

Chicago Chapter - APA

July 2009
Volume 3, Issue 4

Newsletter of the Chicago Chapter of the American Payroll Association

2009 Calendar

January
No Meeting

February
7- CPP Review Class
19-Chapter Meeting
A Strong Career
21- CPP Review Class

March
7- CPP & FPC
Review Class
21- CPP & FPC
Review Class

April
4- CPP & FPC
Review Class
11- CPP Review Class
22- Payroll Frequency
Changes & direct Deposit

May
19-23 - 27th Annual
Congress,
Long Beach. CA

June
12 - Chapter Meeting
Garnishments
27-28-Relay for Life
Westchester

July
16 - OTSC Camp evening
18- Volunteer Meeting

August
20 - Chapter Meeting
Tax Day All Day
Meeting
Officer Elections

September
6-11 National Payroll
Week Celebration
10- NPW Legpland

October
8-9- 16th Annual
Illinois Statewide
29-Chapter Meeting
Preparing For Year End
31 -Greater Food Depository

November
7- Holiday Party

Official newsletter of
the Chicago Chapter

Building on a Solid Foundation



Welcome!

I Whether you kicked off the unofficial start to Summer with a visit to Taste of Chicago, a family BBQ or just relaxed with a favorite hobby Hope it was a safe and wonderful 4th of July!

July also marks the increase in minimum wage for the state of Illinois and the federal rate, as seen on page three

Read on to see the many ways to continue your payroll education, network and volunteer in community outreaches.

We are officially in the second half of the year! Wow where has the time gone? A we embark on the second half of the year , we have many opportunities for you

The Chapter has started to provide special edition newsletters. Our upcoming editions will focus on National Payroll Week, Illinois Statewide Conference and our Holiday Event!

The Chapter board will also start planning our calendar for 2010. Please share your suggestions and comments as we build the year's meetings and events. We value and welcome your input as our aspiration is to meet your expectations and professional needs.



REGISTER TODAY!! Thursday, August 20th Meeting!!

Celebrated NPW with Tax Day!

*Join fellow payroll professionals
At the Chicago Chapter Meeting
Featuring a day of legislative information &
updates
With Expert Agency Speakers*

From
IRS—SSA—INS--DOL

Hosted at :

White Eagle Banquets
Karolann Room
6839 N. Milwaukee Ave
Niles, IL 60714
Members fee \$ 40.00 Non Members \$ 45.00

Register by calling the helpline at 1-773-631-8480
Or email to chicago_chapter_apa@hotmail.com

Mail payment to:
Chicago Chapter
4740 N Cumberland Ave #355
Chicago IL 60656

Or register and pay with Paypal at
www.chicagopayroll.com

Special Thanks to JacksonWabash
For sponsoring our Breakfast

Officer Election at 8:30 a.m.
Lunch at Noon
Celebrate NPW with us!
Invites with Speaker information coming shortly!

Please bring non- perishable food donations for the
Greater Food Depository!



2009 Chapter Officers

President
Mary Kazmierczak, CPP

Vice President
Paula Black, CPP

Recording Secretary
Kathy Mizejewski, CPP

Treasurer
Hank Mazik, CPP

Gov. Liaison
Open Position

Correspondence Secretary
Mary Weiner, CPP

Education Director
Katie Staffeldt, CPP

CAPA COG

It's Time to Support the Windy City Rubber Ducky Derby for Special Olympics!!



In 2008, the chapter began supporting the Illinois Special Olympics through volunteer efforts in selling Duck adoptions for the Annual Windy City Rubber Ducky Derby fundraiser.

Mark your calendars: **RACE DATE – July 30, 2009 – Splashdown is at 1pm – Columbus Drive Bridge.** Last year 40,000 yellow rubber ducks will splashdown into the Chicago River! Let us know if you would like to attend and work the event.

