

January 12, 2017

NMSEA HAPPENINGS



NEW MEXICO SOCIETY OF ENROLLED AGENTS, INC.
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From President, NMSEA

It's a Great Day to be an EA!

I hope that everyone had a wonderful Holiday Season!

A huge "atta boy" to our education committee..... The Federal tax update on Thursday was very informative and very well organized. The storm on Friday didn't hamper the die-hards who braved the icy roads in order to attend the 990 Seminar.

We still have Senator Candelaria on our side. He will be introducing a bill during the NM legislative session to have our EA credential recognized exactly the same as CPA's and Attorneys. Keep your fingers crossed.

I would like to give you some resolutions for this tax season:

1. Always download your software updates.
2. If you receive an e-mail from a stranger indicating that they need you to prepare their tax return - Don't click on the link. Scammers are alive and well and thriving out there.
3. Make sure that you have plenty of paperclips. There is nothing worse than running out of paper clips!
4. Use your time wisely. Practice your ADD multi-tasking skills while you are on the phone listening to the IRS music.
5. Tell your family that you love them and that you will be back in their lives on April 20th.

See you in May.

Shelley Barker, EA, NMSEA President

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

MONTHLY MEETING WILL BE:

Friday, May 19, 2017
11:30 am at **The Golden Corral**
5207 San Mateo Blvd, ALB. The Golden Corral charges per person for use of their meeting rooms. NMSEA will collect

\$15.00.



Speaker

TBA

NMSEA Board: PRESIDENT: Shelley Barker, EA, NTPI Fellow VICE PRESIDENT: Steven Stauss, EA, NTPI Fellow
SECRETARY: Lynne Shupp, EA, RFC TREASURER: Sandy Sue Weidner, EA, ABA, NTPI Fellow
DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE: Linda Sedillo, EA, ABA, NTPI Fellow and Helen Torran, 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, Jeff Dobbs, John Niemi, Lynne Shupp, and Barbara Padilla

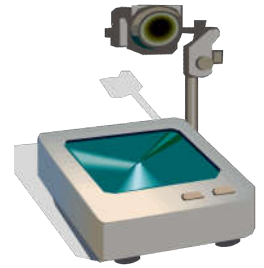
NMSEA Monthly Meetings

May 19—Speaker TBA, June 16—Speaker TBA

July 21—Speaker TBA, August 18—Speaker TBA

September 15—Speaker TBA, October 20 —Speaker TBA

November 17—Speaker TBA

**Important Dates to Note on Your Calendar**

April 18, 2017 —Tax Day. Why you may ask? The regular tax return filing deadline is April 15. However, due to April 15 being on a Saturday and the Washington D.C. Emancipation Day holiday being observed on April 17 instead of April 16, 2017, Tax Day is on the following Tuesday.

October 3-5, 2017 NMSEA Annual Convention

December 8, 2017 NMSEA New Mexico Update

**Pat Jenkins has following 2017 Quickfinder books available for sale :**

- 12 ea 1040 Handbook, bound version
- 2 ea 1040 Handbook, 3-ring binder version
- 3 ea All States Handbook
- 1 Premium Handbook, bound version
- 1 Health Care Reform Handbook
- 1 Individuals—Special Tax Situations Handbook

Contact Pat Jenkins at nmseahotmail.com or 505-877-1598 for prices and delivery information for the Quickfinders you want.

First Friday IRS Liaison Conference Call with NM, TX & AZ

(Patricia Jenkins, EA, ABA, NTPI Fellow is our representative). Call is usually the first Friday of the month. January call (page 5- 6). Comments or questions to Pat at nmseahotmail.com

**2017 IRS Nationwide Tax Forums Dates (Registration Begins March 2017)**

Orlando, FL July 11-13; Dallas, TX July 25-27

National Harbor, MD (Washington DC Area) August 22-24

Las Vegas, NV August 29-31; San Diego, CA September 12-14

For questions contact us at info@irstaxforum.com.

IRS Nationwide Tax Forum Registration Team

Phone: (202) 495-2919; Fax: (202) 403-3871

NMSEA 2017 Federal Update



Attendees



Presenter: Lawrence
Zimbler, MST, EA, MISEA



Indian Pueblo Cultural Center
Ginger Bread House Contest
Winner (Adult Division)

NMSEA 2017 Federal Update presented January 5-6, 2017 at Indian Pueblo Cultural Center. There were 29 attendees for the Jan 5 Federal Update seminar presented by Mr Zimbler and 11 who braved fierce winter weather to attend the January 6 “Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax aka Nonprofits” also presented by Mr Zimbler. Update seminar on January 5 was very comprehensive and included a 172 page handout. Mr Zimbler is also scheduled to present at the NMSEA Annual Convention in October 2017.



e-News for Tax Professionals Dec 30, 2016

Issue Number: 2016-52

1. Continuing Education Provider System Launch

CE providers were generally unable to transmit CE records to the IRS between Sept. 14 and Dec. 30 while we transitioned to a new CE provider reporting system. The new reporting system has now launched and CE credits are being added to accounts daily. PTIN holders are encouraged to check their online accounts regularly for the latest information regarding their CE credits.

PTIN holders who want to participate in the Annual Filing Season Program once their CE is reflected in their accounts can view a video at:

<https://www.irs.gov/tax-professionals/annual-filing-season-program>

to see how to sign the Circular 230 consent and receive a Record of Completion. The consent must be signed by April 18, 2017, in order to participate for 2017.



