

IAPA TODAY



The Newsletter for Idaho's Accounting & Tax Professionals

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NSA National Convention A Day's Drive Away!

By NSA District IX Governor Rex R. Cruse, EA, ABA, ATA

I hope you have all registered for NSA's Convention and Annual Meeting, in Portland, OR, if not it isn't to late, just a little more expensive, as the early bird discount ended July 1st. This is a very special Convention, because as you all know, District IX's own Andy Morehead will be installed as NSA's next President, in Portland. It would be really great to honor Andy, by a large turn out from District IX, with many of our States having a full delegation. As most of you already know, we have another member from our District, Bob Cross, running for Second Vice President. It looks like we will have some very good continuing professional education sessions, NSA business sessions, various luncheons, the Auction & Awards Breakfast and the Installation Banquet, and hopefully some free time to enjoy Portland.

The recipients of this year's scholarships, from the NSA Scholarship Foundation, have been chosen and staff is creating a press release for each of the winners, which will be sent to newspapers in their home towns. Starting this year you will need to donate \$1,050 to have a \$1,000 scholarship awarded from the Temporarily Restricted Funds. If the \$50 fee, to administer the scholarship, is not received, the scholarship will not be awarded until it is either paid or earned (based on the average annual rate of return). No scholarship award will be less than \$500 per student per year and any contribution less than \$500 will be considered unrestricted unless added to an existing restricted fund. It cost a lot to administer the Scholarship Foundation and award the scholarships so don't forget about

the "unrestricted contributions" such as Circle of Support, Education Tree and Dues Check-off Contributions. Don't forget the Scholarship Foundation, when paying your dues. This year the Foundation will be the beneficiary of the live auction that will be held during the Annual Meeting in Portland. If you as individuals and/or your ASO can donate something for the auction, it will be greatly appreciated and is a very good way to promote special items produced in your state.

How many of you have tried the new Webinars? NSA has introduced NSA ConnectED, monthly Webinars designed for tax & accounting professionals. These webinars provide a very cost-effective way for you to get quality continuing professional edu-

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Electronic Pin Needed for 2008 eFile

Tax practitioners can e-file individual income tax returns in 2008 only if the returns are signed electronically using either the taxpayer's Self-Select PIN, or a Practitioner PIN.

Form 8453, *U.S. Individual Income Tax Declaration for an IRS e-file Return*, will no longer be used for paper signatures, but will be redesigned to transmit supporting documents that are required by the IRS.

For further information, see news release [IR-2007-130](http://www.irs.gov) at www.irs.gov.

New officers installed at IAPA Annual Convention

The results of the annual election of officers for the IAPA Board of Directors were presented during the Annual Meeting of the Board June 29 in Bend, Oregon. Officers serving for the 2007/2008 fiscal year are:

- ✓ President Lee Grigg, ABA, Nampa
- ✓ First Vice President LaFonda Merrick, ABA, ATP, CSA, Nampa
- ✓ Second V. President Michael Chakarun, MBA, CPA, New Meadows
- ✓ Secretary/Treasurer Joan Jagels, CPA, Twin Falls
- ✓ District I Director Natalie Carlson, Post Falls
- ✓ District II Director Jeniele Rowley, ABA, ATP, Nampa
- ✓ District II Director Gary Teuscher, CPA, Montpelier

Out-going president Brian Haderlie will serve on the board this year as the Immediate Past President. Wilma Christensen will continue for another year as the NSA State Director, and Bette Jo Berryman continues through August as the IAPA Representative on the Idaho State Board of Accountancy. All board officers were present for the annual board and membership meetings and attended the Annual Tri-State Convention in Bend.

Congratulations to all the newly elected officers and a hearty "Thank You" for their volunteerism to provide the leadership necessary to make the IAPA a strong association for us all!

