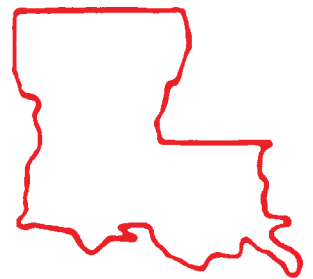




The Louisiana



Independent Accountant

Official Publication of the Louisiana Society of Independent Accountants

April 2010

VOLUME 9, NO. 2

President's Message

~ Lloyd Doré III, EA, ATA, ATP

I do hope that everyone had a successful tax season. Each tax season seems to bring its own different challenges. For many, LA. Citizens Assessment Rebate has been added to other four-letter words you would prefer not to hear. This tax season reminded me of one of my favorite movies, Jeremiah Johnson (1972). In one scene the title character meets up with a fellow mountain man (Bear Claw Chris Lapp) who he had not seen for a long time. Bear Claw says "You've come far, pilgrim." Jeremiah's reply was, "Feels like far."

Make your plans now to attend the LSIA annual state convention, taking place on June 27th, 28th & 29th, 2010 at the Horseshoe Casino in Bossier City. Registration is available on the LSIA website. Much effort is going into making this a special educational seminar. You will not have another opportunity to receive so much for your money. Come find out what other accountants are doing in their practices and learn about what changes may work in yours.

The 2010-11 seminar schedules are available. Make certain that you register for the SBET reimbursement program before the deadlines pass for each seminar you plan to attend in 2010.

With the new IRS preparer regulations coming in 2011, LSIA is looking into sponsoring an Enrolled Agent

(EA) and/or Tax Return Preparer exam course. If you or your employees would be interested please let Larry or me know. If we have enough interest we will certainly pursue offering the course.



If you have not yet renewed your membership, please do so now. You can renew by sending a check or applying directly online at LSIA.com. Also on our website is the opportunity to register for our outstanding CPE seminars.

If you are not an active member, I would highly recommend that you get active and become an officer or director to promote a great organization. Nominations are currently being accepted. Please contact Norman Kostik at 504-831-1120 or normank@lsia.com.

With your help LSIA will continue to work at providing resources and benefits that will be of value to our members.

In this issue:

- *Message from Your State Director, pg. 3*
- *IRS News, pg. 4-6*
- *Convention News, pg. 8*

2010-11 Calendar of Events and Member Information

SEMINAR INFORMATION

LSIA Convention

6/27-29/2010

Horseshoe Casino
Bossier City, LA

Corp/Ptr.

9/23 & 24/2010

Thurs-Fri

Kenner-Radisson, N.O. Airport
504-467-3111 or 800-333-3333

Corp/Ptr.

10/7 & 8/2010

Thurs-Fri

B.R. Embassy Suites
225-924-6566

1040 Workshop

11/4 & 5/2010

Thurs-Fri

Holidome, Lafayette, LA
(2032 NE Evangeline Thruway)
337-233-5815

1040 Workshop

11/18 & 19/2010

Thurs-Fri

Kenner-Radisson, N.O. Airport
504-467-3111 or 800-333-3333

Gear Up

12/2 & 3/2010

Thurs-Fri

Kenner-Radisson, N.O. Airport
504-467-3111 or 800-333-3333

Annual 1040 Individual

1/3 & 4/2011

B.R. Embassy Suites
225-924-6566

Local Chapter News

For information on

THE ACADIANA CHAPTER

contact L.J. Olivier at (337) 234-2202

THE BATON ROUGE CHAPTER

meets the first Tuesday of every other month.

For more information call Marjorie Moore at
(225) 654-7024.

THE CENLA CHAPTER

meets the third Tuesday of every month. For more
information about the meetings, please contact

Leonard Harris at (318) 445-9207.

THE NEW ORLEANS METRO CHAPTER meets the
second Monday of every month. For more information
about the meetings, please contact Venessa Caldwell at
(504) 454-0999.

For information on

THE SHREVEPORT/BOSSIER CITY CHAPTER, contact Jerry Kutz at (318) 742-8843.

