



Board Commentaries

From the Desk of Laura M. Morton

Georgia Chapter

Board of Directors

Laura M. Morton – President
laura@10keysolutions.com
Term Expires – 2018

Jack Parks, Sr. – Vice President
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Term Expires – 2017

J. David Evans – Secretary
jdavidevans@windstream.net
Term Expires – 2016

Jerry H. Oakes – Treasurer
jhoakes@askmyaccountants.org
Term Expires – 2017

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John Beazle – Director
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Term Expires – 2017

Cecil Norris – Director
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Term Expires – 2016

Bobbie Wainwright – Director
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Term Expires – 2016

Sheila Oakes – Director
sheila@askmyaccountants.org
Term Expires - 2016

Hello Members!

I am very excited to be the new President of the Georgia Chapter, taking over the role and good works of Jack Parks. With his continued participation on the Board as Vice President, he will be a valued resource. The Board had their annual retreat the weekend of November 6th & 7th, reviewing both past matters and planning for the year ahead. Working to improve the areas of concern, we carefully reviewed the evaluations submitted by members who attended the Annual Conference in Dillard. Overall reviews were positive and everyone LOVED the speaker, Kathryn Keane.

Other education efforts the Board is pursuing is a one-day summer class with a National speaker and setting up Fall regional tax classes. These “Tax 101” classes will teach the basics of 1040 preparation and will be ideal for seasonal help and existing staff to help with the overall tax process. These classes will be held in various locations across the state so if you have a particular area you would like to be served, please let the Board know.

The Board is excited to see so much growth in the participation of our members and we want to continue that growth into 2016. Reach out to fellow practitioners in your area and share with them the benefits of NATP and GA-NATP.

Of course, before all of the education and conferences begin, we must survive another tax season. Please remember that GA-NATP and your Board of Directors are a valuable and available resource.

Laura M. Morton
President, Georgia NATP



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Chapter News

~ Chapter News and Education Opportunities ~

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Mark Your Calendars!

- **National Conference & Expo**

August 9 – 12, 2016
Indianapolis, IN

- **NATP Tax Forum & Expo**

September 21 – 22, 2016

Las Vegas, NV

September 7 – 8, 2016

Philadelphia, PA

- **1040 Workshop**

2016 Dates & Locations TBA

- **Final 1041 & Estates**

2016 Dates & Locations TBA

- **GA-NATP Regional Classes**

2016 Dates & Locations TBA

- **Georgia NATP State Conference & Annual Meeting**

September 25 – 27, 2016

Dillard, GA



2016 Chapter Challenge

We would like all members to be involved in our community betterment efforts!

We challenge all members to collect soda can pop tabs throughout the year and bring them with you to next year's Annual State Conference in Dillard.

Pop tab donations will benefit the Ronald McDonald House Charities. The member who donates the most pop tabs will win a wonderful door prize! Start now collecting those pop tabs!

If you cannot attend the Annual State Conference please mail your pop tabs to:

Sheila Oakes
1410 43rd Street
Columbus, GA 31904



Mark your calendars for the 22nd Annual State Conference
And NATP's National Conference in Indiana!

The Value of Teamwork

Compare Georgia NATP, the Atlanta Braves, Falcons, Hawks and the Georgia Bulldogs. What do they all have in common? They are all great teams. Each team relies not on individual effort, but the total focus, commitment, and involvement of each team member to achieve success.

I particularly enjoy ice hockey having grown up less than a stone's throw from the Canadian border. A championship hockey team combines players who are scorers, defenders, role players, and back-stoppers, as well as a complete coach and training staff. Everyone has a function and purpose. Without all team members pulling in the same direction they will not succeed.

The same is true for Georgia NATP. You are a member of one of the premier NATP Chapters. Your chapter succeeds because there is a commitment and involvement Of many members. From the president, to the education committee, to the "meeters 'n greeters" at registration, everyone is dedicated to excellence and success.

But a team effort is just that – commitment and involvement of many individuals. I would challenge each and every one of you to actively join in your chapter's success. The time commitment need not be overwhelming. There are opportunities for "event champions" to focus on specific tasks, committee assignments to enhance member services from the chapter, behind the scenes details to make events run flawlessly. You will be rewarded with the knowledge YOU made a difference for your chapter, for your profession, and in giving back to your fellow tax professionals.

The spirit of volunteerism is alive and strong at NATP. Become part of the solution And join in enhancing the future and success of Georgia NATP.