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President: Lee Grigg, ABA, Nampa;
1st Vice President: LaFonda Merrick, ABA, Nampa;
2nd Vice President: Mike Chakarun, MBA, CPA, New Meadows;
Secretary-Treasurer: Joan Jagels, CPA, Twin Falls;
Past President: Brian Haderlie, CPA, Rexburg;
District I Director: Natalie Carlson, Post Falls;
District II Director: Jeniele Rowley, ABA, ATP, Nampa;
District III Director: Gary Teuscher, CPA, Montpelier;
State Director NSA: Wilma Christensen, EA, ABA, ATP, ATA, Harrison;
ISBA Representative: Bette Jo Berryman, LPA, Meridian;
Executive Director & Editor: Barbara Neiwert, Hailey.
CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please notify the editor of any change of address, phone number or email.



Out-going President Brian Haderlie has a good time passing the gavel to incoming President Lee Grigg.



NSA Executive V.P. John Ams, CAE, (standing right) of Alexandria, VA., addresses the IAPA Board with updates on NSA activities. Seated are Bette Jo Berryman and Mike Chakarun.

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cation in the comfort of your office, home or anywhere you have a computer and a high speed internet connection. You can sign up and set up in your office and even invite your co-workers or employees to participate, with no additional cost. Log onto the NSA website and go to the "Professional Development" tab for all of the details. The first series of ConnectED webinars will focus on practice management ideas and strategies to help you earn and keep more money.

I just returned from Bend Oregon, where I attended the 2007 Northwest (Tri-State) Annual Convention. The states of Idaho, Oregon and Washington held a joint Convention again this year and provided some very good professional education. The meetings and social events were well planned and everything went like clockwork. Thank you, for your hospitality during my stay in Bend.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you in Portland, in August.

Cram course for ABA exam offered by Peg Kirkpatrick, NSA Accreditation Director

Sponsored by the NSA

August 13–15, 2007 • Portland, OR

If you are looking to earn the Accredited Business Accountant credential, here's a way to jump start your study preparation and take the exam when you are most prepared to tackle it. Sign up for the ABA Crash Course and Exam.

This two-day cram course will help reinforce and expand your knowledge of the five topics covered by the exam. You will have the opportunity to take a sample exam, receive tips and tools from expert facilitators and build the body of knowledge needed to successfully pass the ABA exam. Then, when you are all prepared, the ABA exam will be administered on the third day.

The course and exam will take place August 13-15 at the **Portland Marriott Waterfront**, Portland, OR, immediately preceding the NSA Annual Meeting.

The cram course is a comprehensive coordinated program designed to fully prepare you with the knowledge and test-taking skills to pass the ABA test. You will receive a copy of the ACAT Prep Book, a two-binder set covering all five aspects of the 200-question exam:

- Accounting
- Business Consulting
- Business Law
- Ethics
- Taxation

Plus you'll get a study guide to steer your studies by providing step-by-step, week-by-week directions for study and review.

A month before the exam, you'll receive a preview test you can take to gauge your readiness and identify weak areas.

On site in Portland, you'll have two full days with skilled facilitators giving you strategies for answering questions and time-tested hints on test-taking skills. This cram course will touch on the exam's topics, but its main focus is preparing you to take the test, not teaching you accounting.

Those taking past cram courses have done extraordinarily well on the ABA exam with a significantly higher than usual past rate.

Though registrations will be accepted until July 31st, to maximize your results and give you the most preparation time, we strongly encourage you to register by May 1.

Fee: \$295 members; \$395 nonmembers; With ATP Option: \$370 members; \$500 nonmembers. Registration includes all course materials including \$185 ACAT Prep Book, study guide, sample exam, breaks, and the \$200 registration fee for the exam.

Time: Monday and Tuesday, August 13-14: 9 a.m. – 5p.m.
Wednesday, August 15: 7:45 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Speakers

Al Giovetti, CPA, ABA, ATA

For over 25 years, Giovetti has been in partnership with his wife, Christine, in an accounting and tax firm in suburban Baltimore, MD. Al has passed the CPA examination and the IRS Special Enrollment Examination and is one of the authors of the *ACAT Preparatory Course Manual*. Al has taught the ACAT Prep course for over 10 years, and has also taught the IRS Special Enrollment Examination (EA) preparatory course, as well as college accounting, computer and other courses at both graduate and undergraduate levels. Al is a regular contributor to the *Free State Accountant*, *NPA Magazine*, and a variety of other publications.

