



# The Accountant

Official Publication

of the North Carolina Society of Accountants

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September 2008

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## A Message From The President

Denise J. Hammond



Denise J. Hammond

How many new members have you signed up? Remember we are doing a **FREE membership during this fiscal year**. So be sure to speak with your colleagues about being a member of NCSA – there has never been a better time.

Thank you to the Legislative Committee for your hard work and dedication in helping to protect our right to practice in North Carolina. Speaking of your right to practice, soon you will be receiving information from Past President Rhonda Marsh about how you can help by contributing to the Legislative fund.

Several of our members attended the Carolina's Forum in Myrtle Beach a few weeks ago. It was a very good conference with lots of great information from the Internal Revenue Service and both the North and South Carolina Departments of Revenue offices. Our own Practitioner's Forum is scheduled for October 24<sup>th</sup> in Greensboro. Make plans to attend. You should have received a brochure with additional information.

Another month is gone; time flies when you're having fun. I'm off to Kansas City, MO, to represent NCSA at the National Convention, August 27-31.

If you haven't already, be sure to get those registration forms in for our next event, **Fall PAS September 26 & 27, speaker Beanna Whitlock.**

Special discounts are available to our members for NSA seminars and Jennings Seminars. Check out the website @ncsainc.org for more information.

**NCSA brochures and/or registration forms are available on the Calendar page of our web site at [www.ncsainc.org](http://www.ncsainc.org).**

## Chapter News

### Burlington

Burlington Chapter met on August 28 at Kimbers Restaurant, Gibsonville. Immediate Past President of NCSA Stephen Metelits installed officers. They remain the same as last year. He also gave the program "NC Tax Law Changes."

The next meeting will be September 25 at Kimbers Restaurant, Gibsonville.

### Cape Fear

Cape Fear Chapter met at the Barn Restaurant, Fayetteville, on August 18. There were eight members and two guests present. Mark Rice, LUTCF, CBIA, CIC, spoke on Employment Practices Liability Insurance for Small Business Owners.

The next meeting will be on Monday, September 22, 6:00 pm, at The Brass Lantern in Dunn. CPA John Ayers will speak on Basis. This meeting will qualify for 2 hours of CPE. ***Members from other Chapters are encouraged to attend.***

### Central

Central Chapter met on August 25 at the Blue Mist Restaurant in Asheboro. There were six members and four guests present. Ms. Lynn S. Hargis, a Relationship Communications Specialist with Lines by Design spoke on Communications in Business.

The next meeting is Monday, September 22 at Stephanies II in Asheville. NSA State Director Curt Lee will speak on tax preparer registration.

### Charlotte

Charlotte Chapter met August 25. Marsha Wheeler, NCSA Chapter Promotions Chair, spoke on Chapter Promotions.

### Hickory

Hickory Chapter met on August 25 at McGuffey's in Hickory. David Lingerfelt from the North Carolina Department of Revenue was the speaker.

The next meeting will be held on September 29.

### Raleigh

Raleigh Chapter met on August 26. Marsha Wheeler, NCSA Chapter Promotions Chair spoke.

### Western

Western Chapter met on August 26 at the Olive Garden in Asheville. Insurance Agent David Trout discussed the Health Savings Plan.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 30, 6:30 pm, at the Fiddlin' Pig on Tunnel Road in Asheville. Arron Budhisetiawan from the Department of Labor will be the speaker. ***Members from other chapters are encouraged to attend.***

NEWS IS A FLEETING THING. WE CAN ONLY REPORT WHAT WE ARE TOLD. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR CHAPTER IS SHARING WITH ***THE ACCOUNTANT***.

Please e-mail information to [taxpros@nc.rr.com](mailto:taxpros@nc.rr.com) or fax to 910-867-1757.

## ACAT

Bill Fischer reports from the NSA Board of Governors meeting that effective January 1, 2009, the ACAT ATP credential will be available only by passing an examination. No longer will EAs, CPAs, or Masters of Taxation automatically qualify for the credential. The option of getting 60-hours of taxation CPE to obtain the credential also expires on December 31, 2008. These changes were mandated by the accreditation process ACAT is undergoing.

