



A Publication of the Association of Former Special Agents of the IRS

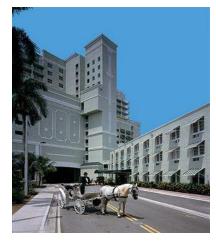


Spring, 2013

ORME

# 2013 AFSA Convention Riverside Hotel Ft. Lauderdale, FL November 5 – November 8, 2013









#### AFSA-IRS Officers and Appointed Officials beginning 1/1/2013

**Appointed** 

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Peggy Thomas (MD)	
George Meyer (FL)	1
Jose Marrero (FL)	

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#### AFSA Regional Directors and Regional Representatives effective 1/1/2013

Region 1	<b>Regional Director</b> David Nicholson Dunstable, MA	<b>Regional Representatives</b> Steven Hickey John Fahey Matthew Cola Robert Galbraith Charles Franssen	Gloucester, RI Providence, RI Babylon, NY E. Amherst, NY Huntington, NY
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3	Gail Donaldson Upper Marlboro, MD	Jim Holloway	Effectit City, MD
4	Elizabeth Fleaher Cincinnati, OH	Lee Mohs Tom Brandon Ted Boomershine John Fettes	Carmel, IN Avon Lake, OH Kettering, OH Little Rock, AR
5	Arthur A. Selby, Jr Charlotte, NC	Bill Ryan Terry O'Brien David W. Jansen	Birmingham, AL Raleigh, NC Tulsa, OK
6	Darrell G. Smith 904.825.0802 St. Augustine, FL	Dave Beitzel Orlan Smith Robert McLaughlin Jeff Karsh Larry Sands	Naples, FL Orlando, FL Ponce Inlet, FL Plantation, FL Keystone Heights, Fl
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8	Swayzine Fields Las Vegas, NV	Georgia Taylor Ed Martin Joel Lanoux Iris Bohanon Dennis Carey Mike Mayott	Dallas, TX Austin, TX Richardson, TX Phoenix, AZ Glenwood Springs, CO Billings, MT
9	Richard Malone Los Angeles, CA	Art Royce Alex Seddio Reginald Norberg	Boise, ID San Francisco, CA Seattle, WA



Richard Weber Chief IRS Criminal Investigation Washington, D.C.

As Chief, IRS Criminal Investigation, Richard Weber heads the Internal Revenue Service function responsible for investigating criminal violations of the tax code. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., Mr. Weber oversees a worldwide staff of 4,200 CI employees, including approximately 2,700 special agents as they investigate and assist in the prosecution of criminal tax, money laundering and

narcotics-related financial crime cases.

Named Chief of CI in March 2012, Mr. Weber supervises CI's mission, which is to serve the American public by investigating potential criminal violations of the Internal Revenue Code and related financial crimes in a manner that fosters confidence in the tax system and compliance with the law.

Before joining IRS CI, Mr. Weber was the Deputy Chief of the Investigation Division and Chief of the Major Economic Crimes Bureau in the Manhattan District Attorney's Office. In this position, he was responsible for managing prosecutors, investigators, analysts and paralegals handling investigations into securities and commodities fraud, large-scale mortgage and insurance fraud, Ponzi schemes, international money laundering, terrorist financing, sanctions evasion, asset forfeiture and tax crimes.

Mr. Weber has had a long and distinguished career, previously serving as Chief of the Asset Forfeiture and Money Laundering Section at the Department of Justice, and as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Eastern District of New York. Mr. Weber conducted numerous major money laundering investigations and prosecutions, to include some of the largest forfeitures ever entered against financial institutions for sanctions violations. During his time with DOJ, Chief Weber worked numerous cases with CI special agents and came to appreciate what an exceptional group of investigators they are.

Mr. Weber is a two-time recipient of the Attorney General's John Marshall Award, the highest honor for Justice Department lawyers, for his work in promoting law enforcement's use of asset forfeiture. He is a highly recognized legal expert, well-versed in the execution of strategies for prosecuting criminal cases at the federal level.