HOUMA/THIBODAUX CHAPTER meets at
Piccadilly the fourth Monday every other month.

Contact Hayes Babin at (985) 580-2020 or
Glenda Spoon at (985) 876-4024

LSIA Executive Office Contact Information

Executive Secretary: *Larry Mouton*
larrym@lsia.com

Mailing Address: P. O. Box 60055
Lafayette, LA 70596-0055

Phone: (337) 993-9707
or 1-800-847-6276

Fax : (888) 224-8263

www.lsia.com

“The Louisiana Independent Accountant” is the official publication of LSIA. It is published six times annually. To have an article or information included in a newsletter, it must be received by the 15th of the month before the month of publication. Please send all articles and information to Larry Mouton via email at larrym@lsia.com.



from YOUR NSA STATE DIRECTOR

DEXTER DUHON, EA, CPA

HOORAY!! Tax season is over!! OR IS IT?? It seems that each year we file more extensions than the year before. Like most of you, we have filed more extensions than we expected to. Undoubtedly, we will be preparing tax returns for several more weeks.

At this time of year, Cathy & I usually begin shifting our attention to upcoming conventions. As most of you know, this year's LSIA convention will be held in Shreveport on June 27th - 29th at the Horseshoe Casino. This year's convention is sure to be an interesting one. Plan accordingly & come join the fun.

The NSA convention will be held on August 18th - 21st in Arlington, VA near Washington DC. Being in or near our nation's capital is always enjoyable. If you have not already thought about it, you still have time to make plans to attend.

During the past few days, most of you have received a postcard regarding the recently enacted Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act. There is a new credit for certain businesses that provide health care coverage for their employees. This is definitely something worth familiarizing yourself with. Some of the specifics are:

- * A qualifying employer must cover at least 50% of the cost of health care coverage for its workers.
- * A qualifying employer must have less than the equivalent of 25 full-time workers.
- * A qualifying employer must pay average annual wages below \$ 50000.

The credit is 35% of premium costs in 2010. On January 01, 2014, the credit becomes 50%.

It is important to note that there are exceptions & other provisions involving seasonal workers, owners & employees who are family members. Although it is not a refundable credit, every tax preparer should study this carefully. It could mean substantial tax savings for you as well as some of your clients.

In closing, Cathy & I wish all of you luck with completing the extensions you have left. Hope to see you at the convention.



IRS News Release

Media Relations Office

Washington, D.C.

Media Contact: 202.622.4000

www.IRS.gov/newsroom

Public Contact: 800.829.1040

Electronic Federal Tax Payment System Cited in New E-mail Scam

IR-2006-114, July 19, 2006

WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service is warning taxpayers to be on the lookout for a new e-mail scam that uses the Treasury Department's Electronic Federal Tax Payment System (EFTPS) as a hook to lure individuals into disclosing their personal information.

The system, which is used by more than six million taxpayers, allows businesses and individuals to pay all their federal taxes online or by phone.

The new e-mail scam, fraught with grammatical errors and typos, looks like a page from IRS.gov and claims to be from the "IRS Antifraud Comission" (sic), a fictitious group. The e-mail claims someone has enrolled the taxpayer's credit card in EFTPS and has tried to pay taxes with it. The e-mail also says there have been fraud attempts involving the taxpayer's bank account. The e-mail claims money was lost and "remaining founds" (sic) are blocked. Recipients are asked to click on a link that will help them recover their funds, but the subsequent site asks for personal information that the thieves could use to steal the taxpayer's identity.

"The IRS does not send out unsolicited e-mails asking for personal information," said IRS Commissioner Mark W. Everson. "Don't be taken in by these criminals."

Additionally, the IRS never asks people for the PIN numbers, passwords or similar secret access information for their credit card, bank or other financial accounts.

This latest e-mail scam is the first one known to reference EFTPS.

The IRS has seen a recent increase in these scams. Since November, 104 different scams have been identified, with 22 of those coming in June – the most since 40 were identified in March during the height of the filing season.

