



PAY MATTERS

October 2015

The Newsletter of the CenTex Chapter of the American Payroll Association

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President's Letter

October Meeting

Thursday, October 8, 2015
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Farm Credit Bank of Texas
4801 Plaza on the Lake Drive
Austin, TX 78746

President's Letter

Jaynette Odegaard

It was fun to see those of you who attended the Texas Payroll Conference Sep 23-26 in Galveston, TX. The CenTex Chapter had a booth with a lot of goodies that were well received by the participants. The conference itself was full of learning and networking (and food). Remember that the Texas Payroll Conference will be coming to Austin Sep 21-24, 2016 to "Get Cooking and Take a Bite Out of Payroll". The CenTex Chapter will be the host chapter for that conference and we will be looking for several volunteers to help in a variety of ways.

Our October meeting will be on the hot topic of "Affordable Care Act – Where Are We Now?" presented by Trey Halbert from CLS Partners. Trey has been a speaker at several meetings in the past and is very enjoyable to hear.

Please remember to sign up for the meeting by the deadline of Monday, Oct 5 so we can adequately prepare the meeting space. Late registrations and walk-ins are accepted, provided we have enough space. We always want our members and registered participants to receive the full benefit of each meeting. We do realize that life happens and either you forgot to register or something comes up and you aren't able to attend the meeting that you had already registered for. Please contact a board member as soon as possible if you know you have to miss a meeting or

change your response through the website. You can go to the website and register for the remainder of the meetings in 2015 – we'll have the topics available soon. To keep costs as low as possible, please remember that you will be billed the cost of the meeting if you have registered but are unable to attend since we had already provided the number to the caterer. With your help, we can keep the chapter growing and be able to provide more opportunities for our members.

This is your last chance to submit your name if you are interested in running for a board member position. Elections will be held at our October meeting and we would love to have new faces on the ballot. Please contact me as soon as possible if you are interested in volunteering as a board member for 2016. The board members are the ones who plan the meetings and make the excitement and the networking opportunities possible. I appreciate all the time that you spend with the chapter and I look forward to seeing you at our October meeting! ☺

Jaynette Odegaard
President, CenTex Chapter

Speaker

Guest Speaker - October 8th

Trey Halbert & Lisa Morris from CLS Partners

Topic:

Affordable Care Act – Where are we now?

Baked Potato Bar

Jumbo baked potatoes served with cheddar cheese, taco meat, green onions, bacon bits, sliced jalapenos, sour cream, butter, tossed green salad, Halloween Theme Cheesecake Brownies & iced tea.

Membership

Centex Chapter Membership

You can now pay your monthly luncheon dues and/or your annual membership using a credit card. At this time, this can only be done in person at the monthly luncheon meetings.

2015 Annual Membership Fees (Jan 1-Dec 31)

\$45.00 — National APA Member

\$55.00 — Non-APA Member

Forms available at the [Centex Chapter Website](#)

2015 Monthly Luncheon Dues

\$25.00 — Pre-Registered Centex Chapter Members

Important Dates

\$35.00 — Walk-Ins and Non-Chapter Members

Chapter members will receive an Evite to the monthly meetings. Please use this opportunity to pre-register; chapter members who pre-register and do not show will be billed \$25.00.

IMPORTANT DATES for 2015

MONTHLY MEETINGS 2015

JAN-OPEN	JUL 9 TH
FEB 12 TH	AUG 13 TH
MAR 12 TH	SEP 10 TH
APR 9 TH	OCT 8 TH
MAY 14 TH	NOV 12 TH
JUN 11 TH	DEC 10 TH

American Payroll Association
33rd Annual Congress
May 5th-9th, 2015
MGM Grand, Las Vegas NV

www.americanpayroll.org

National Payroll Week (NPW)
September 7th -11th, 2015

www.nationalpayrollweek.com

26th Annual Texas Payroll Conference (TPC)
www.txpayrollconference.org
September 23rd -26th, 2015
Galveston, TX

Regulatory Alert

Federal Per Diem Rates Updated for Fiscal Year 2016, IRS issues ACA information return electronic filing publications, etc.

Sheila Courtright

Federal Per Diem Rates Updated for Fiscal Year 2016. The General Services Administration has announced the per diem travel reimbursement rates for fiscal 2016 – effective for travel undertaken on or after October 1, 2015. Per Diem Bulletin 16-1 is available on the APA website.

IRS Issues ACA Information Return Electronic Filing Publications. The IRS has posted Publication 5164, *Test Package for Electronic Filers of Affordable Care Act (ACA) Information Returns (AIR)*, and Publication 5165, *Guide for Electronically Filing Affordable Care Act (ACA) Information Returns for Software Developers and Transmitters*, on its website.

Congress Hikes Reporting Penalties While Filers Remain Stymied. by Michael M. Lloyd, a member of, and S. Michael Chittenden, a senior associate at, Miller & Chevalier Chartered, in Washington, DC. Read expert analysis and commentary on the impact of recently increased information return penalties.

IRS Issues Regulations Gradually Eliminating Automatic Filing Extensions for Most Information Returns. Temporary regulations, effective for the 2017 filing season, eliminate the automatic 30-day extension of time to file forms in the W-2 series (except Form W-2G). 80 F.R. 48433. Proposed regulations, effective no sooner than the 2018 filing season, would eliminate the automatic 30-day extension of time to file most other information returns, including Forms 1099-MISC and 1095-C. 80 F.R. 48472.