# From the Executive Director's Corner:



First and foremost my most heartfelt thanks especially to Mark, the Board of Directors, Appointees and everyone else that has been helping me learn my new job. These past three months have gone by very quickly. Thanks to your patience and assistance I am getting more comfortable with my new job. Mark did an awesome job and has been instrumental in the transition. Also, I am asking for your suggestion to make <u>our</u> organization better for everyone.

Following are items from previous newsletters that merit repeating especially this time of the year:

Odds and Ends -

- We have begun dropping members for non-payment of dues or resignations this year. However, once you are dropped, you may be reinstated simply by sending your dues payment to AFSA. You do not need to reapply. We have had reinstatements thus far. On this note, when I send an email out and you receive it, and it has the AFSA Logo on it, this is an official email blast sent to all members. If I address that dues are not paid in this email blast, it does not mean your dues are not paid. The process is if you have not paid by the first dues notice in December, a second one is issued, and labeled Final in February. If unpaid at the end of February, you will receive an email from me, without our logo, explaining that you have been dropped and why.
- Check out our Forum/Discussions on the link. Great place for members to see if someone has something they may want or share information.
- If you have a contact that frequently hires people with our skills, encourage them to go to our website and post the openings. I review and approve them and then contact the poster if I see a problem. I normally attempt to email them out, or combine a few in an email.
- Newsletter submissions this is your organization. If you have an article of interest to a number of members, send it in to our editor, Ross Brown. It can be tax related, hobby related, creative, or anything else. Just remember, war stories fall under the permanent disclosure act restrictions. It does not have to have the interest of all members
- Convention 2014 Would you like to show off your city? Want to sponsor next year's convention, please send an email to me at <u>MaryRuizAFSA@gmail.net</u> or call me at 210.521.2858.
- Website enhancements I am happy to report that the changes you recommended to Mark have been implemented.

~ Mary ~



# President's Message

On March 22, 2013, First Vice President James Meyers, Secretary Peggy Thomas, Parliamentarian Robert Armentrout and I attended the recognition ceremony to honor the family of Elmer Irey in Washington, DC. There were 40 family members of Elmer Irey in attendance which included grandchildren, great grandchildren and great great grandchildren. During the ceremony, Elmer Irey's granddaughter was presented with the first Elmer Irey Distinguished Service Award. The award will be presented to agents in the future that demonstrate exemplary performance, integrity, courage and collaboration when pursuing investigations on tax evasion and public corruption.

Our annual convention this year will be held in Ft. Lauderdale, FL at the Riverside Hotel in Las Olas. The convention dates are November 6, 7, and 8, 2013. Riverside Hotel is located in the heart of downtown Fort Lauderdale, on trendy Las Olas Boulevard which features cool sub-tropical breezeways and courtyards alive with sidewalk cafes, lively nightclubs, chic boutiques, art galleries, and world class restaurants. Please put these dates on your calendar so you can, network, renew old friendships or start new ones and enjoy a great time in a wonderful city. Following the convention will be the the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual AFSA-IRS cruise. Group space has been reserved on the Crown Princess ship sailing from Ft. Lauderdale, Florida on November 9, 2013. Ports of Call include Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, Curaçao, Aruba, Princess Cays, Bahamas, and returning to Ft. Lauderdale. There are more details in the newsletter. I would like to thank Jose Marrero for hosting the convention in Ft. Lauderdale and Ron Line for organizing the cruise.

As of the end of March 2013 AFSA-IRS has over 1,200 paid members. We encourage each member to update his/her profile in the online directory to ensure all mailings, announcements and newsletters are received without delay. Also, as a member, if you are not currently involved in AFSA please consider assisting and/or volunteering in some capacity. There are many opportunities during the convention, CPE or as an officer, director or appointed official.

On behalf of the AFSA organization I would like to thank past President Jose Marrero and past Executive Director Mark Kroczynski for their contributions and dedication to our organization.

Mary Frances Martin-AFSA-IRS President

**From the Editor:** Recently I purchased a new computer, and this one came with Windows 8 installed. The learning curve has been very steep, so I'm hoping that after doing this newsletter I will have it conquered. I also installed the new Microsoft Office Professional 2010 which also has been challenging. It's been a struggle from the very beginning, but I'm SLOWLY getting the hang of both of them. Let me know if you have struggled with this if you also purchased new computers this year.

