

President's Message

Alexander B. Thomson, EA, CFP

Congratulations on making it through another April 15th. It was one of the busiest tax seasons ever, and most of us have a desk full of extensions. The concept of tax "season" has become outdated as our work extends year round. After some well earned rest, it's back to work. Make sure to catch up with family and friends, then take time for training, education and some fun with VASEA.

We continue to celebrate VASEA's 25th anniversary. Here is some of what is coming up in the next few months.

In May, VASEA Past President Winston Macon will be installed as a member of the NAEA Board of Directors. Winston was elected in December and will serve a two year term. The installation dinner will be held on Friday, May 8th in Washington DC. If you are interested in joining us for this event, please contact Heather Greenwell for reservations. The evening keynote speaker is Carolyn Gray, Acting Director of OPR. A reception is planned following the dinner.

Our *Annual Spring Seminar* will be held June 4, 5 & 6. Come to Fredericksburg for 22 hours of CPE, including 2 hours of ethics Thursday evening. On Friday afternoon, we will hold the Society's Annual Meeting and elections. The business portion will be short, followed by an open forum to discuss the future of VASEA and issues of concern to our

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Welcome New Members and Associates!

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

Sekou Bamba, EA
Dumfries, VA

Tracie P. Friddle, EA
Stanleytown, VA

Carey Haus Beverly, EA
Portsmouth, VA

Linda Garcia-Vieta, EA
McGaheysville, VA

Lennox C. Boush, EA
Portsmouth, VA

Karen D. Hawkins, EA
Richmond, VA

Linda M. Busch, EA
Manassas, VA

Joan Hughes, EA
Chesapeake, VA

Janice K. Canby, EA
West Point, VA

Ben Jones
Woodbridge, VA

Charles M. Carter, Jr., EA
Glen Allen, VA

Sharon A. Lewis, EA
Fancy Gap, VA

Frank M. Carter
Alexandria, VA

Evelyn Kuniyoshi, EA
Dunn Loring, VA

Bernardita Y. Carter, EA
Fairfax, VA

Scott T. Prillaman, EA
Stanleytown, VA

James H. Chapman
Winchester, VA

Jeffrey A. Randall, PhD, PMP
Manassas, VA

Ashok K. Chhabra, EA
Annandale, VA

Arthur S. Rubin, EA, CFE
Chesapeake, VA

Michelle N. Dail, EA
Chesapeake, VA

William E. Schlimgen, EA
Fredericksburg, VA

Shantel B. Eilenfield, EA
Yorktown, VA

Maria Tores, EA
Falls Church, VA

Virginia Fleming, EA
Arlington, VA

Bridget D. Scott
Virginia Beach, VA

H. Tyler Franks, EA
Richmond, VA

Chi Hui Yi, EA
Fairfax, VA

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members. At 5:30 we will host a reception and Awards Banquet where we will recognize members with 5, 10, 15, 20, and 25 year awards. Please join us for dinner, a guest speaker, the installation of our officers for 2009-2010, and an evening of fun and fellowship.

Having updated our Strategic Plan, the members of your Board and Committees are hard at work in support of the goals in the plan.

VASEA continues its tradition of offering exceptional educational opportunities with the *NCPE Corporations & Partnerships Seminar* in August and *SEE Review Course* in October in Herndon; and the *NCPE Individual Income Tax Workshop* sessions in Roanoke (Nov 3-4), Norfolk (Nov 11-12) and Herndon (Nov 18-19). Our IRS/VA Department of Taxation *Current Issues Seminar* will be held October 29th, and has been moved to Richmond this year. The Education Committee, chaired by Ken Whitley will meet in June to refine our programs and speakers for the coming year.

Our Membership Committee, chaired by Alisa Lam, has been hard at work with our chapters to make sure all new members are warmly welcomed and invited to chapter meetings. VASEA ranks 5th in size of NAEA chapters (we have about 30 members less than Texas and 14 more than Massachusetts). While where we rank in size is not the point, making sure we reach out to existing and new EA's is important. Recruiting new members, promoting our chapters and programs is a responsibility we all share. VASEA and our chapters provide excellent educational sessions, networking opportunities and a professional support

structure. Be proud of VASEA and encourage our professional colleagues to join.