## Consent to Disclose

Starting January 1, 2009, if you want to share a taxpayer's 1040-series information with someone else or the taxpayer asks you to share all or part of the return with someone else, according to Rev. Proc. 2008-35 you must receive written instructions from the client allowing the information to be exchanged. This written consent must include the taxpayer's written signature, exactly who is to receive the information, specifically what information is to be shared, why the information is to be shared, and for how long the information is to be shared.

In addition, there is some boiler-plate language which must be included. The exact message depends on what is to be shared, but the general language includes:

Federal law requires this consent form be provided to you. Unless authorized by law, we cannot use, without your consent, your tax return information for purposes other than preparing and filing your tax return.

You are not required to complete this form. If we obtain your signature on this form by conditioning our services on your consent, your consent will not be valid. Your consent is valid for the amount of time that you specify. If you do not specify the duration of your consent, your consent is valid for one year.

If you believe your tax return information has been disclosed or used improperly in a manner unauthorized by law or without your permission, you may contact the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) by telephone at (800) 366-4484 or by e-mail at [complaints@tigta.treas.gov](mailto:complaints@tigta.treas.gov).

Depending on circumstances, the other text varies. Your name or the name of your firm can be substituted for the word "we" in the above "text." Also, the form (including the signature) can be handled on line.

## Benefits Estimator

This is a correction to last month's article (thank you, Steve Pace). The Social Security Administration has made available a new on-line benefit estimator. You can get various detailed levels of estimate. Go to [www.socialsecurity.gov/planners/calculators.htm](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/planners/calculators.htm).

## NCSA Legislative Committee

Curt Lee attended the CPA Board meeting on Monday, July 21, 2008. There was no proposed legislative activity or pending legislation discussed at this meeting that will affect our members. The Legislative Committee attends the monthly meetings, monitors the Board, and continues to protect our rights to practice.

## Use It or Lose It

One of the items brought out in the August IRS Tax Forum was the concept of "use it or lose it." To reuse unused numbers, the IRS will drop ETINs that have been unused by this October. EFINS inactive through November will be dropped in January. A notice may be sent before the number is dropped.

## MeF

At the 2008 Carolinas Tax Professional Forum in Myrtle Beach in August, much was made of the new "Modern e-File" (MeF) on which the IRS is working. It is a complete rewrite of the IRS e-file program that promises to allow things such as making it possible to attach files to an electronically filed tax return. The IRS hopes to replace the "old" e-file system with the new one "soon."

Meanwhile, state departments of revenue are working to be able to interface with the new IRS system. North Carolina is one of the states that is aiming its resources at the new system. When will North Carolina be ready to switch? It will take at least one more year if not longer.

## Practitioners' Forum Committee

Unresolved issues? Questions? Problems? Representatives from the Internal Revenue Service, NC Department of Revenue, and NC Employment Security Commission will be present at the Practitioners' Forum in Greensboro on October 24. They will provide solutions to your problems, answer your questions, and discuss your suggestions for changes that may be beneficial to us and to the various agencies they represent. This is your opportunity to meet face-to-face with people from the various taxing authorities with which we interact.

Since we are required to submit our questions and/or suggestions to the various representatives well in advance of the Forum, please provide your written questions/problems/suggestions to Richard Davis, 114 W Main Street, Gibsonville, NC 27249 ([fatcat4@worldnet.att.net](mailto:fatcat4@worldnet.att.net)) or Garland Steele, PO Box 83, Gibsonville, NC 27249 ([gfsteele@embarqmail.com](mailto:gfsteele@embarqmail.com)) by September 20.

You'll find a registration form with this issue of *The Accountant*. Since space is limited, register now.

## NSA Convention News

*Stephen Metelits*

Both President Denise Hammond and Secretary Bill Fischer have told me the same thing, so it must be true. At the NSA Convention in Kansas City, NCSA again got an award for monitoring the NC CPA Board of Examiners. Congratulations Curt Lee.

We also got the ASO of the Year award. We haven't won that since the year Florence Black was President. Before you congratulate me too much, this award belongs to the membership, the Board of Directors, and Officers of last year. I may get some of the credit, but I share it and thank everyone who had a part in getting this award.

**North Carolina Society of Accountants  
Practitioners' Forum Committee**

P.O. Box 83  
Gibsonville, NC 27249  
Phone (336)449-4732      FAX (336)449-6061

Describe the problem encountered (what was changed on the tax return, not accepted, the notice of change received, etc.)

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Corrective Actions Taken (Letters written, contacting IRS?NCDR,etc.)

