

THE PROFESSIONAL PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT



January - February 2009

Welcome New Members

2009 PASC Seminar Season

*Highlights of 2008 Tax Law
Changes: Tax Breaks Renewed,
Recovery Rebate Credit, Home-
owner Relief*

Governmental Affairs

Meet A Member or 3

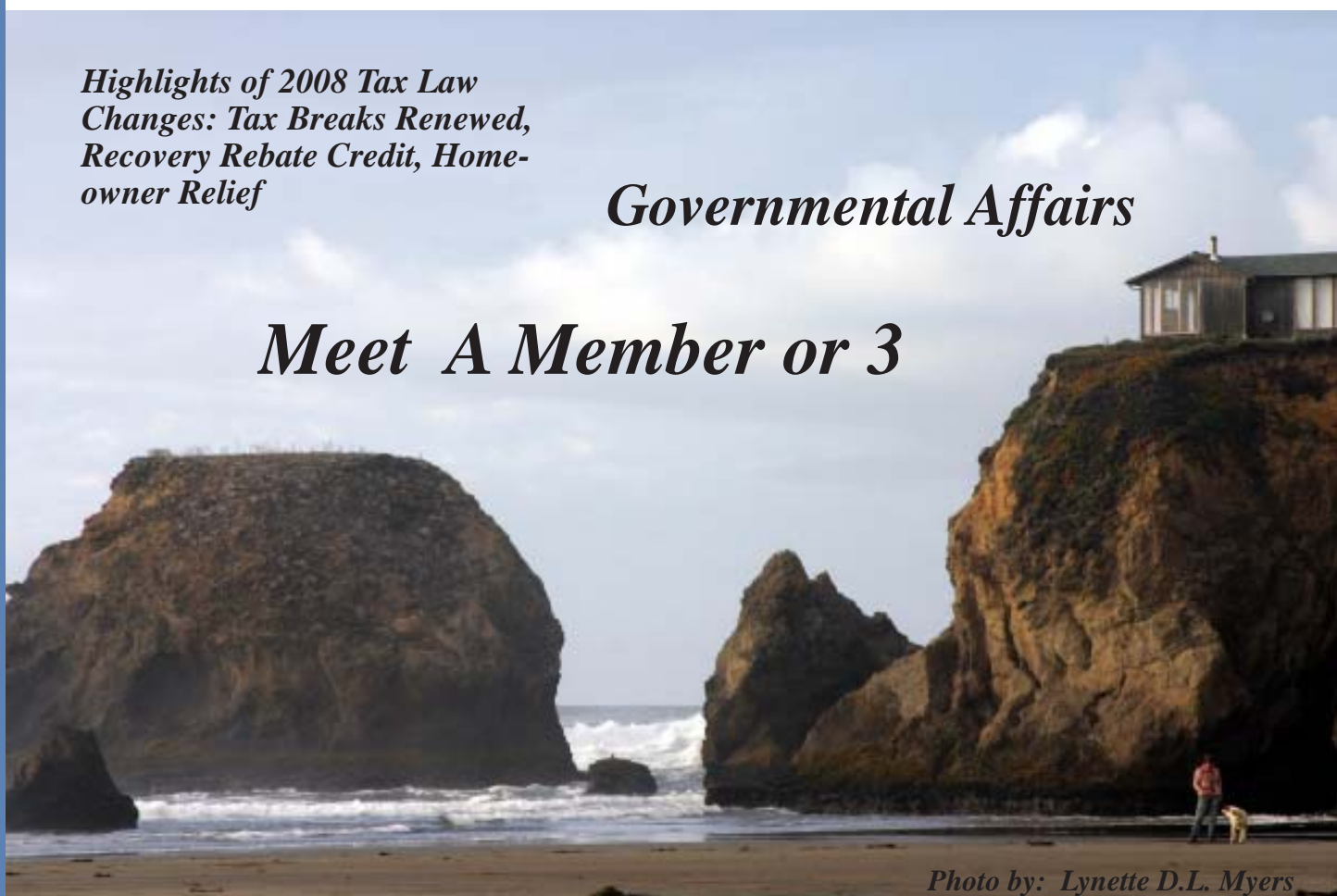


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Serving Aging America

Coffee Break



Membership Application

Published by and for the Members of the Public Accountants Society of Colorado

The Professional Public Accountant

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Table Of Contents

3	<i>Welcome New Members to PASC</i>
3	<i>Governmental Affairs</i>
4	<i>Quickfinder</i>
5	<i>TheTaxBook</i>
6	<i>Meet a Member or 3!</i>
7	<i>Coffee Break</i>
8	<i>Application for Membership</i>
9	<i>Benefits of Membership; Code of Ethics</i>
10	<i>Highlights of 2008 Tax Law Changes: Tax Breaks Renewed, Recovery Rebate Credit, Homeowner Relief</i>
13	<i>Chapter Officers</i>
14	<i>Serving Aging America</i>
16	<i>2009 PASC Seminar Season</i>

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Opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the PASC Board of Governors or the Society.