Our Public Awareness Committee chaired by Rebecca Donehew, and Government Relations Committee chaired by Steve Rue, will continue their work to increase recognition of EA's and improve our relationships with the public, other practitioners, financial professionals and taxing authorities.

Managing the "nuts & bolts" of VASEA falls to our Budget Committee, chaired by Vice President Rosemary McMahon, our Treasurer, Barbara Taylor and hard working Administrator Heather Greenwell. If funds were unlimited, the job would be easy. But with limited funds, we face hard choices in pursuit of the goals set by our members. To that end, we are working to deliver services in more efficient ways. In the near future look for upgrades of our website to accommodate event registration, membership updates and a member's only page.

VASEA has come a long way in 25 years. And the next 25 can be even better. Let's work together to increase our membership, and get more involved at every level. Step up and serve on a chapter committee, state committee or take a leadership position. As Sir Winston Churchill said "*We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give.*"

I hope to see you in Fredericksburg in June, and that you have a happy, healthy and prosperous Spring.

Warm regards,

AL

(Pictured Left to Right) VASEA members Cynthia Jeanguenat, EA and Al Thomson, EA appeared with IRS representatives Barbara Fiebich & Nancy Como, and Tax Talk Host Les Witmer on Tax Talk Today on March 10th. The subject of the one hour program was "Surviving the IRS Audit."



Notice of Annual Meeting

Section 6.02 of the Bylaws of the Virginia Society of Enrolled Agents requires the Secretary to issue a “Notice of Annual Meeting” at least thirty days prior to the meeting date. The 2009 Annual Meeting will be held on Friday, June 5, 2009 at 3:15 p.m. at the Fredericksburg Hospitality House, 2801 Plank Road, Fredericksburg, Virginia, in conjunction with the Annual Spring Seminar. The Spring Seminar will begin on Thursday, June 4th and will conclude on Saturday, June 6th. For more information on the Spring Seminar, contact the VASEA office at 1-800-344-8732 or visit the VASEA website at www.vasea.org.

Annual Meeting Agenda

Friday, June 5, 2009

3:15pm

Call to Order

Minutes Review Committee Report

Announce Appointment: Minutes Review Committee Chair 2009 Minutes

Minutes Review Committee

Old Business

New Business

Nominating Committee Report

Election of Officers and Board members

Adjournment



2009 Nominating Committee Report

April 23, 2009

The Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following slate of nominees for election at the Friday, June 5, 2009 Annual Business Meeting at the Fredericksburg Hospitality House, 2801 Plank Road, Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Vice President	Rosemary C. Mc Mahon, EA CPA
Secretary	Kenneth W. Whitley, Sr., EA
Treasurer	Barbara E. Taylor, EA
Directors - 2 Year Term	Diane Beverly, EA Steve Rue, EA James E. (Jim) Lam, EA*

* Jim Lam was appointed to fill out the remaining term of Charles Spencer and will be running for a full two year term as Director at this meeting.

Individuals who will remain on the Board completing their second year of two are:

President	Alexander B. Thomson, EA
Directors	Julie M. Compton, EA Rebecca Donehew, EA Alisa Lam, EA A. K. Shyllon, EA, Phd

Hot Topics at VASEA's 21st Annual Spring Seminar

You asked and your VASEA Education Committee listened! Using feedback from seminar evaluations and the membership survey, the committee worked hard to put together a great program for the upcoming Spring Seminar June 4-6, 2009 at the Fredericksburg Hospitality House.

Speakers and topics include:

- ◆ Donald T. Williamson, LL.M., CPA presenting *Performing Federal Tax Research Using Judicial, Legislative and Administrative Authorities*;
- ◆ Marilyn Meredith, EA presenting *Foreclosures, Forms, Forgiveness and Basis of Property and Sale of Business*;
- ◆ Alice Orzechowski, CPA, CMA, EA presenting *Deductible or Not? Schedules A, C, & E*;
- ◆ Michael Goodman presenting *Foreign Issues on the Federal Income Tax Return*; and,
- ◆ Laura Zelman, a senior IRS attorney, presenting two hours of ethics.

