
California Society of Tax Consultants
San Diego Chapter Newsletter • August 2008

Dinner Meeting

Date Thursday, August 21, 2008

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

Times 5:00 p.m. Registration & Social
5:30 p.m. Speaker
6:30 p.m. Social/Dinner Setup
7:00 p.m. Dinner
7:30 p.m. Speaker continues

Cost \$20 - Members with Reservations
\$28 - All Others

Menu

- Chicken Roma
- Caesar Salad
- Duchess Potatoes
- Dessert, Chef's choice
- Choice of Coffee, Tea, Iced Tea
- **Vegetarian Meal Is Available**

Requests must be made with reservation



RESERVATIONS

Deadline is **Noon Wednesday August 20th, 2008**

On line at www.cstcsandiego.org/is-res.htm,
or call (619) 698-0508, or

Email Rose Carter at racarter@sbcglobal.net.

Leave your name, number of reservations,
and your telephone number.

If you require a Vegetarian Meal, your request must
be made when you make your reservation.

Confirmation of your on-line dinner reservation
will be emailed to you within 72 hours. Reservations
made on Thursday & Friday are scheduled to be
confirmed the following Monday. If you do not receive
a confirmation please call (619) 698-0508. See the
“No-Show” dinner reservations policy on page 2.

EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Before & After Dinner

CRISIS IN REAL ESTATE

**Foreclosures, Repossessions
& Short Sales**

Speaker

Chuck Woodson
Enrolled Agent



CTEC 1000-CE-2503

(2 FEDERAL CREDIT HOURS)

This presentation has been designed to meet the requirements of the Director of Practice of the Internal Revenue Service, the California State Board of Accountancy, the International Board of Standards and Practices for Certified Financial Planners, Inc. The California Tax Education Council has recognized the California Society of Tax Consultants as an approved curriculum provider. Successful completion of this course may be reported to fulfill the (continuing education/qualifying education) requirement of the California Business & Professions, Code Sections 22250-22259. This does not constitute an endorsement by the California Tax Education Council, or any of the other above named agencies, as to the quality of the course or its contribution to the professional competence of the speaker.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends & Colleagues,

We want to thank the EA's for hosting last month's dinner meeting. **Our Joint July Dinner Meeting** was a wealth of knowledge that was provided by a panel regarding "**MediCal Planning, MediCal Estate Planning and Reverse Mortgage**."

Chuck Woodson will be our guest speaker on **Foreclosures** at our August Dinner Meeting. This will be a topic that we will all be looking forward to hearing for this up coming tax season.

Our Education Committee will be offering classes this year for our **Mini-Symposium** on October 2nd & 3rd at the Handlery Hotel. Limited seating will be available, so don't delay once you see the flyers out, check the website our website for the application. Greta Ward our Education Committee Chair and committee are putting together a great 2-day Seminar.

On September 8th, at the Handlery Hotel, the Society Education Committee, which I am a member of, will be hosting an Intermediate / Advanced class on LLC's by Beanna Whitlock. She is out of Texas, and has been speaking for CSTC and the Summer Symposium for years. This year the IRS Forum will be at the Town & Country Hotel, on September 9th, 10th & 11th. The IRS Forum that is held in Las Vegas will also be held here in San Diego. By now those of you that have attended in the past should have received flyers by now in the mail.

We are in need of volunteers to step up and resume responsibilities that some of us have had for years and are ready to step down. A few of us NEED a break and looking forward to it, as the old step down and the new step up to assume the responsibilities. We have had new members volunteer and we need more to continue our path of new ideas.. This organization can only continue to operate and be successful, if **YOU** as volunteers care and do your part. So give me a call if you are interested.

The Board of Directors is a perfect point of contact. Our names and positions as well as our phone numbers are published on the last page for your convenience. Please use that list with any questions or concerns.

Rose Carter, Chapter President

SPONSORED GUESTS

Invite other tax professionals you know to come to a dinner meeting for free. A current San Diego chapter member may bring a different eligible guest to dinner one time at no charge to the May through November dinner meetings.