Many of these schemes originate outside the United States. To date, investigations by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration have identified sites hosting more than two dozen IRS-related phishing scams. These scam Web sites have been located in many different countries, including Argentina, Aruba, Australia, Austria, Canada, Chile, China, England, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Poland, Singapore and Slovakia, as well as the United States.

Other scams claim to come from the IRS, tell recipients that they are due a federal tax refund, and direct them to a Web site that appears to be a genuine IRS site. The bogus sites contain forms or interactive Web pages similar to IRS forms or Web pages but which have been modified to request detailed personal and financial information from the e-mail recipients.

Tricking consumers into disclosing their personal and financial information, such as secret access data or credit card or bank account numbers, is fraudulent activity which can result in identity theft. Such schemes perpetrated through the Internet are called "phishing" for information.

The information fraudulently obtained is then used to steal the taxpayer's identity and financial assets. Typically, identity thieves use someone's personal data to empty the victim's financial accounts, run up charges on the victim's existing credit cards, apply for new loans, credit cards, services or benefits in the victim's name and even file fraudulent tax returns.

When the IRS learns of new schemes involving use of the IRS name or logo, it issues consumer alerts warning taxpayers about the schemes.

The IRS also has established an electronic mailbox for taxpayers to send information about suspicious e-mails they receive which claim to come from the IRS. Taxpayers should send the information to: phishing@irs.gov.

More than 8,000 bogus emails have been forwarded to the IRS, with nearly 1,300 forwarded in June alone.

The IRS's mail box allows taxpayers to send copies of possibly fraudulent e-mails involving misuse of the IRS name and logo to the IRS for investigation. Instructions on how to properly submit one of these communications to the IRS may be found on this Web site. Enter the term "phishing" in the search box in the upper right hand corner. Then open the article titled "How to Protect Yourself from Suspicious E-Mails" and scroll through it until you find the instructions. Following these instructions helps ensure that the bogus e-mails relayed by taxpayers retain critical elements found in the original e-mail. The IRS can use the information, URLs and links in the bogus e-mails to trace the hosting Web sites and alert authorities to help shut down these fraudulent sites.

However, due to the volume the mailbox receives, the IRS cannot acknowledge receipt or reply to taxpayers who submit their bogus e-mails. The phishing@irs.gov mailbox is only for suspicious e-mails and not for general taxpayer contact or inquiries.

For information on preventing or handling the aftermath of identity theft, visit the Federal Trade Commission's consumer (<http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft/index.html>) and OnGuardOnLine (<http://onguardonline.gov/index.html>) Web sites. Click on "Topics" to find the identity theft and phishing areas on OnGuardOnLine.

For information on identity theft prevention and victim assistance in relation to tax administration, visit the IRS Identity Theft Web page which can be found on this Web site. Enter the term "identity theft" in the search box in the upper right hand corner.

For schemes other than phishing, please report the fraudulent misuse of the IRS name, logo, forms or other IRS property by calling the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration's toll-free hotline at 1-800-366-4484.

—30—



Internal Revenue Service

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Condolences

Arthur Pourciau passed away on April 12, 2010. LSIA would like to send out condolences to his wife and family.

Arthur was an active member of LSIA in previous years, and was presently District 4 Director which covers the Baton Rouge, and surrounding areas.

You may have met Arthur at some of the LSIA seminars. He and his assistant Stephanie Harrison would hand out rulers and other items in order to introduce their payroll processing company which is located in Baton Rouge.

Hopefully you had a chance to meet Arthur, because he was a very nice man. He always had a story to tell. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Did You Know?

When information is found out about the licensing of tax preparers, and when all this will take place LSIA will try to keep you informed. If it goes as planned it should start in 2011.

If you know of important news that would be a benefit to all of us you are welcome to email me at larrym@lsia.com and I will pass it on to all our seminar attendees.

I had someone mention to me about the Chinese Drywall and what are the tax consequences if any? Are there credits? Is the whole house a credit? I haven't done any research so I don't know any of the answers, but if someone knows some of the questions that may be asked, and answers to go with those questions you are welcome to email me.