Bill Parrish, ABA, ATA, ATP, ECS

Bill Parrish is an accountant and tax professional serving clients in several states and is the founder and chief operating officer of (oneplusone)³. Additionally, he works for his wife, Cheryl, at her practice in Overland Park, KS. He has spoken at seminars for the Internal Revenue Service, accounting societies, and banking groups. He received the Golden Quill Award from the National Society of Accountants, their annual award for the best member-written article for their national publications and their highest annual award, the Distinguished Service Award. Bill has received the District Director's Award twice from the Internal Revenue Service, has served the Public Accountants Association of Kansas in numerous positions including President. He is a past member of the NSA Board of Governors and past Chairman of the Accounting Standards Committee. He is also past president and a past member of the ACAT Board of Directors.

Attend the NSA Annual Meeting

Extend your stay and attend the National Society of Accountants' Annual Meeting, August 16-18. For more information, visit nsacct.org/profdev.asp

Sign-up Now

For more information and a registration brochure, email Peg Kirkpatrick, NSA; pkirkpatrick@acatcredentials.org; or call 888.289.7763

Every Professional Needs a Professional Credential

Scholarship recipients announced

Five \$1,000 scholarships have been awarded to deserving Idaho college students this year. The Awards Committee for the Betty Schmidt Scholarship Foundation announced that students at Idaho's major universities are well represented in the selection process.

This year's recipients are:

- **Reed Denning**, Idaho Falls—BYU Idaho
- **Jessica Parkin**, Pocatello—ISU
- **Alan Patterson**, Rexburg—BYU-ID
- **Kimberly Jo Silver**, Hagerman—BSU
- **Dallin Smith**, Moscow—Uofl

The IAPA also sponsored a \$1,000 scholarship that was administered through the National Society of Accountants. This year's recipient of the 2007 NSA Scholarship is **Scott B. Smith** of Rexburg who will be attending BYU-Idaho.

A warm **THANK YOU** to the following IAPA members for their continued support of these scholarships. Without your assistance, the Foundation would not be able to award as many scholarships to these outstanding students.

It's never too late to contribute—just call the IAPA office to find out how you can add to the Foundation's scholarship fund. And if you know a student who will be a junior or senior in Accounting next year, or will be doing graduate work, let them know about our scholarship. Applications are available online or by calling the office.

- * **Bill Allen**, LPA, Salmon
- * **Wendy Anderson**, Spirit Lake
- * **Terry Bayless**, CPA, Meridian
- * **Andrea Beckett**, CPA, Moscow
- * **Jerry Berggren**, CPA, Boise
- * **Bette Jo Berryman**, LPA, Meridian
- * **Charles Bloodgood**, Salmon
- * **Andrea Buckalew**, CPA, Pocatello

- * **Roxanne Bunker**, CPA, Pocatello
- * **Natalie Carlson**, Post Falls
- * **Wilma Christensen**, EA, ATP, ABA, Harrison
- * **Kate Coiner**, CPA, Twin Falls
- * **Patricia Davis**, CPA, Emmett
- * **Pamela Geile**, Meridian
- * **Dan Goodson**, LPA, Pinehurst
- * **Brian Haderlie**, CPA, Rexburg
- * **Joan Jagels**, CPA, Twin Falls
- * **Lawrence Isom**, EA, ABA, CFP, Wilder
- * **Jan Kuetemeyer**, CPA, Hayden
- * **Gale Leetzow**, LPA, Logan, UT
- * **Jan Luckock**, EA, Twin Falls
- * **Roxanna Michalski**, EA, Spirit Lake
- * **Reisse Perin**, CPA, Boise
- * **Dorothy Snowball**, CPA, Boise
- * **Larry Stewart**, LPA, Nampa
- * **Gary Teuscher**, CPA, Montpelier
- * **Terri Zurcher**, EA, Middleton

Secure Remote Data Backup for Accounting Professionals by Mike Toofer

What would happen to your business if your computer files were lost? Imagine the devastation if your files were corrupted, there was a server crash, or a natural disaster such as a fire or flood. Not only that, but stringent federal regulations almost demand CPAs have a backup system in place. And the best, most secure system you can get is remote online backup.

