

April 2017

NY NATP E-News



2017 NY Chapter Board

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We need your
**Tax Season
Issues!**

Now that the season is over (and you have hopefully had a minute to breathe), we need your tax season issues!

Did you encounter an unusual tax situation this year?

Did you see a pattern in the type of notices (Fed or State) that clients received?

Did you have a taxpayer who asked a tricky tax question that stumped you?

Did you encounter a tax issue not common in your practice and need some guidance?

The NY Chapter can help! We just need you to send us the information so we can find the answers and put them in our Tax Season Issues Module this fall!

Send your "Tax Season Issues" to Rick Rottkamp at rh1040@aol.com

Cyber Security & ID Theft Tip of the Month- Shut the Door, Keep out the Devil!

By Dan Paoletti, EA

This month's title comes from a popular song that warns against letting bad things into your life. But how true it is, when it comes to protecting our computers from the Internet!

Just as in real life, if it seems too good to be true, it probably is. Be cautious of email that seems in any way suspicious. Some emails use messages of good fortune, like winning a vacation, or invoke concern, such as "We have been trying to contact you regarding ...". While some might be phishing scams, others may contain viruses or malicious software. Files within the messages can contain inappropriate images and or include web beacons, which are used to secretly send an alert back to the sender or covertly download damaging files onto your computer.

Do not open or reply to ANY junk email! Also, don't "unsubscribe" from unknown sources. This action may alert the sender that they are in possession of an active email address and will be able to further take advantage of the user.

Approach links and images within emails with caution; they may take you to phony sites that will exploit you for personal or financial information. Generally, you can hover your cursor over the link or picture to see the real web address that you will be diverted to.

Be on the look-out for "spoofed" emails. Spoofing is email activity in which parts of the sender's address and email header, including logos, are altered to appear as though the email originated from a trusted source. This is designed to make the recipient believe that it is from a known, trusted contact, or company they do business with. Have you ever received a fake IRS email?

Consider reporting suspicious email activity to the company that is being faked or spoofed. Did you know the IRS has a dedicated department just for investigating suspicious activity that may involve the Department? You can send or forward that suspicious activity to phishing@irs.gov.

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Cyber Security & ID Theft Tip of the Month- Shut the Door, Keep out the Devil! ...*Continued*

By Dan Paoletti, EA

What if your computer gets locked up because you landed on a malicious website and you can't close the page? Try clicking the CTRL, ALT, DELETE keys together to enter the Windows Task Manager. Once there, highlight the web browser or site that is locked up and click the "End Task" button. This may also work for other issues including ransomware, viruses, or just a frozen program. Consider using some of the free antispyware tools such as Malwarebytes, Super Antispyware or Ad-aware on a regular basis to check your machine for malicious files.

The best way to protect opening yourself up to a breach in security is to shut the door to unsolicited web content. Consider a no-click policy in your tax office. Require staff not to use the internet for anything but office business, and to never click on any unsolicited pop-up windows or diverted web pages. For ultimate protection, consider using a second computer, separate from the one you use for tax and accounting functions, especially if you are using it for personal email, social media or general web browsing activity.

Share with me your thoughts and experiences on this article and others in this series. I would like to incorporate your feedback into future installments. Questions and comments can be directed to Dan Paoletti at DPaoletti@stny.rr.com.

Welcome New Members!

If you need anything, please give us a call! Contact Dan Paoletti or Laura Millard of the NY Chapter Membership Committee at DPaoletti@stny.rr.com and precisebookkeeping@hotmail.com

Keith Berman	Alysha Anne Hyman	Deborah Papetti
Cynthia Bertone	Vera Ivanova	Jan Pasternack
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Tom Letizia	John Harmon Cunningham	Gary Vaught
Sarah Laurie	Mordechai Schnitzler	Jonathan Mark
	Gaetano Sansone	

Education Corner

Tentative Dates for the NY NATP Seminars!