Our mission is to help raise money for Special Olympics by selling Duck Adoptions. Each Adoption yields a numbered duck that takes the plunge. Prizes are awarded to the adoptees of the ducks plucked from the Chicago River and deemed winners!

Our team is the **CAPA DUCKIES and we are looking for members! We need you!!** Help us sell adoptions to friends, family, people you work with and at the events we sponsor!! Our challenge is to sell at least 500 ducks (1000 would be better)! Time is short as we only have 2 months to make this goal!

Contact Paula Black at 630.750.4595 or through the chapter helpline at 773-631-8484 or via the mailbox chicago_chapter_apa@hotmail.com

CAPA Duckies Event: July 21, 2009 at 7pm. The event takes us to the Schaumburg Flyers Baseball Game is at Alexian Field in Schaumburg, IL. We need volunteers to help work this event!

!



Chicago Food Depository Day - October 31, 2009

The Chapter welcomes volunteers to join us in working at the Greater Food Depository on October 31, 2009. We are dedicating this honor to Travis Darring, recently departed soulmate Chapter founder Darring, CPP.

In addition to our volunteer day we will be collecting nonperishable items at our August 20th meeting and October 29th meeting.



OTSC Summer Camp Visit July 16, 2009

Ralph Campagna, Executive Director and Arnett Morris, Assistant Director are inviting Chicago Payroll members and their guests to an evening at the Off the Street Club's beautiful Camp, the kids' priceless safe summer refuge, in Wheaton, IL on Thursday, July 16, 2009 (6:30 – 9:00 PM).

OTSC children and staff welcome and greet guests with cheerful hugs, smiles, and refreshing lemonade under the shade of the Camp's venerable oak trees which give a welcome respite from the summer sun.

While guests are arriving, everyone gets a chance to talk with the kids and each other, All guests are then invited to watch the kids and OTSC pets enjoy themselves in the Camp's swimming pool with water slide (guests can also bring their swim suits and join the kids in the pool). There will also be a cookout for all guests and kids, dessert tables, and finally everyone is invited to sit by the bonfire.

The Chicago Chapter Payroll board looks forward to seeing you at Camp, if your schedule permits you to visit with us.

We request attendees bring school supply donations, to assist the children prepare for the return to school.

Off the Street Club - Education Assistance Award

At the August meeting our chapter members will support the Educational Assistance Award Program through participation in a 50/50 Raffle for the Off the Street Club. To date the fund has \$177.00 The EAA will be presented at our Holiday event on November 7, 2009. Buy Raffle tickets and help us build this fund!

Ongoing Outreach Opportunity

The Chapter continues to collect pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. Tabs can be brought to any Chapter meeting or event or mailed to us at:

Chicago Chapter
4740 N. Cumberland Ave #355
Chicago Illinois 60656

Do you have an organization held dear in your heart that you would like the chapter to support? E-mail us at



chicago_chapter_apa@hotmail.com

Upcoming Chapter Meetings

June 12

Garnishments

One O'Hare Center
6250 N. River Road
Rosemont IL 60018
8:30 a.m. – Noon

Continental Breakfast
8:30 am

June 27-28

6:00 pm-6:00 am

Relay for Life

American Cancer
Society
Westchester

July

Volunteer Meeting

TBD

August 20

9:00 am-4:00 pm

Tax Day

Officer Elections
Continental Breakfast
8:30 am
White Eagle Banquet

NPW Celebration September 9

Lego Land
Schaumburg

October 29

9:00-12:30 pm

Preparing For Year End

Kronos Corp

November 7

Holiday Party
Manzo's Banquets
1571 S. Elmhurst Rd
Des Plaines IL 60018

GOVERNMENT CORNER

Illinois minimum wage increase effective

July 1, 2009

Governor Blagojevich Signs Minimum Wage Increase

On Dec. 18, 2006, Gov. Blagojevich signed into law legislation increasing the Illinois state minimum wage over a period of years. It will go from \$7.75 to **\$8.00** per hour on **July 1, 2009**. The minimum wage will increase by an additional 25 cents to \$8.25 on July 1, 2010.

