



SOLANO-NAPA NEWS

CALIFORNIA SOCIETY OF ENROLLED AGENTS



"WE SPEAK TAX" - the Tax Professionals

Volume II, Number 14

June 2007

Officers Installed & Reverse Mortgages

We will install newly elected officers and directors at our next dinner meeting, Tuesday, June 26, 2007, at **Jack and Linda's Country Café, 2390 N Texas St, Fairfield.** Also, we will be discussing **Reverse Mortgages**...That they are not deductible is **not** all you should know. Jerry Pusateri is the speaker.

So join us in supporting our new officials listed on page 4, and in getting in the drivers seat on those mortgages that are in reverse.

President's Message

We had our Planning Retreat Facilitated by Ken Spingola in late May. All in attendance agreed that we had a good year, 2006-2007. Our goals will be to continue to increase our membership one member at a time and to increase our education offerings. Ken will give a more detailed reported next month.

CSEA's Annual Meeting is in Ventura this year and we look forward to the election and awards ceremony. Who knows what is in store for the Solano-Napa Chapter. We will have a new person representing us at CSEA. Sherri Scarrott, **EA** has agreed to be our CSEA State Director for 2007-2008. At our June Board/Dinner Meeting, we will be installing officers and directors who were elected in May.

A new fiscal year, means a shifting of officers, directors and committees, and is an ideal time to review and renew committee participation. Interested in the legislature? Join the Legislative Committee. Want to have a hand in selecting the speakers and topics for our dinner meetings? Join Sherri and contribute to that committee. Know accounting and QuickBooks? Join the Finance and Budget Committee. Want to be involved with the IRS Townhall meeting? Join us for the teleconferences, help out on the day of the **(See Prez on page 2)**

Solano-Napa Chapter Breakfast & Dinner Programs

Solano-Napa EAs meet on the **second and fourth Tuesdays** of each month to share information with other EAs and tax professionals. The meetings are at Jack & Linda's Country Café, 2390 N Texas St., Fairfield, CA and, as announced, at other locations in the Solano-Napa area.

Breakfast Meetings – 8:00 am - 9:00 am:

On the second Tuesday, we have Breakfast Meetings where a predetermined topic will be discussed. All attendees are encouraged to participate by sharing their knowledge and experience. Cost is Dutch.

Dinner Meetings:

6:00 pm	Attitude adjustment
6:30 pm	Dinner
After dinner	Education

On the fourth Tuesday, we have Dinner Meetings where generally there will be a speaker on a topic for continuing education, practice management, legislative, or other issues pertinent to our profession. **Cost is \$35, Members and staff, \$40, non-members.** There is a **\$5** discount if your reservations are made timely. Reservations and meal choice are due to Tereza Avalos, **EA**, fax (707) 678-1144 or email: tereza@tabertax.com by 5 pm on the third Tuesday of each month.

If you don't want to worry about timely reservations, this would be a perfect time to have your name added to the **Standing Reservation List.** (That way you only have to give notice when you are not going to be there!) See driving directions insert.

Napa Satellite Group Luncheons

Napa Satellite Group meets on the **third Thursday** of each month. These luncheons are at the Napa Elks Club, 2840 Soscol Ave., Napa. Meetings start at the 12:30 pm.

Lunch Meeting – 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm

Invitation is open. **Cost is \$14.** For reservations, contact Chuck Gravett's office at (707) 258-1030 and RSVP with his secretary. Make checks payable to Linda Luchsinger.

Jerry Pusateri, **EA** is available for car pool from Fairfield.

(Prez, continued from page 1)

seminar and get a reduced registration. Are you technologically savvy? Help us in data base management, communication, basic technology and website updates. Got ideas to get the **EA** name and our Chapter out to the general public and other tax professionals? Join Marcia Gillespie, **EA** on the PIA, Public Information Awareness Committee. We need your help. Please review the Committee List attached to this newsletter. Find one that interest you and join up!

I want to thank all of the board and committee members who helped make this past year a success. We have made it through two years as the newest chapter of CSEA, **and** no longer are we the smallest chapter. Without all our dedicated members, we would not be here today. Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!! Don't ever think you are not appreciated! Here's to another **great year for Solano-Napa!**

Alma Guenther, **EA**
President



In Memory of James Needham, EA **From Sherri Scarrott:**

With sadness, I announce that James Needham, EA, passed away on May 9. Jim and Dorothy owned a tax business in Vacaville for many years before selling it and moving to New Mexico. I am including a link to his obituary in the Vacaville Reporter that also includes a 'guest book' if you care to leave your condolences for the family.