Kim Loewer

NATP Board Director

Georgia NATP 2015-16 National Representative

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

Practitioner Priority Service
866-860-4259

Taxpayer Advocate
877-777-4778

EFTPS
800-555-3453

IRS Refund Hotline
800-829-1040

Georgia Department of Revenue
877-423-6711

IMPORTANT WEBSITES

Internal Revenue Service
www.irs.gov

Georgia Department of Revenue
www.dor.georgia.gov

Georgia Tax Center
www.gtc.dor.ga.gov

Georgia Secretary of State
www.sos.georgia.gov

Georgia NATP
www.georgianatp.com

GA NATP Facebook Page
www.facebook.com/GANATP



Useful tools on the Georgia Tax Center

Source: Georgia Department of Revenue website

Due to the constant threat of tax fraud, the Georgia Department of Revenue has made recent strides to help further protect taxpayers of the state. In addition to adding a new Fraud Manager component to their Integrated Tax System, the Department has partnered with multiple Georgia state agencies, the Internal Revenue Service, and other state Departments of Revenue on projects that will help make the filing of tax returns more secure.

Some of the ways taxpayers can utilize the GTC to combat tax fraud:

- Sign up for online access
- “Opt-in” to be notified if a tax return was filed using their SSN
- Request to receive an electronic 1099G

The Department of Revenue (DOR), Department of Driver Services (DDS), and the Georgia Technology Authority (GTA) are participating in a pilot program financed by a federal grant to leverage technology and combat fraudulent income tax. This program is called MorphoTrust eID Pilot.

Starting late next year, the company, MorphoTrust, hopes to offer taxpayers in Georgia the chance to download an app that lets them create a secure way to verify their identities when filing their state tax returns using nothing more than their driver’s license and smartphone camera.

MorphoTrust hopes to have the app ready and available for taxpayers starting with the January 2017 tax season.

Reminder: Renew your PTIN!

Preparer identification number (PTIN) applications and renewals are now being processed. Anyone who prepares or assists in preparing federal tax returns for compensation must have a valid 2016 PTIN before preparing returns.

To renew your PTIN, go to the PTIN system login page on the IRS website and log into your account using your user ID and password. Complete the online renewal application and pay the \$50 renewal fee by debit or credit card.

Also keep in mind that when attending continuing education classes, you must provide your PTIN to the host of the event so they may properly submit your credits to the IRS. This includes all GA-NATP education events.

When you log into your PTIN account, you should be able to view your continuing education credits for the years 2013-2015. Although you may not receive a “frame-worthy” certificate, be assured that your credits for any GA-NATP education event you attended and provided your valid PTIN, was submitted to the IRS.

~ Member Highlights ~

Sam Grubbs Memorial Scholarship Foundation

The Sam Grubbs Memorial Scholarship Foundation, Inc. is actively seeking eligible recipients for our Annual Scholarship Award. There are two separate classes of scholarships awarded. The traditional scholarship shall be awarded to persons associated with GA NATP, related as described in IRS regulations for Qualifying Child and enrolled in a traditional college or technical school. The second nontraditional scholarship shall be awarded to a member of GA NATP in good standing for financial assistance in obtaining a certification to practice such as an Enrolled Agent. Access the scholarship application at www.georgianatp.com or our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/GANATP.

Deadline for submitting the Scholarship application is extended to August 1, 2016

PEACH HOT TODDY

6 oz hot peach tea
2 oz whiskey
1 tbsp honey
1 cinnamon stick
Sliced peaches for garnish

Mix all ingredients together
Stir and let sit for 5 minutes

“CHEERS” FROM
YOUR EDITOR!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS:

Membership/Marketing:

Sheila Oakes & Bobbie Wainwright

Website:

Diane Offutt & Cecil Norris

Education:

Mike Garrison & Cecil Norris

Chapter of the Year:

Bobbie Wainwright & Sheila Oakes

Government Relations:

Mike Garrison & John Beazle

Nominations:

John Beazle & Diane Offutt

Professional Standards/Ethics:

Cecil Norris & Brian Brewton

Bylaws:

David Evans & Diane Offutt

Public Relations:

John Beazle & Gladys Hazel

Chapter Showcase:

Heather Bush & Sheila Oakes

*If any GA member would like to assist on a committee, please email georgianatp@gmx.com

Welcome



New Members

GREGORY A. BROWN
LATANYA OVERBY
WADE A. GINES
DOUGLAS SEGARS
RICHARDO CARTY
FRED J. COOPER
DANA ABERNATHY
FRANTZ BOURGET
SHARON GOODWIN
HOWELL HURSTON
YOUNG D. OMIELA
BECKY PORTWOOD
JAMES E. TAUDTE
SARGIENA THOMAS
LUZ M. MERCADO
ROGER A. MILLER
ENA WORRELL
EDDIE AMOAKUH
SPICEDA D. JACKSON
CATHERINE D. JONES

PAUL TIGNER
JOHN FORERO
ESTER BAXTER
STANLEY CANTERBURY
LARRY GRIFFIN
JAMES KINKEAD
RAJESH PATEL
ROOSVELT SIMIL
YORDANOS TESFAI
TOM CATCHPOLE
ALICE DURYEA
SUSAN M. STEWART
ABDULRAZAK MOHAMED
VICTOR A. BANKS
LORENZO E. HAND
CASSIE MONGOMERY-TAYLOR