Every time this newsletter is due for publication, I wonder if I will ever have enough content to fill the pages. As I go through the various emails received since the last newsletter, the pages seem to come together with little problem. This time we have some different items, and I hope you find something interesting. If you have some other recommendations you can let me know, and I'll try to focus on other items in the future. This edition, as usual, highlights the coming convention and the scholarship fund but it also includes information about the Elmer Irey Distinguished Service Award ceremony, a new book by Durie Burns, the scouting experience of Al Selby, the Black History Month article about Hilton Owens and the new Law Enforcement Museum in Washington, among others. Of course there are always some alternative articles that I find from other publications. Don't forget my email address (rbrown11@columbus.rr.com) or you can always call me at 614-595-8370 to keep me updated on anything you may want published.

The other day, I was on the Retired Agents Group on "Linked In" and saw a thread that mentioned Medicare and Part B. It seems some of us are eligible and were wondering if Part B is a necessary addition to our health care so I decided to tell my story of the issue which you can find to page 20 of the newsletter. It just details what my experience has been. Until next time.

# Frank L. Smith

# **AFSA COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP**

As our students are enjoying their spring breaks, why not also begin thinking about applying for scholarships. All members who have children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, and nephews in high school or college, why not think about applying for our \$2,000.00 annual scholarships? AFSA - IRS will be administering two scholarship programs, the Frank L. Smith College AFSA Scholarship and James F. Howe Sr. Scholarship. The Frank L. Smith AFSA Scholarship has been our long standing scholarship. The James F. Howe Sr. Scholarship began last year through the generosity of William R. Schroeder, the President of Madison Associates, Inc. It was created in remembrance and dedication of James R. Howe Sr. as an educational endowment for those individuals interested in law enforcement careers.

While the two programs are similar, there are significant differences, including qualifications and application procedures. Qualified applicants may apply for both scholarships, but may be awarded only one scholarship per year.

The main differences between the two scholarships are the following:

- The Frank L. Smith Scholarship the applicant can be a graduating high school senior without a specified law enforcement career.
- The James F. Howe Sr. Scholarship applicant must be enrolled in a two year or four year college or university and be in a declared law enforcement major or in the profession or in the major that can lead to a law enforcement career.

If an applicant is eligible for both scholarships they can apply for both. Remember to provide the requested documents on each application, at least one transcript must be certified. You can reapply even if you received a scholarship from AFSA in the past.

Applications for students are available on line at our website at <u>www.afsa-irs.org</u>. Don't delay, applications will be accepted between April 1 - May 1, 2013. This area is accessible by non-members (students). You may also get an application by emailing the Executive Director at <u>execdir@afsa-irs.org</u>, or lastly, by writing to the Executive Director of AFSA

Peggy Thomas Chairman Scholarship Committee

#### MEMBER DONATIONS SINCE FALL NEWSLETTER Frank Smith Scholarship Fund

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# AFSA 2013 Convention – Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

The convention this year will be held at the Riverside Hotel in downtown Ft Lauderdale. It has something for everyone in addition to the meetings, CPE, etc., and there will be plenty of time for camaraderie with fellow members. The convention is scheduled to kick off on November 5 with the annual golf tournament while the main convention activities get started on November 6. The tentative schedule includes a River Cruise, Everglades Bus Trip and a Banquet. The Hotel also has sidewalk cafes, lively nightclubs, boutiques, art galleries and several restaurants; something for everyone. Additionally it has an outside pool, sundeck and best of all is located less than two miles from Fort Lauderdale Beach. After Convention 2013 thanks to Former AFSA President Ron Line who has been working with Kathy Collins and Cruise Planners Unlimited, there will be a Seven-day Southern Caribbean Cruise. Group space has been reserved on the Crown Princess ship sailing from Ft. Lauderdale, Florida on November 9, 2013. Ports of Call include Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, Curaçao, Aruba, Princess Cays, Bahamas, and returning to Ft. Lauderdale. See you on the Boulevard!

#### **RESERVATIONS:**

The AFSA group rate is offered not only for the convention but three days prior and three days after for anyone interested in a longer visit to Fort Lauderdale.