Comments and suggestions should be sent to the editor, Lynette DL Myers, PO Box 1078 Eastlake, CO 80614-1078 or via email newslettereditor@coloradoaccountant.org.

Welcome New Members to PASC

It is great to welcome the following new members (24), to PASC:

Member Name	Chapter	Location
Campbell, Sandra F.	Western Slope	Grand Junction, CO
Jackson, Thomas C.	Mile High	Castle Rock, CO
Roding, Richard G.	Mile High	Arvada, CO
Sparks, Diane	Mile High	Englewood, CO
Lee, Dixie L.	Pikes Peak	Colorado Springs, CO
Sailor, Tracey R.	Mile High	Denver, CO
Harris, Philip K.	Poudre Valley	Loveland, CO
Corradino, Laurie J.	Pikes Peak	Trinidad, CO
Peck, Sandra L.	Poudre Valley	Johnstown, CO
Henry, Steven T.	Mile High	Boulder, CO
Bobo, Philip L.	Mile High	Littleton, CO
Wozniak, David A.	Mile High	Denver, CO
Williams, Reva	Poudre Valley	Fort Collins, CO
Nelson, Tammy J.	Pikes Peak	Colorado Springs, CO
Greer, Natalie K.	Four Corners	Durango, CO
Terpstra, Esther	Pikes Peak	Colorado Springs, CO
Harimon, Allen W.	Mile High	Centennial, CO
Laird, Jerry W.	Pikes Peak	Colorado Springs, CO
James, Donald A.	Mile High	Commerce City, CO
Fenyves, Nancy	Pikes Peak	Canon City, CO
Velasquez, Leo	Mile High	Littleton, CO
Darcy, Susan E.	Pikes Peak	Canon City, CO
Ryan, Janeen	Mile High	Aurora, CO
Ritter, Cindy	Mile High	Arvada, CO

We encourage old and new members to participate in PASC activities. There is a wealth of information in our Society. Please share information and questions.

Get ready for the 2009 Gunnison Convention on June 24, 25, & 26, 2009. We have listened to our membership and we are having an accounting Convention covering different aspects of accounting. We have PASC member volunteers to instruct us in the following areas:

Andy Morehead – Estate Planning

Lou Anderson – Ethics / Entity Set up

Matt Lewis – S Corp Accounting

Jarvis Windom – Farm Accounting

Cyndi Trombly – TBA

Paola Klinger – Payroll

Helen Johnson – Quickbooks Class for Accountants

We are changing the format of the Convention in the hope of drawing more membership attendance and their families. More information to follow.

As members in PASC we need to have your input to help make us a bigger and better organization as well as your participation in the planned programs. We also are open to any and all suggestions that you may offer.

Membership Chair: Connie Martinez

Governmental Affairs meeting in November 21, 2008.

The committee met with our Legislative Liaison Betsy Clark Murray along with Andy Morehead and Bob Cross from NSA about the Sunset Review that will happen in 2009.

Among the concerns in the Sunset process is our right to call ourselves Public Accounts, other topics of concerns are as follows:

- Possible elimination of education in lieu of experience
- 120-hours education requirement to sit for examination
- 150-hours education requirement to be licensed

Continued on Page 7

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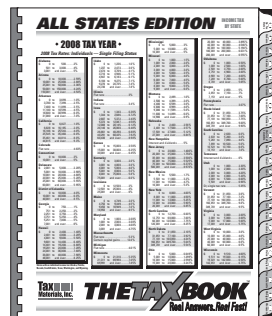
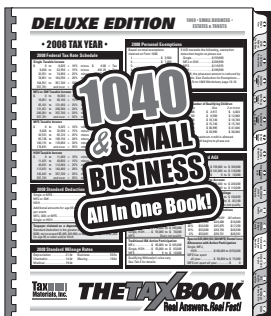
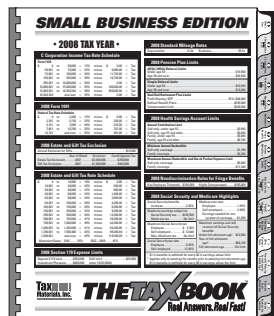
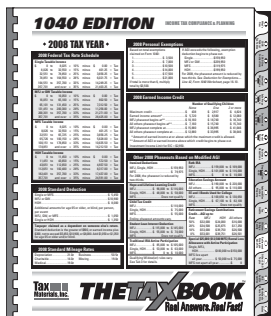
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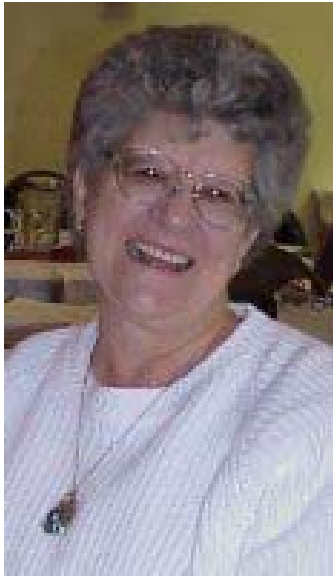
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Meet a Member or 3!

