



# RIO GRANDE VALLEY CHAPTER TSCPA EDUCATION FOUNDATION

## NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2009

**THE 9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CPE EXPO IS HERE!** Once again EXPO will be held at the McAllen Convention Center on Expressway 83 & Ware Rd on **Tuesday, October 27<sup>th</sup>**. There will be coffee, sodas & bottled water available throughout the day. A selection of sandwiches will be provided for lunch. Your registration fee includes everything.

This year, in addition to the usual state-required Ethics and Compilation & Review Update courses offered by David Holt, CPA, CFE, he will also present "The Effects of the Bailout Culture on Workplace Fraud". Very timely course! Blaise Bender, J.D., CPA, will return and present three courses on tax updates: Texas State Tax, Individual Tax & Business Tax. Not everyone's favorite subject but a very necessary one if you are an accountant whether specializing in taxes or not. Robert Nelson, J.D., CPA, will present a course on Estate Planning.

Attorney Chris Brasure will present a course on Professional Liability under the Current Texas Law & how to protect yourself. A totally new topic for this year but another one the Chapter feels is very timely – Information Technology. Dixie Consulting, a McAllen based firm, will discuss cloud computing, remote access, and IT security.

Please try to send in your registrations as soon as possible. Course materials, the sandwiches & beverages must be ordered at least a week prior to the seminar. Registrations will be considered **late** if postmarked after Tuesday, October 20, 2009 & a \$5 late will be charged.

Registration will start at 7:30 am. Please be there on time so that there is minimal disruption to the presenters by late arrivals.

**REMINDER** – the temperature in the rooms never satisfies everybody. Please bring a jacket if you tend to get cold.

# **RGV CHAPTER TSCPA 9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CPE EXPO**

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2009

MCALLEN CONVENTION CENTER (EXPRESSWAY 83 AND WARE RD)

Morning classes = 2 hours of CPE credit each. Afternoon classes = 4 hours of CPE credit.

	TRACK 1	TRACK 2	TRACK 3
8:30AM-10:10AM	Compilation & Review Update for 2009  <i>David Holt</i>	Texas State Tax Update  <i>Blaise Bender</i>	Professional Liability under Texas Law  <i>Chris Brasure</i>
10:25AM-12:05PM	Workplace Fraud  <i>David Holt</i>	Individual Tax Update  <i>Blaise Bender</i>	IT: Cloud Computing, Remote Access, Security  <i>Dixie Consulting</i>
<b>Lunch</b>			
1:05PM-4:40PM	Ethical Business Decisions by Texas CPAs  <i>David Holt</i>	Business Tax Update  <i>Blaise Bender</i>	Estate Planning  <i>Robert Nelson</i>

### **October 27, 2009 CPE EXPO Registration:**

**\*Circle one box in each time slot**

\*If you're a season pass holder please indicate below. Otherwise, make check payable to: *RGV Chapter of the TSCPA Education Foundation*

\*If you're a season pass holder, fax your registration to (956) 546-1772.

\*If you are not a season pass holder, please mail this registration along with payment to:

RGV Chapter of the TSCPA Education Foundation

943 North Expressway, Suite 15-161

Brownsville, TX 78520

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

CPA: Yes [ ] No [ ]

Firm: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

TSCPA Member # \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Season Pass Holder                      \$0  
 \_\_\_ TSCPA CPA Member                      \$125  
 \_\_\_ Non CPA Employee                      \$125

\_\_\_ TSCPA Student Member                      \$110  
 \_\_\_ TSCPA Floating Pass                      \$0  
 \_\_\_ Non-Member                      \$250

**Late Registration: Tuesday, October 20, 2009**

## **SPEAKER PROFILES AND COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

### **DAVID HOLT, CPA, CFE**

David Holt, CPA, CFE, has been recognized by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) as an Outstanding Discussion Leader for the State of Texas. He has more than 25 years experience in public accounting & has taught continuing professional education (CPE) seminars since 1988. David has authored more than a dozen CPE topics & was a contributing author of the Practitioners Publishing Company (PPC) "Guide to Preparing Governmental Financial Statements". He is also a former faculty member of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners.

