



January - March 2012

### President's Message

Hello and welcome to 2012!

Thank you for choosing to take a few minutes out of your day to read over these few pages. As your newly elected President, I would like to offer some food for thought about what's happening in our chapter.

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve and grateful to have the opportunity to work with such a tremendous board of directors. So, thank you (in no particular order) - Kelben Holbrook, Judy Benbow, Barry Rabinowitz, Kasia Marcyck, Tracy Silpe, David Bollis, April Hicks, Wayne Green, John Jackupke plus our Chapter Executive, Linda Wolonick.

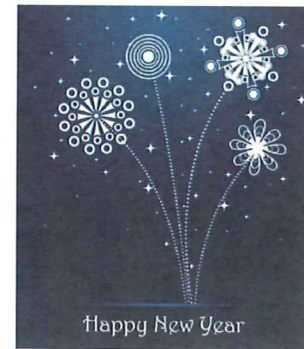
I am also grateful for the past board members and leaders that have chosen to serve and positively impact our chapter. Your 2012 Board of Directors focus is to serve you, our member and to make an impact to our greater locale community. We sincerely hope you will show your support by attending as many meetings as possible and take part in one of our board positions as a committee member.

Equally important and helpful would be inviting your colleagues to attend as well. We have pre-meeting time to enable you to connect with your colleagues and create new opportunities for growth. Come join us and help make your FPA Gold Coast Chapter even more successful.

Rubina K. Hossain, CFP®, President

### A Message From our President Elect, Kelben Holbrook, CFP®, EA, MBA

I would like to wish our members and fellow board members a Happy New Year. I have wrapped up my third and final year as Treasurer for our chapter's Board of Directors as that role transitions to David Bollis, and I look forward to filling the President-Elect role for 2012. As Treasurer, I



## 2012 Board of Directors

### Executive Board

Rubina Hossain, CFP®  
President

Kelben Holbrook,  
CFP®, EA, MBA  
President Elect

David Bollis, CFP®  
Treasurer

Judith Benbow,  
CFP®, MSM, MSFS  
Chairperson/Past President

Barry Rabinowitz,  
CFP®, MBA, EA, IAR  
Program Director

could see dramatic changes take place this past year in terms of increased membership participation in our various events thanks to interesting programs and the efforts of our Chapter Administrator, Linda Wolonick, who has worked with us for a year now. As I support my fellow board members and committee leaders this coming year, I look forward to even greater membership enthusiasm, and I know we will be pushing for greater sponsor participation as well.

There is plenty of room on our board for those interested in contributing their efforts in one of our committees. My participation thus far has been a great learning experience, and a great way to expand my network of friends and contacts. Feel free to reach out to a board member at the next member meeting on February 15 to find out more. I look forward to working with many of you to build a stronger more vibrant chapter for 2012.



### **HOUSE BILL**

While the news reports coming from Washington sound as though nothing is being accomplished, there are a few items on which work is being done.

One bill has been introduced in the House that would permanently increase the AMT exemption.

Several bills are being proposed that would provide funding for an extended payroll tax reduction. Items being considered to provide the funding are: the imposition of a "Millionaires' Tax", freezing the federal employees' payroll and raising the fees charged to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac mortgage lenders.

A bill is working through the House that would limit the interaction of federal regulators with insurance providers. The bill would revoke the subpoena authority of the Federal Insurance Office and the Office of Financial Research. These agencies would have to obtain data from state regulators, another federal agency or public sources.