MEET A MEMBER



This month you get 3 members instead of just one. We have 3 in the same family that are members of PASC.

Clara Spake (the Mom) has prepared income tax returns since 1967. She has her business in her home and has since 1972. She is preparing the returns for the grandchildren of some of her original clients. She prepares mostly small businesses and personal income tax returns. She says, "I was most influenced by Internal Revenue Service. I was audited several times and I felt that the taxpayer needed someone to work in their favor. In the

1960s people were not aware of their rights or that they had any recourse. I wanted to be the one who worked for their benefit."

Judy Adams (the daughter) has been in business since 1981. Mom was my first income tax school instructor. I was looking for a part time job but my life has since been taken over by accounting and income tax preparation. I specialize in childcare home tax preparation as I was a licensed childcare provider for over 20 years. I have recently become involved with dog rescue with Every Creature Counts in Ft. Lupton. I have 4 dogs of my own and have been sharing my home with various foster dogs from as many as 6 puppies to 1 older dog.



Steve Smith (the son) is new to the accounting field. Steve was a software developer and worked for various companies that had primarily military contracts. He worked in a wide variety of areas including the Space Shuttle, F-16, B-52 and MX missile projects. After 20 years in this field Steve decided to join the accounting profession and is a QuickBooks Pro Advisor. Steve worked for Jackson/Hewitt for two years, the second as a manager of one of their offices. He now works with Clara,

preparing income taxes returns and in accounting. Steve has a lot of outside interests including caving (spelunking), whitewater rafting, and most recently he obtained his Rescue Diver Certification as a scuba diver.



Steve and Judy were influenced the most by their Mom, Clara. Mom raised 5 children on her own and installed her values and work ethics on each and every one. Four travel together every year, with various spouses and children and have a grand time as a family.

Governmental Affairs meeting in November 21, 2008. , Continued from page 3

- Issue of independence

These are just some of the things that have already come up.

We found out that Mr. Brian Tobias will be the analyst who will be writing the evaluation of the 2009 Sunset Review regarding the Regulation of the Accounting Profession in Colorado. Mr. Tobias will be asking questions and comments from **ALL** persons and groups that will be affected by these changes.

The committee **NEEDS** all the help you can give to keep a **REALLY CLOSE** watch in this process.

Sunset Revenue and State Board of Accountancy meetings are held in the old Denver Post building at Civic Center the last Wednesday of the month starting at 8:00AM.

PLEASE consider being a part of this most important process.

Leota G. Jensen
OLE557@aol.com

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Public Accountants Society of Colorado

Jack Dirksen, Executive Director
P. O. Box 1078 Eastlake, CO 80614-1078
Phone: (303) 452-8227 or (800) 578-4451
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- I am accredited in accounting and/or taxation by the Accreditation Council for Accountancy.
- I am a Certified Public Accountant.
- I possess a valid Treasury card. (I am an Enrolled Agent.)

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Dues: \$100

- I am an employee of an accounting or tax practice firm.
- I am an accountant or bookkeeper in governmental service, a bank or other financial institution, or private business or organization.
- I meet the active member requirements except for three years of experience.

EDUCATOR MEMBER:

Dues: \$30

- I am a full-time teacher or administrator in the educational system.

STUDENT MEMBER:

Dues: \$10

- I am pursuing studies in accounting, business administration, finance, or related subjects in a college, university or business school;
Name of School: _____

NON-RESIDENT MEMBER:

Dues: \$50

- Principal residence and/or practice outside of Colorado.

Years Experience in Accounting/Public Practice: _____ **Convicted of felony in past ten years:** Yes No

Membership in State or National Organizations: NSA NSEA ICFP
 AICPA NAPFA Other _____

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Legislative Representation

The Society maintains professional representation and close contact with the Colorado legislature and the State Board of Accountancy, keeping constant vigil on matters affecting you and the profession.

