ESTATE PLANNING COUNCIL of Diablo Valley

President's Message

After an entire year of uncertainty, at last we know what our tax system is going to be for the next two years, and I think many of us are breathing a sigh of relief that we can avoid the issues of carryover basis on a lot of the estates of those who passed away in 2010. The CPAs among us are gearing up for what is promising to be a tough tax season, since those tax guides that we like to keep on our desk for quick reference are out-of –date even before we begin, and the IRS is still struggling to finalize forms for even the simplest of returns.

But at least we have some certainty in the estate and gift tax fields and some major planning opportunities as a result of the new legislation. We can already see that there will be a lot of activity in the gifting arena in the new two years, and we are lucky to have our own Keith Schiller to speak to us this month about the new law as it relates to estates and trusts.

As always, we appreciate your support of the Council and the strong attendance at the dinners.

- *Valerie Neale*

"Getting Practical with Federal Transfer Tax Returns, Trust Administration and Estate Planning in Changing Times"

Please join us February 16, 2011 to hear Keith Schiller speak on the latest changes to the estate, gift, and GST provisions included in the 2010 Tax Act, in addition to other related issues.

Keith Schiller, JD, is a shareholder and attorney with Schiller Law Group, a Professional Law Corporation Orinda, with emphasis in practice on estate planning for closely-held business owners and successful investors, transfer tax compliance and trust administration. Mr. Schiller is the author of *Estate Planning At The Movies™ — Art of the Estate Tax Return*, the ultimate textbook integrating Federal Estate Tax Return preparation with estate planning. He has authored greater than three dozen articles for national tax publications, and lectured from coast-to-coast. Recent presentations include: the Valuation Conference at the Georgetown School of Law chaired by Tax Court Judge David R. Laro, the Wilmington Trust Tax Summit in Delaware, and the Distinguished Speaker Series in Florida. Since 1987, Keith has written and taught over a dozen courses for the California CPA Education Foundation, from which organization he received the award for Outstanding Course Materials in 2000. Mr. Schiller is a member of both the Advisory Committee for the BNA Tax Management "Estates Gifts and Trusts Journal" and the Advisory Group for the "Leimberg Information Services Newsletter." Join us on the 16th!

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Lafayette Park Hotel
3287 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Lafayette

6:00 PM. Wine and Registration
6:30 PM Dinner and Speaker

Cost: $40.00 dinner (preregister)
$45.00 (at the door)

Reservations and cancellations must be received by Monday, Feb 14th at 1:30 p.m. to be assured of a reservation.
Please send your check today!
or

Pay with a credit card online

http://www.123signup.com/calendar?Org=epcdv
or

call Bonni at:
925.686.4819

Be Sure to Change Your 2011 Calendars!

March 16, 2011
"Planning for Clients with a Terminal Illness" - Libby Palomeque, CFP® - First Republic Investment Mgmt.

April 20, 2011
"Litigation over Estate Plans and Intra-family Challenges" – Barbara Jagiello, Esq.

May 18, 2011
"Practical Legal Solutions to Elder Abuse and Undue Influence" Emilie Calhoun, Fiduciary Attorney