

SPEAKER'S CORNER**UPCOMING EVENTS****APRIL****April 4-5, 2003****Eleventh Residential Conference: Building a Competitive Tax System**

Location: St. John's College, Oxford, England

Speaker: **David Rosenbloom**

Mr. Rosenbloom will serve on a panel discussion in which he'll be discussing issues related to the international tax developments in the United States, the European Union and elsewhere and how these issues may affect the UK system.

For more information, see:<http://www.ifs.org.uk/conferences/residential03.shtml>**April 9-12, 2003****ABA Section of Litigation Annual Conference**

Location: Hyatt Regency Hilton, Houston, TX

Speaker: **Elihu Inselbuch**

On April 10th, Mr. Inselbuch will speak on "Right Place, Wrong Time: Litigating Mass Torts in Bankruptcy Court."

For more information, see:<http://www.abanet.org/litigation/annual/>**April 15, 2003****The Wall Street Forum: Asbestos**

Location: The Ritz Carlton, Battery Park, New York, NY

Speaker: **Elihu Inselbuch**

Mr. Inselbuch will give a bankruptcy update at this conference.

For more information, see:http://www.mealeys.com/conferences/sem_WALL_403.html**April 23-25, 2003****20th Annual Representing and Managing Tax Exempt Organizations**

Location: Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, DC

Speaker: **Marcus Owens**

On April 25th, Mr. Owens will speak on intermediate sanctions at this conference.

For more information, see:<https://commerce.law.georgetown.edu/cle/pdfs/57.pdf>**April 25, 2003****2003 Government / Not-for-Profit Conference**

Location: University of Maryland University College, College Park, MD

Speaker: **Marcus Owens**

Mr. Owens will speak on the current federal tax developments for not-for-profit organizations.

For more information, see:<http://www.macpa.org/conferences/NFP2003.htm>**NOTES AND NOTABLES****March 2003****New Appointments**

David Rosenbloom has been appointed board member of the Scientific Committee of Diritto e Pratica Tributaria Internazionale in Milan, Italy and the Advisory Board for the Amsterdam Center for International Law at the University of Amsterdam.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

April 2003

“TaxAlert”

Caplin & Drysdale TaxAlert

By: **Christopher Rizek, Richard Skillman, Daniel Rosenbaum, Patricia Lewis, Milton Cerny, and Seth Green**

In this edition of the TaxAlert, Caplin & Drysdale lawyers summarize a number of recent Government actions that may have significance for your own work on current tax issues.

To read the newsletter, please see:

www.capdale.com/db30/cgi-bin/pubs/taxAlert4-03.pdf

April 2003

“Tax Accounting Monthly Column”

Corporate Business Taxation Monthly

By: **James Salles**

The column discusses the taxpayer’s victory in *Commissioner v. Brookshire Brothers Holding, Inc.* The Fifth Circuit held that correcting a property’s MACRS depreciation class was not a change of accounting method, and also that the IRS could not question a purported unauthorized change in method after the statute of limitations ran.

March 2003

“Campaigns and Congregations”

The International Alliance Foundation

By: **Trevor Potter**

In a letter, Mr. Potter expresses concern over how the Houses of Worship Free Speech Restoration Act would entangle religious institutions in politics and create a potential loophole through which opponents of the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act may attempt to “launder” soft money contributions.

March 2003

“Attorney Urges Adoption of Regs on Investments Held Under Variable Insurance Contracts”

The Insurance Tax Review

By: **Richard Skillman**

In a letter to the U.S. Treasury Department, Mr. Skillman urges Treasury to adopt guidance in the form of proposed regulations on the types of investments held under variable life insurance and annuity contracts. Mr. Skillman believes that additional guidance is needed and overdue.

(The letter also appeared in the January 9th issue of Tax Notes Today.)

For more information, please contact the Marketing Department at (202) 862-5000 or e-mail bcg@capdale.com.

IN THE NEWS

March 28, 2003

“FBA Insurance Association: Treasury Wants Congress to Clarify Shelter Registration Regs”

Tax Practice & Controversies

Christopher Rizek is mentioned in the article which discusses the final tax shelter disclosure and list maintenance regulations the IRS and Treasury issued on February 27th.

(The article also appeared in the March 17th issue of Tax Notes and the March 12th issue of Tax Notes Today.)

March 24, 2003

“Timeline Tightens for Campaign Finance Case; Supreme Court Awaits Ruling From Judges as Term Starts Drawing to a Close”

The Washington Post

Trevor Potter comments on how time is running out for the Supreme Court to consider the McCain-Feingold law this term since no ruling has been handed down as of yet from the special federal appeals court.

March 21, 2003

“Bipartisan Logic”

The Washington Post

Walter Slocombe is listed in the article as being part of a bipartisan group of influential foreign policy thinkers who have signed on to a statement of policy on Iraq that makes sense on the war, on multilateralism, and on America's postwar responsibility.

March 21, 2003

“Clarification”

The Desert Sun

Trevor Potter is quoted regarding his belief that Congress and President Bush were right to sign into law the new campaign finance reforms. He also mentioned that the law did not accomplish all reformers and proponents hoped it would.

March 2003

“EO, Exempt Bond Reps Find Plenty to Talk About in San Antonio”

The Exempt Organization Tax Review

Marcus Owens is mentioned in the article as one of the participants who gathered to discuss exempt organization's concerns about the recently released Treasury Department voluntary guidelines for charities to follow to avoid the funding of terrorists.

(The article also appeared in the February 3rd issue of Tax Notes.)

March 2003

“SEC Approves Auditor Independence Rules”

The Insurance Tax Review

Richard Timbie's participation as a member of the Sarbanes-Oxley Task Force of the American Bar Association Section of Taxation is mentioned in the article. According to the article, the task force submitted comments to the SEC on January 6th which suggest a limited view on the scope of tax services that accounting firms should be allowed to perform for audit clients.

(The article also appeared in the February 7th issue of Tax Practice & Controversies.)

February 28, 2003

“IRS Issues Final Rules on Disclosure, Registration of Abusive Shelter Transactions”

Daily Tax Report

In the article, **Christopher Rizek** comments on the revenue procedures that accompanied the final tax shelter regulations released by the IRS.

February 14, 2003

“Bush's Proposals Could Change Savings Plans and Pension Rules”

The Chronicle for Higher Education

Richard Skillman comments on the Bush administration's proposal to changes in the rules of employer-sponsored retirement accounts. The changes would eliminate the “cross testing” rule that allows colleges and other employers to offer different kinds of pension plans to different classes of employees, as long as one class is not being disproportionately favored at the expense of another.