### **COMPILATION STANDARDS UPDATE**

***THE KEY WORD FOR MOST NEW SSARS (15, 16 & 17) IS "COMMUNICATE". ADDITIONALLY, THE AICPA IS REPLACING ALL EXISTING STATEMENTS WITH THREE PROPOSED STANDARDS. THEY ARE REMINDING US (AGAIN) THAT COMPILATIONS ARE NOT AN APPROPRIATE SERVICE, WHEN THE "INTENDED USER" NEEDS ASSURANCE. REALLY?***

### **THE EFFECTS OF THE BAILOUT CULTURE ON WORKPLACE FRAUD**

**HAVE YOU WONDERED HOW FEDERAL BAILOUT PROGRAMS MAY AFFECT THE LIKELIHOOD OF FRAUD & ABUSE IN BUSINESSES, LOCAL GOVERNMENTS & NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS? COMPANY ASSETS ARE MORE "AT RISK" THAN EVER BEFORE. COME JOIN OUR DISCUSSION OF THE NEW LAYER OF INTERNAL CONTROLS THAT ARE NOW NECESSARY IN MOST ORGANIZATIONS.**

### **ETHICAL BUSINESS DECISIONS BY TEXAS CPAs (4 HOURS OF REQUIRED TEXAS ETHICS CPE)**

**THIS NEW STATE BOARD APPROVED COURSE, WILL COVER NOT ONLY THE "RULES" OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT, BUT ALSO REALISTIC WORKPLACE SITUATIONS OFTEN EXPERIENCED BY CPAs IN INDUSTRY, GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC ACCOUNTING. THE SESSION WILL INCLUDE:**

- **A LIVELY, INTERACTIVE FORMAT, WITH SUBSTANTIAL GROUP DISCUSSIONS**
- **COVERAGE OF THE ETHICS RULES AND HOW THEY HELP CPAs MAKE VALUABLE, LONG-TERM PROFESSIONAL DECISIONS**
- **QUIZZES AND CASE STUDIES, TO AFFIRM AND ILLUSTRATE THE PROPER APPLICATION OF "THE RULES"**

### **BLAISE BENDER, J.D., CPA**

Blaise C. Bender, J.D., CPA is Associate Professor of Accounting & Law at Our Lady of the Lake University. He received his B.B.A in Accounting Degree & a Master's of Science in Finance from Texas A&M University, an MPA in Taxation from UTSA & a Juris Doctor in Law from St. Mary's University. His experience includes six + years in public accounting working for three of the "Big Five" firms, Arthur Andersen & Co., Deloitte Touche, and Ernest and Young; and Controller & CFO experience in private industry. Professor Bender currently serves on the Board of Directors for the TSCPA, the Board of Directors of Providence High School, & the Board of Trustees for the North East San Antonio Community Outreach for Older People (NESA CO-OP). Professor Bender has also served on the TSBCPA Tax Committee & is currently President of the TSCPA San Antonio Chapter. He is also a member of the State Bar of Texas, the Tax Section, Real Estate Probate Section & Corporation Section, the Academy of Legal Studies in Business & Southern Business Legal & Tax Studies Association. In addition to his teaching responsibilities, Professor Bender is a recognized in Texas for his continuing education & leadership seminars and recently extended his seminars to Accountants in the Republic of China, Mexico & Canada. He has conducted over 80 seminars throughout Texas and the United States and has received numerous awards for his service in continuing education including 2001-02 Kingston's

Who's Who for outstanding academic educators, the 2000 Outstanding Accounting Educator Award presented by the Texas Society of CPA's & the 1998 Outstanding Continuing Education Award by the San Antonio Chapter of CPA's. Professor Bender also maintains a legal consulting practice dealing with various tax & accounting issues, including estate planning, corporate legal counsel, management control systems, international business, & electronic business activities.

### **INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX UPDATE**

**THIS SESSION WILL DISCUSS RECENT IRS & LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENTS PERTAINING TO THE PREPARATION & PLANNING ASSOCIATED WITH YOUR CLIENT'S INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX RETURN. THE AMERICAN RECOVERY & REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009 WILL BE EXAMINED.**

### **BUSINESS TAX UPDATE**

**THIS SESSION WILL DISCUSS RECENT IRS & LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENTS PERTAINING TO TAX PLANNING & PREPARATION OF C CORPORATIONS, S CORPORATIONS, PARTNERSHIPS & LLCs. THE PREPARATION & PLANNING ASSOCIATED WITH YOUR CLIENT'S INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX RETURN. THE AMERICAN RECOVERY & REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009 & HEALTH CARE ISSUES WITH TAX CONSEQUENCES TO BUSINESSES WILL BE EXAMINED.**