<http://www.legacy.com/TheReporter/Obituaries.asp?Page=LifeStory&PersonID=88227145>

From Peggy Elliot:

Many of the members may not know this, but Jim was part of the founding group that eventually became the Solano-Napa Chapter of the Enrolled Agents Society, and for that I am grateful to have known him and his lovely wife Dorothy.

I am sure there are other members who have kind thoughts of him. Please share them on the on-line guest book for the Obituary. I am sure the thoughts will be greatly appreciated by his widow and children.

From Douglas Ellis:

Even fewer are aware that Jim Needham was **the** person that started what is now known as the Solano Napa Chapter. The first meeting consisted of Jim and Dorothy Needham, Michael Klobas and I. We met in a booth at the Muffin Treat in Fairfield for breakfast. Jim began calling local EA's and invited them to meet with us. We soon filled two booths, and then Jim arranged for us to meet in the private meeting room at the Muffin Treat.

Jim's goals were simple. He wanted to create a place where local EA's could meet and share. He also wanted to arrange for continuing education.

From the comments of some of those who knew Mr. Needham, he was a man with a vision. The existence of our chapter is proof of that. We owe him a debt of gratitude, and we express our heart felt condolence to his family.

This is an open invitation to all CTEC and other tax professionals to join our chapter:

Dear Business Professional:



The Solano-Napa Chapter of the California Society of Enrolled Agents would like to inform you of our upcoming and continuing meetings. The meetings are open to all tax, bookkeeping, payroll, accounting, legal and financial business professionals with an interest in taxation.

President:

Alma Guenther, EA
(707) 643-2226; Fax (707) 643-2222
e-mail: almaea@pacbell.net

1st Vice-President:

Ken Spingola, EA
(707) 553-2645
e-mail: kspingola@sbcglobal.net

2nd Vice-President

Sherri Scarrott, EA
(707) 426-9472; Fax: (707) 426-9478
e-mail: eataxldy@pacbell.net

Secretary:

Lea Garrity, EA
(707) 386-3390
e-mail: leagarrity@charter.net

Treasurer:

Chris Raycraft, EA
(707) 428-4741; Fax: ((707) 428-0256
e-mail: craycraft@pacbell.net

Directors:

Tereza Avalos, EA
(707) 678-4477; Fax (707) 678-1144
e-mails: tereza@tabertax.com

Phil Correia, EA
(707) 426-0920; Fax: (707) 434-8709
e-mail: pcorreia@sbcglobal.net

Louanna Grindle, EA
(707) 451-7611; fax (707) 451-4866
e-mail: taxhouse@sbcglobal.net

Matt Jones, EA
(707) 557-6838; Fax (707) 557-7702
e-mail: mattstax@sbcglobal.net

Michael Klobas, EA, CFP
(707) 449-8146; Fax: (707) 449-8205
e-mail: mklobas@pacbell.net

Don Wulf, EA
(707) 252-0442; Fax (707) 224-3028
Email: dwulf@calltpac.net

CSEA Director

Jerry Pusateri, EA
(707) 426-4396 Fax: (707) 426-4397
e-mail: untaxit@pacbell.net

IPP

Anne Arms, EA
(707) 745-1040; Fax: (707) 745-0281
email: armspna@aol.com

Breakfast Meetings – 8:00 am – 9:00 am: On the second Tuesday of each month Solano-Napa EAs meet to share information with other EAs, tax professionals, and interested parties. They are Breakfast Meetings where a predetermined topic will be discussed. All attendees are encouraged to participate by sharing their knowledge and experience. The meetings are at Jack & Linda's Country Cafe, 2390 N. Texas Street, Fairfield, CA and, as announced, at other locations in the Solano-Napa area. Cost is Dutch Treat.

Dinner Meetings – 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm approx. On the fourth Tuesday, we have Dinner Meetings where generally there will be a speaker on a topic for continuing education, practice management, legislative, or other issues pertinent to our profession. Cost is \$35, Members and staff and \$40, nonmembers. There is a \$5 discount if your reservations are made timely. Reservations and meal choice are due to Tereza Avalos, EA, fax (707) 678-1144 or e-mail: tereza@tabertax.com by 5 pm on the third Tuesday of each month.

Napa Satellite Group meets on the third Thursday of each month. These luncheons are at the Napa Elks Lodge, 2840 Soscol Ave, Napa. Meetings start at **12:30 and last till about 2:00pm.**

Invitation is open. Cost is \$14. For reservations, contact Chuck Gravett's office at (707) 258-1030 and RSVP with his secretary. Make checks payable to Linda Luchsinger.