January



National Hot Tea Month

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
1  Commitment Day	2  Motivation & Inspiration Day	3  Chocolate Covered Cherry Day	4  Trivia Day	5  Bird Day	6  Bean Day	7  I'm Not Going to Take it Any More Day	
8  Bubble Bath Day	9  Clean off Desk Day	10  Cut Energy Costs Day	11  Milk Day	12  Hot Tea Day	13  Rubber Duckie Day	14  Organize your Home Day	
15  Hat Day	16  Appreciate a Dragon Day	17  Hotheads Chili Day	18  Winnie the Pooh Day	19  Tin Can Day	20  Cheese Lovers Day	21  Squirrel Appreciation	
22  Answer Cats Questions Day	23  National Pie Day	24  Peanut Butter Day	25  Irish Coffee Day	26  Spouse's Day	27  Chocolate Cake Day	28  Visit Local Quilt Shop Day	
29  Puzzle Day	30  Bubble Wrap Day	31  Inspire your Heart with Art Day					

FOR SALE: NMSEA Balloon Pin \$4
 EA (Car & Door Window Clings) \$15 each or both for \$25
 NAEA EA Pin \$5
 NMSEA 25th Anniversary Pin \$3
 Contact: NMSEA (505) 877-1598

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

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First Friday Hot Issues Summary – January 6, 2017

IMRS Monthly Overview – [November 2016](#)

The IMRS Monthly Overview contains an update of issues opened and closed each month.

We Wanted You to Know!

Form 944 filers

Employers must file Form 944 if the IRS has notified them to do so. To request to file quarterly Forms 941, 941-SS, or 941-PR to report your social security, Medicare, and withheld federal income taxes for the 2017 calendar year, call the IRS at 1-800-829-4933 or 267-941-1000 (toll call) between January 1, 2017, and April 3, 2017, or send a written request postmarked between January 1, 2017, and March 15, 2017. Contact information is in the [Instructions for Form 944](#).

The IRS will send a written notice that the filing requirement has been changed. If you do not receive this notice, you must file Form 944 for the current calendar year. See [Rev. Proc. 2009-51, 2009-45 I.R.B. 625](#), for additional information.

User Fees for Installment Agreements

User fees for payment plans/installment agreements changed effective Jan. 1, 2017. See the chart on the [Payment Plans, Installment Agreements](#) page for specific information.

Follow-ups from prior meetings:

Where are My CE Credits?

Issue: Practitioners are concerned that all their CE credits are not reflected on their PTIN account. This is a problem for enrolled agents needing to renew their licenses and other practitioners wishing to participate in the Annual Filing Season Program.

Response: The new Continuing Education (CE) Provider System is now available. CE providers have started transmitting CE course completion records and providing daily updates to the IRS. It may take several more days for all records to display in your PTIN account. Please continue to check your PTIN account periodically for updates.

The deadline for ASFP candidates to sign the Circular 230 consent and receive their AFSP certificate of completion will remain April 17, 2017.

Status: Closed.

IDRS Dead Cycles

Issue: When will the down time for the IRS databases be this year?

Response: Information on the Dead Cycles (time frames during which postings do not occur to the IRS Master File) can be found in [IRM 3.30.123.4.7](#).

- Business accounts should be updated the week of January 18.
- Individual accounts should be updated the week of January 25.

No data is lost. The delay in posting is solely related to start-up for the yearly changes to the Master Files.

Most of our online applications: such as [Get Transcript](#), [Where's My Amended Return?](#), [Direct Pay](#) and [Online Payment Agreement](#) will be available Monday, January 9. [Secure Access](#) will also be restored Monday, January 9, 2017. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Status: Closed.

New Issues:

Extensions to file FBAR

Issue: The filing due date for the FBAR form (FinCEN Report 114, *Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts*) has been changed to coincide with the filing of Form 1040. Will an extension for filing the Form 1040 also extend the filing date of the FBAR?

Response: The FBAR is not filed with a federal tax return. When the IRS grants a filing extension for a taxpayer's income tax return, it does not extend the time to file an FBAR.

FinCEN posted the following [announcement](#) to their website on December 16, 2016:

FinCEN will grant filers failing to meet the FBAR annual due date of April 15 an automatic extension to October 15 each year. Accordingly, specific requests for this extension are not required.

Status: Closed.

Limited Representation Rights

Issue: In order to represent their clients during an audit, do Annual Filing Season Program participants need to have a certificate of completion for both the year they prepared the client's return AND for the year of the audit?

Response: Yes. Unenrolled return preparers may only represent taxpayers before revenue agents, customer service representatives, or similar officers and employees of the Internal Revenue Service (including the Taxpayer Advocate Service) during an examination of the taxable period covered by the tax return they prepared and signed (or prepared if there is no signature space on the form).

For returns prepared and signed after December 31, 2015, the unenrolled return preparer must also possess (1) a valid Annual Filing Season Program Record of Completion for the calendar year in which the tax return or claim for refund was prepared and signed; and (2) a valid Annual Filing Season Program Record of Completion for the year or years in which the representation occurs. (An Annual Filing Season Program Record of Completion is not required for returns prepared and signed before January 1, 2016).

Status: Closed.