### **TEXAS STATE TAX UPDATE**

**RECENTLY, THE TEXAS LEGISLATURE MADE SOME ADJUSTMENTS TO THE TEXAS MARGIN TAX. IN ADDITION, THE TEXAS COMPTROLLER HAS ISSUED INTERPRETATIONS ON MATTERS RANGING FROM THE DEDUCTION OF COGS OR COMPENSATION TO THE REPORTING OF COMBINED ENTITIES. THESE INTERPRETATIONS WILL BE DISCUSSED. FINALLY, THE TEXAS COMPTROLLER HAS ISSUED SEVERAL INTERPRETATIONS ON SALES TAX & THE USE OF THE INTERNET WILL CAN HAVE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON YOUR CLIENT'S BUSINESS. THESE AREAS WILL BE EXAMINED AS WELL.**

### **ROBERT W. NELSON, J.D., CPA**

Robert Nelson is Board Certified in Tax Law & in Estate Planning & Probate Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization, Robert assists clients with business tax planning, partnership tax planning, estate planning, international tax planning & federal & state tax controversy. He is a member of the State Bar of Texas, American Bar Association & San Antonio Bar Association. He is also a member of the Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants, San Antonio Chapter of Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants & San Antonio Estate Planners Council. A Director of the Mays YMCA of San Antonio & an Explorer Advisor of the Boy Scouts of America Alamo Council, Robert lectures in high school for Junior Achievement & is active in the Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce.

### **ESTATE PLANNING**

**THE PURPOSE OF THIS COURSE IS TO DISCUSS THE TOOLS AND TECHNIQUES BEING ADOPTED IN TODAY'S ESTATE PLANNING ENVIRONMENT. SPECIFICALLY, THE COURSE WILL ADDRESS THE FOLLOWING ISSUES:**

- ❖ **APPROPRIATE WILLS AND POAs**
- ❖ **TRUSTS (TESTAMENTARY AND *INTER VIVOS*)**
- ❖ **TEXAS PROBATE AND PROCEDURE**
- ❖ **ESTATES, GIFT AND GENERATION-SKIPPING TAXES**
- ❖ **FORMS 709 AND 706**
- ❖ **FLPs, GRATs, DEFECTIVE GRANTOR TRUSTS, QPRTs, ILITs, ETC.**
- ❖ **NONPROBATE ASSETS**
- ❖ **IRS AUDIT CONSIDERATIONS**

## **CHRIS BRASURE**

Chris Brasure is a trial lawyer from Grapevine, Texas. Baylor University offered Mr. Brasure a scholarship for undergraduate study after he won the 1995 Texas 5A State Debate Championship. At Baylor, he double majored in speech communication & political science. He went on to graduate from Baylor University School of Law. While studying law, Mr. Brasure was selected to be a member of the Order of Barristers, a Member of the Baylor University Moot Court team, & was a member of the Administrative & Public Law Championship Team. After law school, Mr. Brasure was offered an associate position at the prestigious firm Cowles & Thompson. Mr. Brasure's client list included some of the largest companies in the world such as Wal-Mart and A.I.G. Mr. Brasure grew tired of the "corporate" world & took a job (and pay cut) to become a prosecutor in Edinburg, Texas. As an Assistant District Attorney Mr. Brasure enjoyed early success prosecuting high profile cases & was prosecuting multiple count first degree felony cases within months. Mr. Brasure founded Brasure Law Firm, PLLC in 2005. His is a trial attorney who is devoted to helping people & organizations in need. He has successfully tried numerous cases in State & Federal Court. Mr. Brasure is also devoted to improving his community. He currently sits on the Board of Directors for the Boys & Girls Club as well as the Edinburg Zoning Board of Adjustment.