Federal minimum wage increase effective July 24, 2009

President Bush Signs Minimum Wage Increase

On May 25, 2007, President Bush signed into law legislation increasing the Federal minimum wage over a period of years. It will increase again from \$6.55 per hour to **\$7.25** effective **July 24, 2009**. This represents an increase of 70 cents

IRS Phone Forum

The next phone forum is scheduled for Wednesday, July 15, 2009. The subject is "IRS Collection - What are Your Options"? [Free Forum Registration Details attached](#)



Microsoft Word
Document

The APA needs your Help!

Please join APA in an effort to change Illinois law so that employers will be able to mandate electronic payments – through direct deposit or, if the employee does not provide bank account information that would allow for direct deposit, by paycard. Your company might benefit directly through this effort by allowing you to eliminate the need for paper paychecks.

Attached is a letter addressed to legal counsel in the Illinois Department of Labor. Please personalize the letters and send them on your company letterhead. Your individual efforts matter very much. The hope is that this outreach will show the Industrial Commission the support the employer community has for this proposal.

APA intends to follow through with this effort in every state in which it is needed. We estimate that 20 states currently permit employers to eliminate paper paychecks, though far fewer explicitly state that in their wage payment laws.

APA is very interested to know which companies send letters. Please let the chapter know once you have sent the letter and we will share the list with APA Government Relations.



IL Employer Letter
20090420.doc

IRS NEWS FOR PAYROLL JULY 2009

- An Orlando man was recently [sentenced](#) to more than 22 years in prison in a \$181 million payroll-tax fraud case. [Outsourcing](#) payroll duties to third-party service providers can streamline business operations but remember, you are ultimately [responsible](#) for paying federal tax liabilities.

- At Social Security Administration, a [New service lets employers verify Social Security numbers 24/7](#). Click here for the [Summer Issue of the SSA/IRS Reporter](#).

News you can use! Check out free e-newsletters from these organizations:

- [Internal Revenue Service](#)
- [SCORE](#)
- [Small Business Administration Advocacy](#)
- [U.S. Department of Labor](#) (e-mail Updates box near top right)
- [SSA W2 News](#)
- [Social Security e-news](#)
- [Discussion board](#)—Get help from the Small Business Community

- The IRS has designated as a [tier I compliance issue](#) "Reporting and Withholding on U.S. Source FDAP Income" under IRC 1441. The focus of compliance improvement will be on withholding agents' obligations to withhold when they make payments of certain types of U.S. sourced income to non-resident aliens.

- Visit the current editions of the [Employee Plans News](#) and the [Retirement News for Employers](#).

- [IR-2009-50](#) New withholding adjustment procedures for pension plans that will make withholding more accurate for pension recipients.

- [IR-2009-51](#) Small businesses should take advantage of tax-saving opportunities included in the recovery law that are only available this year.

- [IR-2009-55](#) Businesses planning to claim the work opportunity tax credit for eligible unemployed veterans and unskilled younger workers hired during the first part of 2009 have until Aug. 17 to request the certification required for these workers. [Notice 2009-28](#) provides the statutory definitions.

- [IR-2009-60](#) Special Tax Break on New Car Purchases Available in States With No Sales Tax (Alaska, Delaware, Hawaii, Montana, New Hampshire and Oregon).

- [Notice 2009-48](#) covers the treatment of certain employer-owned life insurance contracts.

- [Revenue Procedure 2009-29](#) provides the 2010 inflation adjusted amounts for health savings accounts under section 223 of the Code.



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**Come Join in the
Building of our Chapter!**

**“Teamwork divides the task and multiplies
the success.” ~Author Unknown**

If you would like to join our extended board family, as a committee member, we welcome your energy and vision! Committees are being formed in the following areas:

COG- Chapter Outreach Group - members will work on community and charitable outreach events

Educational Committee- Arrange and/or present at schools, youth and adult organizations on the importance of education and providing knowledge and clear expectations about their paycheck. As well as seeking and recommending creditable speakers for meetings.