Who uses Google? Have you tried to Google a tax question? I have used Google in the past, but normally for a tax question I would go to the IRS or La. Website. During tax season I was in a hurry to find something, and I happened to Google it, and to my surprise it gave me the exact information I needed.

I asked the question just as I would ask anyone, and it went to the IRS website to the exact location where it could be found. When you go to the IRS website and ask a question it never gives you the exact information you need, or it will give you thousands of choices.

Do you like to listen to music while working on your computer? I found a terrific website. This has nothing to do with accounting or taxes, but keeping our sanity while working.

1st. Go to cbsradio.com once there it will list radio stations. Click on San Francisco Oldies. It will bring you to a site listed as player.play.it. Can't get to it unless you follow the steps I mentioned.

Once in this site you can choose any type of music you like plus talk radio. It is free.

Under one of the links there is a reunion which allows you to listen to music from 1960 all the way to 1970. Music played only in those years, and very little talking. Other selections are regular radio stations. If you are planning a trip somewhere you can listen to the local radio station in that area and get some of what is happening there. After so many hours it will stop playing and you will have to click it to continue.

ARE YOU INTERESTED?

Interested in getting involved with LSIA as a board member or on a committee?

Get your name on a list for future positions that may become open.

District 5 Director - Lake Charles and surrounding area is open.

District 4 Director - With the passing of Arthur Pourciau this district is open.

Finance - Roland R. Laborde retired - this position is open.

Nomination Chairman:
Norm Kostik - 504-831-1120
or email normank@lsia.com

Nomination committee:
Larry J. Mouton - 800-847-6276
or email larrym@lsia.com

Get involved in the decision making of LSIA.

JOKE OF THE MONTH

A young accountant, straight out of a university, applies for a job advertised in the Daily Newspaper. He is interviewed by the owner of a small business who has built it up from scratch. "I need someone with an accounting degree," says the man, "but mainly I am looking for someone to do my worrying for me." "How do you mean?" says the accountant. "I have lots of things to worry about, but I want someone else to worry about money matters." "OK", says the accountant. "How much are you offering?" "You can start on seventy-five thousand," says the owner. "Seventy-five thousand dollars. How can a business like this afford to pay that much?" "That", says the man, "is your first worry."

ARE WE READY FOR SOME EDUCATION, AND SOME FUN?

Make plans. The LSIA convention is on June 27, 28 and 29. This year the Convention will be held in the cities of Bossier City/Shreveport. They are so close together you can't tell them apart.

You can register on line at www.lsia.com under the convention link. There is an online registration form, and the cost is on a popup link on the form.

The convention will be held at the Horseshoe Casino. You don't have to be a gambler to enjoy yourself. There will be fun things planned at the convention besides the excellent education.

Come and do some net-working with your fellow accountants, and meet new friends.

There is a river walk about two blocks from the Horseshoe. There are a lot of shops, and restaurants. The spouses will enjoy this.

The cost of the rooms at the Horseshoe is \$85.00 per night. It would be wise to register before May 27 to guarantee that price. This price is for Sunday the 27th and Monday the 28th. Tuesday if you plan on staying another night I assume you can get it for \$85.00, but if you plan on arriving the Saturday night you will have to negotiate on your own. My wife and I stayed at a Hampton Inn once at a fair price while staying in that area for a wedding we attended.

The Horseshoe reservation telephone number is 800-427-7247 and the code is S06LSIA.

