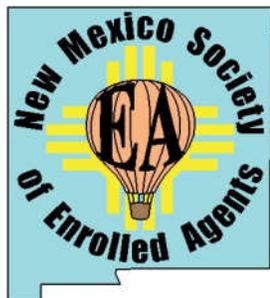


December 15, 2018



NMSEA HAPPENINGS

NEW MEXICO SOCIETY OF ENROLLED AGENTS, INC.
PO BOX 30974
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87190-0974
WEBSITE: NMSEA.NET
E-MAIL: NMSEA@HOTMAIL.COM

From President, NMSEA

It's a Great Day to be an EA!

For those of you who were unable to attend our NM Update, you missed a very informative afternoon. Gabe Anaya from NMTRD discussed the new TIA form, the new "Fresh Start" program and the tax forms for 2018. We were lucky enough to have Samuel Peat, Tax Practitioner Liaison, in attendance. He has a wealth of knowledge and was able to answer any question that we had.

Ken Ortiz from the Office of the Secretary of State discussed the SOS website and some proposed changes to the business entities reporting requirements.

Tiffany Smyth, the NM Taxpayer Advocate, gave an informative talk about what she can (and cannot) help with as far as our clients are concerned.

And, of course, our favorite IRS lady, Lelah Martinez (IRS Stakeholder Liaison) helped us understand and appreciate the security awareness program that the IRS is now stressing.

Per your request, you will find the contact information for these speakers in this month's newsletter.

On a side note (and request)...if you are the person who picked up the 990 book that was on the back table...let us know. It was a book that belonged to Pat Jenkins. It was meant to be a sample as there were some order forms on the table for anyone who wanted to purchase a copy.

Take care of yourself and have a wonderful Holiday Season. I wish you an uneventful tax season. We will meet again in May 2019.

Shelley Barker, EA, NTPI Fellow

Being an Enrolled Agent is not a job — It is a Profession!

NMSEA Meeting:
Friday, May 17, 2019
11:30 am at **The Golden Corral**
5207 San Mateo Blvd, ALB.
The Golden Corral charges per person for use of their meeting rooms. **\$15**



NOTE: The newsletter goes on hiatus until after the tax season.

NMSEA Board: PRESIDENT: Shelley Barker, EA, NTPI Fellow VICE PRESIDENT: Peter Wanco, EA, NTPI Fellow
SECRETARY: Lynne Shupp, EA, RFC TREASURER: Sandra Weidner, EA, ABA, NTPI Fellow
DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE: Steven Stauss, EA, NTPI Fellow and Barbara Padilla, EA
PAST PRESIDENT: Patricia Jenkins, EA, ABA, NTPI Fellow

NMSEA dedicated phone number (505) 877-1598 & FAX (505) 884-1472

FROM THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

Patricia Jenkins, Lynne Shupp, and Barbara Padilla

NMSEA Monthly Meetings



May 17, 2019 Speaker TBA,

Very Important When Using NMSEA.NET forms to register for NMSEA convention and seminars!!!!

YOU MUST ALWAYS FILL OUT YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, MEMBER #, ETC, ON ALL REGISTRATION FORMS REGARDLESS OF HOW YOU ARE PAYING---CREDIT CARD OR CHECK

Important Dates to Note on Your Calendar

January 10, 2019 NMSEA Federal Update, Time: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Speaker: Larry Zimble, EA, Cost: TBD, Venue: Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, Registration form available at <https://nmsea.net/workshops-seminars/> .

NAEA

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF ENROLLED AGENTS

POWERING AMERICA'S TAX EXPERTS

Membership renewals to new address:

As of December 15, 2018, any renewals mailed to P.O. Box 79411 will be returned. Please, please, please mail your renewals to our new address:

National Association of Enrolled Agents

PO Box 5277

New York, NY 10008-5277.

Thank you.



2019 PTIN renewal period underway for tax professionals

WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service today reminded the nation's more than 768,000 federal tax return preparers that they must renew their Preparer Tax Identification Numbers (PTINs) for 2019. All current PTINs will expire Dec. 31, 2018.

Anyone who prepares or helps prepare any federal tax return, or claim for refund, for compensation must have a valid PTIN from the IRS. The PTIN must be used as the identifying number on returns prepared. Failure to have and use a valid PTIN may result in penalties.

"We ask that you renew your PTIN as soon as possible to avoid a last-minute rush," said Carol A. Campbell, director, IRS Return Preparer Office. "It's easy to let this slip as the holiday season approaches."