Hospitality Committee- handling registration at meetings, responsible for gathering and distributing communications provided from members at meetings to the board for follow up, Welcoming members at Chapter events.

Membership Committee—Making wellness calls to our members, working to increase membership and communications to our members

National Payroll Week- Assist in mailing requests for proclamations, planning of Chapter contest and celebration for membership

Nomination Committee- Verify officer nominations for valid APA membership, and act as election officials for Chapter Officer Elections

Statewide Committee- Assist with the planning and preparations for the annual Illinois Statewide Conference.

Vendor Support Committee- Contact vendors and prospective vendors for support of our organization.

**“Coming together is a beginning. Keeping
tog-ether is progress. Working together is
success.”**

~Henry Ford

Volunteer Meeting!

Chapter members we are hosting a Volunteer meeting on Saturday July 18th at ADP
100 Northwest Point Blvd
Elk Grove Village IL 60007

If you are interested in getting involved email the chapter mail box at
Chicago_chapter_apa@hotmail.com
and join us
from 10 :00 a.m. to 1 :00 p.m.

Volunteers will meet the officer that chairs their chosen committee. We will be discussing the ways to assist with the planning and preparation for Statewide as well as our upcoming events. Small projects will be provided to get the ball rolling.

Kudos Korner



**Supporting Special
Olympics**

Special thanks to Paula Black, CPP, Katie Staffeldt, CPP and their spouses for selling Duckies at the Kane County Cougar game and the Lombard Cruise nights. Even Splash made a guest appearance and Waddled with attendees at the band stand!

Nancy Parkinson, CPP, demonstrated her administrative expertise when assisting the APA at the Payroll Tax Forum session on June 17th. Thank you Nancy for representing the Chapter and assisting APA>

Thank you to all that attended the June 12th meeting hosted by Accountemps in Rosemont!

Congratulations to our 14 CPP and FPC members that were recognized and earned their first RCH's on the road to

“I am never taking that test again”.

The singing graduation dog was won by
Meredith Garcia, CPP

Attendees shared their generosity In support of the EAA for OTSC with the 50/50 raffle. Lettie Jedras, FPC was the lucky winner of \$64.00.

Congratulations to our meetings raffle winners

Joanna Rayburn- AMC Passes
Izola Dawson- AMC Movie Passes
Laurel White- Junp Drive

All attendees left winners due to the marvelous presentation on Garnishments by
Dave Wakeling, CPP!

Relay for Life, CAPA Team, Captain Katie Staffeldt, CPP lead her team in the support for a cure at the annual overnight event June 27-28 in Westchester. Thank you to all attendees for sharing in this event and through their generosity raised \$3000 plus in donations in the fight for a cure. WooHoo!

Gwenella H. Blackshire, our best wishes to you as you retire from the Internal Revenue Service. Thank you for sharing your expertise and supporting our organization in the past years!



Chapter Updates:

Officer elections will be held at the August 20, 2009 meeting. Are you interested in becoming an Officer on the Chapter Board? All positions are a two year term. Candidates must be National APA and Chapter members in good standing and exhibited involvement and dedication to the payroll community. Open position are Vice-President, Treasurer, Government Liaison, and Education Director. If you are interested or would like to recommend a candidate email the chapter at chicago_apa_chapter@hotmail.com or contact Mary Kazmierczak, CPP at 773-805-7696 for details on the positions and procedures for nominations.

As a board Officer for seven years and an active volunteer for ten years, I can say that participating is a very rewarding and exciting experience. The personal and professional opportunities are unimaginable! Join Us and see for yourself! You will not regret it for a second!