Requirements:

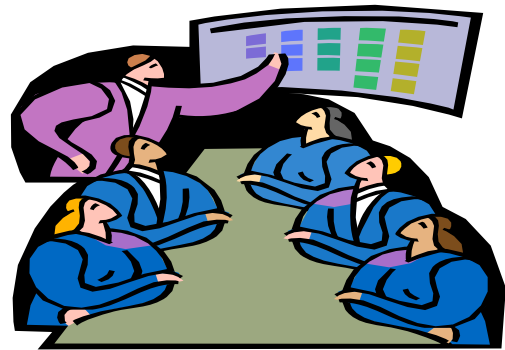
- Guest must be eligible to join CSTC
- First time to chapter meeting

Also tell them about the 1040 Running Start Seminar January 8 & 9, 2009.

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.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Directors is **Thursday August 21st, 2008, 4:00 P.M.** at the Handlery Hotel in Mission Valley.

All members are welcome to attend. If you would like to attend, please contact Rose Carter at (619) 698-0508 or e-mail: racarter@sbcglobal.net.

*I am proud to be paying taxes in the United States.
The only thing is—
I could be just as proud for half the money.*
Arthur Godfrey



HOLIDAY PARTY SPONSOR GROUP

Mari Jo Hughes is looking for a non-profit group this Chapter can support during our Christmas Party. Your suggestions are greatly appreciated. Contact Mari Jo at johughes@pacbell.net.

IRS INCREASES MILEAGE RATES

Due to rising gas prices, the mileage rate has been increased to 58.5 cents a mile for all business miles driven from July 1 through Dec. 31, 2008. The new rate for computing deductible medical or moving expenses have also increased to 27 cents a mile. The rate for providing services for charitable organizations is set by statute, not the IRS, and remains at 14 cents a mile.

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

JANICE BROWN	14 YEARS
DAVID CARON	18 YEARS
JON CHOY	1 YEAR
PERRY COLLINS	14 YEARS
JOHN DATUIN	10 YEARS
ANDREA DAVIS	3 YEARS
JOHN DRYDEN	3 YEARS
ROBERT FUGER	19 YEARS
RIVA KOGAN	2 YEARS
LARRY MC CLELLAN	23 YEARS
DEBORAH MEILAHN	6 YEARS
JAMES QUINLAN	18 YEARS
SANFORD ROSENTHAL	28 YEARS
ROBERT SCHMITT	23 YEARS
RHODA SLIFKA	10 YEARS
HELENA WEEKS	3 YEARS

We thank you for your loyalty to The San Diego Chapter making us 208 strong.

(Last months trivia answer: Over 30 years as members—Nadine Allevato and Flavia Arviso-- still 2 more with over 30 years of San Diego Chapter membership) and they are.....

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Maritza Hurtado and Galen "Pete" Munholand

SCAMMERS USE EMAIL & FAX

WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service cautions taxpayers to be on the lookout for a new wave of scams using the IRS name in identity theft e-mails, or phishing, that have circulated during the last two months.

In May and June alone, taxpayers reported almost 700 separate phishing incidents to the IRS. In 2008 so far, taxpayers have reported about 1,600 phishing incidents to the IRS.

“Taxpayers should take steps to keep their personal information out of the hands of identity thieves,” said IRS Commissioner Doug Shulman. “That includes not falling for any of the phony e-mails or faxes now in circulation pretending to come from the IRS.”

Other scams are the “Refund e-mail”, “Substitute Form 1040 Fax”, “Company Report” and “Tax Court”. Full details of each tax scam are available at www.irs.gov IR-2008-88.

This has been verified by the FBI. It is spreading fast so be prepared should you get this call. Most of us take those summonses for jury duty seriously, but enough people skip out on their civic duty, that a new and ominous kind of fraud has surfaced.

The caller claims to be a jury coordinator. If you protest that you never received a summons for jury duty, the scammer asks you for your Social Security number and date of birth so he or she can verify the information and cancel the arrest warrant. Give out any of this information and bingo; your identity was just stolen.

The fraud has been reported so far in 11 states, including Oklahoma, Illinois, and Colorado. This (swindle) is particularly insidious because they use intimidation over the phone to try to bully people into giving information by pretending they are with the court system.

The FBI and the federal court system have issued nationwide alerts on their web sites, warning consumers about the fraud. Good to be aware...Don't ever give information out to anyone who calls you. Get their information and then check them out or look up the phone number of the organization they say they are with and call it to check it out.



NEW AREA CODE FOR 760



Effective 8 November 2008 part of the 760 area code will become 442. The change will affect Borrego, Carlsbad, Escondido, Fallbrook, Julian, Oceanside, Pauma Valley, Camp Pendleton, Ramona, San Marcos, Valley Center, Vista and Warner Springs.

