greater confidence in our tax system.

- **Extension of tax shelter reporting requirements**

The expiration date of the reporting requirements and related administrative provisions concerning the disclosure of certain transactions and related information regarding tax shelters, including those related to New York reportable transactions, has been extended to July 1, 2011.

Changes to existing credits

- **New York City school tax credit**

For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2008, the credit has been eliminated for New York City residents with federal adjusted gross income (minus any IRA distributions) in excess of \$250,000.

- **Clean heating fuel credit**

The credit has been reinstated and applies to bioheat purchased on or after January 1, 2008, and before January 1, 2012. For additional information, see Form IT-241, Claim for Clean Heating Fuel Credit, and its instructions.

- **Taxicabs and livery service vehicles accessible to persons with disabilities credit**

The credit has been extended to include costs incurred before January 1, 2011. For additional information, see Form IT-239, Claim for Credit for Taxicabs and Livery Service Vehicles Accessible to Persons with Disabilities, and its instructions.

- **Empire State film production credit**

For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2008, the credit amount has been increased from 10% to 30% of qualified production costs. Also, if the amount of the credit allowed exceeds the taxpayer's tax, the entire excess will be refunded (without interest) in the tax year the credit is claimed. For additional information, see Form IT-248, Claim for Empire State Film Production Credit, and its instructions.

New modifications

- **Subtraction modification for military pay**

A new subtraction is available for military pay included in your federal adjusted gross income that you received for active service as a member in the armed services of the United States in an area designated as a combat zone.

SOFTWARE ALERT **Courtesy of Victoria Brush**

ProSeries doesn't support e-filing for the New York City corporation returns. All last year I thought NYC wasn't participating in electronic filing, but just recently I discovered it was a ProSeries issue, not an NYC issue. **ProSeries suggests tax preparers go to their help menu and request that they include electronic filing for NYC corporations next year.** I would like as many people as possible who use ProSeries to make the request. {Editor's comment: I also use ProSeries. My experience is that they will respond if enough people request that a feature be added to the software, such as adding the Form IT-280 several years ago.}

REGIONAL STRUCTURE - NY NATP

OFFICERS

President: Kathryn M. Keane, EA, ABA
Vice President W. Ralph Sommers, EA
Secretary: Michael P. Novick, EA, Esq
Treasurer: Kathleen A. Garrow, EA

BOARD OF DIRECTORS **

<u>Region</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>Expires</u>	<u>Term #</u>
CENTRAL NEW YORK	Area Code 315		
Michael R. Hayes, EA		2009	1
John D. Shannon, EA		2011	1
LONG ISLAND	Area Codes 516, 631		
Richard H. Rottkamp, EA		2011	3
Robert J. Weckesser Jr.		2010	1
METRO NEW YORK	Area Codes 212, 347, 646, 718, 917		
Kathryn M. Keane, EA		2009	1*
Michael P. Novick, EA, Esq		2010	2
Raj Prashad, EA, CFP, ChFC		2011	1
Melvin Wolfson, EA		2010	1
MID – HUDSON	Area Codes 845, 914		
Lou Kolano		2011	1
Nick Kounios, ATP, ATA		2010	1
SOUTHERN TIER	Area Code 607		
Martin Bleiwess		2011	1
Wendy C. Loomis, EA		2009	3*
UPPER HUDSON – CAPITAL	Area Code 518		
Kathleen A. Garrow, EA		2010	2
W. Ralph Sommers, EA		2009	3*
WESTERN NEW YORK	Area Codes 716, 585		
Barbara Robinson, CPA		2009	1
Robert J. Genovese, CPA		2011	1**

- * Continuing until rep is found. Directors may serve voluntarily upon expiration of their term until a replacement is found. Directors may serve up to three (3) consecutive terms.
- ** At-Large seats are filled by any member in good standing even though they may reside/practice outside their home region. Any member in good standing may apply for directorship in his/her home region at any Annual Meeting to replace the At-Large director serving outside his/her home region.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Bylaws: Robert Weckesser Jr. Newsletter: Michael Hayes
 National Conference: Richard Rottkamp Nominating: Robert Weckesser Jr.
 Education: Nick Kounios Professional Standards: W. Ralph Sommers
 Government Relations: Melvin Wolfson Regional: Kathleen Garrow
 Membership/Public Relations: Barbara Robinson (Relations), W. Ralph Sommers (Membership)

Fall 2009 NY NATP Seminars

Here's an advanced look at the seminars we're planning:

Fall 2009 NYNATP Education Seminar Schedule

Date	Location
10/19/09	Middletown
10/20/09	Staten Island
10/21/09	New York City
10/22/09	Smithtown
10/24/09	Rockville Center
10/26/09	Buffalo
10/27/09	Rochester
10/28/09	Syracuse
10/29/09	Binghamton
10/30/09	Albany
11/5/09	Fishkill (Annual Meeting)
December 2009	Downstate
December 2009	Downstate
December 2009	Upstate

Fall Seminar Topics

October & November 2009

NY Credits
NY Updates
NY State Speaker
Internet Sales
NYS Estate Tax Basics
NYS Source of Income

December 2009

Basic IT-201 Preparation

- Aimed at new preparers and experienced preparers looking for a refresher

New members – January 2009

I'd like to welcome the following new NATP members and thank you for joining.

Full Name	City	State
Blanca Alvarado-Rodriguez	Bellerose	NY
Stephen J Cantore	West Islip	NY
Sharon Chase-Eason	Ossining	NY
Nelson Correa, LPA	Woodhaven	NY
Gail Del Bene	Valhalla	NY
Anthony Del Prete	Lindenhurst	NY
Ktasha Nicole Hardge	Mount Vernon	NY
Adrienne Z Haynes	Beacon	NY
Aslim Khan	Queens	NY
Eugene B Kleinhans, Jr	Redwood	NY
Robert Z Luc	Glendale	NY
Rebecca M Minto	Long Beach	NY
Paul J Mula	Kingston	NY
Thampy Tony Ninan, EA	Dobbs Ferry	NY
Jean B Pyrol	Brooklyn	NY
Barry Rachnowitz	Howard Beach	NY
Linda M Schuler, EA	Dundee	NY
Melvin C Scott	Jamaica	NY
Manjit S Uppal	South Richmond Hill	NY

The State Office of the New York Chapter of NATP

Remember that we are here to help our membership. If you have a New York State tax question contact us. If we can answer you question we will or we will put you in touch with someone who can.

**NY Chapter NATP State Office
1129 Front St., Binghamton, NY 13905
Phone (800) 822-3260. Fax (607) 723-1022.
Email NYNATPstateoffice@att.net**

Quiz Answer:

Where did the month of February go?

Answer: Beats the heck out of me! I've been so busy that I lost track of the whole month. ☺