Reservations must be received by the October 14, 2013. Rooms not secured by the cut-off date will be released and future reservations will be on a space available basis at the prevailing room category rate.

Reservations are to be made by individual call-in. The Group is listed as AFSA in the Riverside Hotel Reservations. Valet parking \$18.00 per day and garage self-parking is \$12.00 per day plus 6% sales tax. More detailed information will be available on the website and in the summer newsletter.

# 3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL

# **AFSA-IRS CRUISE**

# **Crown Princess**

## November 9, 2013 Seven-day Southern Caribbean Cruise

We are in the planning stages for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual AFSA-IRS cruise in 2013. This past year we sailed to the Eastern Caribbean, having sailed to the Western Caribbean in 2011. While our groups were small, everyone has had a fabulous time on these cruises. This year we are planning a seven-day cruise to the Southern Caribbean for AFSA-IRS members and their guests as an extension to the AFSA-IRS convention being held in Ft. Lauderdale in November 2013. Group space has been reserved on the *Crown Princess* ship sailing from Ft. Lauderdale, Florida on November 9, 2013. **Ports of Call** include Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, Curaçao, Aruba, Princess Cays, Bahamas, and returning to Ft. Lauderdale. See the accompanying flyer for more information on the Ports of Call.

Crown Princess is one of the largest ships in the Princess fleet and boasts all the innovative signature features for which they are renowned. Enjoy sweeping views of romantic landscapes across the world and

the serenity of The Sanctuary. The casual street café atmosphere of the Italian-inspired, piazza-style Atrium serves up fresh pastries and baked goods in the morning and assorted other offerings throughout the day, as well as a wine and seafood bar. Several signature Princess venues have been further enhanced, including an expanded Trattoria Sabatini with a new piano lounge area and the addition of pub fare to the trademark Wheelhouse Bar. A new Steak and Seafood restaurant expands on the Sterling Steakhouse concept with an open, theater-style kitchen where chefs will custom-prepare steamed shellfish and cooked-to-order steaks and chops. Later in the evening enjoy a first-run film at the sensational outdoor Movies Under the Stars big screen theater.

Plan on attending the 2013 AFSA-IRS convention at the Riverside Hotel located on the quaint and beautiful Las Olas Blvd in downtown Ft. Lauderdale. Then join many of your fellow agents and guests for a fabulous time cruising in the Caribbean and visiting exciting ports of call. You are encouraged to bring guests to both the convention and/or the Cruise. The more the merrier.

Kathy Collins of Cruise Planners Unlimited is again making arrangements for this cruise, and details can be found in the separate flyer in the newsletter showing the prices for the different categories of cabins. Travel to Ft. Lauderdale is NOT included in these prices. If you think you might be interested in going on this cruise, or would like additional information, please let either Kathy or Ron Line know as soon as possible. Kathy's contact information is on the flyer and Ron can be reached at **513-753-1550** or by e-mail at <u>r44line@hotmail.com</u>.

As an added amenity, book your cruise during the week of April 15-22, 2013, and receive a \$100 per person reduced deposit. In addition, receive a ship-wide savings coupon booklet worth up to \$325 in savings on shipboard products and services, and a bottle of wine in your stateroom, compliments of Kathy Collins and Cruise Planners Unlimited.

#### **AFSA-IRS CRUISE**

#### **CROWN PRINCESS**



7-day Southern Caribbean
Cruise Line: Princess Cruises Ship: Crown Princess
Ports of Call: Ft. Lauderdale, Curacao, Aruba, Princess Cays, Ft Lauderdale
Departs: Sat. 11/9/13 Returns: Sat. 11/16/13 Nights: 7

Enjoy a leisurely 7-day voyage to the Southern Caribbean on board Crown Princess. Visit beautiful Curaçao and Dutch-influenced Aruba, as well as a stop on Princess Cays, their own tropical retreat in the Bahamas.

