

From the Desk of the President

Winston A. Macon, EA



Greetings Fellow EAs: The Virginia Society of Enrolled Agents (VASEA) Board of Directors is continuing to do those things that add value to our organization. At the Board meeting on October 18, 2007, we agreed to accept the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) invitation to enter into an agreement with them on their Disaster Assistance Program. In the event of a Presidential Declared Disaster area in Virginia, volunteers from VASEA would be assigned to staff FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers, when there is a shortage of IRS personnel. We will be requesting the assistance of chapters to get volunteers for this program. If you would like to volunteer, please contact our Administrative Office.

VASEA has established an Education Scholarship Program. The first scholarship will be in memory of Mary A. Russo, EA, who was a dedicated VASEA member. We will be presenting this scholarship to a person taking our Special Enrollment Examination Preparation Course on November 2-4, 2007.

As you know, we will be celebrating our 25th Anniversary on August 30 – September 4, 2008 on a Cruise to Bermuda. I am very excited about the cruise and our anniversary. If you have not signed up for the cruise, please consider doing so at your earliest convenience. If you need information on the cruise, please contact our Administrative Office at 804-340-5225. Let us work together to fill the ship and have a grand celebration.

We are continuing our effort to provide a means for Enrolled Agents and Associates in remote areas to meet and have Continuing Professional Education (CPE) opportunities. If you have any ideals or suggestions on this matter, please share them with me or the Administrative office.

Sincerely,

Winston A. Macon, EA

Welcome New Members and Associates!

Congratulations to the following new members and associates of the Society!

William F. Bland Mitchellville, MD	Suzanne M. Kuntze Virginia Beach, VA
Robert R. Boyer, EA Richmond, VA	Jennifer Lebow Virginia Beach, VA
Monica Lee Denson Middleburg, VA	Bonnie Paschell, EA Hopewell, VA
Farzin Djafarnia, EA Arlington, VA	Robert M. Patten, EA Woodbridge, VA
Mary Jane Dowler, EA Vienna, VA	Jo Ann Sieve Springfield, VA
John W. Gross, EA Purcellville, VA	Jane W. Stilmar, CPA Alexandria, VA
Laurine James Norfolk, VA	Joseph S. Taylor, Jr. Arlington, VA
James Jobson Hampton, VA	Timothy S. Turner Glen Allen, VA
Anthony F. Jones Fairfax, VA	

Virginia Society of Enrolled Agents

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insert PAC article - page 2

Report from NAEA Affiliate Presidents Exchange

by Heather Greenwell, VASEA Administrator

I had the opportunity to attend NAEA's Affiliate Presidents Exchange on Friday, November 9th in Arlington, Virginia. Many items of interest to VASEA members were discussed during the meeting. Following are a few highlights:

Strategic Discussion On How To Treat "Enrolled Preparers"

There was a strategic discussion on how NAEA should prepare for the expected passage of legislation that will require regulation of all persons who prepare tax returns for others for a fee. It is expected that this legislation will pass in 2008 and will become effective in 2009 with a transition period of up to three years. Current estimates are that there are 250,000 to 400,000 non-Circular 230 persons who prepare tax returns and thus have not demonstrated competency. The discussion at the Presidents Exchange centered on how NAEA should position itself strategically for the future in light of the new class of "enrolled preparers." After considering many options, including opening membership to the "enrolled preparers," the general consensus was that NAEA should remain the organization for Enrolled Agents and continue to encourage all "enrolled preparers" to "step up" and become Enrolled Agents. Only then can they become NAEA members. NAEA will still continue to promote and accept associate members.

NAEA Tax Research Service

NAEA previewed their new on-line *Tax Research Service* for meeting participants. It is a very impressive website and will be a great benefit to members who will have free access to the vast tax knowledge base available on the website. Personalized expert research will also be provided for a fee. Non-members will be allowed to use the site but they will have to pay an annual subscription fee and at least twice what members pay for personalized expert research. If everything goes smoothly, this service should be available to the membership before the New Year.

NAEA Board of Directors Election

Elections for the NAEA Board of Directors will take place in early December. NAEA members that are eligible to vote will receive detailed voting instructions by email, or by letter via USPS if no email address is available, no later than December 1st. Please refer to the November – December issue of the EA Journal for detailed information on the slate of candidates and be sure to cast your vote by midnight December 17th.