As of 16 May 2009 you will be required to use 442 for the above areas in San Diego County.

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

“2012 BY 2012”

Members who bring in a new member will receive \$25.00 CSTC education voucher from Society.

State wide Membership by Chapter

Central Valley	56	Orange County	124
East County	103	Sacramento	44
Foothill	61	San Diego	209
Greater Long Beach	103	San Francisco	69
Hi Desert	38	San Jose	53
Inland Empire	82	South Bay	33
Los Angeles	41	Temecula	26
North County	97	at Large	24

1165 members as of 15 July 2008

CHAPTER WEBSITE

Visit the San Diego Chapter’s website at www.cstcsandiego.org for breaking tax news, educational events, Internet resources for use in your tax practice and other tax related information.

Let us know if you have any suggestions for the website. Email your ideas to Larry McClellan at cstcsd@san.rr.com.

ATTENDANCE

May Dinner Meeting	87	Pre-Paid Dinners	44
June Dinner Meeting	95	July Dinner Meeting	83

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.

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Newsletter via Email

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 cstcsd@san.rr.com. Let us know if you change you email address.

Newsletter Articles & Advertising

Submit your articles and ads to Terry Smith (619) 283-8055 or email to Realtaxes@aol.com. Include in emails the Subject “CSTC – AD” or it won’t be opened.

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

The deadline for articles and ads for the September 2008 issue is August 25, 2008.

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. Limited to six lines. Subject to available space and the discretion of the editors.

2008 MEETING DATES

September 18

SYLVIA LANG – *Ethics*

October 16 (with EA’s)

San Diego Chapter’s 33rd Anniversary

LYNN FREER - *California Update*

November 20

FRANK ACUNA

December 11 (Thursday)

Holiday Party



CLASSIFIEDS

EMPLOYMENT: Looking for a payroll setting as part of a payroll team. Julianne @ (858) 774-0577.

INTUIT IS LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD

PREPARERS: Quality Assurance Analysts to test ProSeries, Turbo Tax and related products. Ensure all deliverables are high quality, including code and documentation. POC Elizabeth.Taderico@intuit.com
(Classifieds Continued On Next Page)

A VERY ESTABLISHED EA tax practice in La Mesa has one partner who wants to semi-retire. There is an opportunity to take over 300-500 semi-complex tax returns plus possible new clients. Computer skills a plus. Email: lamesatax@gmail.com

IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE: Share space with three EA's in the Clairemont area. Reasonable cost per sq. ft. plus share in utilities and common areas. Kitchen and Storage available and remodeled lobby area for clients. Close to 805 and Balboa. For details and a tour (858) 277-8780 or email elaine@horizonplanning.com.

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT: Experienced preparer to share space and Lacerte. 8x10 office with window. Available now. 4858 Mercury, Kearny Mesa. Terry Davis (858) 277-1040 or terrydavistax@sbcglobal.net.

EA SEEKING TAX PRACTICE: EA/CFP expanding business. Year-round office, full time staff, tax and financial planning firm. Flexible terms. John Sutherland (619) 464-8474.

SPACE FOR RENT: - Fletcher Hills: For an Independent Tax Office, join the tax offices of: Sylvia Lang, Diane Reyes, Phyllis Roth, and Maryann Shefelveland (each an independent) but share information, reception/waiting room. Immediate availability. (619) 670-1186 or (619) 464-1260.

FOR SALE: 4 - 4 Drawer, black, vertical Hon filing cabinets - excel condition; 1 - black, fire safe, one drawer, file cabinet; 5 shelf, cherry & black wrought iron book shelf; small reception desk, blond, solid wood; 4050 Laser Printer and 3 cartridges. Aparata (760) 436-1296 or e-mail aparata@sbcglobal.net.

TAX PRACTICE WANTED TO BUY: EA seeking tax and/or bookkeeping practice. Call Tony Applebaum at (619) 237-7290.

PADRES PERSONAL SEAT LICENSE Two seats in the Premium, Founders Club directly behind home plate. Offer is for the seat license only--annual full season ticket purchase for two are separate from the seat license Val@westax.com

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

See page 6 for programs.
New - East County Fall Workshops

NEW TAX LAWS DRY UP CAR DONATIONS



CHICAGO, July 14, 2008 – Before 2005, taxpayers who donated a vehicle were allowed to deduct its fair market value. Tax legislation enacted in 2004 changed the rules to generally limit vehicle donation deductions of over \$500 to either the actual proceeds from a vehicle's sale or the vehicle's fair market value -- whichever is less.

