National Association of Estate Planners & Councils

The Association of Choice for Estate Planning Professionals

AEP® ALERT –March/April 2011

A Word from the Chairperson

Dear Designee:

Tax season is over – whew! As I write this, I am trying, as I do each year, to re-learn how to socialize and communicate with my family and friends. Although not all of you are quite as directly impacted by tax preparation season as we CPA's, everyone in estate planning is impacted by tax season in one form or another. Looking forward, everyday in estate planning is like a little bit of tax season. There is always a sense of urgency keeping current with the tax and probate laws, advising and managing secure investment performance, getting the clients to read and sign those legal documents, and of course making sure that adequate liquidity will remain after the "maturity" of the estate plan.

While working on a couple of estate filings recently, I have been reminded how quickly our estate planning scenarios can change. Legislative changes, financial changes, even family structure changes can impact (positively or negatively) the plans that we make. I've also been reminded that each one of our disciplines have their own special place at the planning table, and that our clients are the ones who benefit from the relationship with estate planning "team players". The AEP® mission this year is to make the public aware of the value in utilizing our designees in their estate planning. As you see advertisements and articles, promotions for National Estate Planning Awareness Week and our National Conference, synergistic partnerships and joint ventures, remember, that the ultimate beneficiary of those activities are you, the Accredited Estate Planner® designee.

I am excited to announce that we currently have 148 AEP® designees that are members of the Linked in AEP® Group. If you have not joined, search for the AEP®/Accredited Estate Planners ® Group and request to join. This group is reserved only for AEP® designees. As more people join, the discussions and information shared will certainly be beneficial to our members. Feel free to post your own articles or those you believe helpful to others.

Reminder - The 2011 Recertification and Dues Renewal notices were sent via US Mail to all active designation holders with a May 2, 2011 deadline for submission. You can recertify and renew either by completing and returning the hardcopy form or online at https://members.naepc.org/renewalaep.asp. **Please take a moment to recertify and renew today to avoid the $25 late compliance penalty.**

It's not too early to begin planning for the NAEPC's 48th Annual Conference which will be held this year from November 16th – November 18th at the Marriott Rivercenter in historic San Antonio, Texas. Don't miss this excellent educational and networking opportunity where you can earn **all of your estate planning continuing education requirements** for your AEP® designation. For more details about the conference, please visit out Web site at http://www.naepc.org/convention.web.

As always, if you have any questions or ideas for improvement to our designation that you would like to share with us, please feel free to contact me or Susan Austin Carney, AEP® Designation Administrator, at 866.226.2224 or via email at susan@naepc.org.

Sincerely,

Greg

Gregory E. Sellers, CPA, AEP®
Designation Committee Chairperson

Technical Corner

In the first issue of 2011, we introduced this new feature of the AEP® ALERT. This section is geared to provide our designees with a "Technical Tidbit" that will help you help your clients. We need your participation. If you have an article, worksheet or flowchart that can fit on one page (usually 1,000 words or less), then we would love to publish you. Contact Susan Austin Carney, AEP® Administrator, to submit your contribution to the "Technical Corner."

In our second edition of the "Technical Corner," we are pleased to feature "Estate Planning in 2011 and 2012: Opening the Window of Opportunity" by Milton B. Hatcher, Jr., and Edward F. Koren, Accredited Estate Planner® (Distinguished).

Now, on to the knowledge…
The new year has arrived, and all of the favorable estate, gift and generation-skipping tax provisions of the Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010 (the "Tax Relief Act of 2010") are now in effect, or lapsed at the end of 2010. The focus of this article is on the planning opportunities presented by the Tax Relief Act of 2010 during the two year remaining window, 2011 and 2012, and when and how to take advantage of them…Please click on the following link to read this article in its entirety:

http://www.naepc.org/journal/issue07g.pdf

April 2011 Technical Newsletter Provided by Leimberg Information Services

Bruce Steiner: A First Look at the Administration's Revenue Proposals

Please consider Bruce Steiner's review of the Obama Administration's Revenue Proposals for Fiscal Year 2012 that was released on February 14, 2011. An administration's revenue proposal is commonly referred to as the "Green Book," and while the Green Book doesn't contain the statutory language that underpins the various revenue proposals, it does provide clients and advisors with significant insights into where things could be headed in the future.

Please click on the following link to read this article in its entirety: http://www.naepc.org/newstech-1104.web. See other issues as well.

Explore our New Library of Public Content!

Launched last fall, this resource is available to the entire world with easy to understand information about estate and financial planning found at www.EstatePlanningAnswers.org, along with a link back to the NAEPC designee search engine. Check it out today!

