



Inland Society of Tax Consultants
Fifteen Chapters Located Throughout California

Inland Society of Tax Consultants
San Diego Chapter Newsletter • December 2003

HOLIDAY PARTY

Date **FRIDAY, December 12, 2003**

Where Handlery Hotel & Resort
Garden Room
950 Hotel Circle North
Mission Valley, San Diego, CA

Times **6:00 p.m.** Registration
7:00 p.m. Dinner
7:45 p.m. Awards • Installation of 2004
Officers & Board of Directors
Party Time • Entertainment

Cost \$24 members with reservations
\$26 members without reservations
\$28 non-members, spouses, & guests

Menu **Your Choice** –
Roast Prime Rib with Twice-baked Potatoes,
or Herb Crusted Halibut with Vegetable
Couscous, **or** Vegetarian Plate
Caprice Salad, Fresh Seasonal Vegetables,
Rolls, Dessert, Coffee, Hot or Iced Tea.

2003 Holiday Party



Come Celebrate The Holiday Season!

Friends! Food!
Entertainment! Fun!

This year's charity is
The Polinsky Children's Center.
(See Page 4)

**Please bring an unwrapped gift
for children ages 1 – 16 years**

RESERVATIONS

Deadline is Noon, Wednesday, December 10

Call **1-800-994-4782** or online at www.istcsandiego.com.

Specify your Dinner Choice, name, number of reservations, and phone number.

Permanent Reservation List Members

MUST make a reservation for the Holiday Party.

The Holiday Party IS INCLUDED as part of your prepayment.

No-Show Dinner Reservations Billing Policy

An individual who has made a reservation for a dinner meeting and fails to cancel the reservation by noon the day prior to the dinner meeting will be billed the Chapter's cost of the dinner.

An individual will be allowed one (1) no-show at no charge per calendar year.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Here we are in December already. I cannot believe that this year has come and gone so fast.

We have accomplished a lot since tax season ended in April. Our dinner meetings provided us with quite a variety of topics and speakers and, if you attended all of them, 14 hours of continuing education. Our Fall Workshop educational series with both General Interest and Special Interest classes offered us many different educational choices, and almost 40 hours of continuing education. Soon we will be getting a "Running Start" on all of the changes that we will be facing during the filing season. Are you ready for Dave and Michael?

Society has provided us with some very meaningful and cost effective education as well: the Summer Symposium in Las Vegas, Estates and Trusts (I and II) in San Diego and Tax Bridge to 2004 in Fullerton. A special "add-on" class at the Tax Bridge will cover Disaster Losses for those of our clients who have suffered losses in the recent firestorms.

In addition to education, the following are some of the membership benefits (some require certain qualifications):

- FREE Individual Quickfinder Guide (Value \$40)
- \$100 education reimbursement.
- \$52 dinner meeting discount (if you prepay)
- Discounted RIA Federal and State Tax Guides (Value \$45)
- Discounted Chapter continuing education classes (Fall Workshops & Running Start) (Value \$75 - \$125)
- Discounted Society continuing education classes (Value \$50 - \$70)
- Free Tax Forum Meetings (Individual, Fiduciary and Business Groups)
- Networking with your peers (Value Priceless)
- FREE advertising in our Chapter Newsletter and Website

If you took advantage of all of these benefits, you would save more than the cost of your membership each year. I think that those of us who have been members for just a few years realize this. What we need to do is get the word out to those who are not members. I hope each of you will help in this endeavor – let's each try to get one new member.

Please note the breakfast meeting dates and time have changed for December and January. Refer to the last page of this newsletter for details.

Our Holiday Party is Friday, December 12. We all are busy during the holiday season with various other parties or events but I sincerely hope you will put this special date on your social calendar. If you have not already made your reservations, please do so. This is a special night when we can share in the holiday spirit without educational speakers. In addition, we will be installing the Officers and Directors who will lead us next year. And, of meaningful importance, we will also be supporting a charity: The Polinsky Children's Center.

I wish each and every one of you a very Blessed and Joyous Holiday Season and Happy New Year. I also pray and hope you will too for those military men and women who are away from their families and loved ones and wish them a safe journey home. And for those friends, neighbors or families here in San Diego who lost their homes in the fires, let us also extend our prayers and best wishes.

I want to thank you for the support and assistance provided to me as your President this past year. It has been an honor to have served you and our Society.

Respectfully,
Val J. Daigle

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Please note the changes in the normal meeting time.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors is Friday, December 12, 2003, 9:00 AM. The January meeting of the Board of Directors is Thursday, January 15, 2004, 10:00 AM. The meetings will be at the Handlery Hotel in Mission Valley.

All members are welcome to attend. If you plan to attend please contact Val Daigle at 619-435-3131 in advance.