### **PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY: WHAT IT MEANS UNDER CURRENT TEXAS LAW & HOW YOU CAN PROTECT YOURSELF**

**IN THIS COURSE WE WILL DISCUSS PROFESSIONAL DUTIES OWED TO BOTH CLIENTS AND NON-CLIENTS AND WHAT ACTS GIVE RISE TO PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY FOR A CPA. WE'LL ALSO DETERMINE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A CPA IS SUED AND HOW YOU CAN AVOID THIS NIGHTMARE TO INCLUDE NON-PROFESSIONAL AREAS OF EXPOSURE AND HOW TO COVER YOUR BASES. WE'LL FOLLOW THIS WITH A Q & A TIME.**

## **DIXIE CONSULTING LLC**

Dixie Consulting is a McAllen based Information Technology firm founded by John Cain. John has over 20 years experience in IT during which he has worked with a diverse group of clients such as Dodge Arena, Sharyland Utilities, Rio Bank & various restaurants, police departments, graphic design companies & CPA firms.

### **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FOR YOUR FIRM**

**THIS CLASS WILL DISCUSS THE IMPORTANCE OF STAYING UP TO DATE WITH TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENTS IN THE WORKPLACE. TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED INCLUDE CLOUD COMPUTING, REMOTE ACCESS AND IT SECURITY. TOGETHER WE'LL LEARN HOW TO UN-TETHER OURSELVES FROM THE WORKPLACE.**

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## **CPE PROGRAMS - NOVEMBER 2009 – MAY 2010**

### **November**

- November 13 – Greg Enos: Texas Divorce (8 hrs)
- November 30 – Steve Tillinger: Federal Tax Update (8 hrs)

### **May**

- May (TBD) – Robert Barnhill III, J.D., CPA, PFS, CFP: Gift and Estate Taxation (8 hrs)

## RGV CHAPTER RAFFLE

The Chapter will again have a raffle to raise funds for our scholarships. The winner will receive gift cards for a 3 night- 4 day trip to Las Vegas. One card will cover hotel accommodations and meals at one of the hotels in the Mirage Corp. and the other card covers round trip airfare.

Tickets will remain at \$25 each and be available at EXPO on October 27, the CPE on November 13, the morning of the Annual Meeting and by mail. Please make an effort to sell at least 5 tickets this year.

Please call Randy Crews at (956) 630-1982 or Lorena Castillo at (956) 683-8171 if you have any questions.

## RGV CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIPS

If you know anyone with financial need who is either an undergraduate or 5<sup>th</sup>-year accounting student, suggest they contact the Chapter about applying for a scholarship.

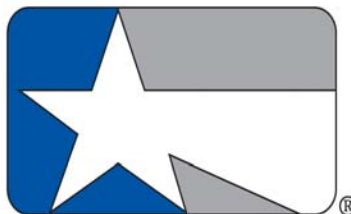
## RIO GRANDE VALLEY CHAPTER ANNUAL MEETING

NOVEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2009 (MONDAY) McALLEN CONVENTION CENTER  
12 NOON – 1:30 PM

### Program:

- Announcement of Scholarship Winners
- **Guest Speaker: Kym Anderson, CPA TSCPA President**
- Drawings – Chapter Raffle & Season Pass
- Election of Chapter Officers
- Door Prize Drawings

SPONSORED BY



**Lone Star National Bank<sup>SM</sup>**

Cost: \$25 if not attending CPE course  
Reservations required – please call Kathy at 956-546-1772

## 2010 U. S. MASTER TAX GUIDES

The RGV Chapter is again making tax guides available at a significant discount to TSCPA Chapter members. If purchased from another source, the retail price will be **\$84.00**. Your price will be \$50 for members and \$55 for non-members per book – a significant savings. The Chapter is ordering only 150 books (over half have been ordered) and they will be sold on a first come, first serve basis.

Your check must accompany the order form. **No E-mail or phone orders will be accepted!**

### **2010 US MASTER TAX GUIDE PURCHASE**

# \_\_\_\_\_ Tax Guides @ \$\_\_\_\_ each (includes sales tax)      Total due \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name

Address

City, State Zip

Office Phone

**MAKE CHECK PAYABLE to:** RGV Chapter of the TSCPA

**MAIL ORDER FORM & CHECK TO:** 943 N. Expressway, Suite 15-161  
Brownsville, Texas 78520



Rio Grande Valley Chapter of the TSCPA  
Education Foundation  
943 North Expressway, Suite 15-161  
Brownsville, Texas 78520

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## TSCPA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Midyear Board of Directors Meeting – The Woodlands**  
**Annual Meeting of Members – San Diego, CA**

**January 29-30, 2010**  
**July 2-3, 2010**