



East TN Chapter-American Payroll Association

Smokey Mtn. Payroll Professionals

VOLUME 1 * ISSUE 3

MARCH 31, 2010

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **Monthly Meetings** are the 3rd Wed. of each month— Calhouns-Bearden Hill @ 11.30am.
- **Next Officers meeting** is Wed., March 31st, 11.30am, Calhouns-Bearden Hill.

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Key parts of the ARRA...

There are still questions everywhere regarding the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. What does it include???

- **Making Work Pay Tax Credit.** This tax credit means more take-home pay for many Americans. Use the [IRS withholding calculator](#) to check your tax status.
- **\$250 for Social Security Recipients, Veteran, and Railroad Retirees.**
- **First-Time Homebuyer Credits Expands.** Homebuyers who purchased a home in 2009 could get a credit up to \$8000 with no payback. This has been extended to April 30, 2010. New requirements apply.

- **Money Back for new Vehicle Purchases.** Certain new vehicles in 2009 can have tax deductible taxes and fees.
- **Education Benefits.** The American opportunity credit and enhanced benefits for the 529 college savings plans help to pay for higher education expenses.
- **Enhanced Credits for Tax Years 2009,2010.** Check out the EIC.
- **Increased Transportation Subsidy.** ER provided benefits for transit and parking.
- **Up to \$2,400 in Unemployment Benefits Tax Free in 2009.** Check your tax withholding.
- **Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Incentives.**
- **COBRA.** Check out www.dol.gov/cobra for extension.
- **Health Coverage Tax Credit.** More people eligible and credit goes from 65% to 80%.



As taken from the IRS Website. <http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,id=204335,00.html>

Another 'tax' year almost gone...

I hope you had a great New Year. I can not believe March is almost over.

April 15th is almost here and maybe we can breath a little easier as employees, past and present, get their W2's and file their taxes.

I think we have started off the year good with two wonderful speakers and more to come.

Please be thinking about our seminar this year...

The officers are meeting the end of this month to get some ideas together as to who to invite to speak, door prizes, etc.

I am really excited to do a seminar this year since we did not do one last year.

If you have any ideas, please let one of the officers know.

Please invite all those you know in payroll, HR, Benefits, etc. to our monthly meetings and definitely our seminar this year.

Thank you for all you do for our chapter and your employer.

~julie



January '10 Highlights

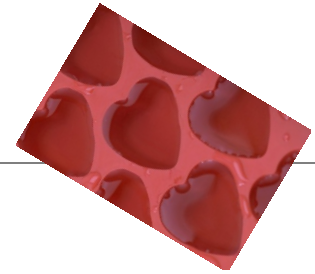
Have you ever noticed when you put "The" and "IRS" together, it spells "THEIRS" ???

~J. Seinfeld

- In January, we did not have a meeting due to the stress of producing those 2009 W-2's.
- Hope everyone had a Happy New Year !!!

February '10 Highlights

- Bobby Liles in the Employer Account Division with the TNDOL gave us an overview of our unemployment.
- How our wages and claims affect our rates.
- Bobby can be reached at 865.594.6380 or email him at bobby.liles@state.tn.us.



March '10 Highlights

- Jerry Pinn, Wimberly Lawson, gave us a Wage Hour Law Update, Affirmative Action Update and a COBRA Updates.

Community Service



Our 1st Quarter 2010 project was Second Harvest. We will be sending a check from the organization to support Second Harvest.

If you have any ideas/thoughts for a Community Service project, please contact Debra Ferguson.

I do not think we currently have a 2nd Quarter project.



Looking Ahead

- ⇒ 2010 Payroll Issues for Multi-State Employers—Nashville, TN—April 16th—The Willis Conference Center—See Julie for details or logon to the APA Website
- ⇒ Our Seminar will be later this year. Details to come.
- ⇒ April 2010 Speaker is Sandra Sanders from the Federal DOL.
- ⇒ If there is a topic you would like to hear, please see an officer.
- ⇒ Also, if you have an idea for the Newsletter—topic, change, subject, etc. Please see an officer.

**East Tennessee Chapter -
American Payroll Association**

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**East Tennessee
Mission Statement**

To provide economical, quality education and networking opportunities to East Tennessee Payroll Professionals; promote excellence within our profession; motivate and empower our members by providing the tools to be knowledgeable of the constant changing and complex Federal, State, and Local regulatory issues



Chapter Officers

President	Julie Higgins	Regal Entertainment Group
Vice President	Dianne Munsey	NFT, Incorporated
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Liaison to National APA	Linda Baldwin	UT Medical Center
	Carlene Loop	City of Knoxville
Director of Community Service	Debra Ferguson	Marriott Corp.

This is our chapter, it will be what we make it.