A total of twenty-two hours of CPE is available.

The Spring Seminar also provides an excellent opportunity to network with fellow EAs and other tax professionals. New this year, there will be a Reception & Awards Banquet on Friday evening. All members are highly encouraged to register for this event. It's a great opportunity to network and enjoy yourself.



Many active VASEA members will tell you that the value of networking at the Spring Seminar and other VASEA events cannot be overstated. Most everyone who attends the Spring Seminar is willing to share their knowledge and expertise. If you make an effort, you can learn just as much from networking as you can from the CPE. So strike up a conversation with the person sitting next to you ~ you never know, they may have the answer to your most recent tax question.

NAEA PAC Update

by Alexander B. Thomson, EA, Chair, PAC Steering Committee

NAEA PAC has become an effective tool enabling NAEA to support key members of Congress who are in a position to aid our cause. The creation and growth of this PAC has been an exciting development for our organization. The PAC raises our profile and helps cement our reputation as a serious advocacy association.

The most important issue likely to come before Congress in the future is the regulation of return preparers. In fact, NAEA-influenced legislation concerning the return preparer regulation was introduced in the House and Senate during the last Congress and, with continued advocacy on behalf of enrolled agents, stands a very good chance of being introduced in the current Congress. Otherwise, we will also see tax reform of some magnitude, whether that is limited to estate tax reform or broadened by President Obama's tax reform task force findings. I believe NAEA is well-positioned to play an important role in the development and implementation of legislation that affects enrolled agents

and our clients. To remain in this strong position, we must continue to use our PAC to bolster our advocacy efforts in Congress.

During these uncertain financial times, I am sensitive to the strain that the troubled economy has placed on NAEA's members. I assure you the PAC Steering Committee is focused on balancing that strain and the long-term interests of enrolled agents. Even a small contribution would be an investment that will reap rewards for NAEA PAC, the association, and all enrolled agents. NAEA members who contribute at least \$40 receive a custom lapel pin designating their special status as an NAEA PAC supporter.

Contributions may be made online by credit card at the NAEA website or a check can be sent to NAEA PAC, PO Box 65071, Washington, DC 20035. An exciting legislative session lays ahead, one in which the regulation of preparers and other critical legislation may be decided. Let's make sure NAEA's voice is heard!

NAEA Holds its First Fly-In Day

NAEA is holding its first Fly-In Day on May 6th. The purpose of the Fly-In Day is to increase participants' awareness of legislative issues affecting enrolled agents, to foster relationships with legislators and their staff through political involvement, and to gain real-life education in the practical aspects of citizen advocacy.

Many organizations hold Fly-In Days. Also referred to as lobby days, fly-in days gather organization members from across the country to advocate directly to policy makers about the issues that matter most to them as constituents.

During the Fly-In Day, NAEA members that are constituents of either the House Ways and Means Committee or the Senate Finance Committee, the two committees that hold sway over all tax-related legislation, will advocate on behalf of enrolled agents. These legislators are the people who most directly influence IRS, taxpayers, and paid tax return preparers and they listen to their constituents.

The Fly-In Day is just another example of how NAEA is representing your interests in Washington!



New Speakers Bureau Forming In Your Community

By Rosemary C. McMahon, EA, CPA

The Virginia Society of Enrolled Agents has teamed with the IRS Stakeholder Liaison - Field (SL) section to present Small Business Tax Workshops to your community. These tax workshops are designed to educate Small Business owners and the Self-Employed on relevant topics to enable them to understand their federal tax responsibilities and avoid getting into trouble. Valuable information will be provided at the workshops, such as: Understanding Payroll Taxes, Worker Classification, Business Income and Expenses, Office-in-Home Deductions, Entity Selections, and Electronic Filing.

To date, we have 31 volunteers from the Virginia Society of Enrolled Agents who are willing to speak at local small business development organizations, Chambers of Commerce, the Small Business Administration and other groups on these relevant topics. We will have local coordination meetings with IRS Stakeholder Liaison representatives starting in June 2009.

This will be an excellent opportunity to partner with the Internal Revenue Service in promoting the “EA” designation and your tax practice in the community in which you live and work.

