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The President's Message

Hello KS NATP Chapter & friends:

As many of you are aware November 12 was the last of the three 2014 Kansas Chapter NATP Tax Seminars which were in addition to the KS NATP/IRS Tax Symposium. It was good to have you take advantage of these tax educational events and to get to meet more of you. We are very fortunate to have three NATP approved state presenters: Nolin Christensen, Mary Giesler & Tim Graham, for the KS NATP educational events. Feel free to contact any of them or me, if you have suggestions for 2015 educational events.

At the KS NATP Annual Meeting in Wichita, on October 28, actions taken included a change to the By Laws and the election of Board Members to begin their three year terms in 2015. Elected for terms beginning in 2015 were: Jim Cain, Vonda Nail & Leahann Snow. The By Laws change extended the time period from one year to three years for being considered for election to the KS NATP Board of Directors after serving three consecutive elected Board of Director terms.

So as mentioned at the Annual Meeting it is very important that additional KS Chap-

ter members be willing to serve on the Board of Directors. Vonda is one who was willing to pick up the mantle and we are pleased to have her serve on the Board. The Board elected the following Board Members to serve as 2015 Officers: Tim Cain, President, Leahann Snow, Vice-President, Sara Wright, Treasurer and Kerry Bush, Secretary. Thank you for serving in these capacities. The Education Committee Chair will be Tim Graham assisted by Terri Ryman, Nolin Christensen & Mary Giesler.

We will be advising the National Office that a consensus of comments on the location for National 1040 Workshops which the KS Chapter piggybacks on either the day before or after, is to return to the prior location for these events at the DoubleTree near the Airport in Wichita. If you have other suggestions for these events please advise me or another KS NATP Board Member so that we can help increase attendance and/or consider alternative venues for providing you tax education.

The tax administration and client service industry has had to become agile to operating with numerous & late changes each year. This year will be even more challenging with the complexities of the Affordable Care



From the Sunflower State.

Act and the final regulations for Repair vs Capitalization, along with waiting to see if there will be any approval of Extender provisions which will likely delay filing again. Counseling clients and obtaining the necessary information to correctly reflect the impact of these provisions on clients' tax returns will be much more challenging. Like the commercial with the father & son tugging for the dinner ticket, I hope we have enough education & business acumen for this coming tax season. Being a part of NATP can help provide additional support for this tax season, i.e. webinars, tax research, and contacts with other NATP members. As I said last issue, it sometimes just helps talking through puzzling issues. KS NATP wants you to be successful in your tax business.

Have Happy Holidays and a Great Tax Filing Season!!!

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Committees

Committee assignments are often stereotyped as boring and inconsequential. Nothing could be further from the truth. Committees are the working backbone of any successful Board. They perform due diligence regarding their purpose and influence almost every Board decision. They report on their work and make recommendations at Board meetings. Non-officer Board members often chair these committees, but that's not a mandate. Member volunteers can also chair and staff these committees. A committee is not needed for every single need of the Chapter, but some are actually required according to bylaws. Here are some of the typical committees and what they do:

The Executive Committee. The officers of the Board form this committee with the President serving as its chair. This committee acts for the Board of Directors in between regularly-called Board meetings on all matters unless otherwise specified in the bylaws or state law. It usually schedules Board meetings, develops or reviews fiscal policies and budgets, appoints appropriate committees, develops and considers Chapter strategy issues, and responds to emergencies. It may also handle complaints regarding the ethics or legal and professional conduct of members and refer cases to NATP for disposition. These issues are also sometimes handled through a Professional Standards Review Committee.

The Nominations Committee. This is usually a group that is representative of the entire Chapter membership, appointed for the purpose of proposing members for election to the Board of Directors. It is often comprised of a limited number of Board members, with the majority coming from the membership at large

The Government Relations Committee. This committee is usually comprised of individuals with an interest in and representative talent for interfacing with state government bureaucratic agencies and legislative staff. Its members maintain regular contact with these entities for the purpose of staying on top of tax developments that may impact Chapter members and their clients. It may also help organize responses to proposed legislation or provide testimony before the Department of Revenue and/or the legislature on pending tax issues. It keeps the Board of Directors informed and communicates these issues to the membership through the newsletter, e-mail, or other such appropriate means.

