



## President's Message

Laura M. Vensel, EA, NTPI Fellow  
*President Suncoast Chapter FSEA 2017 - 2019*

### *Hello Suncoast EA's!*

How is everybody feeling? I know I am feeling a little bit relaxed and enjoying a little slower pace to my workdays this summer. I hope that everyone continues to have a successful extended tax season and realize each of your personal goals. It is so important not to compare your own accomplishments to those of others. Everyone is on their own playing field. Some are trying to grow their practice, others are downsizing and preparing for retirement. Some are preparing higher quantities of returns, others are niche practices specializing in complex returns, and/or tax resolution services. It can be very tempting to start comparing numbers with other preparers but try to focus on whether or not you personally achieved the very best that you could do under the circumstances that you were given. Evaluate your own strengths and weaknesses, give yourself the kudos you deserve, and develop systems that will help you improve as you move forward.

**Whatever your challenges and opportunities are this year I hope that you consider our Suncoast Chapter as a valuable resource in addressing them.**

We are both challenged and blessed to be working in the everchanging field of taxes. When I think back to my early seasons as a tax preparer we were still preparing Florida Intangible Personal Property Tax returns. Things have changed a bit over the years and we certainly have our plate full as we prepare for the impact of Federal Tax Reform and Section 199A Deduction of Qualified Business Income in the 2018 tax filing season. Tax planning and projection meetings are great revenue opportunities for us in the summer and fall. We have to educate our clients on the value of maintaining professional guidance even in the midst of the larger

standard deduction. Whatever your challenges and opportunities are this year I hope that you consider our Suncoast Chapter as a valuable resource in addressing them.

Our Education Chair Sheila Hayward, EA, is hard at work lining up speakers and topics with you in mind. I hope that you will continue to support our chapter and attend our live educational and networking events. It is easy to turn to webinars for education but anyone that has attended our live education will agree there is just no comparison to the networking and bonds that arise from coming together.

*Thank you* to all of the Suncoast Enrolled Agents that participated in our TeddyBears for Kids collection and distribution of Teddy Bears to children in crisis.



Please remember to participate in our July and August collection of school supply donations for local students and schools in need. If you have the means to fill a backpack with some notebooks, pens, pencils, etc. it will surely be a blessing to a student who may otherwise be starting their school year without one. I look forward to seeing everyone at each of our upcoming events. Please feel free to bring a friend or colleague who will enjoy the networking opportunities and our outstanding educators.



# Suncoast Chapter Events

To receive email invitations please subscribe  
by emailing: [fseasuncoast@gmail.com](mailto:fseasuncoast@gmail.com)

## Member Meetings

**5:30-8:30pm at Feather Sound County Club**

2201 Feather Sound Drive, Clearwater, FL 33762

*(Generally include 2.0 CPE, Dinner & Business Meeting)*

**August 23, 2018**

### Qualified Plans

Maximize tax benefits using qualified plans for business owners. Why custom designed plans are more efficient but not necessarily more expensive.

**William H. Black, Jr.**, CLU, ChFC, Pension Specialist

**September 27, 2018**

### Taxation of the Gig Economy

**Jeffrey Schneider**, EA, CTRS, NTPI Fellow

**October 25, 2018**

### Sales Tax

**James H. Sutton, Jr.**, CPA, Esq.

**No Meetings in November or December**

**January 24, 2019**

**Program to be announced**

**No meetings in February, March or April.**

## Special Events

**Tax Reform TCJA & §199A Education**

**Jeffrey Schneider**, EA, CTRS, NTPI Fellow

**Saturday September 29, 2018 • 8:30am-4:30pm**

Feather Sound County Club

2201 Feather Sound Drive, Clearwater, FL 33762

### Holiday Dinner

**December 6, 2018 • 6:00pm**

More info to come



**Remember to bring your  
school supply donations  
for local students and  
schools in need to the  
August 23 meeting**

## SPEAKERS ATTEND FREE

Do you have two hours of continuing education that you would like to share with our chapter? We have openings for educators at our January and May 2019 meetings.

## DUES ARE OVERDUE!

Dues for the 2018-2019 governance year were due by 7/31/18.

If you have not paid, you will still be able to attend the August meeting as a guest or join in August as a new member.

## WOULD YOU LIKE A SUNCOAST NAMETAG?

Fill out your order form at the registration table of the next event, or email [Shannon@SheridanTax.net](mailto:Shannon@SheridanTax.net) to order yours!