Recently released IRS statistics reveal the 2004 law had an immediate and drastic affect on car donations. Over 900,000 tax returns claimed deductions for donated automobiles in 2004. In 2005, the last year for which the IRS has detailed data, less than 300,000 tax returns included such claims.. The total amount deducted for all car donations declined from \$2.4 billion in 2004 to just a half a billion dollars the following year, a decrease of over 80 percent.

“Congress was concerned that people were inflating the value of donated cars under the old system, claiming full blue book value for vehicles that had been turned down by the local junk yard,” said Mel Schwarz of Grant Thornton's National Tax Office in Washington, D.C. “The hope was that charities would still get the same number of cars they could auction for the same amount of money, and the only change would be the elimination of excess charitable deductions. That hope was clearly not recognized.”

It is worth noting that the although the total number of car donations fell by 67 percent, and the amount of deductions claimed as a result of such donations fell by over 80 percent, the deduction claimed per car donated only declined by 41 percent. “This suggests a generous tax deduction was not the only thing lost with this change,” noted Schwarz.

Donations of vehicles besides automobiles also declined. The number of returns claiming non-car vehicle donations dropped over 25 percent from 2004 to 2005, and the amount claimed in deductions fell from \$205 million to \$140 million.

The new restrictions on car donations have not dampened Americans' overall generosity. The total amount of deductions claimed for charitable deductions increased from \$156 billion in 2004 to \$172 billion in 2005. In 2006, the number increased again to \$173 billion

TAX EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

Registration Forms and additional information at www.cstcsandiego.org.
Also check out other educational events in San Diego County

IRS NATIONWIDE TAX FORUM
September 9, 10 & 11 - 18 hours CE
at the Town & Country Convention Center
IRS website at www.taxforuminfo.com

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER MINI SYMPOSIUM
OCTOBER 2 & 3 HANDLERY HOTEL
Foreclosures, Audits, Bus. Entities
LLC's vs Sub S Corps
Lunch and parking included. 24 hours CE
1 day price available at Chapter website

"1040 Running Start Update" Seminar

8 hours CE

The Best Federal & California Income Tax Update in San Diego County

January 8 & 9, 2009 (Thursday & Friday) - in San Diego

January 10, 2009 (Saturday) - in Escondido

January 6, 2009 (Tuesday) - in El Cajon

East County Chapter: www.cstceastcounty.org

Dinner meeting 1st Tuesday 6 PM at El Cajon Community Center.

8/5/08 - California Update by Lynn Freer & Mortgage Interest with Linda Beckett

9/2/08 - Federal Update by Larry Forsyth & Estate Planning with Gary Quackenbush

10/7/08 - Paperless Office by Jerry Dixon & Jack Miller & HSA's with Dave Gorsich & Mike Karll

Fall Workshops 9/19 Life Cycle of a Residential Real Estate Property

10/3 Life Cycle of a Sole Proprietor to Another Entity

10/17 Life Cycle of a Personal Tax Return to a Trust/Estate

North County Chapter: www.cstcsociety.org/NORTHCTY

Dinner meeting 2nd Thursday at Olympic Resort Hotel.

San Diego Chapter: www.cstcsandiego.org

Dinner meeting 3rd Thursday 5:30 PM at Handlery Hotel, Mission Valley.

1/08/09 - **Running Start Seminar.** Dave Gorsich and Mike Karll. 8 hours CE.

1/09/09 - **Running Start Seminar.** Dave Gorsich and Mark Karll. 8 hours CE.

South Bay Chapter: www.cstcsociety.org/SOUTHBAY

Dinner meeting 4th Tuesday 6 PM at Anthony's Chula Vista.

Temecula Chapter: www.cstcsociety.org/TEMECULA

Dinner meeting 1st Wednesday 5:30 PM at Boston Billies.

Fiduciary Tax Group:

08/14 – Issues from Pub 559. Dave Persiani

9/11 – Elections. Sylvia Lang

10/9 – California Income for Non California Resident Beneficiaries. Helen Welbourn

11/13 – Issues of GST. Val Daigle

12/11 – New Inherited IRA Distribution Rules. Larry Lloyd

Society Classroom series: **LLC Advanced Workshop September 8 with Beanna Whitlock**

CE hours 6 Fed, 2 CA. Location San Diego

*Why is LLC the Entity of Choice?