Bi-Monthly Newsletter

The Society publishes a bi-monthly newsletter informing you of current events both within and without the Society, as well as noteworthy items from the IRS and Colorado Department of Revenue.

Networking with Peers

The Society offers you the opportunity to know and confer with other professionals with your interests, thus assisting you in your practice. There is usually a luncheon accompanying the seminar program.

Chapter Meeting

The Society has chapters in metro Denver, Colorado Springs, Sterling and the Western Slope, offering luncheon and special seminar meetings, keeping you informed on matters affecting the financial professional.

Annual Convention and Accounting Forum

The annual convention and accounting forum, often held in a central resort area, provides one of the few sources of accounting CPE as well as informative business meetings and social gatherings.

Web Site

Our Web Site <http://www.coloradoaccountant.org>, provides members with up-to-the-minute information about society business, State and Federal tax information. Of particular benefit is the membership directory that allows members and the public to locate a professional accountant. Another feature of the site is a chat-room, that allows members to post accounting and tax questions which are answered by other professionals who have experience in the area of concern.

Code of Ethics

A member of this Society shall not violate the confidential relationship between himself and his clients or former clients.

A member of this Society shall not offer or render a professional service for a contingent fee during any period where the professional service consists of an audit, review or compilation engagement, including the period of time covered by any historical financial statements involved while performing an audit, review or compilation engagement; further, a member shall not offer to accept or accept a contingent fee for the preparation of original or amended tax returns or claims for tax refunds.

A member of this Society or a firm of which he/she is a partner or shareholder shall not express an opinion on financial statements of an enterprise unless he/she and his/her firm are independent of such enterprise. Accordingly, a member shall not express an opinion on financial statements of an enterprise financed in whole, or in part, by public distribution of securities or on financial statements for use as a basis of credit if he/she or a member of his/her immediate family owns or is committed to acquire a substantial financial interest in the enterprise, or during the period covered by the examination he/she has been a director, officer or employee of the enterprise unless such interest or relationship is disclosed in the report.

A member of this Society shall not allow any person to practice in his/her corporate, partnership or individual name who is not a partner, professional corporation co-shareholder or in his/her employ.

A member of this Society who is engaged in the practice of public accounting shall not concurrently engage in any business or occupation which would create a conflict of interest in rendering professional services.

A member of this Society shall not sign a report purporting to express his/her opinion as the result of an examination of financial statements, unless they have been examined by him/her or by a member or employee of his/her firm.

A member of this Society shall be diligent, thorough and completely candid in expressing an opinion on representations in financial statements which he/she has examined.

A member of this Society shall not permit his/her name to be used in conjunction with any special purpose statement prepared for his/her clients that anticipates results of future operations, unless he/she discloses the source of information used and what assumptions he/she has made, and unless he/she indicates he/she does not vouch for the accuracy of the forecast.

A member of this Society shall not accept a commission from any person or client for whom the member offers or renders concurrently a professional service, where the professional service consists of an audit or review engagement (including the period of time covered by any historical financial engagements involved while performing an audit or review engagement), nor accept a commission where the member performs a compilation of a financial statement when the member expects or reasonably might expect that a third party will use the financial statement and the member's compilation report or transmittal does not disclose a lack of independence.

A member of this Society shall not seek to obtain clients by advertising or other forms of solicitation in a manner that is false, misleading or deceptive.

A member of this Society in practice as an individual shall not use a firm name or plural term as "and company" or "and associates" or other designation indicating anything other than individual ownership.

A member of this Society who receives an engagement for services by referral from another accountant shall not discuss or accept an extension of his/her services beyond the specific engagement without first consulting with the referring accountant.

Highlights of 2008 Tax Law Changes: Tax Breaks Renewed, Recovery Rebate Credit, Homeowner Relief

FS-2009-1, January 2009

AMT exemptions rise; several expiring deductions and credits get a new lease on life; a new standard property tax deduction and a special first-time homebuyer credit are available to some homeowners; and retirement savings incentives expand. These are among the changes taxpayers will find when they fill out their 2008 tax returns. More information about these and other changes, summarized below, can be found on IRS.gov and in various IRS documents, including the Instructions for Form 1040.