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

**Practice Management Workshop**

**August 17-18, 2018**

Embassy Suites, Orlando

**2018 NTPI Orlando**

**November 7-9, 2018**

Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek, Orlando



**SEA Convention 2019**

**June 20-22, 2019**

Westin Lake Mary, Orlando



## Continuing Education Offerings

One of the defining factors of an Enrolled Agent is that the tax practitioner has obtained enough expertise in the area of taxation to pass a three-part comprehensive IRS test covering individual and business tax returns, or through experience as a former IRS employee.

Maintaining this elite designation requires completing 72 hours of continuing education courses every three years. Our Chapter is dedicated to bringing live educational opportunities to you so that you obtain unique knowledge to apply in your practice, expanding the repertoire of clients you can serve and services you can offer.

You are welcome to attend all of our events so that you may connect and build relationships with experts in our community.

**The cost of the CE credits is \$40 member/ \$55 non-member and includes dinner.**

Please RSVP to [fseasuncoast@gmail.com](mailto:fseasuncoast@gmail.com)  
Payments are collected at the door. RSVP required.

Meetings are held at Feather Sound Country Club,  
2201 Feather Sound Drive, Clearwater.

Please adjust your safe senders lists and spam filters to allow delivery from FSEA Suncoast Chapter Events [evite@mailva.evite.com](mailto:evite@mailva.evite.com). Call the Chapter President at 727-489-4555 to report and resolve any evite issues.

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### Qualified Plans

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*James H. Sutton, Jr.*, CPA, Esq.

## Suncoast First Fridays Networking Breakfast



Don't miss this great opportunity for tax discussions in a small group setting. If you have a tax issue, need to discuss a position on a tax return or have a practice issue, you can connect with a mentor and meet new contacts in your area.

Please bring \$1 cash and your business card for the 50/50 raffle. The winner receives 50% of the cash collected. Everyone draws from the business cards for someone to be their mentor for the month.

**September 7, 2018**

Tampa Perkins • 5002 E Fowler Ave, Tampa

**October 5, 2018**

Clearwater ihop • 30200 US 19N, Clearwater

**November 2, 2018**

Seminole Perkins • 8841 Park Blvd, Seminole

**December 14, 2018** (2nd Friday this Month)

Brandon Bob Evans

10119 Horace Avenue (S.R. 60 & I-75)

Tampa, FL 33619

**Tentative January 4, 2019**

Tampa Perkins • 5002 E Fowler Ave, Tampa

**February 1, 2019**

Clearwater ihop • 30200 US 19N, Clearwater

## SPONSORS NEEDED

Do you know a sales representative or service provider that may be interested in attending a Suncoast Chapter monthly meeting for the opportunity to give a 15 minute live commercial about their product or service?

Sponsors pay a meeting sponsorship fee of \$150. In addition to the live commercial, they receive a complimentary meal, and opportunity to meet and network with our attendees.

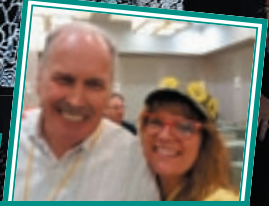
Please contact our Vice President Shannon Sheridan at [Shannon@SheridanTax.net](mailto:Shannon@SheridanTax.net) to request a Suncoast sponsor application.

# Fun Food Networking & Fellowship

Celebrating at the State Convention.

We won **CHAPTER OF THE YEAR** Award for the 6th year in a row.

Join us next year June 20-22, 2019 at the Westin, Lake Mary, FL



Greeting members & guests at our registration desk.