The Financial Review Committee. A key to the credibility of a Chapter lies in its fiduciary responsibility for the funds entrusted to it. Members want to know their dues are truly being used for their benefit. NATP wants to know dues and other revenue are being appropriately used to benefit members. Last, but not least, the federal government and state legislatures want to know if revenues are being properly used for the purpose for which an exemption from income taxes was granted. NATP encourages the Chapter to have a Financial Review Committee of at least three Directors appointed by the President, excluding the Chapter Treasurer and President. This committee's responsibility is to verify the Treasurer followed proper procedures for issuance of checks and receipts of money.

The Education Committee. This committee plans, organizes, and conducts qualified educational seminars on local and state tax topics and may—with approval—present federal taxation topics as well. It arranges for selection of needed education topics, CPE credits through the IRS and the State Board of Accountancy, instructors/presenters, hotel, meal and meeting accommodations, promotion of seminars and registration.

Important Dates to Remember for 2015:

WHAT**DATES****WHERE**

The seminars for 2015 will be announced as we are able to get them scheduled and get the venues reserved.

If you have a suggestion for a topic for these seminars, please contact Tim Graham or Tim Cain. Their phone numbers are located on the last page of this publication

*EDUCATIONAL**SEMINARS**MEETINGS*

DID YOU KNOW?

The Kansas unemployment taxable wage base is changing . Due to legislation passed in 2013 (HB 2105), the taxable wage base will change to \$12,000, beginning January 1, 2015.

The following Employer Resources are available at the Kansas Dept. of Labor website:

[Download posters for your workplace](#)

[Drug and Alcohol Statement](#)

[Employer Handbook](#)

[Employer Tax Rates](#)

[Forms and Publications](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Job Refusal Form](#)

[Look for Workers](#)

[Upload File Formatting Specs](#)

KANSAS CHAPTER WEEKLY

Have you been reading the Chapter Weekly e-news distributed by NATP each week? If not, you've been missing out on many interesting articles, seminar announcements, and resources. Below is a listing of just a few of the postings over the past six months:

7-29-14: IRS Symposium description and link to registration

For an update on Oklahoma Sales & Use Tax and the next Sales Tax Holiday, click [here](#).

Click [here](#) for a Missouri Department of Revenue Tax Bulletin highlighting individual income tax changes.

8-05-14: IRS Symposium speaker bio

New [KS Publication KS-1526](#),

Sales & Use Tax for Motor Vehicle Transactions [Information](#) on Nebraska and exempt military retirement benefits.

8-12-14: For KS tax pros preparing CO returns, a Colorado state publication, "Income Tax Year 2013 Best Practices," is available [here](#) and is a great way to review for tax season 2014 .

8-19-14: IRS Symposium description of courses to be presented

8-26-14: IRS Symposium-Make an appointment to discuss your cases with the Taxpayer Advocate

9-03-14: This KS NATP [flyer](#) has upcoming educational events coming in October and November. We will provide more details as they develop.

Did you know that Kansas tax rates for 2014 are lower than in 2013, or that the haircut to Itemized Deductions has increased? We will be featuring Kansas updates for 2014's tax year to help you with all of the changes. We will also be featuring speakers from Missouri and Oklahoma for those of you preparing returns in a border state. Stay tuned, as there is more to come!

- 9-09-14: See how KDOR's 2013 HB 2059 affects wagering losses in Kansas for 2014 by attending any of our three seminars. Kansas tax law updates will be presented at all three seminars.

KDOR has proposed rules on tax credits available to C-Corps, Financial Institutions, and Insurers that make contributions to Scholarship Organizations. See link [here](#).

Calling Oklahoma Income Tax a "penalty on work", OK Rep. Tom Newell is calling for Oklahoma to eliminate personal income tax. His statement can be found [here](#).