Important Notice

VASEA 2007-2008 Membership Directory

We are currently in the process of putting together the 2007-2008 VASEA Membership Directory. If you have not paid your 2007-2008 membership dues, you have already been removed from the membership roster and your name and contact information will not appear in the directory. To verify your membership status, please contact the VASEA Administrative Office at (804) 340-5225 or toll-free 1-800-344-8732. NAEA members may check their membership status on-line by looking themselves up on "Find an Enrolled Agent" on NAEA's website (www.naea.org). It's an exciting time to be a member of NAEA and VASEA. If you have not paid your 2007-2008 dues, we hope you will do so soon.

VASEA Education Scholarship Program

The Virginia Society of Enrolled Agents (VASEA) is proud to announce an Education Scholarship Program. The Education Scholarship Program awards will be made available to deserving individuals attending any VASEA sponsored program.

The first scholarship in the amount of \$100.00 will be given to a recipient for the November 2-4 Special Enrollment Exam Prep Course that was held at the Crowne Plaza Dulles Airport. This first scholarship is being made in memory and honor of Mary A. Russo, EA, former VASEA member who was very active in VASEA and in the education of preparers and Enrolled Agents.

Anyone wishing to apply for a scholarship in the future may request an application form from the VASEA Administrator, 2415 Westwood Avenue, Richmond, VA 23230. The deadline for receiving applications for various seminars will be posted on the website and announced via email.

Donations Requested – VASEA wishes to continue to provide Education Scholarships in the future. Your tax-deductible donation would be appreciated and will help support this program. Please send donations made payable to the Virginia Society of Enrolled Agents with a notation in the memo section “Education Scholarship Program” to:

Virginia Society of Enrolled Agents
Attn: VASEA Education Scholarship
2415 Westwood Avenue
Richmond, VA 23230

Thank you for your support and if you have any questions, please call the Education Scholarship Committee Chair, Becky Donehew, EA at (540) 342-1120.



[insert Al Thomson ad]

VASEA Education Calendar

Saturday, January 26, 2008 - 19th Annual Tri-State Seminar

Tysons Westpark Hotel, Mclean, Virginia

Presented by the Northern Virginia Chapter of the Virginia Society of Enrolled Agents. The objective of this seminar is to enhance the participant's ability to prepare accurate and complete tax returns for Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia. (8 CPE hours)

June 12-14, 2008 - VASEA Twentieth Annual Spring Seminar

Fredericksburg Hospitality House (formerly Holiday Inn Select), Fredericksburg, Virginia

Confirmed speakers include Paul LaMonaca, CPA, Art Werner, Esq., and Benny Montgomery, EA. (22 CPE hours)

June 20-22, 2008 - VASEA Special Enrollment Exam (SEE) Review Course

Location to be announced.

July 10-11, 2008 - VASEA IRS/VA Department of Taxation Current Tax Issues Seminar

Fredericksburg Hospitality House (formerly Holiday Inn Select), Fredericksburg, Virginia

(10 CPE hours)

August 30-September 4, 2008 - VASEA 25th Anniversary Cruise

Join us on this special 5-night cruise from Norfolk to Bermuda to celebrate VASEA's 25th Anniversary. Details are available on the VASEA website at www.vasea.org. (8 CPE hours)

October 24-26, 2008 - VASEA Special Enrollment Exam (SEE) Review Course

Location to be announced.

2008 VASEA Sponsored NCPE Seminars

August 5-6, 2008 - NCPE Corporation (C&S) and Partnerships (LLCs) Workshop

Roanoke, Virginia

August 7-8, 2008 - NCPE Corporation (C&S) and Partnerships (LLCs) Workshop

Northern Virginia

September 2008 - NCPE Fiduciary (Form 1041) One-Day Workshop

Northern Virginia - Exact date to be announced.