Educational Webinars for Councils & Members sponsored by NAEPC & InterActive Legal

For estate planning professionals serious about staying up-to-date in their area of expertise, our webinar series is not to be missed! Featuring leading national experts as speakers, these programs will promote success through education in estate planning, business planning, elder law, tax law, asset protection and more. This innovative series represents a new way to remain current, take in best practices, and learn about the latest developments in the field - essential for the success of any practitioner or firm. The webinar series is made possible through collaboration between NAEPC and InterActive Legal, an NAEPC Member Benefit Partner that specializes in creating software for attorneys**. Program attendance counts toward Accredited Estate Planner® designation continuing education credit!**

Visit InterActive Legal to register for any of these exciting programs! You will need to enter a discount code when registering to obtain the NAEPC's member pricing (a $10 discount off of the regular registration fee of $105). The code appears when you log in to the secure portion of this site. Please log into our members-only area for special pricing and ordering links.

Member Benefits – check out our new benefits!
NAEPC offers a variety of benefits for our members and details about each program or service can be found online at http://www.naepc.org/member_benefits_members.web.

Promote the AEP® Designation!
You worked hard to obtain this professional designation and we ask that you help us to promote the designation by sharing your enthusiasm for the credential with your colleagues who may also be interested in applying for the AEP®. We welcome referrals and are happy to provide application qualifications and requirements to them. Also, designation requirements and qualifications along with a downloadable application form can be found at http://www.naepc.org/aep_application.web.

Please join us in welcoming our newest designees through March 31, 2011:

Susan Baran, JD, AEP®	Milwaukee, WI
Steven Craig Boltz, CFP®, AEP®	Indianapolis, IN
Cynthia L. Mackey Burton, CFP®, CTFA, ChFC®, CAP®, MSFS, AEP®	Columbia, SC
Connie L. Cushing, CPA, AEP®	Pensacola, FL
DeLynn K. Davis, JD, CLU®, ChFC®, AEP®	Addison, TX
Michael P. Dow, CPA, CLU®, ChFC®, AEP®	Milwaukee, WI
Richard J. Durso, CFP®, AEP®	Philadelphia, PA
John P. Henson, Jr. , CLU®, ChFC®, RHU, REBC, AEP®	Jackson, MS
Gary W. Huston, JD, LL.M., AEP®	Pensacola, FL
Stephen M. Jones, CPA, ABV, AEP®	Norfolk, VA
Stuart Park Kingsbery, CPA, JD, AEP®	Boulder, CO
Linda C. Landry, CFP®, ChFC®, AEP®	Norfolk, VA
Jane B. Lorenz, CPA, CLPF, AEP®	Fallbrook, CA
Eric V. Love, JD, CPA, AEP®	Lafayette, CO
Bonnie L. Mackey, CPA, CSEP, AEP®	Hollywood, FL
Burke W. Margulies, JD, AEP®	Virginia Beach, VA
Stephen J. McGann, CTFA, AEP®	West Chester, PA
Shelly D. Merritt, JD, AEP®	Boulder, CO
Mark R. Parthemer, JD, AEP®	Palm Beach, FL
Geoffrey E. Pfeiffer, JD, CLU®, ChFC®, AEP®	Addison, TX
Steven A. Phillips, CFP®, CLU®, AEP®	Oneida, TN
Todd Joseph Preti, JD, AEP®	Virginia Beach, VA
Sandra R. Stewart, CTFA, AEP®	Virginia Beach, VA
Richard W. Stumpf, CFP®, CEBS, AEP®	Wichita, KS
Paul Terkeltaub, CLU®, ChFC®, CLTC, AEP®	Virginia Beach, VA
Edward A. Tyng, ChFC®, CLTC, AEP®	Virginia Beach, VA
Tim Voorhees, JD, AEP®	Irvine, CA
Fred T. (Thom) Wilkinson, Jr., CLU®, ChFC®, AEP®	Ponte Vedra, FL
Craig E. Wilson, JD, AEP®	San Bernardino, CA
Laine C. Wolf, CFP®, AEP®	Boulder, CO
Gary S. Wolfe, CPA, LUTCF, CLU®, ChFC®, CLTC, AEP®	Houston, TX
Thomas Andrew Zgliniec, CFP®, AEP®	San Diego, CA

We Need You! If you are interested in volunteering on one of the many committees of the NAEPC, please let us know by contacting Susan Austin Carney, Designation Administrator, at 866.226.2224 or by email at susan@naepc.org.