If you would like to be placed on our e-mail list and receive our e-mail newsletter, please contact either of the following two people and they would be happy to oblige.

Alma Guenther, EA-Chapter President

Ph. 707-643-2226 e-mail: almaea@pacbell.net

Jerry Pusateri, EA-Membership Chair

Ph. 707-426-4396 e-mail: untaxit@pacbell.net

Respectfully,

Alma Guenther, EA
President, Solano-Napa CSEA

For your convenience, a CSEA Professional Associates Application is attached to this Newsletter.

We believe that the benefits of membership are well worth the fee.

Solano-Napa Chapter 2007-2008 Elected Officers and Directors

Officers:

President	Alma Guenther, EA	2 nd Term
V President	Ken Spingola, EA	1 st Term
2 nd VP	Sherri Scarrott, EA	1 st Term
Treasurer	Chris Raycraft, EA	3 rd Term
Secretary	Leah Garrity, EA	1.5 Term
IP President	Anne Arms, EA	

Directors:

Matt Jones, EA	2 Year
Mike Klobas, EA	2 Year
Don Wulf, EA	
Tereza Avalos, EA	1 Year
Louanna Grindle, EA	1 Year
Marcia Gillespie, EA	1 Year

State Director

Sherri Scarrott, EA

IRS Exempt Organizations Needs You to Help Small Tax-Exempt Organizations Stay Compliant

By Diane Letourneau -- Tax Law Specialist, EO Customer Education & Outreach, Washington, D.C.

Do you volunteer or do you know someone who volunteers at a small tax-exempt organization? Perhaps you have a family member or friend who is involved with a youth athletic league, an organization that helps the elderly, or some other charitable organization. If so, we need your help in informing these small organizations about a new electronic filing requirement that, if not complied with, will result in the loss of their tax-exempt status.

With the enactment of the Pension Protection Act (PPA) of 2006, small tax-exempt organizations that previously were not required to file returns because their gross receipts were normally \$25,000 or less may be required to file an annual electronic notice. The first annual electronic notice, Form 990-N, *Electronic Notice (e-Postcard) for Tax-Exempt Organizations Not Required to File Form 990 or 990-EZ*, also known as the e-Postcard, is due in calendar year 2008.

Exceptions to the e-Postcard filing requirement include organizations that are included in a group return; private foundations required to file Form 990-PF, *Return of Private Foundation or Section 4947(a)(1)*

Trust Treated as a Private Foundation; and section 509(a)(3) supporting organizations required to file Form 990 or Form 990-EZ. In addition, this filing requirement does not apply to churches, their integrated auxiliaries, and conventions or associations of churches.

The e-Postcard will require the organization to provide basic information, such as their name and address, any other names they use, a Web address if they have one, the name and address of a principal officer of the organization, and a statement that the organization's annual gross receipts are still normally \$25,000 or less. The PPA added this filing requirement to improve transparency within the non-profit sector. The information will ensure that donors and the IRS have current information about these organizations.

The PPA requires the IRS to revoke the tax-exempt status of any organization that fails to meet its annual filing requirement for three consecutive years. Therefore, organizations that do not file the e-Postcard or an information return (Form 990, Form 990-EZ or Form 990-PF) will have their tax-exempt status revoked as of the filing due date of the third year.

Beginning in July 2007, TE/GE will send letters to over 650,000 small organizations explaining the new rules. Because most small organizations have little or no contact with the IRS after they receive their tax-exempt status, our records may not be up-to-date. We are considering all types of communication efforts to reach those organizations, including word-of-mouth. That's where you come in. Whenever you are speaking to an organization (small or large) or a tax practitioner, please mention the new e-Postcard filing requirement. If you are a volunteer at a small organization, know someone who is a volunteer or have a family member or friend who participates in a small organization's activities, tell them about the new electronic filing requirement.

We need your ideas for reaching out to these organizations, and your suggestions for helpful questions and answers for our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) on the Web site. Send your ideas and suggestions to [*TE/GE-EO-CEO](mailto:TE/GE-EO-CEO).

Also, encourage these small organizations to go to our Web site at www.irs.gov/eo to sign up for [EO Update, Exempt Organization's email newsletter](#), because subscribers will automatically receive the latest information about e-Postcard.