EDUCATION EVENTS

ISTC TAX BRIDGE TO 2004

December 4 and 5, 2003

Four Points Sheraton Hotel
Fullerton, California

CE - 12 Hours Federal / 4 Hours California

Topics Include: California and Federal Updates, Sale of Residence, Offers in Compromise vs. Bankruptcy, Appealing Appeals, IRS Hot Topics & Updates

Speakers: Andrew Fülöp, EA; Vicki Mulak, EA; Dennis Phillips, EA; Gary Quackenbush, Atty; and Ted Meyer, IRS T.A., R.A.

	Full Seminar	One Day
Members	\$285	\$165
Staff	\$305	\$175
Non-ISTC	\$350	\$200

For reservations contact the ISTC society office at (714) 634-0484.

Bonus 2 Hour Casualty Loss Session

to help with So. California Fire Victims
Dec. 4, 2003 @ 6:30 p.m.

QUICKFINDER® SEMINAR

January 14, 2004 – Wednesday

Registration 7:30 a.m. Seminar 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Holiday Inn South Bay
National City Blvd & 8th Street
National City, CA

The South Bay ISTC Chapter presents its seminar on the use of the Individual Quickfinder® manual, with special emphasis on changes for the 2003 tax season. Also, update your copy of the Individual Quickfinder® reference manual with California information.

Prices - Including Lunch

	To 12/15/03	After 12/15	At the Door
ISTC Member	\$60	\$70	\$80
Non-Member	\$65	\$75	\$80

*The Quickfinder® manual is **not** included in the price. The manual is not available for purchase at the seminar.*

Continuing Education Credits
4 hours Federal & 2 hours California
CTEC #1000-CF-1011

For a registration form and more information call Agnes Michetti at (619) 562-4485. Registration form is also at the chapter office, Holiday Party, and on-line at <http://www.istcsandiego.com/quickfinder2004.htm>.

1040 RUNNING START SEMINAR

Federal & California Update

CE - 6 Hours Federal / 2 Hours California

Support Your San Diego ISTC Chapter.

This seminar is the major source of revenue for the San Diego Chapter.

San Diego – Wednesday January 7, 2004 and Repeated on Thursday, January 8, 2004

El Cajon - Tuesday, January 6, 2004

Escondido – Saturday, January 10, 2004

Topics Include:

- New Federal Income & Capital Gains Tax Rates
- New Federal Qualified Dividend Tax Rates
- Increased Child Tax Credit
- Increased Sec. 179 & Bonus 50% Depreciation
- Higher Luxury Car caps
- Planning for 2004
- New California Rules and Conformity
- Mandatory California E-Filing
- California Teacher's Tax Credit is Back

Speakers: Dave Gorsich, EA and Michael Karll, EA

	Through	After
	12/17/03	12/17/03
Member	\$150	\$165
Non-Member	\$165	\$195

Registration forms are available at the chapter's web site at www.istcsandiego.com, the chapter office, and at the Holiday Party on December 12.

As always, this year's running start promises to provide information essential to preparing your clients' 2003 returns. ***Don't miss it!***

The text is designed to be a handy desk reference for the filing season.

DISASTER RELIEF / CASUALTY LOSSES WORKSHOP FOR TAX PROFESSIONALS

Presented by the San Diego Chapter of the California Society of Enrolled Agents

San Diego – **January 13, 2004**, 11 am – 3 pm
4 hours Federal CPE

Speaker: Bonnie DeSimone, EA

\$60 prior to Jan. 9, 2004 (Box lunch included)

\$75 as of Jan. 9, 2004 (Lunch may not be available)

Forms available at the Holiday Party, at the chapter's web site www.istcsandiego.com on the education page, and by contacting Paula Armstrong, EA, at (858) 467-0547 or e-mail her at paulatax@san.rr.com.

2003 CHARITY IS "THE POLINSKY CHILDREN'S CENTER"

The Polinsky Children's Center was built to replace the Hillcrest Receiving Home. It is a 24-hour facility operated by the County of San Diego for the temporary shelter of children. It is a result of a public-private partnership between the County of San Diego and the Child Abuse Prevention Foundation, and is supported by County-budgeted funds and private donations. The campus includes six residential cottages, an infant nursery, medical clinic, school, library, cafeteria, gymnasium, two swimming pools, two playgrounds and a baseball field and strives to provide a healing, stable environment with consistent care to all its resident children. It also promotes child abuse awareness in the community.

A donation of an unwrapped, new gift, for children between the ages of 1 day to 16 years, will be greatly appreciated.

Please plan on attending and participating to help this very worthy cause make a difference in the lives of children in San Diego!

CHAPTER AND SOCIETY NEWS

NEWSLETTER EDITORS

Naomi Badger and Diane Reyes have volunteered to be the Editors of the San Diego chapter's newsletter as of January 2004.