Economic Stimulus Payments Tax Free

Economic stimulus payments are not taxable, and they are not reported on 2008 tax returns. However, the stimulus payment does affect whether a taxpayer can claim the Recovery Rebate Credit and how much credit he or she can get. The credit is figured like last year's economic stimulus payment except that the amounts are based on tax year 2008 instead of 2007. A taxpayer may qualify for the Recovery Rebate Credit if, for example, she did not get an economic-stimulus payment or had a child in 2008. See Fact Sheet 2009-3 for details. In most cases, the IRS can figure the credit. The instructions for Forms 1040, 1040A and 1040EZ have more information.

AMT Exemption Increased for One Year

For tax-year 2008, Congress raised the alternative minimum tax exemption to the following levels:

- * \$69,950 for a married couple filing a joint return and qualifying widows and widowers, up from \$66,250 in 2007
- * \$34,975 for a married person filing separately, up from \$33,125 and
- * \$46,200 for singles and heads of household, up from \$44,350

Under current law, these exemption amounts will drop to \$45,000, \$22,500 and \$33,750, respectively, in 2009. Form 6251 and the AMT Calculator provide more information.

Expiring Tax Breaks Renewed

Several popular tax breaks that expired at the end of 2007 were renewed for tax-years 2008 and 2009. As a result, eligible taxpayers can claim:

- * The deduction for state and local sales taxes on Form 1040 Schedule A, Line 5
- * The educator expense deduction on Form 1040, Line 23 or Form 1040A, Line 16
- * The tuition and fees deduction on Form 8917 and
- * The District of Columbia first-time homebuyer credit on Form 8859

In addition, the residential energy-efficient property credit is extended through 2016. In general, solar electric, solar water heating and fuel cell property qualify for this credit. Starting in 2008, small wind energy and geothermal heat pump property also qualify. Use Form 5695 to claim the credit.

The non-business energy property credit for insulation, exterior windows, exterior doors, furnaces, water heaters and other energy-saving improvements to a main home is not available in 2008 but will return in 2009.

Standard Deduction Increased for Most Taxpayers

Nearly two out of three taxpayers choose to take the standard deduction rather than itemizing deductions such as mortgage interest and charitable contributions. The basic standard deduction is:

- * \$10,900 for married couples filing a joint return and qualifying widows and widowers, a \$200 increase over 2007
- * \$5,450 for singles and married individuals filing separate returns, up \$100 and
- * \$8,000 for heads of household, up \$150

Higher amounts apply to blind people and senior citizens. The standard deduction is often reduced for a taxpayer who qualifies as someone else's dependent.

New this year, taxpayers can claim an additional standard deduction, based on the state or local real-estate taxes paid in

2008. Taxes paid on foreign or business property do not count. The maximum deduction is \$500, or \$1,000 for joint filers.

Also new for 2008, a taxpayer can increase his standard deduction by the net disaster losses suffered from a federally declared disaster. A worksheet is available in the instructions for Forms 1040 and 1040A.

First-Time Homebuyer Credit

Those who bought a main home recently or are considering buying one may qualify for the first-time homebuyer credit. Normally, a taxpayer qualifies if she didn't own a main home during the prior three years. This unique credit of up to \$7,500 works much like a 15-year interest-free loan. It is available for a limited time only — on homes bought from April 9, 2008, to June 30, 2009. It can be claimed on new Form 5405 and is repaid each year as an additional tax. Income limits and other special rules apply.

Tax Relief for Midwest Disaster Areas

Special tax relief related to severe storms, tornadoes or flooding, occurring after May 19, 2008, and before Aug. 1, 2008, is available to individuals in portions of Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska and Wisconsin that were affected by these disasters. Tax benefits include:

- * Liberalized rules for certain personal casualty losses and charitable contributions
- * An additional exemption amount for persons who provided housing for someone displaced by these disasters
- * The option to use 2007 earned income to figure a 2008 earned income tax credit (EITC) and additional child tax credit
- * An increased charitable standard mileage rate for use of personal vehicle for volunteer work related to these disasters
- * Special rules for withdrawals and loans from IRAs and other qualified retirement plans

Details on these and other relief provisions are in Publication 4492-B .

Contribution Limits Rise for IRAs and Other Retirement Plans

This filing season, more people can make tax-deductible contributions to a traditional IRA. The deduction is phased out for singles and heads of household who are covered by a workplace retirement plan and have modified adjusted gross incomes (AGI) between \$53,000 and \$63,000, compared to \$52,000 and \$62,000 last year.

For married couples filing jointly, in which the spouse who makes the IRA contribution is covered by a workplace retirement plan, the income phase-out range is \$85,000 to \$105,000, up from \$83,000 to \$103,000 last year.

Where an IRA contributor who is not covered by a workplace retirement plan is married to someone who is covered, the deduction is phased out if the couple's income is between \$159,000 and \$169,000, up from \$156,000 and \$166,000 in 2007.