Gerry Kelly-Brenner

ID #94-06950

Senior Stakeholder Liaison Specialist
SBSE Communications, Liaison & Disclosure

Internal Revenue Service
1301 Clay Street, Suite 1090S
Oakland, CA 94612

Phone: (510) 637-3036

Fax: (510) 637-2434

Email: Geraldine.Kelly-Brenner@irs.gov

**CSEA'S 2005-2006
"Chapter of the Year"
SOLANO-NAPA CHAPTER**

INTRODUCES THE 3rd ANNUAL

Solano-Napa Special Summer Mini Seminar Series

August 17, 2007, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

**So You Think You Don't Do Representation Work?
Every Day Representation Knowledge
for the Every Day Tax Professional**

Presenter: Gerald Pusateri, EA

September 21, 2007, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Rental Brush up

Multiple Properties? Multiple Owners?
Investment Homes & Holding Title,
Choice of Entity & 12 Concepts
Each New Rental Owner Needs to Know.

Presented by Phil Fiegler, EA
and Gerald Pusateri, EA

October 19, 2007, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Tax Free Exchanges

Is It Tax free? Is It An Exchange?
Here's How To Make It Work.

Presenter: Alma Guenther, EA

**Registration Fee: \$85 for One Seminar, \$145 for Two, \$199 for Three.
Includes Continental Breakfast**

All seminars at Jack & Linda's Country Café, 2390 N Texas Street, Fairfield, CA 94533

For more information contact: Alma Guenther,
707-643-2226 or almaea@pacbell.net

Registration Form is an attachment to this newsletter.

2007 SPECIAL ENROLLMENT EXAM PREPARATION CLASSES

Presented By
EAST BAY ASSOCIATION OF ENROLLED AGENTS

Part 1 – Individuals **Dates: July 14, 21, 28** CPE 18 hrs
Break to take exam on Part 1 if wish.

Part 2 – Businesses **Dates: Aug 25, Sep 15, 22, 29** CPE 24 hrs
Break to take exam on Part 2 if wish.

Part 3 -- Representation, Practice, Procedures **Dates: Oct 20, 27, Nov 3**
CPE 18 hrs *Take exam on Part 3.*

Time: **Saturdays 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM** (Lunch is on your own)

Location: **Crowne Plaza Hotel**, 11950 Dublin Canyon Road,
Pleasanton CA 94588

Instructors: **Richard Goudreau, EA, Gerald Pusateri, EA, Sal Romo, EA**

Class Fees:

Separately - \$225 each

All three parts - \$600

Early bird discount by June 15 - \$525

Text Books are included in class fee

Register online at: www.123signup.com/calendar?Org=ebaea

Information: Tom Johnston at 925-828-4500 or taxtomea@comcast.net

Scholarships: Norm Madge at 408-398-5737 or normmadge@earthlink.net

To apply for Enrollment: www.irs.gov/taxpros/agents

To schedule exam: www.prometric.com/irs

Solano-Napa Officers and Directors

President	Alma Guenther, EA 707 643-2226 almaea@pacbell.net
1st Vice President	Ken Spingola, EA 707 553-2645 kspingola@comcast.net
2nd Vice President	Sherri Scarrott, EA 707 426-9472 eataxldy@pacbell.net
Secretary	Lea Garrity, EA 707 386-3390 leagarrity@charter.net
Treasurer	Chris Raycraft, EA 707 428-4741 craycraftea@sbcglobal.net
CSEA Director	Gerald Pusateri, EA 707 426-4396 untaxit@pacbell.net
Immediate Past President	Anne Arms, EA 707 644-9016 armspna@aol.com

Directors	Phil Correia, EA 707 426-0920 pcorreia@sbcglobal.net
	Matt Jones, EA 707 557-6868 mattstax@sbcglobal.net
	Mike Klobas, EA 707 449-8146 mklobas@pacbell.net
	Tereza Avalos, EA 707 678-1144 tereza@tabertax.com
	Donald Wulf, EA 707 252-0442 dwulf@calltpac.net
	Louanna Grindle, EA 707 451-7611 taxhouse@sbcglobal.net

