



National Association of Tax Professionals | HAWAII CHAPTER

ISSUE I

JULY 2015

We are looking for new members . Here are just a few great reasons you should tell them to join.

- Access to Unmatched Enrichment
- Nation's leading tax resources with huge collections of resources and products.
- Stay current with Industry Updates
- Professional Network with tens of thousands tax professionals



Moving Forward...

Another great tax season has been completed, and our focus is now moving forward. Each year new challenges come before the tax preparation industry. New laws, new requirements placed on tax preparers, and the constant breeze of change continue to be in our presence. However, the great thing is that you are not alone in dealing with all these changes. There are many great tax practitioners, CPAs, and EAs here in Hawaii.

We are looking at a great off season to renew ourselves. Our chapter will be holding EA prep courses for those interested in taking the next step in their tax career. We are looking for our members to be more active in our chapter. We are having a membership drive meeting on July 31st. Much more in the future with our quarterly breakfasts, and our State Convention in November. Come and be part of the future of NATP Hawaii Chapter. There are many great benefits of being a member, and be part of a great network of tax professionals.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Message	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IRS2 Go App • Upcoming Meetings & Events • Key Contacts 	3
Enrolled Agents	4
Identity Theft	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NATP Chapter Board Numbers • Join NATP 	6

President's Message

Hello NATP Hawaii Chapter Members,

It's amazing how fast time flies. Summer is finally here. Some of you may have taken a vacation retreat after the tax season and others like me are still working year-round but it does not bother me a bit at all. In fact, I'm more than delighted to be given the honor to be your new NATP Hawaii Chapter President. As your 2015 Chapter President, I hope to continue the tradition of excellence set forth by my predecessors. After all, the success of our chapter would simply not be possible without them.

My focus for 2015 is to bring a renewed energy to our chapter by getting our members excited about our chapter and more involved with NATP, whether that would be through our meetings, state conference or social events.



In May, I was given the opportunity to represent our HI Chapter at the first 2015 NATP Summit in Appleton, Wisconsin. This Summit has given me the tools to lead our members in a new direction as we face the changes and challenges that will take place in our tax industry.

That's me in the first row (2nd on the left).

This Summit has also got me very excited to work with the rest of the NATP Hawaii Chapter Board of Directors (HI Chapter BOD) to bring new and refreshing ideas to the table for our members. Recently, NATP National sent you surveys regarding our chapter and after reading the results of the survey, the HI Chapter BOD will be holding a special meeting this month on Friday, July 31st, 2015 to discuss opportunities for our current members to meet with their peers as well as recruiting new members. If you are interested in attending this meeting and/or volunteering your time, please contact me via email at

Charmaine@janetreyescpa.com or 808-591-9959 for more details.

I encourage all of you to participate in as many events as possible and I also look forward to having the opportunity to spend time with you in 2015.

Have a great week!

Charmaine Apa

President

NATP Hawaii Chapter Board of Directors



IRS2Go Mobile App

Check your refund status, find free tax preparation assistance, sign up for helpful tax tips, and follow the IRS on Twitter, Tumblr, and YouTube; all in the latest version of IRS2Go.

Refund Status

Check the status of your federal income tax refund using IRS2Go. If you filed your return electronically, you can check your refund status within 24 hours after we receive your return. If you file a paper tax return, you will need to wait about four weeks to

check your refund status.

Free Tax Preparation Assistance

The IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and the Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) Programs offer free tax help for taxpayers who qualify. Use the app to help you find a VITA or TCE site right near our home.

Stay Connected

Follow them on Twitter and Tumblr, watch helpful videos on YouTube, subscribe to receive IRS Tax Tips, and more.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

- July 31, 2015– Special Membership Drive Meeting @ Hank's Tax Office
- Sept. 24, 2015 Breakfast Meeting @ Waialeale Country Club; 7:30 a.m. Breakfast; 8:00 a.m. Speaker (TBA)
- Nov.4, 2015– Annual NATP HI Chapter Conference @ Pacific Beach Hotel

Key Contacts

Here are your key contacts at the Hawaii State Tax Office:

Office of the Director

Maria Zielinski, *Director*

Phone: 808-587-1540

Email: Tax.Director.Office@hawaii.gov

Joseph Kim, *Deputy Director*

Phone: 808-587-1540

Email: Tax.Director.Office@hawaii.gov

Vacant, *Taxpayer Advocate*

Phone: 808-587-1791

Email: Taxpayer.Advocate@hawaii.gov

Enrolled Agent Classes Offered by Hank Erwin



Registration Form

ENROLLED AGENTS CLASS

COST = REGISTRATION FEE each part (\$25) + you buy the books

CLASS: Each Tuesday 6:30 to 8:30pm August 4 to December 8

Held at 908 Waiakamilo Rd (Hanks Tax Service Office)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY & STATE _____

PHONE _____ **EMAIL** _____

BOOKS: (free shipping if order received by August 15)

I'm registering for these courses: (After August 3, shipping \$15 extra)

Part 1 Individual ____, Part 2 Businesses ____, Part 3 Representation, Practice ____

Registration fee: \$25 per part + each Book \$ 70 (includes book and test prep questions)

Books # ____ X \$ 70 + # parts ____ X \$25 ____ Total Payment \$ ____

Send check to: NATP – HAWAII
1128 PUEO ST
Honolulu, HI 96816

PHONE: 853-1170
E-MAIL: hank@hankstax.com

Identity Theft Information for Taxpayers

How can you reduce your risk?

- Don't routinely carry your Social Security card or any document with your SSN on it.
- Don't give a business your SSN just because they ask— only when absolutely necessary.
- Protect your personal financial information at home and on your computer.
- Check your credit report annually.
- Check your Social Security Administration earnings statement annually.
- Protect your personal computers by using firewalls, anti-spam/virus software, update security patches and change passwords for the internet accounts.
- Don't give personal information over the phone, through the mail or the Internet unless you have either initiated the contact or you are sure you know who is asking.

For more information, see IRS Publication 5027 (rev. 12-2014)



Tax Preparer Guide to Identity Theft

Warning signs for individual clients

- A return is rejected, IRS rejects codes indicate the taxpayer's SSN already has been used.
- Your clients notices activity on or receives IRS notices regarding a tax return after all tax issues have been resolved, refund paid or account balances have been paid.
- An IRS notice indicates your client received wages from an employer unknown to them.

Warning signs for business clients

- Your client's return is accepted as an amended return, but the taxpayer has not filed a return for that year.
- Your client receives IRS notices about fictitious employees.
- Your client notices activity related to or receives IRS notices regarding a defunct, closed or dormant business after all account balances have been paid.

For more information, see IRS Publication 5199 (12-2014)

For more information about identity theft, please visit irs.gov

NATP Hawaii Chapter

c/o Hank Erwin
 1128 Pueo Street
 Honolulu, HI 96816
 Phone 808-734-2357
 Fax: 808-591-9959

Your NATP Chapter Board Members

President: Charmaine Apa, EA
Vice President: Hank Erwin, EA
Secretary: Margaret (Peg) Sawyer
Treasurer: Joanne Chang, EA

Henry Simmons, EA– Big Island

Janet Reyes, CPA– Oahu

Kathy Mannoia (Founder)- Maui

Pat Ernce, EA (Founder)- Oahu

Paul Caster, EA– Oahu

Sandy Salamoni-Lane, EA– Big Island

Sue Sowders, CPA– Oahu

Timothy Scanson– EA– Oahu

Join NATP

NATP Member Benefits

NATP strives to bring you success in your business through many member benefits designed for the busy tax professional.

Research Services – Remember to use your *FREE* research answer.

Our on-site staff of federal tax specialists answers over 30,000 questions every year on a variety of complex tax issues and will provide supporting documentation at no extra charge. Plus, members get one *FREE* answer every calendar year and discounted rates on subsequent answers.

Tax Store – Supplies and educational material for the tax professional.

The NATP Tax Store is the one-stop shop for your business needs – plus members get a discount!

Publications – Get the latest tax news and updates.

We make complex tax issues easy to understand with the *TAXPRO Weekly* e-mail, *TAXPRO Monthly* newsletter, *TAXPRO Journal* and *Chapter News* – yours *FREE* with membership.

Education – Flexible choices to give you the *CPE* course you want.

Choose from outstanding live workshops, self-study and webinars. Members get discounted rates on all our education.

Representation & Advocacy – Your views are represented.

NATP works to protect your right to practice and shares your concerns and views with key IRS personnel and government officials.

NATP Affinity Partners – Group Buying Power!

Get great prices on insurance, credit card processing, collections, office supplies and much more.

Chapters – Another *FREE* Member Benefit

Not only do you get this great newsletter, but our Chapter also provides you with great networking opportunities, educational events, state government representation and more!