Remote online backup is generally completely automated and performs off-site transfers so you don't have to worry about taking the time to manually download your files. This means that in the event of a catastrophe your valuable data can be

easily and quickly restored. In addition, your data is securely encrypted before it is sent over the Internet to a secure data storage facility and remains encrypted. Only an authorized user can restore the files so your information is always safe and secure.

Most remote backup systems provide redundant storage networks, which are designed to hold large quantities of data for seven years or longer. In the past tape backups were vulnerable to aging, heat and moisture but with a redundant system these problems are no longer a concern.

Remote online backups are capable of handling a huge variety of files such as documents, spreadsheets, e-mails, contacts, and accounting software related files. Advancements in technology have made data storage easier, safer, faster, and less expensive. In fact, the costs of remote backup services are at an all time low, giving computer users even fewer excuses not to backup daily.

-Mike Toofer is a Senior Vice President at BackupRight, LLC. He can be reached at (800) 705-1952 x305 mtoofer@backupright.com. Or visit BackupRight online at www.backupright.com.

*A Professional Ethics class is in the mix this year!
And remember: With IAPA membership you save \$50 per seminar.
Invite someone you know to join the IAPA today.*

Registration Form
IAPA-Sponsored Seminars for 2007

(Circle one or more—One form per attendee)

- Sept 17-18** **Post Falls**, Red Lion Templin's Resort 773-1611 Early Bird Aug. 24
Complimentary River Cruise included with registration!!!
- Sept. 27-28** **Twin Falls**, Red Lion Canyon Springs Hotel, 734-5000 Early Bird Sept. 7
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

- Oct. 25-26** **Idaho Falls**, Shilo Inn, 523-0088 Early Bird Oct. 5
- Nov. 1-2** **Boise**, DoubleTree Riverside, 344-1871 Early Bird Oct. 12
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

- Nov. 1** **Boise**, DoubleTree Riverside, 344-1871 Early Bird Oct. 12
5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Seminar Registration Fees:

*1040 & Business Entities: \$320 IAPA Members & Employees; \$370 Non-members
Professional Ethics: \$50 IAPA Members & Employees; \$60 Non-members*

Payments postmarked or received after Early Bird Deadlines: Add \$25 additional.

*****NEW***IAPA Cancellation Policy:**

- 1. Cancellations received at least 14 calendar days prior to the seminar date:
Full refund less \$25 processing fee.
- 2. Cancellations received 5-13 days prior: 50% refund.
- 3. Cancellations less than 5 days prior: NO Refund.

Common Seminar Registration:

Circle the seminar above that you would like to attend.

Name _____ License _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Mail to:

IAPA
PO Box 1106, Hailey, ID 83333
or
Fax (208)788-9530
Questions? 1-888-208-IAPA

For those who may have a tendency to get "chilled," a sweater and/or light coat is advisable during the seminars.

Optional: Visa- or MasterCard

Expiration Date _____

Cardholder's
Name _____

Signature _____



Congratulations!

Congratulations are in order for long-time member John Ferris of St. Maries. John recently obtained his EA license. Best wishes for your career!

Condolences

The IAPA would like to extend a belated, sincere wish of condolence to the family of Dean Mayes, Senior. Dean passed away Jan. 1, 2007. He had been a long-time IAPA member from Meridian.

IAPA Savings

G580

G580 is the code to use when ordering any products from Gear Up/Thomson/PPC.

This association discount will provide you with a 10-20 percent savings on all the QuickFinder handbooks, self-study courses, products, Accountant City, and Independent Tax Practitioners Network. **You must order by phone or fax** to receive the discounts.

Not only will you net the discount, but the IAPA will receive a donation for each transaction! Thanks to all of you who ordered with the **G580** this past year.

2007 Fall Seminar Schedule

-2007-

1-888-208-IAPA

Sept. 17-18 **Gear Up Business Entities** 8 am—4 pm
Post Falls,
Red Lion Templins

NOTE: Post Falls—A special complimentary River Cruise will be given for all registered attendees immediately following the first day of the seminar!