Chapter Committee Chairs

AUDIT Phil Correia, EA 707 426-0920 pcorreia@sbcglobal.net	DINNER/SITE Sherri Scarrott, EA 707 426-9472 eataxldy@pacbell.net	NOMINATING Peggy Elliott, EA 707 421-8088 peggye@aol.com	PUBLIC AWARENESS Marcia Gillespie, EA 707 251-5520 marciaea@sbcglobal.net
BYLAWS Lea Garrity, EA 707 386-3390 leagarrity@charter.net	BREAKFAST FACILITATOR Mike Klobas, EA 707 449-8146 mklobas@pacbell.net	MEMBERSHIP Gerald Pusateri, EA 707 426-4396 armspna@aol.com	RESERVATIONS Tereza Avalos, EA 707 678-1144 tereza@tabertax.com
Preservation of Practice due to Medical Emergency or Death (PPMED) Mike Klobas, EA 707 449-8146 mklobas@pacbell.net		FINANCE & BUDGET Doug Ellis, EA 707 448-1407 dellisea@pacbell.net	NEWSLETTER Matt Jones, EA 707 557-6838 mattstax@sbcglobal.net

hEArD It Through The Grapevine

Special Enrollment Examination (SEE)

Planning to take the SEE? Check out the flyer from East Bay Association of Enrolled Agents in this newsletter. The classes are a great way to prepare for the tests, and at an affordable price. Becoming an Enrolled Agent is a grEAT way to go. Good Luck!!!

Newsletter Editor: Matthew J. Jones, EA

Phone: (707) 557-6838

Fax: (707) 557-7702

Address: 2437 Springs Rd., Vallejo, CA 94591-5610

E-mail: mattstax@sbcglobal.net

Co-Editor: Alma Guenther, EA

Phone: (707) 643-2226

Fax: (707) 643-2222

Address: 715 Tennessee St., Vallejo, CA 94590-4506

E-mail: almaea@pacbell.net

Solano-Napa Chapter CSEA

c/o Matt Jones, EA

2437 Springs Rd.

Vallejo, CA 94591-5610

First Class Mail

Return Service Requested



2007-2008 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUN

- 11-13 CSEA, **Super Seminar**, South Point Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, NV, **Session A**
- 12 Solano-Napa Breakfast (2nd Tue.) 8:00 am
Jack & Linda's Country Café, Fairfield
- 14-16 CSEA, **Super Seminar**, South Point Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, NV, **Session B**
- 21 Napa Satellite Group, Lunch Meeting, Napa Elks Club, 2840 Soscol Ave, Napa, 12:30 pm
- 23 CSEA Annual Meeting, Hosted by Channel Island Chapter, Ventura Beach Marriott, Ventura,
- 26 Solano-Napa Board Meeting, 3:30 pm
Solano-Napa Dinner (4th Tue.) 6:30 pm Topic:
Reverse Mortgages – They are Not Deductible is Not All You Should Know
Install newly elected Officers and Directors
- 30 Solano-Napa **Board Orientation**, 9:30 am
Jack & Linda's Country Café, Fairfield

JUL

- 10 Solano-Napa Breakfast (2nd Tue.) 8:00 am
Jack & Linda's Country Café, Fairfield
- 19 Napa Satellite Group, Lunch Meeting, Napa Elks Club, 2840 Soscol Ave, Napa, 12:30 pm
- 24 Solano-Napa Board Meeting, 3:30 pm
Solano-Napa Dinner (4th Tue.) 6:30 pm Topic:

AUG

- 14 Solano-Napa Breakfast (2nd Tue.) 8:00 am
Jack & Linda's Country Café, Fairfield
- 16 Napa Satellite Group, Lunch Meeting, Napa Elks Club, 2840 Soscol Ave, Napa, 12:30 pm
- 17 Solano-Napa **Mini-Seminar**, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Jack & Linda's Country Café, Fairfield
Topic: **Representation**
- 28 Solano-Napa Board Meeting, 3:30 pm
Solano-Napa Dinner (4th Tue.) 6:30 pm Topic:
CA Domestic Partners, FTB's Steve Sims, EA

SEP

- 11 Solano-Napa Breakfast (2nd Tue.) 8:00 am
Jack & Linda's Country Café, Fairfield
- 20 Napa Satellite Group, Lunch Meeting, Napa Elks Club, 2840 Soscol Ave, Napa, 12:30 pm
- 21 Solano-Napa **Mini-Seminar**, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Jack & Linda's Country Café, Fairfield
Topic: **Rental Brush Up**
- 25 Solano-Napa Board Meeting, 3:30 pm
Solano-Napa Dinner (4th Tue.) 6:30 pm Topic:
Ethnic

OCT

- 9 Solano-Napa Breakfast (2nd Tue.) 8:00 am
Jack & Linda's Country Café, Fairfield
- 19 Solano-Napa **Mini-Seminar**, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Jack & Linda's Country Café, Fairfield