## August Networking Breakfast





# 2017-2019 Board of Directors Contact List

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### President

**Laura M. Vensel, EA, NTPI Fellow**  
Laura@TaxNoticeHelp.com  
813-924-4226 • 813-739-6924

### Immediate Past President

**Karen Wiseman, EA, NTPI Fellow**  
karen@wisemantax.com  
727-364-7552

### Vice President

**Shannon Sheridan, EA**  
Shannon@sheridantax.net  
727-372-2616

### Treasurer

**Fred Daus, EA, NTPI Fellow**  
FredDaus@fredrickjames.com  
727-230-0716

### Secretary

**Tamara Tarrant Smith, EA**  
acc4success@aol.com  
727-403-3350

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### Education

**Sheila A. Hayward, EA**  
sheila@acctgassist.com  
813-777-6422

### Membership

**Kenneth Santorello, EA, NTPI Fellow**  
Krs1477@gmail.com  
813-280-4907

### Public Awareness

**Robin Rae Huntley, EA**  
Robin@RaesAccounting.com  
727-434-3475

### Sunshine/Entertainment

**Daniel Farmer, EA, NTPI Fellow**  
taxhol@bellsouth.net  
daniel@accountingandtaxcompany.com  
727-815-2310

## SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

### Registrations Desk

**Crystal Daus, EA**  
CrystalDaus@fredrickjames.com  
727-230-0716

### Social Media Photographer

**Karine Bauer, EA**  
kbauer@kbfinancials.biz  
863-430-8165

### Chapter Newsletter

**Judy Gulley, EA, ChFEBC, RICP, CLTC**  
Judy@GulleyFinancial.com  
727-410-6635

Chapter e-mail: [FSEAsuncoast@gmail.com](mailto:FSEAsuncoast@gmail.com)  
Chapter Phone: 727-489-4555  
Chapter mailing Address:  
Suncoast Chapter, Att: Fred Daus, EA-Treasurer  
600 Bypass Drive, Ste 103  
Clearwater, FL 33764

*All EA's are welcome to attend our meetings & events. We encourage you join.*

Membership in the Suncoast Chapter  
\$40 Annual dues

Associate Membership (non-EA's)  
\$40 Annual Dues

*Please note, Membership in NAEA/FSEA does not automatically enroll you in the Chapter.*

**Please call our Membership Chair,  
Ken Santorello at 813-280-4907**

### Is it time to renew your EA License?

*The renewal cycle is every 3 years based on the last digit of your Social security number.*

SS # ends in:	Cycle Ends	Renewal Date
0, 1, 2, 3	12/31/18	01/31/19
4, 5, 6	12/31/19	01/31/20
7, 8, 9 or no #	12/31/20	01/31/21

On August 8, 2018 the IRS issued the Proposed Regulations on the Section 199A aka the new 20 percent qualified business income deduction for passthrough businesses. Additionally the IRS issued Notice 2018-64 which provides methods for calculating wages that determine the deduction limitation. Additional guidance was also made available as a Frequently Asked Questions page, such as what qualifies as a Specified Service Trade or Business (SSTB). The IRS will be issuing separate guidance for co-ops.

The IRS National Public Liaison Office in Washington DC is seeking Enrolled Agents to volunteer for review the new 2018 Nationwide Tax Forums Online (NTFO) Review. Earn CPE Credit and help the IRS test and evaluate this new online approach for professionals to receive IRS Tax Forum education. You must be available to complete online education between September 14, 2018 and September 21, 2018. Submit your name and contact information to our local IRS Sr. Stakeholder Liaison, Karen Russell: [Karen.L.Russell@irs.gov](mailto:Karen.L.Russell@irs.gov).

The IRS is seeking tax practitioner feedback on the DRAFT 2018 FORM 1040 & SCHEDULES but time is of the essence! Please send in your feedback about draft or final forms, instructions, or publications as soon as possible at <https://www.irs.gov/forms-pubs/comment-on-tax-forms-and-publications>.

Congratulations to Twila Midwood EA and Roberto Pons EA, two Past Presidents of Florida Society of Enrolled Agents who have been nominated for National Association of Enrolled Agents (NAEA) 2019-2020 Board of Directors- Director positions. Your vote counts! Please mark your calendars, watch your email for an electronic ballot, review all candidates, and cast your vote during the elections window, which is December 1 to December 17th 2018.

**Way to Go Suncoast! Congratulations to 7 SUNCOAST MEMBERS elected to serve on State/FSEA Executive Committee and Board of Directors 2018-2019:**

**Laura Vensel, President Elect,**  
*Convention Chair, & EVP Search Committee Chair*

**Karen Wiseman, Treasurer**

**Nichole Morales,**  
*Vice President & Education Chair, & Ethics Chair*

**Robin Huntley, Membership Chair**

**Barbara Anderson, Public Awareness Chair**

**Jake Alexander, Awards Committee Chair**

**Michael Carlisle, ByLaws and Strategic Plan Chair**



## Meet Our August Meeting Speaker William H. Black - Pension Services Inc.

Bill Black has been in the pension administration business over 39 years, and helps clients work toward their retirement objectives. He works with business owners and professional practices in the areas of benefits, retirement planning, and business planning.

Bill has spoken national and internationally on the topics of qualified plans and is a much sought after speaker. He has been quoted in *USA Today* and has been a guest on financial radio shows. Bill is certified to teach continuing education to CPAs and insurance professionals. Additionally, he has had numerous articles published in national journals.

During the presentation Bill will describe the types of qualified plans available and benefits of each. Take some time to think about your clients. Are they looking for ways to maximize their tax deductions? Do they have a plan in place? Is the existing plan “cookie-cutter” or custom? When was the last time they had it reviewed?

**Pension Services, Inc • [www.pensionspecialist.net](http://www.pensionspecialist.net) • Phone: 888.412.4120**