SOCIETY NEWS

50-50 Raffles: These raffles are now prohibited within the ISTC because, under California law, it is gambling and, therefore, generally illegal. In order to hold a raffle, there are stringent requirements to register and report these to the State Attorney General. Since we used these raffles as one method to obtain funds for charity, we will have to be innovative and find a new way. If you have any suggestions, please let the Board know.

2004 Society Dues: Beginning in 2004, the annual dues for Active Membership will increase to \$120. That is only a \$15 increase for such a valuable membership. Additionally, the first notification for dues renewals will be sent in April. This increase is necessary due to increasing overhead and other Society expenses.

Summer Symposium 2004: Because of the numerous conventions and seminars being held in early June, it was necessary to change the dates of the Summer Symposium, which will be held at the Silver Legacy in Reno. Special weekend rates have been negotiated for the weekend prior to the Symposium and the weekend after (Memorial Day weekend). Also, the hotel has indicated that if you make your Silver Legacy hotel reservations over the internet, rather than directly with the hotel, they will credit these reservations toward our block requirement. Mark your calendars now for this outstanding event!

Society Name Change: The ballots will be in and counted by the time this newsletter goes to press. If "straw polls" mean anything, there has been

overwhelming support to change our organizations name to California Society of Tax Consultants.

If the name is changed, the Society Board has decided to make the official name change effective after the 2004 Summer Symposium in Reno. This will give us the time to make all required changes (logo, stationery, publicity, etc.) and minimize any confusion for the Summer Symposium.

FILING SEASON SUPPLIES, Etc.

RIA Master Tax Guides

RIA Federal & California Tax Handbooks are available at special *discounted prices* for San Diego Chapter ISTC Members.

Order forms are available at the Holiday Party and the chapter office, or call Nadine at (858) 271-1199.

IRS Supplies

IRS Package X. Use Form 3975 in Pub. 1045. Pub 1045 contains order forms for pubs and other forms. IRS forms & pubs are available on-line at <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p1045.pdf>.

Tax professionals can order on-line from www.irs.gov/bus_info/tax_pro/tprax if they are current participants (use your account number as found on Pub. 1045 mailing label). If you are a new participant in the program, you must submit a paper Form 3975, Tax Professionals Annual Mailing List Application and Order Blank. Instructions can be found at www.irs.gov.

IRS Tax Forms CD, Pub. 1796. Order on-line for \$22.00 at www.irs.gov/cdorders. Get an order form or phone, fax and mail ordering information at <http://www.ntis.gov/products/bestsellers/irscd.asp>.

The cost is \$27 if ordered by mail, or fax 703-605-6900, or by phone 877-233-6767.

FTB Supplies

FTB Package X and & FTB *Tax News* Newsletter (free via email). Call FTB at (916) 845-7070. At press time the order form was not available on-line. The forms are not available until January 2004. Visit the site at <http://www.ftb.ca.gov/>.

PRINTER/COPIER PAPER

Kelly Paper is offering ISTC members a discounted price for their high quality multi-use bright white paper. The price is subject to change.

- Paper: Paperline Multi-Purpose 20lb. Superwhite
- Price: \$22.00 per case. Minimum Order is 10 Cases.
- Orders Must Be Drop-Delivery To You.
- To order and schedule delivery call Kelly Paper at (858) 503-0808. When ordering identify yourself as an ISTC member to have the correct paper delivered. Be sure to ask the current price.

If you have questions contact Chuck Woodson, ISTC, (858) 277-8780.

If you need less than ten cases, you must make your own arrangements with another ISTC member.

Members who want less than 10 cases can contact Larry McClellan at larry@taxnewsandtips.com. Your requests to the chapter's web site. Include (1) Your Name (2) phone number (3) email address (4) number of cases you want to order (5) area of the city in which you are located.

Example - Joe Smith 855-249-3214, joesmith@msn.com, needs 5 cases, La Mesa area.

IRS Tax News For Tax Professionals

IRS offers several free email tax news services. Subscribe now at www.irs.gov. Select the link to "Tax Professionals", then "Subscription Services".

On-Line Tax Resources & News

If you need help finding tax information on the Internet take a look at the chapter's web site for "Internet Resources" and "Tax News" at www.istcsandiego.com.

ISTC NAME BADGES

If you have lost your name badge please mail a request for a replacement with your check payable to ISTC for \$12 to ISTC, 2140 W. Chapman #103, Orange, CA 92868-2330. Include your name and San Diego Chapter on your request.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Ads are posted on the chapter's web site as they are received.

Submit your ads to via e-mail to larry@taxnewsandtips.com, or via fax to 858-278-9327.

HELP WANTED – Looking for one full time tax preparer for 2003 tax season. Potential to work into year round positions. Please contact Christy Almond at Applebaum and Associates (619) 237-7290.