*Your employees are
your first line of
defense against
cybercrime.*

Educate your payroll
and human resources
departments about W-2
email scams.



www.irs.gov/securitysummit

National Tax Security Awareness Week





Top U.S. House tax writer floats tax bill on retirement plans, IRS

Reporting by Kevin Drawbaugh; Editing by Lisa Shumaker November 26, 2018

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-tax-brady/top-us-house-tax-writer-floats-tax-bill-on-retirement-plans-irs-idUSKCN1NW07W>

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - A Republican who will soon step down as chairman of the U.S. House of Representatives tax committee late on Monday released a sweeping, nearly 300-page tax bill that he said would affect Americans' retirement savings, numerous business tax breaks and redesign the Internal Revenue Service.

Representative Kevin Brady, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee only until early January, shepherded through the House and onto President Donald Trump's desk in 2017 a large tax bill that slashed the U.S. corporate tax rate.

Of his latest legislation, Brady said in a statement, "The policy proposals in this package have support of Republicans and Democrats in both chambers. I look forward to swift action in the House to send these measures to the Senate."

American voters ended Republican control of the House in the Nov. 6 elections and handed majority power to the Democrats. Brady is expected to be replaced as committee chairman in January by Democratic Representative Richard Neal.

In the interim, Congress is holding a "lame duck" session in which Republicans such as Brady will still be in charge of the House agenda. No summary of Brady's bill was immediately available, said a spokesman for the lawmaker.

The legislation's outlook was not immediately clear, with Congress likely to be busy in the "lame duck" session with a must-pass spending measure and Trump's renewed demands for money to build a proposed wall along the U.S.-Mexico border.

The 297-page text of the bill covers tax breaks for fuel cell cars, energy efficient homes, race horses, mine safety equipment, auto race tracks and many other items, as well as retirement savings plans such as 401(k)s and individual retirement accounts (IRAs).

The bill also "includes some time-sensitive technical corrections" to the 2017 bill that Trump signed into law, Brady said in the statement.

Our Standards: The Thomson Reuters Trust Principles.

NMSEA November 16, 2018 Monthly Meeting



Attendees

Larry Zimbler, our presenter at the Federal Update Seminar on January 10, 2019, has an updated version of his book *Preparing Form 990 - an Introduction to Tax-Exempt Organizations* (published June 2018) now available. Publisher's price \$99 but available to NMSEA members at \$50. Contact Larry at the Federal Update Seminar for details.

President Shelley Barker reported on the NAEA APEX (Affiliate Presidents' Exchange Program) she attended in November 2018. The NAEA 2018-19 Board Election runs Dec. 1 - 15. NAEA is really pushing to recruit new members. The NAEA membership committee has created a digital post card to send to all EAs who are not NAEA members. Then local affiliate chapters have been requested to follow up with those in their area. NAEA made \$5K donations to PAC Financial Committee Members. NAEA is pushing for a proclamation designating the first week in February each year as EA Week. The NAEA Education Committee is developing SEE classes for colleges to promote becoming EAs for college students. NAEA uses ConstantContact for mass mailing and has a 40% open rate.

Education Chair Pat Jenkins discussed the NMSEA New Mexico Update. NMTRD's Kimberly Lowe was ill and would not be attending the seminar. Alicia Romero replaced Gayle Kessler at NMTRD. An NMSEA E-Blast, requested by Pat, was sent to all NMSEA members encouraging all members to sign-up for the NM Update Seminar and the Federal Update Seminar.

Senator Jacob Candelaria has been promoting an EA Authority Bill in the NM Legislature. NMSEA supports this bill.

The New Mexico Fresh Start Program has been implemented by NMTRD. A small business or an individual with unreported or underreported taxes may qualify to have the penalties and interest forgiven if enrollment in the program is finalized by December 31st and paid within 180 days.



President Barker gave an excellent presentation on "Tax Court Cases." Discussion and interaction with attendees was lively and informative as usual.

(Picture Credit: Richard Wright)

NMSEA New Mexico Update Seminar Dec 7, 2018

Cyber Ethics, 10 am - Noon, had 22 attendees. NMSEA NM Update Seminar, 1pm to 5pm, had 68 attendees.