IRS Offers MeF Update: Last Day for EMS Will Be November 30. The IRS has announced the next step in the transition to the Modernized e-File platform for the processing of employment tax (94x series) forms. The legacy employment tax processing system (EMS – electronic management system) will be permanently retired in December; November 30 will be the last day that any employment tax forms will be accepted in the legacy system.

IRS Collection Division Launches Early Interaction Initiative. The IRS has announced that it will accelerate its contact with employers that have declining payroll tax deposits. Because missed employment tax deposits and corresponding penalties and interest can accumulate quickly and spiral out of control, the IRS will work to identify potential problems sooner and work with employers to increase the chances of a successful resolution.

SEC Approves CEO Pay Ratio Disclosure Rule. Effective for the first fiscal year beginning on or after January 1, 2017, public companies must disclose (1) the median of the annual total compensation of all employees, except the chief executive officer; (2) the annual total compensation of the CEO; and (3) the ratio of those two amounts. 80 F.R. 50104.

IRS Says PEO Certification Delayed for a Year. The IRS has announced that it plans to begin accepting applications for the new voluntary Professional Employer Organization certification program on July 1, 2016 – a year later than mandated by the Tax Increase Prevention Act of 2014. The delay may also push the date that PEOs may begin acting as certified PEOs to January 1, 2017.

IRS Says Value of ID Protection Services May Be Excluded From Income. The IRS has released guidance providing that an employer that provides identity protection services to employees whose personal

information may have been compromised in a data breach of the employer's (or employer's agent or service provider's) recordkeeping system may exclude the value of the protection services from the employee's income and wages. Ann. 2015-22.

IRS Issues Fact Sheet on Determining Whether Workers Are Employees or Independent Contractors. The IRS has issued a fact sheet that compiles website links to forms and other information resources to help employers correctly determine whether workers are employees or independent contractors. FS-2015-21.

IRS Releases 2015-2016 Priority Guidance Plan. The IRS has released a list of tax regulations and other guidance scheduled for publication by June 30, 2016.

Wage and Hour Roundup. Read about recently concluded enforcement actions under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts (DBRA), the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (CWHSSA), the Service Contract Act (SCA), and the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

State and Local News.

- Alabama – claiming total exemption from state withholding, procedure changed
- California – paid sick leave opinion letter issued; UI electronic reporting requirements updated
- Connecticut – withholding tables, calculation rules revised
- Indiana – county income tax reform enacted
- Kentucky – federal UI loans paid off
- Michigan – UI taxable wage base decreased
- Mississippi – same-sex marriage income tax filing guidance issued
- New Jersey – UI, TDI, and FLI taxable wage base increased
- New York – wage deduction law and regulations set to expire
- Pennsylvania – Pittsburgh paid sick leave ordinance enacted
- Rhode Island – minimum wage, tip credit increased
- South Carolina – new taxpayer portal available
- Wisconsin – additional creditor garnishment administrative fee permitted

Source: APA News Update - PAYROLL CURRENTLY Issue No. 9

New CenTex Chapter Website

New Website:

Due to a change in webhost, our website

<http://www.centexchapterapa.org/> has been improved for less cost. Soon, we will convert a lot of administrative functions thru the website such as :

- filling out on-line membership form to join
- registering for meetings in advance (no more Evite invitations)
- see job postings
- printing badges for meeting
- receiving email receipts instead of paper ticket receipts for payments
- invoicing no-show attendees
- sending announcements
- creating and sending newsletters
- Plus much more as the board gets trained in all the functions of our new webhost STARCHAPTER. (However, we won't be using the on-line credit card payment function of website – payments can be checks sent by mail or paid in person at meetings by cash, check or credit card)

If you are a current member or a former member in the past 2 years, you should have received a Welcome To New Website email asking you to log in and create your password. If you didn't get this email, first check your JUNK or SPAM folders, then send a message to

Maggie.fowler@capstonemanagement.com for the email to be resent to you. Certain areas of the website will be restricted to members only such as Member Directory and Job Postings. Non-members and guest of members can view such items as newsletters and meetings information. For persons who aren't current members and didn't receive a Welcome Email with website username and password link, they can register for meetings as a guest (just need name, company and email address) which will add them to the non-member group.

CPP certifications – If your CPP designation is not showing up as a suffix on your name on your website profile/emails, please send a message to Maggie.fowler@capstonemanagement.com so that your profile can be edited. There are times when certain emails/announcements may be sent to only those with CPP certifications.

2015 Centex APA Board Members

Meeting Time and Location

September meeting door prize winners

2015 CenTex APA Chapter Board Members

Jaynette Odegaard, President	jaynetteo@pflugervilletx.gov
Yolanda Davis, President-Elect	yolanda.davis@tceq.texas.gov
Veronica Alderete, Secretary	veronica_alderete@dell.com
Maggie Fowler, Treasurer	maggie.fowler@capstonemanagement.com
Alaina Scaglione, Membership Coordinator	ascaglione@newgistics.com
Sheila Courtright, Government Liaison	sheila_courtright@dell.com

October Meeting

Thursday, October 8th, 2015
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Farm Credit Bank of Texas
4801 Plaza on the Lake Drive
Austin, TX 78746

Chapter Meeting Time & Location

CenTex Chapter luncheons are held on the second Thursday of each month except January. We meet at Farm Credit Bank of Texas at 4801 Plaza on the Lake Drive, Austin, TX from 11:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

September meeting door prize winners

Beverly Hollander – \$10 Burger King gift card

Linda Elder - \$15 Starbucks gift card

Diane Carter – Free October meeting pass

Contact Us

- By e-mail
centex_apa@yahoo.com

- On the web
www.centexchapterapa.org

- By mail
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CenTex is an independent and autonomous chapter of the American Payroll Association.