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Has this situation occurred more than once? Yes/no      If so how many times?

Which tax years?      Filing Status: S    HOH      MFJ      MJS

Which Publications or research material have you used to clarify the matter?

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Attach support documents as needed and blot out any reference to your client.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please only put one problem or question to a page  
Make copies of this form  
Thanks for your input



## **NCSA Calendar** *(cut and paste for future reference)*

### **2008**

September 21–**District IV**–Atlanta, GA

September 25–**Board of Directors meeting**–Clarion, Greensboro, 4 pm

September 26-27–**Fall PAS**–Clarion, Greensboro

October 24–**Practitioners' Forum**–Wyndham Garden Hotel Greensboro Airport

October 27–**NCSU Farm Tax**–Wilson County Ag Center, Wilson, 8:30 am

October 27–**NCSA 3-hour class**–Asheville, 9 am

October 28–**NCSU Farm Tax**–Duplin Extension Center, Kenansville, 8:30 am

October 28–**NCSA 3-hour class**–Charlotte, 9 am

October 29–**NCSU Farm Tax**–Robeson Extension Center, Lumberton, 8:30 am

October 29–**NCSA 3-hour class**–Greensboro, 9 am

October 30–**NCSU Farm Tax**–Cunningham Research Center, Kinston, 8:30 am

October 30–**NCSA 3-hour class**–RTP, 9 am

October 31-November 2–**NSA LNC/LSC/LTC**, Phoenix, AZ

November 3–**NCSU Farm Tax**–Bob Martin Ag Center, Williamston, 8:30 am

November 5–**NCSU Farm Tax**–Guilford Extension Center, Greensboro, 8:30 am

November 10–**NCSU Farm Tax**–Union Extension Center, Monroe, 8:30 am

November 11–**NCSU Farm Tax**–Iredell Extension Center, Statesville, 8:30 am

November 12–**NCSU Farm Tax**–Western Mountain Extension Center, Fletcher, 8:30 am

November 12-13–**PTI**–Emerald Event Center, Greensboro

November 13-14–**PTI**–Holiday Inn Airport, Charlotte

November 19–**NCSU Farm Tax**–Moore Extension Center, Carthage, 8:30 am

November 20-21–**PTI**–Ocean Reef, Myrtle Beach, SC

December 1-2–**NCSU Intermediate & Advance Tax**–Holiday Inn Fayetteville I-95, Fayetteville, 8:30 am

December 1-2–**NCSU Intermediate Tax**–Asheville Renaissance Hotel, Asheville, 8:30 am

December 3-4–**NCSU Intermediate & Advance Tax**–Greensboro Coliseum, Greensboro, 8:30 am

December 3-4–**NCSU Intermediate Tax**–Hawthorne Inn, Winston Salem, 8:30 am

December 8-9–**NCSU Intermediate & Advance Tax**–Blake Hotel, Charlotte, 8:30 am

December 8-9–**NCSU Intermediate Tax**–Hilton Greenville, Greenville, 8:30 am

December 10-11–**NCSU Intermediate & Advance Tax**–McKimmon Center, Raleigh, 8:30 am

December 10-11–**NCSU Intermediate Tax**–Hilton Wilmington Riverside, Wilmington, 8:30 am

### **2009**

January 14–**NCSU Introductory Tax**–McKimmon Center, Raleigh, 8:30

May 16–**Board of Directors meeting**–Optimist Club, Lenoir, NC

June 21–**Board of Directors meeting**–Hilton Riverside, Wilmington

June 21-22–**NCSA Convention**–Hilton Riverside, Wilmington

November 2-3–**Jennings 1040 Tax**

# NCSA Schedule of Events

## 2008

September 21—**District IV**—Atlanta, GA

September 25—**Board of Directors Meeting**—Clarion Hotel  
Greensboro Airport, Greensboro—4 p.m.

September 26-27—**Fall PAS**—  
Clarion Hotel Greensboro Airport, Greensboro—8 a.m.

October 24—**Practitioner's Forum**—  
Holiday Inn Airport, Greensboro—9 a.m.

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Wilson County Ag Center, Wilson—8:30 am

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Iredell Extension Center, Statesville—8:30 am

November 12—**NCSU Farm Tax**—  
Western Mountain Extension Center, Fletcher—8:30 am

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