



# THE LOUISIANA



# INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT

Official Publication of the *Louisiana Society of Independent Accountants*

APRIL 2016

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE... Ryan Orgeron



Tax season is now over... or is it? We are now in the season of the "Dreaded Extension".

I don't know about you, but I like the April 15th (18th this year) deadline because I like to dwell in that "finished" feeling on April 16th. All the extension does is diminish that good feeling by the number of extensions I will be doing. Oh well... I chose this profession and I have no regrets. I'm sure you feel the same way.

### HOUSE BILL 870

I have spoken to and emailed two members of the Louisiana CPA Society about the above noted Bill, namely Linda Babin, the State Government Relations Director, and Ron Gitz, the Executive Director. We reviewed the pending Bill and its effects on the licensed and unlicensed accountants.

The focus of HB870 is to bring into line the reporting requirements of SSARS 21 for the licensed accountants. More importantly, the Safe Harbor language for non-licensees in the Louisiana Accountancy Act has not been changed in any way. Yes, Compilations will be part of the Attest function, but that will affect only CPAs who will now have to undergo peer review if they perform Compilations.

The unlicensed accountants will not have to fight that issue, nor will they be in violation of any part of the State's Accountancy Act so long as they do not refer to their financial statements as being in compliance with SSARS. (per Section 83 of HB870). This Bill will no doubt be passed this coming week; no changes are foreseen.

I will be meeting with Ron Gitz sometime in the near future so we can discuss LSIA's input on future bills and our concerns moving forward into the future.

Before you start planning your vacation, consider coming to the 65th Annual Convention

at the Island View Casino in Gulfport, MS on June 26th, 27th and 28th. The Casino offers two pools (one has a bar) and many things to do in the Gulfport, Biloxi and Ocean Springs area. The convention committee is working hard to make this a family friendly atmosphere so bring your family and employees for a great event that is casual and relaxed. The rooms are only \$139 per night which is very affordable for what we are getting. We will also have 4 hrs of education, of which 2hrs are Ethics. Lets all come out and support our organization, enjoy some good times and make some new friends! Registration will be opening soon on the website. I will send out emails shortly with more information.

Now is also a good time to start looking at the up coming seminars LSIA will be offering. Look at the end of this newsletter for dates and places and make an effort to book early.

I personally find these seminars to be a great value to my business. I constantly look back at the binders for information when I am in a bind.

Reminder: When you come to a seminar, please make an effort to shake someone's hand and introduce yourself. The friends you make at these seminars are so important. We are all in the same boat and its nice to know some of the people who make this profession so great!

God Bless you all and hope to see you at the Convention!

## *In this issue:*

*Message from NSA State Director.....pg. 3*

*Annual Convention, June 2016, in Gulfport, Ms. ....pg. 5*

# 2016 Calendar of Events and Member Information

## SEMINAR INFORMATION

**2016/17**

**Sept. 29 and 30, 2016 - Thurs. & Fri.**

*Corporation/Partnership Seminar*

Metairie, La.

Best Western Plus Landmark Hotel

**Oct. 6 & 7, 2016 - Thurs. & Fri.**

*Corporation/Partnership Seminar*

Baton Rouge, La.

Embassy Suites Hotel - 225-924-6566

**Oct. 24 and 25, 2016**

*1040 Workshop Seminar*

Lafayette, La.

Ramada Inn Hotel

Monday & Tuesday

**Nov. 14 & 15, 2016**

*1040 Workshop Seminar*

Metairie, La.

Best Western Plus Landmark Hotel

Monday & Tuesday

**Dec. 8 & 9, 2016**

*2016 Gear Up 1040 Workshop Seminar*

Metairie, La.

Best Western Plus Landmark Hotel -

Thursday & Friday

**Jan. 5 & 6, 2017**

*1040 Workshop Seminar*

Baton Rouge, La.