HELP WANTED – Part-time (eves and Sat) clerical and data entry position for tax season in Coronado tax office. Call (619) 435-3131 for interview.

WANTED: TAX PRACTICE EA is interested in purchasing an existing tax practice in MID San Diego County. Call Bob Hummer, EA or Steve Comer at 619-698-0202.

WANTED: TAX PRACTICE - EA is interested in purchasing existing tax or tax/bookkeeping practice in Coronado, Imperial Beach or South Bay area. Contact Val Daigle at (619) 435-3131 or val@westax.com.

OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE in La Mesa Allied Plaza Bldg. Suitable for TP, CFP, CPA, or Atty. Has Secty/Recp area if needed and 2nd office usage. Call Gail at (858) 909-0210.

OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE in La Mesa. Tax and financial services group (6 persons) has space available. Can be separate office or part of group. Allied Plaza Bldg. Call Bob Hummer EA, 619-698-0202.

FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT FOR SALE: Four 17" SVGA color monitors - excellent condition. \$50 each/all four for \$150; four desk monitor swivel arms - \$35 each or all four for \$100; Black Leather High-back Executive chair - \$70; Blue upholstered high-back chair - \$50; Call Val Daigle at 619-435-3131.

TAX NEWS

The **California SDI rate for 2004** will be 1.18 %. The maximum wage base has increased to \$68,829 for 2004. The result is the maximum SDI payable in 2004 will be \$812.18.

IRS Publication 17, "Your Federal Income Tax," has been updated with important changes for 2003.

IRS Pub. 17 is available on-line at www.irs.gov. Enter "17" in the "Search Forms and Publications" box.

Those who do not have access to the Internet can phone IRS at 1-800-829-3676 to request a free copy. Printed copies will be available in January 2004.

San Diego Chapter

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CHAPTER OFFICE

7827 Convoy Ct #403
San Diego, CA 92111-1218
858-278-1164 • Fax 858-278-9327



BREAKFAST MEETINGS

Join ISTC members for breakfast to discuss tax issues.
Members buy their own breakfasts.

San Diego — 12/5/03 and 12/19/03 at 8:00 am - 1/9/04 and 1/23/04 at 8:00 am
Commencing 2/6/04 through 4/9/04 we will meet weekly at 7:30 am,
Coco's Restaurant, El Cajon Blvd. at Oregon St. San Diego
Contact Val Daigle, email val@westax.com or at 619-435-3131.

El Cajon — Wednesdays, 8:00 a.m., Denny's Restaurant Fletcher Pkwy at Navajo Rd.
Contact Larry Mahaffy at (619) 669-1630

South Bay — Tuesdays, 8:00 a.m., Love's Restaurant, I-805 at E Street in
Chula Vista. Contact Shirley Horst at (619) 422-1403.

Fiduciary Tax Group — Second Thursday of each month, 7:30 am
Coco's Restaurant, 5550 Lake Murray Blvd, La Mesa.
Contact Jan Brown at (619) 464-1041. Topics – 1041s, 706s, 709s.
December 11, 2003 – Generation Skipping Tax.

Business Entities Group — First Thursday of each month, 7:30 am
Coco's Restaurant, 5550 Lake Murray Blvd, La Mesa.
Contact Jan Brown at (619) 464-1041. Topics – Partnerships, Corporations,
Sole Props., Employee Problems, Business Retirement Plans, etc.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

If you move, please advise both the San Diego Chapter and the Society Office of
your new address, phone and e-mail address.

- San Diego Chapter: 7827 Convoy Ct #403, San Diego, CA 92111
Tel (858) 278-7954 • Fax (858) 278-9327
Web Site: www.istcsandiego.com.
- ISTC Society Office: 2140 W Chapman #103, Orange, CA 92868
Tel (714) 634-0484 • Fax (714) 634-4975
Web Site: www.istcsociety.org.

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Newsletter via Email

Supply Your Current E-Mail Address. You will receive an e-mail notice when
the newsletter is posted to our web site and other important updated tax information.
Send your e-mail address to larry@taxnewsandtips.com.

Advertising

Members: There is no charge to members who wish to advertise for positions
available in their practice, equipment for sale, or similar subjects.

Non-Members: There is a \$15 charge for each advertisement in the newsletter.
Ads are limited to six lines, space availability and the discretion of the editors.

Send ads via e-mail to larry@taxnewsandtips.com or fax to 858-278-9327.

The deadline for articles and ads for the January 2004 issue is January 15, 2004.

The San Diego chapter newsletter is published monthly
in January, and May through December.

Advertising at San Diego Chapter Events: Requests to distribute flyers,
brochures or promote a business at any San Diego chapter event must be approved
by the Board of Directors prior to the day of the event.