We are currently working to finalize our schedule of classes, please keep an eye out on our website (NewYorkNATP.com) for up to date information.

Before we can give you these dates, we must finalize all locations and sites, get CE approved by the IRS and request approval of our program from NATP. We are working diligently to provide our members an outstanding program. Information will be uploaded as soon as all the arrangements have been finalized.

Mark your calendars! Below is a TENTATIVE schedule of when we will be hosting our Seminars around the state.

Summer Series

Topics Include: NYS Business Topics, including the Life Cycle of a Business and other NYS based topics!

Fall Series:

Topics Include: Tax Season Issues, Education Tax Issues, Retirement, NYS Update

Basic 1040/201

Topics Include: Preparing a Basic 1040/201, Inputting W2, 1099

July/August:

- Saratoga
- Fishkill
- Turning Stone
- NYC
- Long Island

Week of 10/23:

- Turning Stone (An Mtg)
- Fishkill
- NYC
- Long Island
- Rochester
- Buffalo

Week of 11/27:

- Albany
- Binghamton
- Western LI
- Tarrytown

January 2018:

- Buffalo
- Syracuse
- Albany
- Long Island
- Tarrytown

Save the Dates!

National Conference

Washington, D.C August 7-10, 2017

NATP Tax Forums

Atlantic City, NJ September 18-19, 2017

Las Vegas, NV September 26-27, 2017

TENTATIVE NY NATP Annual Meeting

Turning Stone (Verona, NY) Week of Oct 23,2017

Have you considered attending NATP's Annual Conference? Think about it!

NATP's Annual Conference is an opportunity to take around 26 CPE in a wide array of topics. Also, it is a great opportunity to meet new people. I have been attending Conference since the mid 90's. The one thing I love is getting to meet other tax professionals from all over the country, and some international professionals too!

There are opportunities to meet vendors with products that may (or not) be helpful to your practice. Since most of the tax software companies attend, it's a chance to meet people from your software, discuss your issues, and get the scoop on what's coming up. You get a chance to get to know NATP Staff members at the registration desk and the NATP booth.

This year it's in Washington DC, easily accessible to most NY NATP members. The hotel is just blocks away from the National Zoo! Last time, we were in DC, I brought my family and my husband (long suffering Ray) took my daughter and niece all over town. This year, there are some exciting things planned, like a bus tour. Check it out!

If you are planning to attend, let us know! We hope to pull members together. Keep an eye out for the message board which is usually near the registration desk.

Keep an eye out at NATP's revised website.

See you in DC!
Kathryn Keane
Board Member, Brooklyn

In Memoriam

Robert Weckesser of Long Island served you on the NY NATP Board of Directors and Education Committee from 2007 to 2013 to the best of his ability. Sadly, Bob lost his battle to cancer in late April. He will be missed. Our prayers and thoughts are with his family, friends and clients.

Cut Out Survey

What type of articles do you like to see in your newsletter?

Check ALL that apply

- Practice Management
- Tax Updates (New Credits/Forms)
- Federal/NYS Tax Bulletins or Press Releases
- Problem Resolution Articles
- Ideas from the field
- Ethics
- Other: _____

**Fax your response to 718-998-3156
or email info@macanta.com**

Anyone Can Write for NY NATP! If you are interested let us know! Email info@macanta.com

We are always looking for fresh ideas and new articles for our newsletter. Please email info@macanta.com or Fax (718) 998-3156 with any suggestions!

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**NY Chapter
Founders Award
Past Winners**

Ralph Sommers
2013

Wendy C. Loomis
2014

Karl Herba
2015

Dwayne "Rocky"
Rhodes
2016

We're on FaceBook!
Search for NY NATP!



The NY Chapter is proud to announce
our new website:

NewYorkNATP.com

Visit our website to stay up to date on the most recent developments from NYS DTF, to learn more about our upcoming seminars, catch the newest edition of this newsletter and so much more!