*Pitfalls to Avoid When Creating an LLC

*How to Avoid Conflicts of Interest

*LLC Federal Tax Classification

Other sessions and topics throughout California @www.CSTCsociety.org Classroom series



NEW — 2008 CHAPTER MEMBER BENEFITS — NEW

1. At both the May and June Chapter Dinner meetings, of members attending, a drawing for a free Running Start registration OR two (2) sessions of the Chapter Mini symposium Special Interest Classes OR the Chapter's two-day Mini Symposium Case Study Classes registration (members choice). Member must be in attendance to be eligible.
2. Attend at least four (4) Chapter Dinner Meetings between May and September and receive a 50% discount off the San Diego Chapter Running Start registration **on full fee**.
3. The Monthly Chapter Dinner Meeting will cost \$20.00 for Members with reservations and \$28.00 for Members without reservations and Guests. Pre-Paid Dinner Meetings cost shall be **\$125.00**. (Chapter cost is \$27.50 per person).
4. Two Name Badge Drawings will be held during each monthly meeting May – October 2008 (except July) for Education Certificates worth \$25.00 good toward any education event presented by the San Diego Chapter only. Eligible events include Monthly Dinner meetings (non Pre-paid Annual dinner fee), Fall Workshop (General or Special classes), or Running Start (not Early Bird Special Discount). Coupons will be valid May 2008 through December 31, 2009 only. No exceptions. (Coupons have no cash value and are not convertible to cash or refunds for previously paid event fees.)

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER COMMITTEES

Our Chapter is the largest in California (currently 207) because of you, our fellow members. However, we all need a little bit of help now and then. The following committees make this Chapter function. Please call any of these Committee Chairs to offer your help:

Anniversary Party	Stephanie Matticks	Member of the Year	Duane Lewis
Arrangements	Stephanie Matticks	Membership	Mari Jo Hughes
Audit	Rick Wagner	Mini Symposium	Greta Ward
Awards			Linda Farmer
Dinner Speakers	Greta Ward	Newsletter	Terry Smith
	Stephanie Matticks	Nominations	Tony Applebaum
Elections	Christy Almond	Operation Manuel	Shirley-Henry Biszantz
	Andrea Davis	Quickfinders/Tax Book	Tom Groel
Finance/Budget	Duane Lewis	RIA Books	
Government Affairs	Val Daigle	Running Start	Marc Lord
Hall of Fame	Shirley Henry-Biszantz	Sunshine	Nadine Allevato
Holiday Party	Mari Jo Hughes	Website	Larry McClellan

CSTC MISSION STATEMENT

To promote professionalism by providing quality educational events for tax professionals, by creating and encouraging networking opportunities for members and by advocating professional standards and positions within the tax industry.

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER

OFFICERS

President

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(619) 698-0508

E-mail: racarter@sbcglobal.net

1ST V.P. – Education & Speakers

Terry Smith

(619) 283-8055

E-mail: realtaxes@aol.com

2ND V. P. – Dinner Meetings and Arrangements

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(619) 697-2950

E-mail: stephanie007@sbcglobal.net

Secretary –

Linda Farmer

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E-mail: laftaxes@pacbell.net

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(619) 698-9191

E-mail: duanetaxman@gmail.com

Past President

Tony Applebaum

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BREAKFAST MEETINGS



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

San Diego Chapter — The 2nd and Last Friday of each month at 7:30 a.m. at Coco's Restaurant, 5955 Balboa Ave, in the Clairemont area. Contact Val Daigle, email val@westax.com or call him at 619-435-3131.

South Bay Chapter — Tuesdays at 8:00 a.m., at Estelle's Restaurant in Chula Vista. Contact Donita Chacon at (619) 470-9293.

North County Chapter — Tuesday at 7:30 a.m. at I HOP at Hwy 78 and Shadowridge Dr. in Vista. Contact Michele Meharis.

Fiduciary Tax Group — 2nd & 4th Thursday of each month at 7:30 am, at Coco's Restaurant, 5550 Lake Murray Blvd, La Mesa. Contact Janice Brown at (619) 464-1041

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:**
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