

President's Letter – July 2013

It seems like summer just arrived (officially June 21st); however, it's hard to believe that back to school is just around the corner. Many of our members have been travelling taking vacations with family and friends and others are busy working on special projects and implementations back in their respective offices. I am so thankful for summer and being able to time to relax and recharge; however, if you have not been able to attend the last few meetings you have really missed a treat. Although the meeting time is short I enjoy getting to meet and talk with each of you and you are missed when you are not able to attend. I hope you will be back from vacation soon and/or get your projects completed and be able to attend again soon. Second Harvest is a wonderful meeting location as well as a great community service partnership, and I am so happy to have been a part of the transition to the new location. If you are a member and reading this newsletter for the first time I would highly encourage you to check out the next meeting.

In June we had several roundtable discussions with different leaders at each table. I have to admit that I wasn't sure how this type of meeting would turn out as it was a first for the chapter. I am happy to report that immediately following the meeting and in the subsequent weeks, I've heard many positive responses and requests to do this type of meeting again sometime in the future. Attendees were glad they were able to get to know a smaller group of members and have a very interactive type of meeting. This was a great time of networking with peers as well as a time to learn best practices and share your story, while getting valuable information on numerous topics. I hope you will continue to connect with those whom you may have met for the first time at the meeting. It's really fun and very rewarding to be able to pick up the phone and call or send a quick email to another payroll professional when you have a question. Another excellent resource of information is the chapter website. We have links to National APA and other payroll related organizations that can help you quickly find answers to your payroll questions. If you haven't explored the new website I would highly encourage you to take a few minutes to bookmark it as one of your favorites!

At this week's chapter meeting we have an excellent speaker and member of the National Speakers Bureau, all the way from New York. Ron has taught many of the one day National APA courses as well as been a regular speaker at the National APA Congress for many years. I had the privilege to get to know Ron Moser, CPP while serving together on National APA's President's Board of Advisors. He has a wealth of knowledge to share with the chapter. This is a meeting you will not want to miss as he will be discussing tips on how to successfully "Communicate Payroll Issues".

Please remember that we will not have a regular chapter meeting during the month of August. I would like to personally encourage you to attend the TN Statewide Payroll Conference that will be held in Chattanooga August 14 – 16. We have an incredible lineup of speakers and fun activities planned so you don't want to miss this conference. You can still register by visiting the statewide website at: <http://www.tswb-apa.org> or you can also get to the registration link from the GNC Website at: <http://www.apanashvilletn.org>. We have been honored by winning the "Best Statewide" two years in a row, and wouldn't it be great to make history and win this year as well? Come on out and be a part of some of the best chapters and most knowledgeable payroll professionals in the state of TN. This event is sponsored by the TN Statewide Board in partnership with each of the chapters within the state of TN (Knoxville, Nashville, Chattanooga, and Memphis).

Last but not least don't forget to plan your NPW celebrations and promote the "Getting Paid in America" survey. There are also opportunities to help improve the next generation's knowledge in the area of

getting paid by volunteering to teach teens how to understand their paycheck. If you register on the NPW website (www.nationalpayrollweek.com) you will receive a lesson plan complete with a student workbook and teachers guide. Last year National APA reported more than 650 payroll professionals volunteered, and they taught more than 40,000 students all across the country. What a wonderful way to help out in your community or in your own child's school.

Thank you for supporting the chapter, the community service projects, the monthly meetings, and the TN Statewide Payroll Conference. Please do not hesitate to reach out to the GNC Officer Board if you have any questions or suggestions to help continue to make our chapter the BEST in the state as well as in the entire United States!

Have a wonderful and safe rest of the summer, and I will see you at the TN Statewide in Chattanooga!

Best regards,

Lisa Wachter
GNC President