## **INTERIOR CABI**N

\$649 + \$85 taxes = **\$734** TOTAL PER PERSON

#### **Oceanview Cabin**

\$749 + \$85 taxes = **\$834** TOTAL PER PERSON

#### **BALCONY CABIN**

\$1,029 + \$85 taxes = **\$1,114** TOTAL PER PERSON

#### <u>\$500 per cabin full deposit due – May 3, 2013</u>

#### <u>Final payment due – July 5, 2013</u>

# Book during the week of April 15-22, 2013, and receive a \$100 per person reduced deposit, a shipwide savings coupon booklet worth up to \$325, and a bottle of wine in your stateroom.

#### TRAVEL INSURANCE RECOMMENDED

Questions: Call Ron Line, 513-753-1550 or r44line@hotmail.com

Call or email your reservations:

Kathy Collins, 866-486-2800 toll free. 812-739-2800 local

kcollins@cruiseplanners.com www.cruiseplannersunlimited.com

7025 South Collins Lane, Leavenworth, IN 47137

#### **Port information:**

Princess Cays, Bahamas

Join us at our exclusive port of call, Princess Cays, where you'll enjoy a private beach party on the island of Eleuthera in the Bahamas. One hundred miles long and only two miles wide, Eleuthera offers unspoiled beaches. Our private resort at Princess Cays is situated on more than 40 acres and features over a half-mile of white-sand shoreline, all at the southern tip of the island. The resort boasts outstanding amenities while carefully preserving this natural paradise. Take in the views from the observation tower. Enjoy a barbecue. Sip a cool drink or browse the shops and the local craft market. All of Princess Cays' facilities are linked by walkways. Recreational activities abound. Enjoy volleyball and a full range of water sports, or simply relax on the beach.

#### Curaçao

Historians still contend over which European adventurer first spied the largest island in the former Netherlands Antilles. Some historians claim the honor for Alonzo de Ojeda; other historians champion Amerigo Vespucci. Little does it matter; today's travelers are content to bask beneath sunny skies cooled by the trade winds. Lying some 40 miles off Venezuela, Curaçao boasts a landscape that is dramatic, stark, and volcanic. In contrast, Willemstad, the capital, seems a cozy Dutch haven with its neat row houses. And while those gabled and tiled roofs illustrate the island's heritage, the bright, pastel houses speak pure Caribbean. Islanders themselves reflect this same colorful contrast: over 50 different nationalities have come to call Curaçao their home.

#### Aruba

Dutch influence still lingers on this balmy Caribbean Island, part of the former Netherlands Antilles until its independence in 1986. Aruba is a contrast: the island's arid interior is dotted with cactus and windswept divi-divi trees while secluded coves and sandy beaches make up its coast. Aruba's long and colorful heritage is reflected in its dialect. Called Papiamento, it is a tongue that combines elements of Spanish, French, Portuguese, Dutch, African and English. Aruba is famous for gorgeous, palm-tree lined white sandy beaches that are home to calm clear waters, making them perfect locations for swimming, snorkeling and sunbathing.

## AFSA BY-LAWS

#### PROPOSED CHANGES

## APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT THE BOARD MEETING, OCTOBER 12, 2012.

#### ARTICLE III -- OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

#### Section 9

#### It shall be the Duty of each Regional Director:

(a) To promote, support and facilitate in every way possible the AFSA organization and all AFSA activities and events including, but not limited to, encouraging membership and participation in all aspects of the association; communications and/or personal contacts with current AFSA members and retirees who are not members; and, otherwise, as further described in the following paragraphs.

(b) To direct contact with current and former special agents by attending organized formal and informal meetings, luncheons or other gatherings, and to participate in local retirement programs, continuing professional education seminars, and local retirement ceremonies for special agents. Contact all CID SAC's. Considering distances and/or inaccessibility, it may or may not be either possible or appropriate for either the Regional Director (RD) to contact the CID SAC(s) located in the RD's region. In such long distance circumstances and/or inaccessibility, the RD will coordinate with the Executive Director to facilitate the dissemination of AFSA Recruitment Brochures mailed directly to the SAC(s) with a cover letter signed by the AFSA President. Alternatively, the RD will seek the assistance of a Regional Representative in those geographical areas which are not practical for the RD to visit.

(c) To visit esisting local chapters and local informal groups of special agent retirees who meet on a regular basis in order to discuss and promote AFSA membership, activities, opportunities, convention plans, etc. Pictures or reports on happenings will be sent to the Executive Director for placement in an issue of the AFSA Newsletter relative to (b) and (c).

