



IMA™

The Informer

September, 2001

Volume VI

The New Tax Law and A New IMA Year

The first technical meeting of the new IMA year is scheduled for Thursday, September 20, at 12 noon. The meeting will be held at the Bamboo Gardens in the Grove Park Shopping Center on US 98 South. Cost of the meal is \$10.

The speaker for the meeting is Tom Peters, IRS Senior Tax Specialist in the Taxpayer Education and Communication Division. His topic will be "The New Tax Law and You." This law paints a broad stroke, changing much in the areas of personal and estate taxation. There is much we all need to learn about this very important topic. Among other things Tom will discuss the "refunds" taxpayers are receiving and 401k contribution limits.

Tom joined the IRS in 1987 as a Revenue Agent. He received promotions to Senior agent and held the position of examination Group Manager for four years. In January of this year, Tom was selected as Senior Tax Specialist in the Taxpayer Education and Communication Division..

This is only the first in a series of meetings scheduled for this year that promise to be educational and enlightening.

News, Comments, or Changes
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WWW.geocities.com/~polkima

So *The Informer* will be more timely, the deadline for articles is now the 6th of each month.



This and That...

WEB Stops

Go to www.mmiworld.com/codelist.htm for the latest list of updated telephone area codes.

Go to www.taxsites.com/software.htm to find a list of tax software links.

Datebook

Sept 20 Technical Meeting, Bamboo Gardens, Noon, Tom Peters speaking.

Sept 21-22 Florida Council, Savannah, GA.

Sept 22 Ice Cream Cone Day

Sept 24 Kiss Day

Oct 3 Income Tax Day

Oct. 9 Board Meeting, CBA Offices

Oct 12 World Egg Day

Oct 15 Grouch Day

Oct 18 Technical Meeting, FSC Rogers Auditorium, Live Webcast

The Lighter Side

Question: What is GAAP?

Answer: The difference between accounting theory and practice.

30th Anniversary Dinner

Honoring Charter Members and Presidents

November 15, 2001

Social Hour at 5:15



Lakeland Yacht &
Country Club

Dr. Robert Tate, VP for Development
Florida Southern College
Speaking on
Business Etiquette

Cost is \$30 each
Mail your Check to
Polk Co. IMA
900 Howard Terr. NW
Winter Haven, FL 33881

Make e-mail your choice for *The Informer*

After what is generally regarded as a successful year for the introduction of the option of receiving *The Informer*, via e-mail, the option is again available to all members. If you received *The Informer* by e-mail last year, you do not need to take any action at this time.

If you have not chosen the e-mail option, you are encouraged to do so. Send an email to jstancil@flsouthern.edu, giving your name and indicating your desire to receive *The Informer* by e-mail. You will be doing your chapter a service, as we save on paper, printing, and postage. You will be doing yourself a favor, as you will be among the first to receive *The Informer* each month.

Employment Opportunity

An international company is looking for a controller to oversee the accounting function of their division that they operate in Polk County. The company is very solid and in a good growth mode. They are looking for someone with 3-10 years of experience and a four year degree, preferably in accounting. The qualified candidate may not be a controller at this time, but must have the leadership skills to step into this important position. Interested candidates should use the following contact information to submit a resume.

Doug Boyce
JD Cotter Search
614-895-2065x225 (Phone)
614-895-3071 (Fax)
doug@jdcotter.com

LIVE WEBCAST EVENT!!

Thursday, October 18, 2001

A Joint Effort of the
Institute of Management Accountants
And
The Financial Executives Institute

Keynote Speaker

Warren Bennis is the founding Chairman of the Leadership institute at USC. He has written 26 books, including the bestselling *Leaders: Strategies for Taking Charge*. *The Financial Times* recently named this book as one of the top 50 business books of all time.

Don't miss out on this great opportunity.
Invite friends and prospective members

Enjoy Time Off, Work Better

Weekends are traditionally a time to relax and enjoy free time. But that's not always the case for many accounting professionals. A recent Robert Half International survey found that financial executives spend an average of eight hours working on Saturday and Sunday. In addition, 19 percent of CFOs polled said they always bring work with them on their vacations.

A strong work ethic is invaluable in business, but when work monopolizes too much of your personal time, it can lead to increased stress, reduced productivity and eventually burnout, negatively impacting your own career and your company's bottom line. Even though workforces may be contracting and demands increasing, taking days off from your regular routine can help

you recharge so that you can return to the office with a fresh perspective on business challenges.

Technology — particularly e-mail and remote access to company networks — has made it easier for executives to remain in contact with their companies when they are out of the office. While this has increased efficiencies, it has also greatly blurred the line between home and work. When possible, turn off your cell phone and avoid checking e-mails on your days off. If this is unrealistic, establish a schedule for checking e-mail — for example, twice daily or every evening.

If you notice your entire team is working longer hours for extended periods of time, you may be understaffed. Consider bringing in consultants or temporary professionals to assist with peak workloads and seasonal projects. By taking time for yourself and maintaining reasonable workloads, you can enjoy your weekends and ultimately be more productive on Monday morning. Article courtesy of Accountemps.

The Informer



Top 10 IMA Resolutions

As we begin a new year of meetings in our IMA Chapter, I would encourage you to consider several of the following resolutions for this year.

1. Resolve to attend one more meeting than you did last year.
2. Bring a prospective member to a meeting.
3. Invite or bring an inactive member to a meeting.
4. Thank your chapter President. This is a job that requires long, often thankless hours.
5. Volunteer for a job in the Chapter. This doesn't have to be an office. Head up a community involvement project, do some Chapter publicity, help organize a meeting, the possibilities are endless.
6. Study for and take either the CMA or the CFM examination. Who knows, you might even pass it on your first try!
7. Give a pint of blood. Our Chapter balance is presently at 279. You will help your chapter and our nation certainly needs the blood right now.
8. Attend an IMA meeting other than your Chapter's meeting. Visit another chapter, attend a council meeting, go to the national meeting.
9. Receive the newsletter via e-mail. You will get it more quickly, and you will save the Chapter postage, printing, and paper costs.
10. Assist a student chapter. You have a lot to offer these aspiring accountants.