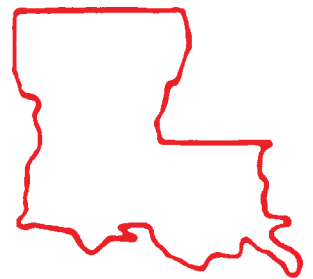




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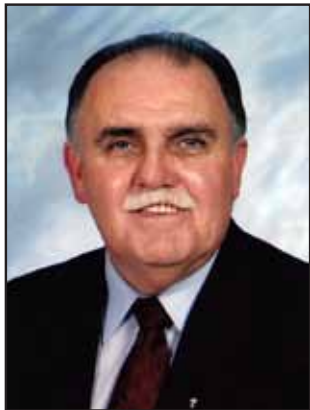
Independent Accountant

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October 2011

VOLUME 9, NO. 5

President's Message ~ Rodney R. Hartman, EA



LSIA's 2011 Seminars are off to a great start! Our Corporation/Partnership Seminars in Kenner and Baton Rouge were very well attended. I'd like to give a special thanks to our Executive Secretary for all his efforts in scheduling these seminars and workshops on behalf of LSIA. A very special thanks goes out to our friends at NCPE and Gear Up in continuing to provide professional education to our LSIA members and to many others. Included in this newsletter you will find the dates and locations of our upcoming 2011 NCPE 1040 Workshop Seminars and our 2011 Gear Up 1040 Seminar. Don't forget to register on-line at www.lsia.com.

Along the topic of seminars and workshops, we have great news! In conjunction with NCPE, LSIA will sponsor a two (2) day "Elderly Care America" (Serving a Maturing Nation) Seminar. This seminar will help you to advise

senior citizens with planning strategies for the elderly. The seminar is scheduled for July 26 & 27, 2012 (New Orleans) at the Crown Plaza Hotel, Kenner, LA. So mark your calendar now and join us for this very special seminar.

There continues to be important issues regarding Tax Return Preparers (PTIN requirements), New e-file Rules, Specifications for Registered Tax Return Preparer Test, etc. Please visit IRS' website to get the latest news releases and updates on these topics.

Remember, the time for renewing PTINs for the 2012 tax filing season is upon us and will need to be renewed by December 31, 2011. Remember also, the New e-file Rules and the requirements for obtaining Electronic Filing Identification Numbers (EFINs). In general, IRS advises that starting in January 2012, paid preparers or firms that reasonably anticipate preparing and filing 11 or more Form 1040 series returns must use IRS e-file. And also, IRS News Release (IR-2011-89, Sept. 6, 2011) lays out the rules and specifications for the Registered Tax Return Preparer Test. These

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- *Elder Care Seminar, pg. 6*
- *Quickfinder & Tax Book Order Forms, pg. 7 & 8*

President's Message continued...

are all very important and timely topics for us as tax professionals.

Our Government Relations & Taxation Chairman, Lenny Alphonso, advised us that the Liaison meeting with the Louisiana Department of Revenue has been set for November 17, 2011. LSIA representatives will meet with the Department personnel, along with individuals from LCPA and LAEA during the afternoon session. Lenny is asking our membership to begin sending documentation regarding any issues you would like addressed at the meeting. We'll need to get information to the Department as soon as possible. Please send information to Lenny or myself.

Let's not forget, LSIA membership dues are now due as of October 1, 2011. Please consider sending in your dues as soon as possible. Your membership dues can also be paid on-line at LSIA's website. Membership in LSIA has its privileges! As a paid-up member of LSIA you get discounted registration fees to our LSIA sponsored seminars and workshops and state conventions as well. In regards to LSIA's state convention, plans are ongoing and specific plans and information will be forthcoming as soon as possible.

Also, we encourage all of our members to join and support the National Society of Accountants (NSA). You can log on to their website at www.nsacct.org for more information. NSA's 2011 convention was held this past August in Anchorage, Alaska. Your LSIA organization was very well represented at the convention by our Executive Secretary, Larry Mouton and our First Vice-President, Danette Daigle. NSA's 2012 convention scheduled in Hawaii should be an exciting one as well.

From all indications, looks like the 2012 tax season will be interesting and I'm sure

with a few changes and surprises coming out of Washington, D.C. As you know, we're all familiar with these last minute tax issues, but as tax professionals we know all will work out in the end.

Wow, can you believe it? Fall is here and the holidays are right around the corner! So don't worry, let's all get ready for 2012 by having a wonderful Thanksgiving and Christmas Holiday Season and sharing those special moments with our family and friends.

Rodney R. Hartman, E.A.
President – LSIA



2010-11 Calendar of Events and Member Information

SEMINAR INFORMATION

1040 Workshop

Thurs. & Fri., Nov. 17-18, 2011
Crown Plaza Hotel, Kenner, LA
N.O. Airport
Williams Blvd.
504-467-5611

Gear Up

Thurs. & Fri., Dec. 1-2, 2011
Crown Plaza Hotel, Kenner, LA
N.O. Airport
Williams Blvd.
504-467-5611

Annual 1040 Individual

Thurs. & Fri., Jan. 5-6, 2012
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 Bob Ledet at (985) 859-6748 or
Glenda Spoon at (985) 876-4024

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Al Rickard
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NSA Elects New Officers and Directors at 2011 Annual Meeting

Alexandria, VA, September 8, 2011 — The National Society of Accountants (NSA) elected a slate of new officers, District Governors, and State Directors at its 66th Annual Meeting in Anchorage, AK.