SALIENT THINGS LEARNED AT NM UPDATE SEMINAR

- 1) The new Taxpayer Information Authorization form. An informative discussion of what goes on it, who signs it, and how it needs to be renewed every year.**
- 2) Discussion of "Fresh Start" program. Very similar to a Managed Audit, but easier (1 page form) to apply for. Application must be in by December 31, 2018.**
- 3) Discussion led by Ken Ortiz (Secretary of State) about their website and coming changes to regulations.**

Contact Information

Lelah Martinez – IRS Stakeholder Liaison
Lelah.L.Martinez@irs.gov

Samuel Peat – NM Tax Practitioner Liaison
Samuel.Peat@state.nm.us

Tiffany Smyth – NM Taxpayer Advocate
Tiffany.smyth2@state.nm.us

Ken Ortiz – Chief of Staff, Office of the Secretary of State
Kenneth.ortiz@state.nm.us



Dear members,

We just learned IRS has filed a notice of proposed rulemaking relating to enrolled agents and enrolled retirement plan agents. The tax press has picked up this news and because it is now in the public domain (User Fees Relating to Enrolled Agents and Enrolled Retirement Plan Agents)>>>See <https://tinyurl.com/IRS-EA-User-Fees>) we wanted to share it with our members.

In a conference call earlier this afternoon, the Return Preparer Office informed us of the Service's intent to increase enrolled agent application and annual renewal fees from \$30 to \$67. The notice went live less than an hour ago and we haven't had an opportunity to review it in depth.

We don't need to review it, however, to conclude the news is not welcome.

Many will recall IRS' recent increase to its SEE user fee, which is what it charges SEE takers for oversight of the testing program, outsourced to the private sector testing firm, Prometric. We responded strongly to that proposed increase and ultimately the agency relented (at least somewhat).

We will review the proposed rule and, working closely with the board, members of our Government Affair Committee and outside legislative counsel, write a vigorous response.

This story is only beginning and as the organization speaking for 60 thousand enrolled agents, we will continue to keep members abreast of developments.

Onward!

Robert Kerr, EA
Executive Vice President



Welcome aboard to: None



First Friday IRS Liaison Conference Call

with NM, TX & AZ Ellen Briscoe, EA, ATA is our representative. Call is usually the first Friday of the month. December call will be e-Blasted to members. Comments or questions to Ellen at ecbtaxpro@comcast.net



Next edition of IRS *Communications at a Glance*, will be sent to members by E-Blast.



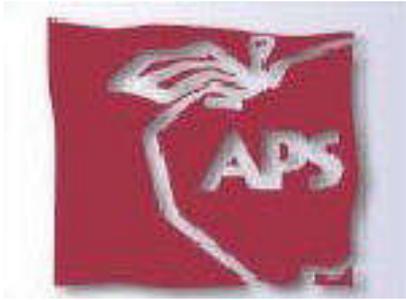
The IRS and the Security Summit partners urge you to review the new password guidelines for your online accounts to protect against cybercriminals stealing identities.

More details from IRS at:

www.irs.gov/securitysummit

National Tax Security Awareness Week





NMSEA is collecting items for Albuquerque students under Title 1 through APS

APS students need your support and help. Specific donation items requested: wide ruled and college ruled paper, wide ruled and college ruled spiral notebooks, 1 inch binders, #2 pencils, colored pencils, crayons, watercolors, compass, pencil sharpeners, protractors, notebook dividers, & locks as well as non-perishable food items that can be used for lunch and after-school snacks including granola bars and small canned food items w/easy-open lids ---Cheese and peanut butter crackers, Ramen noodles, Single serving Chef-Boy-R-Dee items, Jerky (any kind), Applesauce/fruit cups, Tomato juice, Cereal bars, Granola bars, Power bars, microwaveable Spaghetti-o's, Spaghetti (pasta), Spaghetti sauce, Peanut butter, Variety packaged chips, Dried fruit, Canned food, packaged nuts, Fruit snacks, boxes of Mac and Cheese, popcorn, and canned soups. During tax season, donations will be accepted at The Tax Professionals Inc, 3311 Candelaria, Suite C, ABQ. After tax season, we will have a collection box at the monthly meetings.



IRS and the Security Summit partners warn all tax professionals to take steps to protect client data and their computer networks from raising cybercriminal threats.

More details from IRS at:

www.irs.gov/securitysummit

National Tax Security Awareness Week





No trees were harmed in the creation of this newsletter. However, a lot of electrons were terribly inconvenienced.

To receive this newsletter, please send your e-mail address to the newsletter editor, Richard Wright, at rwright77@comcast.net (editor since July 2009)

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