9-16-14: **Kansas:** There are unique tax treatments for members of the clergy, as you know. Kansas tax law changes for 2013 brought an unforeseen problem to the K-40, with the addition modification for federal self-employment taxes, presenting an unintended effect for ministers. Learn how to apply addition modifications properly for your clergy clientele at our Annual (Wichita), Western (Hays) and Fall (Overland Park) seminars. A Kansas update for tax year 2014 will be presented at all three seminars. See our flyer [here](#) with the schedule of our education events slated for this fall.

The venue for KS NATP annual meeting in Wichita will be held at the Holiday Inn Wichita East I-35 this year. This is a change from more recent years.

And, we invite you to stay over and attend our anniversary celebration in Wichita, celebrating 20 years as your Kansas Chapter of NATP, the evening following the annual seminar.

Make sure you keep an eye on Chapter Weekly News. Leahann Snow will keep you up to date on tax, seminars, and many other topics!

STATE RESOURCES



If you missed all four of our Chapter Seminars this year (IRS Symposium, Kansas Annual Meeting and State Update, Western Kansas Seminar and State Update, and Fall Seminar and State Update) then you missed some excellent tax update opportunities. However, below I have listed some links to State Webpages that will assist you in keeping up with state changes:

KS: <http://www.ksrevenue.org/pdf/2014LegislativeChanges.pdf>



OK: <http://www.tax.ok.gov/publicat/2014%20Legislative%20Update.pdf>

NE: [http://www.revenue.nebraska.gov/info/2014 leg_chgs.html](http://www.revenue.nebraska.gov/info/2014_leg_chgs.html)



CO: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/tax/education-tax-research-resources>

MO: <http://natptax.com/Chapters/Documents/2014mo-111214-dor-leg-update.pdf>



KANSAS FUN FACTS AND TRIVIA

The State's name comes from a Kansas Indian word 'kanza', meaning what? South Wind. The Native American Tribe in the area was called 'the people of the south wind.' One of the albums by the rock group Kansas was called 'People of the South Wind' in tribute to the original inhabitants.

Which river forms part of the border of Kansas? The Missouri River. The Missouri River forms the boundary in the northeast corner of Kansas. Other than that, Kansas is perfectly rectangular.

What is the State motto of Kansas? Ad astra per aspera. 'To the stars through difficulties.'

How many stars are in the Kansas state seal? 34. Kansas became the 34th state in the US on January 29, 1861.

What is Wichita's nickname? The Air Capital of the World. Boeing, Beech, Cessna, and Lear Jet all have plants in Wichita.

What is Greensburg, KS claim to fame? The world's largest hand-dug well.

Kansas leads the nation in the production of which product? Wheat

Which Kansan served as Vice-President of the United States? Charles Curtis. Curtis was a US Senator, and then served as Herbert Hoover's Vice President from 1929 to 1933.

Which Spanish explorer first set foot in the area which is now Kansas? Coronado. Coronado entered Kansas in 1541, searching for gold.

What is the State insect? The honeybee, also the state insect for many other states.

Kansas



National Association
of Tax Professionals

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**Please contribute articles. I
welcome all budding authors!**

Have you ever wondered about the history of your Kansas Chapter of the National Association of Tax Professionals (NATP)? Well wonder no more...

Attendance at the 2014 KS Chapter Seminars:

IRS Symposium-Overland Park, KS	173
KS Annual Mtg & Update-Wichita, KS	27
KS Western Seminar-Hays, KS	12
KS Fall Seminar-Overland Park, KS	24

Member Get a Member

Do you know someone who might be interested in NATP and all the benefits for members?

You might want to check out National's "Member Get a Member" campaign. You could win a \$15 or \$30 gift card, a free membership, or even \$1,000 in cash!

Just put your name on NATP Membership Enrollment forms in the "Who recommended your to NATP?" line and hand them out to non-member tax professionals.

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Peggy Beasterfield– Govt. Relations

Jim Cain– Convention

Timothy Cain– Regional, Govt. Relations

Nolin Christensen– Bylaws

Mary Giesler-Membership, Scholarship, Education

Susan Fesler– Nominating