The phase-out range remains \$0 to \$10,000 for a married individual filing a separate return who is covered by a retirement plan at work.

The worksheet in the instructions for Form 1040 Line 32 or Form 1040A Line 17 can help a taxpayer figure the IRA deduction.

For 2008, the elective deferral (contribution) limit for employees who participate in 401(k), 403(b) and most 457 plans remains unchanged at \$15,500. This limit rises to \$16,500 in 2009. The catch-up contribution limit for those aged 50 to 70-½ remains at \$5,000 in 2008 but rises to \$5,500 in 2009.

The AGI phase-out range for taxpayers who contribute to a Roth IRA is \$159,000 to \$169,000 for joint filers and qualifying widows and widowers, compared to \$156,000 to \$166,000 in 2007. For singles and heads of household, the comparable phase-out range is \$101,000 to \$116,000, compared to \$99,000 to \$114,000 in 2007.

Standard Mileage Rates Adjusted for 2008

The standard mileage rate for business use of a car, van, pick-up or panel truck is 50.5 cents per mile from Jan. 1, 2008,

to June 30, 2008, up 2 cents from 2007. The rate is 58.5 cents for each mile driven during the rest of 2008.

From Jan. 1, 2008, to June 30, 2008, the standard mileage rate for the cost of operating a vehicle for medical reasons or as part of a deductible move is 19 cents per mile, down a penny from 2007. The rate is 27 cents from July 1 to Dec. 31.

The standard mileage rate for using a car to provide services to charitable organizations is set by law and remains at 14 cents a mile. As noted earlier, special rates apply to the Midwest disaster area.

Exemptions Rise

The value of each personal and dependency exemption is \$3,500, up \$100 from 2007. Most taxpayers can take personal exemptions for themselves and an additional exemption for each eligible dependent. An individual who qualifies as someone else's dependent cannot claim a personal exemption, and though personal and dependency exemptions are phased out for higher-income taxpayers, the phase-out rate is slower than in past years.

This is one of more than three dozen individual and business tax provisions that are adjusted each year to keep pace with inflation. A complete rundown of these changes can be found in 2008 Inflation Adjustments Widen Tax Brackets, Change Tax Benefits.

Earned Income Tax Credit Rises

The maximum earned income tax credit (EITC) is:

- * \$4,824 for people with two or more qualifying children, up from \$4,716 in 2007
- * \$2,917 for those with one child, up from \$2,853 last year and
- * \$438 for people with no children, up from \$428 in 2007.

Available to low and moderate income workers and working families, the EITC helps taxpayers whose incomes are below certain income thresholds, which in 2008 rise to:

- * \$41,646 for those with two or more children
- * \$36,995 for people with one child and
- * \$15,880 for those with no children

One in six taxpayers claim the EITC, which, unlike most tax breaks, is refundable, meaning that individuals can get it even if they owe no tax and even if no tax is withheld from their paychecks.

Taxes Lowered for Many Investors

The five-percent tax rate on qualified dividends and net capital gains is reduced to zero. In general, this reduction applies to investors whose taxable income is below:

- * \$65,100, if married filing jointly or qualifying widow or widower
- * \$32,550, if single or married filing separately or
- * \$43,650, if head of household.

Note that taxable income is normally less than total income. The worksheet for Form 1040 Line 44, Form 1040A Line x or Schedule D and its instructions provide details.

Kiddie Tax Revised

The tax on a child's investment income applies if the child has investment income greater than \$1,800 and is:

- * Under 18 old
- * 18 years of age and had earned income that was equal to or less than half of his or her total support in 2008 or
- * Over 18 and under 24, a student and during 2008 had earned income that was equal to or less than half of his or her total support.

Previously, the tax only applied to children under age 18. Form 8615 is used to figure this tax.

Self-Employment Tax Changes

For those who receive Social Security Retirement or disability benefits, any Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) payments are now exempt from the 15.3-percent social security self-employment tax. Schedule SE and its instructions and Publication 225, Farmer's Tax Guide, have the details.

More farmers and self-employed people this year can choose the optional methods for figuring and paying the self-employment tax. These optional methods allow those with net losses or small amounts of business income a way to obtain up to four credits of Social Security coverage. The income thresholds for both the farm optional method and the nonfarm optional method are increased for 2008 and indexed for inflation in future years. Choosing an optional method may increase a taxpayer's self-employment tax but it may also qualify him for the earned income tax credit, additional child tax credit, child and dependent care credit or self-employed health insurance deduction. Schedule SE and its instructions have details.