We hope to see you at the convention. Any questions please email or call this year's convention chairman Charles Doize, Jr., EA, ABA at 504-277-1180 or email at charlesd@lsia.com



Officers, Directors, and Committee Chairmen of LSIA

President

Lloyd F. Doré III, EA, ATA, ATP
404 Pere Megret St
Abbeville, La 70510
Phone 337-893-5400
Fax 337-893-5400
lloyd@lsia.com

1st Vice President

Rodney R. Hartman, EA
1340 W Tunnel Blvd. # 506
Houma, La. 70360
Phone 985-876-2743
Fax 985-876-2732
rodneyh@lsia.com

2nd Vice President

Al G. Kroeper, EA, ABA
27042 Heltemes Lane
Lacome, La 70445-4834
Phone 601-799-4477
akroeper@bellsouth.net

Secretary

Danette Daigle, EA
39397 Bayridge Dr
Prairieville, La 70769
danetted@lsia.com
225-622-6114

Treasurer

Michele E. Ardoin, EA, ABA
25 Heymann Lane
Alexandria, La 71303
michelea@lsia.com
318-442-4347
Fax (318) 445-9207

Counsel to the Board

Frank J. Oliveri, Jr., EA
1101 Joe Yenni Blvd. #320
Kenner, LA 70065-6814
Phone (504) 472-6329
franko@lsia.com

District 1 Director

L.J. Olivier
216 Medford Dr.
Lafayette, LA 70507
Phone (337) 234-2202
l.olivier@juno.com

District 2 Director

Thelma Babin
10135 East Park Ave.
Houma, LA 70363
Phone (985) 580-2020
Fax (985) 580-2020
thelmab@lsia.com

District 3 Director

James R. Fonte, Jr., EA, ATA
600 Bonnabel Blvd.
Metairie, LA 70005
Phone (504) 837-2441
Fax (504) 831-0780
jamesf@lsia.com

District 4 Director

Position Open
Baton Rouge, LA
and surrounding area

District 5 Director

Position Open
Lake Charles, La.
and surrounding
area.

District 6 Director

Larry C. Biehler, III
1127 Texas Ave., Suite 3
Alexandria, LA 71301
Phone (318) 442-8110
Fax (318) 445-3825
larryb@lsia.com

District 7 Director

Jerry A. Kutz
215 Bobbie St. #200
Bossier City, LA 71112
Phone (318) 742-8843
Fax (318) 747-2780
jerryk@lsia.com

District 8 Director

Eileen M. Moore
4900 Cypress St., Ste. 15
West Monroe, LA 71291-7672
Phone (318) 397-2472
Fax (318) 397-2402
eileenm@lsia.com

Executive Secretary

Larry Mouton, EA, ABA
P.O. Box 60055
Lafayette, LA 70596-0055
Phone (337) 993-9707
Fax (888) 224-8263
larrym@lsia.com

Past President

Hilma M. Stolf, EA
600 Bonnabel Blvd.
Metairie, La. 70005
Phone 504-834-1615
Fax 504-834-1612
stolfandassociates@att.net

State Director

Dexter J. Duhon, EA, CPA
Phone 337-893-2702
Fax 337-893-2780
dexterd@lsia.com

Finance

Position Open

Education

Rodney R. Hartman, EA
1340 W Tunnel Blvd #506
Houma, La 70360
Phone 985-876-2743
Fax 985-876-2732

Public Relations/IRS-DORT Liaison

Lenny Alphonso, EA, ATA
Phone (985) 871-0004
Fax (985) 871-0014
lennya@lsia.com

Membership

Lenny Alphonso, EA, ATA
Phone (985) 871-0004
Fax (985) 871-0014
lennya@lsia.com

Nomination

Norman Kostik
Phone (504) 831-1120
Fax (504) 833-8889
normank@lsia.com

Audit

Albert G. Kroeper, EA, ABA
27042 Heltemes Lane
Lacombe, LA 70445
Phone (985) 882-4066
akroeper@bellsouth.net

Charter/By-Laws

Stella Little, EA, ABA, ATP
Phone (985) 537-3882
Fax (985) 537-4478
stellal@lsia.com

Grievance

Charles S. Doize, Jr., EA, ABA
Phone (504) 277-1180
Fax (504) 279-5574
charlesd@lsia.com

Legal/Legislative

Albert G. Kroeper, EA, ABA
Phone (985) 882-4066

Technology

Felix Guillot, EA, ABA, ATA
Phone (318) 445-5564
Fax (318) 487-1259
felixg@lsia.com