APA Access Corner

September is an action packed month for APA. The week of September 7-11, 2009 is National Payroll Week. Did you know that Dan Maddux, CEO of the American Payroll Association, stated on the PNN network, "This is my favorite time of year". There are many ways for you as a payroll professional to spread the word and celebrate the greatest profession ever. . . Payroll! Visit www.nationalpayrollweek.com and purchase your payroll department official NPW gear, take the online survey and/ or work with your local chapter at a "Money Matters" presentation.

The Fall Forum is being hosted at the M Resort in Las Vegas, NV September 16-18, 2009. Control costs and maximize resources in your operations with global payroll strategies, innovative practices, and proven leadership techniques.

See the debut of the 2009 Payroll, Accounts Payable, and Workforce Management Performance studies.

APA will also be debuting the new Leadership Certificate Program (LCP). . Building Successful Leaders for the 21st Century. Like technology and tax legislation, leadership ebbs and flows, changes and stays the same. . This unique program focuses on many qualities of effective leaders including awareness of self and others, effective communication, and relationship building.

??? Ask a Member ??

Are you curious about a specific best practice? Interested in how other payroll professionals handle a specific task? Here is a new way to receive your answers and maybe make a networking connection.

Please share your experience. Send an email to the Chapter mailbox and we will forward the information on to the requesting party to create the new networking connection and post the answer to benefit the membership curiosity.

The Main Ingredient

THE UN-COMFORT ZONE with Robert Wilson

Pack Mentality

When my son was two years old, we got a Samoyed puppy, and for the next 18 months they were the best of friends. Then the dog changed. Suddenly she started growling at my son and biting him. At first I thought that maybe he was pulling her tail or something else that was irritating her, but that wasn't it.

My dog had become an adult and instinct kicked in. She became concerned with her place in the pack hierarchy. I learned that our family was her pack, that I was alpha-dog, and that she had no intention of being at the bottom of the pecking order. That meant someone had to be beneath her and the easiest choice was my toddler.

To continue reading The Un-Comfort Zone: Pack Mentality click here:

www.jumpstartyourmeeting.com/articles/tuz/13_be_a_copy_cat.shtml

You see things and say, 'Why?', but I dream things and say, 'Why not?'
George Bernard Shaw

Upcoming Events:



NPW !

*Save the date for you and your future
"little" payroll professionals.*

It is never too early to start planning your NPW activities! In keeping with the Chapter theme of "Building on a Solid Foundation", we will celebrate on Thursday, September 10, 2009 at Legoland 601 N Martingale Rd. Schaumburg from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Invites will be emailed August 3rd.
There will be food fun and NPW give-a-ways!
Hope you can join us!
Activities and networking for all!
Ticket reservations are:
Apprentices (age 10 and under) \$5.00
Master Builders (age 11 and up) \$ 10.00

Annual Holiday Event!

The Holiday event to be held on Saturday, November 7, 2009 will award the newly certified with APA pins. We will also have Lifetime Member Inductions for Emily Rook, CPP and Jenny Provenzano, CPP. Many additional recognitions will be shared at this event being held at Manzp's on Elmhurst Road in Des Plaines. Watch for your invite in late September.

NPW Corner :

Tell us what you are planning for NPW

Additional Networking & Educational Opportunities

AAPA

Mark your calendars . . .



October 8-9, 2009

**16th Annual Illinois Statewide Payroll Conference
Hosted at Pheasant Run Resort
In St. Charles, Illinois**

Save the date for this two day educational and networking opportunity.

Registration information will be sent the end of July.

Confirmations will include workshop choices on a variety of pertinent topics.

Midwest Payroll Conference Events

Dust off your saddle shoes, penny loafers and poodle skirts ...Are you ready to burn rubber to make the scene?

7th Annual Midwest Regional Payroll Conference
August 26th, 27th & 28th, 2009

Chateau on the Lake Resort Conference Center and SPA, Branson Missouri

Registrations are being accepted by going online to: www.mwpayrollconf.org

- "I Love Lucy" registration fee after June 30th
- APA MEMBERS \$500.00
- NON-MEMBERS \$550.00

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