Embassy Suites Hotel - 225-924-6566

Thursday & Friday

*The 2016 LSIA Annual Convention*

*June 26, 27 & 28th*

*Gulfport, Mississippi*

*at the Island View Casino*

## *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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*from Your*  
**NSA STATE  
DIRECTOR**

*Danette Daigle, EA, ARA*

Are you a member of the National Society of Accountants (NSA)? If not, you might want to look at what benefits and tools they have to offer your business. In the library, they have over 500 sample client letters on a variety of topics ranging from vehicle depreciation and deductions to farm business expenses. Each month additional client letters are added to the library. There are separate libraries that house sample tools and forms such as engagement letters and articles on practice management, tax and accountant topics and new technology information. The articles and letters are mostly on current topics so that your staff and your clients stay updated and informed.

Another advantage of belonging to NSA is access to the NSA Fee Survey which compares tax preparation fees of various forms on a state, region and national comparison level. They even have a Tax Preparation Fee Calculator that will let you input the form you are preparing and the state you are in and it will give you the average fee charged in your state. How handy is that?

NSA has the resources you need for all your tax questions; from the NSA Tax Talk discussion forum to the 5 questions NSA's experts will answer free each year to the CCH Tax Update Service. These are all valuable resources can assist you everyday in your business.

Did you know that NSA is the leading organization protecting and enhancing the practice rights of small business accountants? At the federal level, NSA lobbies the U.S. Congress and federal agencies to support legislation to improve the tax code, lessen regulatory burdens and promote the interests of small practitioners and their clients.

Going to an IRS Tax Forum in 2016? NSA members save on registration by using a special NSA discount code. In addition, NSA has other numerous discount and insurance programs available. If you would like more information on joining NSA and/or its benefits, be sure to contact me or visit the NSA tab at [www.lsia.com](http://www.lsia.com).

The 71th Annual NSA Convention & Expo will be held in Tampa, Florida August 17-20, 2016. Registration is now open. Please let me know if you would like to join us in representing Louisiana at this national convention where you will not only represent our great state, but also earn up to 16 hours of cpe. The early bird registration deadline is May 15, so don't delay. Check out the schedule and more at [www.nsacct.org](http://www.nsacct.org).

*"We are continually faced with great opportunities which are brilliantly disguised  
as unsolvable problems."  
-Margaret Mead*



# In Memory

***Carol Ann Radosti Estorge**, 75, of Baton Rouge, passed away peacefully on Friday, April 1, 2016 with her family members and prayer group by her side. She was a graduate of Mt. Carmel Academy & Loyola University in New Orleans. Her numerous civic activities included volunteering at Girard Playground, St. Ann School, Brother Martin High School, Catholic Charities of New Orleans, Right to Life, St. George Renew Group, WOW, St. Vincent DePaul, as well as the Louisiana Society of Independent Accountants where she was recognized as Outstanding Accountant of the Year in 2008.*



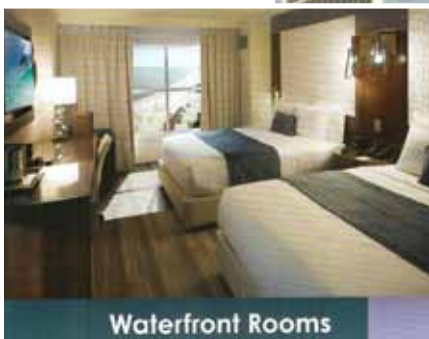
# 2016 Annual Convention – June 26, 27 & 28, 2016

## Island View Casino Resort • Gulfport, Ms.

*Now that tax season is over, it's time to relax...*

*Come to the Convention and enjoy what the Gulf Coast has to offer!*

### ALL- NEW BEACH TOWER



Waterfront Rooms



Blue Shell Spa

- Beach Grill
- The Diner
- Beignet Café
- Sweet Stop
- Fresh, serving smoothies, wraps and salads

The All-New Beach Tower features 405 hotel rooms & suites. We also added the new Blue Shell Spa, Fitness Center, family-friendly beachside pool and meeting & convention space! Plus, we're the only Gulf Coast casino with direct beach access.

Make your reservation now by calling 877.774.VIEW (8439)

- Blue Shell Spa
- Gulf Breeze Bar with stunning Gulf views
- Beachside Pool
- Direct Beach Access!
- 28 Palms Gift Shop



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Open

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