

# AFFILIATE NEWS

September 2009



## ***"What Got You Here Won't Get You There",***

a book by Marshall Goldsmith, talks about interpersonal behavior and leadership flaws that keep us from reaching our potential in the business world and possibly coloring our relationship with others. The book discusses "the twenty habits that hold you back from the top" with such descriptive insights that this reader cringed when she saw herself on a couple of pages. And it doesn't take but one or two such introspections to make you say, "OK, I gotta change that!". Read on...the book may very well show you how. If you start a sentence with "No", or "But", or "However"...then perhaps this book should be on your reading list. When it's easy for you to rate others according to your standards, you are probably not alone in this kind of interfacing. We won't give everything away... but be forewarned: this book is dedicated "To all successful leaders who want to 'take it to the next level' and get even better". It is not a "fast" read, especially if you stop to ponder a thought and see yourself in a mirror. As the writer notes in his book: "... in my experience, people only change their ways when ***what they truly value is threatened***", another thought to ponder. – contributed by S. Levitt

## ***NSA's SROC committee is changing with the times....***

The State Regulation and Oversight Committee, which is a sub-committee of NSA's Right to Practice Committee, actually has a new name with an enlarged scope of responsibilities. The word State has been removed and the duties for **ROC** will now encompass both State and Federal matters for both Accounting issues and Tax Preparer issues, such as registration on Federal and state levels.

While we are focused on the subject of Federal registration, be aware that there are several states that already register their tax preparers. Oregon, California, and Maryland have long standing requirements of registration and licensing. New York recently enacted a simple registration requirement, though primarily aimed at raising revenue. This past March, the Alabama legislature tried to enact some tax industry legislation, in an effort to curb the RAL industry. (With NSA's involvement, the legislation was tabled.)

NSA is making every possible effort to help its members recognize the need for proactive vigilance. To this end, the National Society has developed a Model Bill for State Regulation of Tax Preparers, available on the NSA website, [www.nsacct.org](http://www.nsacct.org). Any ASO can adapt the Model Bill to meet their unique needs, and proactively introduce the bill to their legislature. In some cases, it may be best to pre-empt registration advocates and control a possibly unmanageable situation when you least expect it or can deal with it. ROC will have in-depth presentations at the October 22-25<sup>th</sup> LNC-LTC-Legislative Strategy Conference. – contributed by S. Levitt

## ***Through the Eyes of an NSA Convention "First-Timer"***

"The NSA Convention in San Diego was interesting, especially for a first time attendee. Everyone was very friendly and the experienced attendees made a real effort to make a novice feel comfortable." I came away very impressed with how the NSA conducted their CPE and business meetings. NSA demonstrated their desire to keep up with technology through the implementation of a new CPE monitoring system. During the business meetings, despite debate on several issues as well as some contested elections, it was encouraging to see members work together for the overall good and advancement of the organization. Two of the functions that I enjoyed most were the ASO Presidents' Luncheon and the Awards Breakfast. The luncheon offered "an opportunity to meet people from other states and to hear thought provoking ideas as to what their ASO was doing." During the auction, the "triumvirate of Bob Cross, Donny Woods, and Howard Kruger...made the event very interesting. They were also very adept at extracting every dollar available from their audience...for a good cause, the Scholarship Fund." "Before attending an NSA Convention I viewed it as a tradition that the State President should attend; however, I now consider it a vital part of each state President's responsibility." Overall I felt that "NSA's Convention was very professional and there were ample opportunities for a first-timer to meet and share ideas with other NSA members from around the country. They (NSA) should be applauded for their efforts." – Quotes by Paul Cannataro, Pennsylvania State President, written by Randy Brandt

NSA District Meetings...Don't Miss Them

### **NSA District Meetings...Don't Miss Them**

District Meetings between the Affiliated State Organizations are a great opportunity to share and learn from the State Directors and ASO leadership in your neighboring states. Bring your ideas to share and be open to learn what's working for others. Share your newsletters, convention ideas, and affinity programs that have been successful in your ASO. In District II, Past Governor Sommer started holding annual meetings and inviting special guests from NSA headquarters to keep everyone informed. It truly revitalized our district. Governor Bucks has continued that tradition, expanding this year's program to a joint meeting between District II and III. District meetings offer Associate State Directors who might not have attended the NSA convention an occasion to get exposed to establishing relationships essential to becoming good State Directors.

***"The great thing in the world is not so much where we stand, as in which direction we are moving."*** - spoken by \_\_\_\_\_?

Think you know the missing orator?  
Send your responses to  
[Randy@brandtaccounting.com](mailto:Randy@brandtaccounting.com) and we will acknowledge the first correct response in the next issue of the AN