(d) With the assistance of Regional Representatives, contact each AFSA member located in the RD's region either by telephone, email or personal visit <u>at least once each year</u> to emphasize AFSA activities, convention site, and/or other noteworthy AFSA matters. Solicit concerns, suggestions and recommendations from members and submit such to the AFSA President and Executive Director. Coordinate and provide assistance and support, to the extent possible, to help solve problems that an individual member may be unable to solve alone.

(e) To serve as the focal point for dissemination of information on critical or noteworthy events, such as honors bestowed on members, serious illness of members, deaths of members; major case coverage, and any other items that would be of interest for publication in the AFSA Newsletter and on the AFSA Website.

(f) After being advised by the Executive Director, the Regional Director's will contact by telephone or email each "new" AFSA member in the RD's region when the new member initially joins AFSA. The Rd will share with the new member a variety of AFSA information such as, the location of the next convention, AFSA scholarship program, and the AFSA website. The RD should encourage new members to attend

conventions and should provide the Regional Representative with an email detailing information of contact with the new member.

(g) When advised by the Executive Director, follow-up with members whose memberships has expired to attempt to retain or reinstate those who have failed to pay their dues. The RD should also inquire as to reasons the membership was terminated and report this information to the Executive Director.

(h) To assist the Board of Directors in establishing future meeting sites for the annual convention. If possible, volunteer to serve as the local host or to assist others in holding such meetings.

(i) To provide the Executive Director with information as to any employment opportunities wherever they may exist.

(j) To solicit and provide to the Executive Director other information that may be of general interest to all AFSA members.

(k) To identify and appoint AFSA members in good standing as new or additional Regional Representatives as the RD deems necessary to attain greater geographical coverage throughout the RD's region.

(1) To provide the Executive Director with up-to-date information of the names and locations of each Regional Representative within the RD's region in order that such information can be included in each "AFSA-IRS Newsletter".

#### Section 10

#### It Shall be the Duty of each Regional Representative:

(a) To assist the Regional Director with all duties enumerated for the RD to accomplish the AFSA mission. Essentially Regional Representatives (RR's) have the same role and responsibilities as the RD's. but limited to the RR's geographical area (i.e., major city or region of a state).

(b) To keep the RD apprised of any issues of interest to the AFSA Board including concerns and suggestions of members

(b) To attend annual conventions and to attend Annual Board Meetings as observers.



Honoring our past and our best The Elmer Irey Distinguished Service Award March 22, 2013

- 13 -PO Box 761869, San Antonio, Texas 78245 WWW.AFSA-IRS.org

#### <u>The Elmer Irey</u> <u>Distinguished Service Award</u>

#### In Memory and Honor of Elmer Lincoln Irey

As the first Chief of IRS-CI, Elmer Irey saved the US tax system from bribery, tax evasion, and the menacing threat of organized crime. Mr. Irey left an enduring legacy of public service that the IRS proudly honors to this day.

#### Criteria:

The Elmer Irey Distinguished Service Award is in honor of former CI Chief Elmer Irey who demonstrated exemplary performance, integrity, courage, and collaboration when pursuing investigations on tax evasion and public corruption. The award can also be presented to teams as well as individuals who have had a significant impact on CI.

This award is to recognize individuals or teams who displayed the following:

- Demonstrated exemplary performance while carrying out CI's mission
- Developed new or improved processes or programs that enhance CI as an organization
- Promoted an atmosphere of collaboration and cooperation while partnering with internal and external stakeholders
  - Showed initiative and responsibility in resolving conflicts and facing challenges
- Recognized by peers, teams or leadership as being ethical and having integrity and a willingness to go above normal expectations

#### **CI History**

On July 1, 1919, the IRS Commissioner created the Intelligence Unit to investigate widespread allegations of tax fraud. To establish the Intelligence Unit, six United States Post Office Inspectors were transferred to the Bureau of Internal Revenue to become the first special agents in charge of the organization that would one day become Criminal Investigation. They formed the nucleus that built the Intelligence Unit into an elite group of highly trained, dedicated professionals who are recognized as the finest financial investigators in the world.