Courtesy of the Internal Revenue Service : <http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=202106,00.html>

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The Public Accountants Society of Colorado has received national recognition for our efforts in protecting your right to practice. The National Society of Accountants (NSA) presented the Public Accountants Society of Colorado with a plaque, which states “In Appreciation of Your Dedicated Efforts In Monitoring The Colorado State Board of Accountancy”. This award was presented by the State Regulation and Oversight Committee in August, 2008.

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Serving Aging America

Elder Care Specialist® (ECS)

This credential recognizes professionals who have a thorough knowledge of: preparing their clients for retirement; the essentials of estate and trust planning; and financial planning for the elderly.

Proclaim to the world you're qualified to service clients in this fastest growing marketing niche -- elder care. This credential recognizes professionals who have a thorough knowledge of: preparing their clients for retirement; the essentials of estate and trust planning; and financial planning for the elderly and who have demonstrated their customer sensitivity and communication skills.

To become an ECS you must first qualify for the test by earning 12 CPE in one of the elder care levels listed in the ECS blueprint listed below.

Then you will be allowed to take an open-book test on what you have learned. You must score 70% or better. You must complete the exam on each of the three levels. Finally complete the ECS credential application and pay the application fee. (If you don't receive the credential, the fee is refunded.)
Elder Care Specialist Exam Blueprint

Level 1 - Required Topics Preparing For Retirement

Demographics & Opportunities For Retirement Planning

- The Baby Boomer generation
- Sources of retirement income
- Special income tax benefits for senior citizens
- The retirement and estate planning team
- Overview of planning opportunities

Social Security

- Overview of the Social Security system
- Retirement benefits
- Disability benefits
- Survivors' benefits
- Eligibility for Social Security benefits
- How Social Security benefits are computed
- Delayed retirement credits
- Penalties for earned income after retirement
- Rules for divorced and widowed spouses
- Death of a beneficiary
- Special situations and case studies

Medicare

- Overview of Medicare, benefits & history
- Medicare Part A, hospital insurance
- Medicare Part B, medical insurance
- Medicare Part D, prescription drug coverage
- Eligibility for Medicare
- Medicare enrollment
- Medicare choices & options' planning opportunities

Medicaid

- Overview of the Medicaid program
- Medicaid coverage
- Eligibility for Medicaid
- Exempt assets
- Non-exempt assets
- Income limits
- Protections for the non-institutionalized spouse
- Qualifying for Medicaid benefits
- Income cap states

- Spend-down states
- Medicaid estate recovery
- Medicaid planning opportunities
- Gifts
- Trusts
- Gifts versus transfers to a trust

Veteran's Benefits

- Eligibility for benefits
- Benefits available

Health Care & Long-Term Care Options

- Medigap insurance
- Comparison of Medigap standard plans
- Health Savings Accounts (HSAs)
- Long-term care insurance
- Accelerated death benefits from life insurance policies
- Home health care
- Other options and case studies

Strategic Planning And Self-Employment Taxes

- Tools for reducing self-employment taxes
- Tools for increasing self-employment taxes to maintain eligibility for benefits
- Optional methods of computing SE taxes

Strategic Planning And Business Entities

- Planning opportunities with S corporations
- Planning opportunities with LLCs

Designing The Retirement Plan

- Goals, objectives, and assumptions
- Estimating annual income needed in retirement
- Identifying sources and projecting annual retirement income
- Planning opportunities when projected retirement income is insufficient for needs
- Need for reviewing and updating retirement plans

Mistakes To Avoid

- Choosing the wrong options when leaving a company
- Choosing the wrong beneficiary designation
- Choosing the wrong distribution option for a retirement plan
- Failing to take the minimum required distribution from an IRA
- Outliving the money

Retirement Plans

- Funding your retirement plans
- Types of plans available
- Calculating the maximum contribution
- Opportunities for planning when close to retirement age
- Premature distributions
- Lump-sum distributions
- Periodic payments
- Rollovers
- Minimum required distribution rules
- Calculating the required distribution
- Required beginning date
- Beneficiary designations

Personal Residence Planning Opportunities

- The home sale exclusion
- Planning for the vacation home
- Sale of a mixed-use residence
- Reverse mortgages

Decedent's Final Tax Return

- Responsibility for the final return
- Filing status and exemptions for the final return
- Income on the final return

- Deductions on the final return
- Dealing with incorrect information returns for the year of death
- Income and deductions in respect of a decedent

Level 2 - Required Topics Estates & Trusts

Basics Of Estates, Trusts, And Fiduciary Accounting:

- Governing Instruments - Wills, Trusts, State Law
- Duties of the Personal Representative
- Overview of the probate process
- Types of Trusts - purpose and tax treatment
- Allocation of accounting income & expenses to beneficiaries or to the estate or trust

Income Taxation Of Estates & Trusts

- Tax filing requirements of estates & trusts
- Reportable income of estates & trusts
- Allocation of income between decedent and estate
- Treatment of capital gains & losses
- Rules for holding period and basis of assets
- Deductions of estates & trusts
- Allocations of deductions to classes of income
- Charitable contributions for estates & trusts
- Alternative minimum tax, Form 1041
- Estimated taxes; allocating estimated taxes to beneficiaries
- Distributable net income and income distribution deduction
- Allocations of net income to beneficiaries
- Tax return elections of estates & trusts
- Preparation of Form 1041
- Income in respect of a decedent

Federal Gift Tax

- Overview of law
- Gift-splitting by married persons
- Gifts for educational and medical expenses
- Gifts to minors
- Preparation of gift tax returns

Federal Estate Tax Returns

- Unified transfer tax concepts
- Filing requirements
- Property includible in the estate
- Valuation of the estate
- Transfers during decedent's life
- Deductions from the gross estate
- Generation skipping transfer tax
- Unified credit and the state death tax credit
- Elections available on the estate tax return
- Fiduciary relationship
- Preparation of Form 706

Level 3 - Required Topics Ethics & Professionalism

Serving Aging Clients

- Determining who is the client
- Dealing with client family members
- Dealing with clients with diminished capacity
- Protecting the client with diminished capacity
- Potential conflicts of interest
- Confidentiality issues
- Limiting your exposure to professional liability
- Engagement letters
- Case studies in ethics & professional practices

Case Studies In Basic Estate Planning

- Gathering information & interviewing the client
- Utilizing the marital deduction

- Utilizing the gift tax annual exclusion
- Gift tax exclusion for education and medical payments
- Gift-splitting
- Transfers made within three years of death
- Income in respect of a decedent
- Powers of appointment
- Community property
- The charitable deduction
- Situations involving divorce and re-marriage

Tools Of Estate Planning

- The will The unified credit shelter by-pass trust
- The marital deduction QTIP trust
- Living trusts
- Gift giving and the Crummey power
- Life insurance planning strategies
- Disclaimers
- Valuation discounts
- Utilizing business entities in estate planning
- Installment sales and self-canceling installment notes
- Sale to intentionally defective grantor trust
- Private annuities
- Grantor retained interest trusts — GRITs, GRATs, &

GRUTS

- Qualified personal residence trust
- Buy-sell agreements
- Special use valuations
- Special needs trusts
- Dynasty trusts
- Health care directives

Retirement Distribution Planning

- Roth IRA conversions
- Charitable donations of IRA
- Avoiding penalties for early withdrawal upon early retirement
- Withdrawal options for the surviving spouse
- QTIP and QDOT trusts as plan beneficiaries
- Withdrawal options for non-spouse beneficiaries
- Trusts as plan beneficiaries
- Contingent beneficiaries

Serving Aging America - PASC Conference Schedule

May 18 & 19, 2009 Serving Aging America-Level I

Monday & Tuesday
 Jerry & Wayne
 Ramada Plaza-10 E. 120th Ave.
 Northglenn, CO 80233
 Phone 303-452-4100, Fax 303-457-1741
 \$82 room rate 16 CPE Credit Hours

Members \$320, Non-Members \$360

Early Bird Registration – Members \$295, Non-Members \$335

August 26 & 27, 2009 Serving Aging America Level II-

Wednesday & Thursday
 Don Williamson
 Ramada Plaza -10 E. 120th Ave.
 Northglenn, CO 80233
 Phone 303-452-4100 Fax 303-457-1741
 \$82 room rate Prices and Credits same as above.

August 28, 2009 Serving Aging America Level III Workshop

Friday
 Don Williamson
 Ramada Plaza -10 E. 120th Ave.
 Northglenn, CO 80233
 Phone 303-452-4100, Fax 303-457-1741
 \$82 room rate 8 CPE Credit Hours

Members \$215, Non-Members \$240

Early Bird Registration – Members \$200, Non-Members \$225

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- Level III Denver August 28, 2009

CORPORATION/PARTNERSHIPS & LLC's

- Denver September 17 & 18, 2009
- Colorado Springs September 17 & 18, 2009

1040 INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX UPDATE

- Grand Junction November 3 & 4, 2009
- Durango November 5 & 6, 2009
- North Denver November 17 & 18, 2009
- Colorado Springs December 7 & 8, 2009
- Southeast Denver December 8 & 9, 2009

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