The following officers were installed for 2011-2012:

- President – Sharon E. Cook, EA, ABA, ATA, ATP, ARA
- First Vice President – Harlan Rose, EA, ABA
- Second Vice President – Steven J. Hanson, CPA, EA
- Secretary-Treasurer – Brian L. Thompson, CPA

Governors for NSA Districts I, III, and XI were elected for two-year terms ending in 2012. Elected to first terms as governors were:

- William R. Silzer, ABA, ATP (District III)
- Brian Iwata, CPA (District XI).

Re-elected to second terms as governors were:

- Jerome V. Sweeney, II, CPA, JD, ABA, ATA, ATP (District I)
- Durette D. Hauser, EA, ATA, ABA, ATP (District V)
- Eric R. Hansen, ATP (District VII)
- Joyce Funkhouser-Lingelbach, EA, ATA, ATP, ARA, LTC (District IX).

IRS Begins PTIN Renewals for 2012 Filing Season

IR-2011-105, Oct. 20, 2011

WASHINGTON —The Internal Revenue Service today announced that the nation's 738,000 tax return preparers who have Preparer Tax Identification Numbers (PTINs) can now renew their PTINs for the 2012 filing season.

Preparers are required to renew their PTINs on an annual basis and need to do so before the next year begins. For example, a preparer's PTIN for 2012 must be renewed by Dec. 31, 2011.

Anyone who for compensation prepares, or helps prepare, all or substantially all of tax returns or claims for refunds must have a PTIN. Paid return preparers must have valid, current PTINs to prepare tax returns in 2012.

The PTIN renewal fee for 2012 is \$63. The initial application fee for a PTIN remains at \$64.25. Return preparers who obtained their PTINs by creating an online account should renew their PTINs at www.irs.gov/ptin.

Preparers who used paper applications to receive their 2011 PTINs will receive an activation code in the mail from the IRS which they can use to create an online account and convert to an electronic renewal for 2012. Individuals can also renew using a paper Form W-12, IRS Paid Preparer Tax Identification Number Application, but renewing electronically avoids a four to six week wait for processing the renewal request.

Return preparers who are applying for a PTIN for the first time must go through a strict authentication procedure and should follow directions carefully. Return preparers who prepared, or helped prepare, returns for compensation in 2011 without PTINs must obtain 2011 PTINs and then renew their PTINs for 2012, paying fees for each year if they intend to practice next year. Penalties may apply for paid tax return preparers who prepared, or helped prepare returns in 2011 without valid PTINs.

Some changes to the PTIN application and renewal process include:

Return preparers must self-identify if they are supervised preparers or non-1040 preparers. Supervised preparers will need to provide a supervisor's PTIN when applying for or renewing their PTINs. Credentialed preparers (Certified Public Accountants, attorneys and Enrolled Agents) must provide the expiration date for their licenses when they apply for or renew their PTINs. Supervised preparers are individuals who don't sign the returns they prepare or help prepare; work at a firm at least 80 percent owned by a Certified Public Accountant, an attorney or an Enrolled Agent; and prepare returns that are signed by a supervisor who is a CPA, attorney or Enrolled Agent. Non-1040 preparers are people who do not prepare any individual income tax returns for compensation. For this purpose, preparers of Form 1040-PR and Form 1040-SS are considered non-1040 preparers. Supervised preparers and non-1040 preparers must identify themselves when they apply for or renew their PTINs to be exempted from testing and continuing education requirements; Certified Public Accountants, attorneys and Enrolled Agents are also exempt from testing and continuing education requirements.

Taxpayers who use a paid return preparer are urged to choose a return preparer with a valid PTIN. Return preparers should also sign the returns they prepare for taxpayers and enter their PTINs on the returns. For more information on choosing a return preparer, go to [Tips for Choosing a Tax Preparer](#).

For more information on the PTIN requirements or on becoming a Registered Tax Return Preparer, go to www.irs.gov/taxpros.

“SERVING a MATURING NATION”

“ELDER CARE SEMINAR”

When: July 26 & 27, 2012

Where: Kenner, La. (Crown Plaza Hotel)

Sponsored by: LSIA and Presented by NCPE

NCPE presents “Elderly Care America” another great practice-building tool that will enable you to better advise your clients about the hottest issues for senior citizens.

79 Million Baby Boomers will be needing your help planning strategies for the elderly.

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You will be able to register on the LSIA website at www.lsia.com

Questions? You can call LSIA at 800-847-6276

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The 2012 Convention will be in Maui, Hi.

Contact NSA for details.

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www.lsia.com

You can register on line.

The LSIA 2012 Annual Convention will
be in Marksville, La.

at

The Paragon Casino

On June 24, 25, and 26, 2012

Look for details in later newsletters

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