The Intelligence Unit quickly became renowned for the financial investigative skill of its special agents. It attained national prominence in the 1930s for the conviction of Public Enemy Number One, Al Capone, for income tax evasion, and its role in solving the Lindbergh baby kidnapping. From these promising beginnings the Intelligence Unit expanded over the intervening decades, investigating tax evasion by ordinary citizens, prominent

businesspersons, government officials, and notorious criminals.

In July 1978, the Intelligence Unit changed its name to Criminal Investigation (CI). Over the years, CI's statutory jurisdiction expanded to include money laundering and currency violations in addition to its traditional role in investigating tax violations. However, CI's core mission remains unchanged. It continues to fulfill the important role of helping to ensure the integrity and fairness of our nation's tax system.

Since CI's inception in 1919 to the present, the conviction rate for federal tax prosecutions has never fallen below 90 percent. This is a record of success that is unmatched in federal law enforcement.



White House Photo with Elmer Irey and President Hoover, February 11, 1931

- 14 -PO Box 761869, San Antonio, Texas 78245 WWW.AFSA-IRS.org

#### **Chief Richard Weber**



I became the Chief of CI in April 2012 and am honored to lead this renowned law enforcement organization. As Chief, I reflect upon the obstacles and accomplishments of those who served before me. I am continually inspired by the fact that our rich legacy began with Elmer Lincoln Irey, a courageous and thoughtful leader, revered by all who worked with him and for him. Elmer dedicated his life to public service and the pursuit of justice through "following the money." We are very proud as an organization to recognize him as our first leader, the man who laid the groundwork for the revered agency we are today. Our agents are known as the finest financial investigators in the world and we owe much of that to Chief Irey.

Today, we will present the first ever Elmer Irey Distinguished Service

Award to the Irey family in recognition of his incredible legacy. This award will be used in the years to come to recognize CI employees who embody his spirit and passion for excellence as a leader, collaborator and an innovator.

I want to thank Elmer Irey's family for being here today and for giving us the opportunity to honor him. We value the example he set for us as an organization and I strive everyday to live up to his good name. He holds a very special place in history and it humbles me to have the opportunity to follow in his footsteps.

#### **Elmer Irey**



Elmer Lincoln Irey was born in Kansas City on March 10, 1888. In 1907, at the age of 19, Irey was hired as a stenographer for the Postal Inspection Division. Irey quickly rose in the ranks to earn the coveted position of Postal Inspector. Impressed with his investigative prowess and leadership the Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Bureau, a former Postal Service official, recruited Irey in 1919 to be the first Chief of the Intelligence Unit.

Under Irey's leadership, the Intelligence Unit used the art of following the money and the income tax laws to bring to justice an unprecedented amount of corrupt government officials and kingpin gangsters. Greatly impressed with these accomplishments, the newly elected President Herbert Hoover instructed Irey to "Get Capone." Not only did Irey and his unit get Capone, their work resulted in the

convictions of the nation's largest underworld leaders including Waxey Gordon, Dutch Schultz, Leon Gleckman, Nucky Johnson, Johnny Torrio and Tom Pendergast. Irey and his team also were credited for solving the Lindberg baby kidnapping and taking down the infamous Huey Long Gang. Treasury Secretary Henry Morgenthau Jr. was such a fan of Irey that he commissioned him to be the co-coordinator for all Treasury law enforcement, a combined force larger than the FBI at that time. In this capacity, Irey created an atmosphere of collaboration and collegiality among Treasury law enforcement.

Irey's epic accomplishments and unwavering character won him admiration and congratulations from many high ranking officials including several presidents. In 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt wrote a personal letter of praise to Irey and described his Intelligence Unit as a shining example of "incorruptibility" and "A-1 Service". The American public also admired Irey. National periodicals such as TIME and LIFE magazines published feature stories lauding Irey's integrity, honesty and humility. To many, Irey was an American hero, the last defense against the underworld.

