

SUNSHINE STATE REPORTER
 YOUR FLORIDA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER
December, 2020

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December

**The most wonderful time of
 the year!**

Attend our January

Daytona Workshop

See Page 4

**Updates on our Facebook
 Page**

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As we approach the close of 2020, I feel that I am safe in saying that everyone of us had some unfulfilled plans or dreams for the year. I personally missed out of two bucket list items that I had long been anticipating. We will breathe a sigh of relief as the calendar turns from 2020 to 2021. I wish I could give you better news at this point but stepping into 2021 does not bring about an end to the events of 2020. COVID will not magically disappear at Midnight December 31. It will be with us into 2021.

As a chapter, the Board saw plans we had formulated bite the dust. It began rather innocently, before any of us had heard of Coronavirus. The two January seminars we planned had to be cancelled due to illness. Our May Conference and Annual Meeting was put on hold as the world was gripped in the clutches of what we now know as COVID-19. Our annual cruise was cancelled as all the cruise ships were parked. We had no options regarding the cruise - no ships were sailing. But we needed to have an annual meeting to elect three directors. And we wanted to provide an education opportunity for the members. The Board spent hours on end, trying to determine how we could hold an annual meeting, provide education, and keep everyone safe. We put every option on the table. Ultimately, restrictions were relaxed, hotels and restaurants were opened, our speaker was still available. We planned the annual meeting and "Spring" conference for November. By all accounts, it was a success. Through emails, newsletters, and the Facebook Page, we kept you, our members, informed throughout the year.

As individuals, we faced challenges in our businesses. We moved more toward online exchange of documents with our clients. We implemented contactless transactions for those clients who don't "do" the internet. The IRS changed deadlines, then stopped accepting paper returns. Through it all we adapted.

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We do not have to let the continuation of the pandemic stop us. In fact, we should not let it stop us. No, we cannot move into the new year with a reckless disregard for COVID but we can move forward with our lives. Charles Swindoll once observed that people will say something to the effect that “I’m doing well under the circumstances.” His response was “What are you doing under your circumstances? Get out from under them and make the most of your situation.” My wife suffered many years from rheumatoid arthritis. But the amazing thing about her was that she fought valiantly against this disease. She resolved that it would not stop her living to the best of her ability. She was always ready for a road trip and could outshop any of us. She moved out from under her circumstances.

I am recovering from eye surgery and was discussing my progress and other matters with a friend recently. She commented “You have a terrific ‘can do’ attitude. Keep pushing through. You’ve got this!” I had never thought of it in those terms, but she was right. All my life I have set lofty goals and achieved many of them through my perseverance. I don’t always see the whole picture but friends and family often help clarify issues for me and keep me on the right track.

The Board is currently planning for 2021. What this will look like is anybody’s guess. We are working on a one-day January conference. We will soon begin planning for the Annual Meeting and **Spring** Conference. We will be looking for opportunities to help you improve your education and your business. We welcome your input. This is your chapter and you have entrusted its leadership to us. The Board is in full “Can Do” mode.

We all need to adopt a “Can Do” attitude. Look for how we can do it, not why we can’t do it.

John Stancil



January Workshop Scheduled

Get the new year started off right by beginning your continuing education early. Your Board has planned a one-day workshop in Daytona Beach for January 6, 2021. It will be held at Daytona State College., 1200 W. International Speedway Boulevard. Daytona Beach, FL 32114. Details are incomplete at this point as we got a late start in planning it due to moving our Annual Meeting and Conference to its November date.

Please be on the lookout for e-mails, Facebook Posts, our webpage, and a mini-newsletter for arrangements that will be provided as they are finalized. COVID protocols will be followed at the College. We do not yet have a specific location at the College. We cannot reveal the topics to be discussed, as they must first be approved by National. It is anticipated that the speakers will be Steve Klitzner, Kyle Mulligan, Ken Dowdell, and Owen Oatley. Once the schedule and other details are finalized, a registration form will be made available.