Sept. 27-28 **Gear Up Business Entities** 8 am—4 pm
Twin Falls
Red Lion Canyon
Springs Hotel

Oct. 25-26 **Gear Up 1040**
8 am—4:30 pm
Idaho Falls, Shilo Inn

Nov. 1-2 **Gear Up 1040**
8 am-4:30 pm
Boise, DoubleTree
Riverside

Nov. 1 **Gear Up Ethics**
5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Boise, DoubleTree
Riverside Hotel

Other Events

ABA Cram Course & Exam
August 13-15, 2007
Portland, OR

Live Enrolled Agent Review Class & Income Tax Refresher
August 13-15, 2007
Portland, OR

NSA 62nd Annual Meeting
August 16-18, 2007
Portland, OR

NSA Legislative/Leadership Conference
September 28-30, 2007
Tampa, FL

IRS Nationwide Tax Forums
Register at www.taxforuminfo.com

Las Vegas, NV
August 21-23, 2007
New York, NY
August 28-30, 2007

Anaheim, CA
September 11-13, 2007
Orlando, FL
September 18-20, 2007

Don't Miss a Good Thing!

If you missed the IAPA Annual Convention, you can still get in on some of the best home-made barbecue food around, courtesy of Jo Gordon of Bend, OR. Thanks, Jo!

Calico Beans

Brown: 1 Cup Diced Onions
1 Pound Lean Hamburger
1 Clove Minced Garlic
1 Diced Green Pepper
Chili Power, to taste
Combine: 1/3 Cup Ketchup
1/2 Cup Brown Sugar
2 Tablespoons Apple Cider Vinegar
1 Teaspoon Dry Mustard
Mix All With:
2 Cans Pork & Beans
2 Cans Kidney Beans, drained
1 Can Lima Beans, drained
Bake in 350-degree oven until heated through.

Broccoli Salad

1 Bunch broccoli cut into bite-sized pieces
1/4 Cup Diced Onion
1 Pound Bacon, cooked crisp and crumbled
1 Cup Raisins
1 Cup Unsalted Peanuts
1 Cup Salted Sunflower Seeds

Dressing:
1 Cup Mayonnaise
1/2 Cup Sugar
3 Tablespoons Apple Cider Vinegar

Mix dressing ingredients together and then add to the salad ingredients. Chill, and enjoy!



PO Box 1106
Hailey, Idaho 83333-1106



New Rules for Small Tax-Exempt Organizations - Many May Now Have to File an Annual Notice

Beginning in 2008, small tax-exempt organizations that were previously not required to file a return may be required to file an annual electronic notice. The notice is Form 990-N, Electronic Notice (e-Postcard) for Tax Exempt Organizations Not Required to File Form 990 or 990-EZ, and the new filing requirement applies to tax years beginning after December 31, 2006.

The electronic notice (or e-Postcard) is a provision of the Pension Protection Act of 2006 and applies to small tax-exempt organizations – organizations not required to file Form 990 or 990-EZ because their gross receipts are normally \$25,000 or less. Not all small tax-exempt organizations will have to file the e-Postcard. Some exceptions are organizations included in a group return and private foundations required to file Form 990-PF. Also, the e-Postcard requirement does not apply to churches, their integrated auxiliaries, and conventions or associations of churches.

The Internal Revenue Service started mailing letters to small tax-exempt organizations in July 2007. The letters notify these organizations of their potential requirement to file the e-Postcard. IRS is developing an electronic filing system for the e-Postcard and will publicize filing procedures when the system is completed and ready for use. There will not be a paper Form 990-N.

It's very important that organizations required to file the e-Postcard do so each year or they risk losing their tax-exempt status. The Pension Protection Act requires the IRS to revoke the tax-exempt status of any organization that does not meet its annual filing requirement for three consecutive years.

If you would like more information on the e-Postcard, including notification of when the filing system is ready, sign up for Exempt Organization's EO Update, an e-mail newsletter that highlights new issues and activities affecting exempt organizations. To subscribe, go to www.irs.gov/eo and click on "EO Newsletter." Information on tax-exempt organizations, including the e-Postcard, can be found on the IRS Web site at www.irs.gov.