November 5-6, 2008 - NCPE 1040 Individual Income Tax Workshop

Norfolk, Virginia

November 12-13, 2008 - NCPE 1040 Individual Income Tax Workshop

Roanoke, Virginia

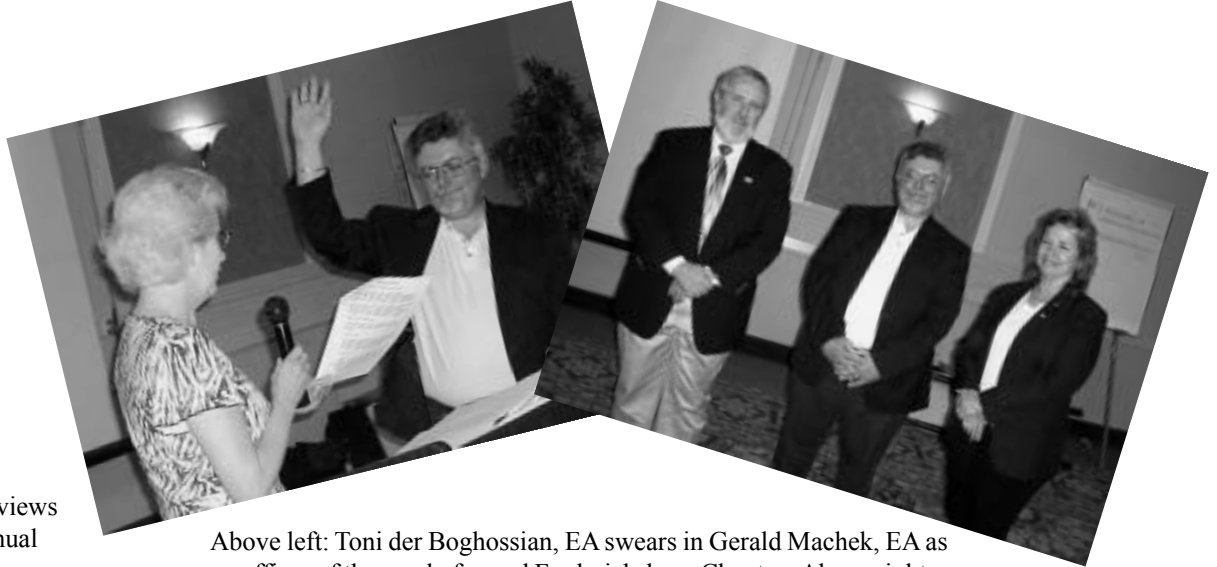
November 19-20, 2008 - NCPE 1040 Individual Income Tax Workshop

Northern Virginia

VASEA 19th Annual Spring Seminar
June 7-9, 2007 ~ Holiday Inn Select, Fredericksburg
Annual Meeting Highlights



Above: Rosemary Fahl, EA reviews the minutes from the 2006 Annual Meeting.



Above left: Toni der Boghossian, EA swears in Gerald Machek, EA as an officer of the newly formed Fredericksburg Chapter. Above right: (l-r) Fredericksburg Chapter officers W. Robert Brammer, EA, Gerald Machek, EA and Judy Harrington, EA.



The 2007-2008 VASEA Board of Directors were installed during the Annual Meeting. Left: (l-r) Winston Macon, EA, Al Thomson, EA, Diane Beverly, EA, Evelyn Denwiddie, EA, Barbara Taylor, EA, Alisa Lam, EA, Steve Rue, EA, and Charles Spencer, EA (not pictured - Julie Compton, EA and Rebecca Donehew, EA)

Numerous awards and recognitions were handed out at the Annual Meeting. Below right: Cyndie Jeanguenat, EA receives the "Above & Beyond" award. Below left: Evelyn Denwiddie, EA and Barry Iacono, EA are recognized for their work on the SEE Review Course.



VASEA 19th Annual Spring Seminar
June 7-9, 2007 ~ Holiday Inn Select, Fredericksburg
Reception & Town Hall & President's Reception



On Friday after the Annual Meeting, participants enjoyed refreshments and hors d'oeuvres at the VASEA Reception & Town Hall Meeting. Left: (l-r) Benny Montgomery, EA, Alisa Lam, EA, Diane Beverly, EA, Jim Lam, EA, and Winston Macon, EA. Below: (l-r) Elizabeth Geiger, EA, Mary Zembruski, EA and Barbara Taylor, EA.



After the official Reception & Town Hall, an informal reception was held in the Presidential Suite. Left: Nancy Taylor, EA chats it up. Below: Benny Montgomery, EA enjoys a cold one.



IRS Offers e-Services Incentive Products to Circular 230 Practitioners

For those members who do not get the IRS e-file quick alerts, effective November 1, Circular 230 Practitioners will have unlimited access to the e-services incentive products. They include Disclosure Authorization, Electronic Account Resolution, and Transcript Delivery System. These products improve tax filing efficiency and problem resolution while saving valuable time and resources for tax professionals.

Circular 230 Practitioners who qualify are attorneys, certified public accountants and enrolled agents eligible to practice before the IRS. New users must still complete an online IRS e-file application and go through the same approval process used for Electronic Return Originators.

See the e-services information page on www.IRS.gov for more details on these and other e-file-related products.

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