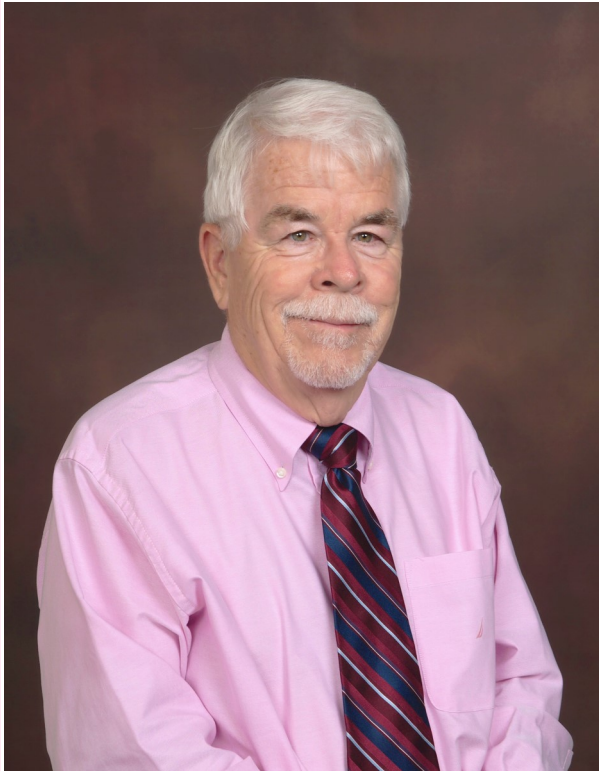
Since the Workshop is being held at the College you will be on your own in making hotel reservations should you be staying overnight. Board Member Judy White suggests that there are several hotel options but the Fairfield Inn by Marriott or their new signature Autograph Hotel with a Speedway theme are in great proximity to the college and are in a new plaza that you could walk to several dining options & shopping. This is a unique area and convenient for not needing a car once you are at your hotel. She has stayed in both hotels.



Three Elected to Board

At the Annual Meeting and Conference, held November 12-13 at The Shores Resort and Spa in Daytona Beach Shores three members were elected to the Board without opposition. Two were re-elected and one new Board Member was installed.

Laura Wood and John Stancil are holdovers from the previous year. Laura serves as Vice-President of the Chapter and is from Geneva, FL. John is the editor of the Newsletter and maintains our webpage and Facebook page.



Our newcomer, Mike Repoli, was elected to the position previously held by Steven Hamilton, who chose not to run for re-election. Mike is a CPA and an EA and operates his own CPA firm in Port St. Lucie. He began his professional career in public accounting in 1963. From there he moved to the audit staff of what is now KMPG. In 1975 he left to form his own firm, which he sold in 1998 and worked as interim controller of a NYSE listed company. Mike moved to Florida in 2003 and formed a new firm, where he has remained.

Mike is very active in volunteer work, serving on the Board of a non-profit organization and volunteering in a soup kitchen. He has also served on the finance committees of two churches.

Mike and his wife have five grown children and seven grandchildren, all of whom live in New England.

Board Elects Officers

Subsequent to the Board Election, the new Board met to elect officers. Amy Hamilton was chosen to continue as President; Laura Wood will remain as Vice President; Sandra Torrence continues to serve as Treasurer; and Doris Dimon begins her first full term as Secretary.

Join our Facebook Page

Be Social About our Social Media

Our Facebook Page is a valuable tool for two-way information exchange and getting to know other members. The more members we have participating, the better the page will be. Feel free to post tax questions, tax practice, tax tips, tax news, humorous tax-related stories, and the like. We welcome your participation, but please remember that this is a TAX page. There are plenty of other pages that will provide political and other news, so please keep it tax-related. Also, this is not a place to advertise your business. Help wanted or seeking employment posts are acceptable.

Find us on Facebook at Florida Chapter, National Association Of Tax Professionals. We now have over 338 members. Let's Keep Growing. Thanks for all our members, new and old, who are contributing to the discussion on this page.

We also have a webpage where you can read our newsletter and obtain other information about the Chapter. www.flnatp.com

And don't forget the NATP National website. www.natptax.com where you can find out what's happening on the national level.



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