You will be supplied with ready-made PowerPoint presentations and hand-outs. You can structure the workshops to meet the needs of your audience: you can combine topics for a 4-hour workshop or do one or two topics for a 2-hour workshop. A representative from the IRS will be available to train you on presenting these seminars. Additional materials, publications and brochures will be available from the IRS. These materials can be sent to you directly to distribute at the workshops.

If you are interested in joining our team for what will be a winning proposition for Enrolled Agents, the IRS, and the small business community, please email Rosemary McMahon at rory@mcmahoncpa.com or call me at 703-272-8840.



Virginia Society of Enrolled Agents

2009 Calendar of Events

Save the dates now!

For the most current version of the Society calendar, please visit VASEA's website at www.vasea.org or contact the VASEA Administrative Office at (804) 340-5225 or 1-800-344-8732 toll-free.

Saturdays, May 16-October 17, 2009

SEE Intensive Review Course

This intensive SEE Review Course includes live classroom instruction in combination with online coursework.

Classes begin May 16, 2009 provided we have at least 4 students registered to participate.

Class locations will be determined by student concentration levels.

Thursday-Friday, June 4-6, 2009

VASEA 21st Annual Spring Seminar (22 hours CPE)

Fredericksburg Hospitality House, Fredericksburg, Virginia

Wednesday-Thursday, August 5-6, 2009

NCPE Corporation (C&S) and Partnerships (LLCs) Workshop (16 hours CPE)

Crowne Plaza Dulles Airport, Herndon, Virginia

Friday-Sunday, October 23-25, 2009

VASEA Special Enrollment Exam (SEE) Review Course

Crowne Plaza Dulles Airport, Herndon, Virginia

Thursday, October 29, 2009

IRS/VA Department of Taxation Current Tax Issues Seminar (8 hours CPE)

Crowne Plaza Richmond Downtown, Richmond, VA

Tuesday-Wednesday, November 3-4, 2009

NCPE 1040 Individual Income Tax Workshop (16 hours CPE)

Holiday Inn Tanglewood, Roanoke, Virginia

Wednesday-Thursday, November 11-12, 2009

NCPE 1040 Individual Income Tax Workshop (16 hours CPE)

Holiday Inn Select Norfolk Airport, Norfolk, Virginia

Wednesday-Thursday, November 18-19, 2009

NCPE 1040 Individual Income Tax Workshop (16 hours CPE)

Crowne Plaza Dulles Airport, Herndon, Virginia

VASEA Chapter Meeting Information

Blue Ridge Chapter (BRC)

A luncheon meeting, with one hour of CPE, is generally held on the third Wednesday of each month. The lunch meetings begin at noon and are held at various locations. For more information, please contact Rebecca Donehew, EA at (540) 342-1120.

Fredericksburg Chapter (FC)

A chapter meeting, with one hour of CPE, is generally held on the third Wednesday of each month. For more information, please contact Gerald Macheck, EA at (540) 785-2096.

Hampton Roads Chapter (HRC)

A monthly breakfast meeting, with CPE, is usually held on the third Wednesday of each month except May. The breakfast meetings begin at 7:30 a.m. and are held at the Holiday Inn Select, 1570 North Military Highway, Norfolk, Virginia. They do not have a breakfast meeting in May, but instead, will hold a four-hour seminar on Saturday May 16, 2009. For more information, please contact George S. Walsh, EA at (757) 428-5258.

Northern Virginia Chapter (NVC)

A dinner meeting, with one hour of CPE, is generally held on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Monthly meetings are held at the Marco Polo Restaurant, 245 Maple Avenue W., Vienna, Va. Daytime seminars (3-4 hours CPE; free to chapter members) are held in May and September. In addition, the chapter sponsors the Tri-State Seminar on the third Saturday of January. For more information, please contact Betsy Marron, EA at (703) 243-1915.

Richmond Chapter (RC)

A breakfast meeting, with one hour of CPE, is generally held on the second Thursday of each month except April. The breakfast meetings begin at 7:30 a.m. and are held at the Westwood Racquet Club, 6200 West Club Lane, Richmond, VA. For more information, please contact Brenda Hayes, EA at (804) 755-4892.