One more item comes from FINRA. They are proposing an increase in the trading activity fee (TAF) it assesses on each sale of securities from 0.00009 cents per share to 0.000095. They would also raise the cap for

### **Directors**

Wayne Green, CFP®  
Membership Director

April Hicks, CSEP, CFP®  
Secretary/Newsletter Editor

John Jacupke, CFP®  
Government Relations Director

Katarzyna Marczyk,  
CRPC, CFP®  
Pro Bono Director

Tracy Silpe, CFP®  
Public Relations Director

Linda M. Wolonick, PDMM  
Chapter Executive

## **FEBRUARY MEETING PREVIEW...**

**Wednesday,  
February 15, 2012**

**TOPIC 1**  
**Self Directed IRA's and  
Solo 401k's Updated  
Tools and Investments**

**Speaker:**  
**Daniel Gleich**  
Broad Financial

**TOPIC 2**  
**Retirement Income  
(in a Zero Interest Rate  
Environment)**

**Speaker:**

each trade from \$4.50 to \$4.75. FINRA believes this is now needed to ensure that they can maintain their strong regulatory program.

John P. Jacupke, CFP®  
Director of Government Relations

**Charles E. Helme**  
BH Asset Management, LLC



**New Requirement:  
Individual Taxpayers to Report Foreign Financial Assets**

New Temporary Regulations Require Individual Taxpayers to Report Foreign Financial Assets on New Form 8938 with 2011 Tax Returns.

On December 15, 2011, IRS published temporary and proposed regulations under 6038D, which requires individual taxpayers to report certain information with respect to foreign financial assets (FFA) to the IRS with their U.S. income tax return. Failure to report under these rules could result in the imposition of a \$10,000 failure to file penalty. In addition, any underpayment of tax related to an undisclosed foreign financial asset may be subject to a penalty of 40%.

Under these new regulations, individual taxpayers who have FFA with an aggregate value in excess of \$50,000 at the end of the taxable year (or \$75,000 at any time during the year) are generally required to file Form 8938 reporting certain information with respect to their FFA. FFA include accounts maintained with foreign financial institutions (FFI) other than the U.S. branches of an FFI. Subject to exceptions set out in the following paragraph, FFA also includes directly held stock or securities issued by foreign companies, other financial instruments and contracts with foreign persons, and any interest in a foreign entity where those items are not maintained with a FFI. For example, bank accounts, derivative contracts, and stock certificates held with an FFI must be reported. In addition, interests in foreign partnerships (e.g., foreign hedge funds), loans to foreign persons and certain assets held in trust are reportable while a direct interest in certain physical assets is not

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**February Meeting  
Sponsored by**

**BH ASSET  
MANAGEMENT, LLC**

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**STAY TUNED...**  
Registration  
information will be  
available soon!

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For Additional  
Information  
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Gold Coast,  
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[www.fpagoldcoast.org](http://www.fpagoldcoast.org)

reportable. While not entirely clear at this time, leases may also be reportable. Taxpayers must report detailed information relating to their FFA including, for example, the name and address of financial institutions where FFA are held along with relevant account numbers and asset values (in U.S. dollars).

Various exceptions to reporting may apply. For example, taxpayers who hold foreign assets in accounts maintained with U.S. financial institutions are not generally required to file under these rules. In addition, taxpayers not otherwise required to file a U.S. income tax return are generally exempt. Taxpayers who report FFA on another U.S. tax form (for example, from their business) may simply indicate on Form 8938 the other form that contains the relevant FFA data. However, taxpayers who report foreign accounts on the Federal FBAR must nonetheless report such accounts on Form 8938, even if such reporting is duplicative.

Under previous guidance, taxpayers were not required to file under Section 6038D for the 2011 tax year if Form 8938 was not released before the taxpayer files a 2011 U.S. income tax return (See Notice 2011-55). Under this rule, taxpayers were permitted to file Form 8938 with respect to their 2011 tax year with their 2012 return. However, on December 17, 2011, IRS released the final version of Form 8938. As a result, calendar year taxpayers will be required to file Form 8938 with their 2011 return. Thus, clients and their return preparers should begin information gathering for the 2011 year as soon as possible.

David G. Bollis, CFP®  
Treasurer



**A Big Welcome  
to Our New  
Members  
Oct.-Dec. 2011**

Richard Ewing,  
CLU, CFP®

Kwamena Goodin

Scott A. Lanza, CFP®

Harvey Rabinovitz, CFP®