Immediately after Irey secured his first job out of college, he married his high school sweetheart, Marguerite Wagner. They had three sons, one of whom died as an infant. The two remaining sons, Hugh and Robert, became

#### Spring, 2013

#### AFSA-IRS Newsletter

prominent physicians working together in the same practice. They were both greatly admired in their community, a testament that character begets character. Irey served as a deacon in his church and at one point a Sunday school superintendent. It was amusing to many that the person the ruthless kingpins and corrupt politicians feared the most was a mild mannered, humble, very likable Sunday school teacher.

Irey retired in 1946 and received an outpouring of commendation letters from presidents, agency heads, politicians and the public. Probably more touching to Irey, he also received countless heartfelt letters from all ranks of the Intelligence Unit. His agents praised Irey's character, leadership and the profound influence he had on their professional and personal lives. The letters were a befitting tribute to a man greatly loved and respected by many. In 1948, Irey passed away in Shady Side, Maryland at the home of his eldest son, Hugh Irey.





# Elmer Irey Day



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## Other Stuff: What God Really Wants by Durie Burns



"What God Really Wants" was written, hopefully, to get people of all religions to think about what they may or may not be doing that is contrary to what I believe God wants from us; if he does exist. As you read the book you will better understand what I mean.

"What God Really Wants" is the title of a new book I authored. The book is a compilation of my thoughts and related stories regarding the Bible and religion. I never intended to have this book printed. My intent was to share my thoughts about God and religion because so many people over the years have tried to influence me by telling me what they believe God wants.

My plan was to create a document that I could share with those who continually approach me unsolicited with their thoughts. What made this difficult for me is the fact that I have not considered myself a religious person in many years. I had given up attending church over 45 years ago because I saw so many so-called religious leaders violating the trust that I believe they must adhere to.

Many of the stories in book are designed to cause people to think twice when ministers and other religious followers try to tell us what God meant based on various Bible passages. Needless to say, there will be many who totally disagree with issues I discuss throughout the book. There will be others who say I am absolutely nuts. I just hope you will take the time to read my book and Judge for yourself if I am nuts or if what I say makes sense to you. Once you have read it, I will be glad to discuss how you perceived what was said and receive your viewpoints.



#### Former Agent Al Selby featured in the Charlotte Observer

A Scout lifer...Al Selby has 68 years' Scouting experience, including twice as a scoutmaster. He spent 32 years with Troop 158 at Third Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, NC and has served the Scouts in numerous capacities. "I got my Eagle Award when I was 16," he said. "I stayed with the program and its troop until I graduated at Central in 1954. Then I went to college at Chapel Hill and joined the troop over there, became assistant scoutmaster. That's pretty unusual. Most people go to college and forget about Scouting."

"It's a very close fraternity that gets passed down through generations. I can't think of anything that would substitute for it," said Selby. A longtime member of the Eagle Scout committee, Selby said 277 Eagles were honored last year and they spent more than 27,000 hours on projects.

He said this level of service will be a focus when the council celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2015. More than 12,000 youths ages 7-18 are served each year through the council. "It goes back to the core values established in 1910," Selby said. "Citizenship, service to the community, the Scout oath, the Scout Law – these things haven't changed. We stress a duty to the community, a duty to yourself, to your family, to your religion, whatever it is."

Cleveland Plain Dealer February 7, 2013

# Hilton Owens, among the 1<sup>st</sup> black IRS Special Agents, worked undercover: Black History Month

As part of Black History Month, we honor Cleveland native Hilton Owens, one of the first black special agents in the Internal Revenue Service's elite Intelligence Division.

Now called the Criminal Investigation Division, the unit pursues tax evaders. Its Special Agents have been called "giant killers" for their successful cases against organized crime bosses and other powerful figures.

Owens, who died at 83 in 2007, spent 20 years as one of those agents. During the 1950's and 60's, he often worked dangerous undercover assignments, as recounted in his 1994 book, "Three of the First", about his exploits and those of two fellow black IRS Special Agents.

Owens' months of undercover work with partner Curtis Patterson in Newport, KY., in 1961, infiltrating the city's casinos, broke the mob's hold there and brought prison terms for eight members, including notorious Cincinnati gangster Frank "Screw" Andrews.

Owens helped establish the IRS' national training program for prospective undercover agents. He became the first black IRS Special Agent promoted to supervisor in the Intelligence Division, overseeing agents in Cleveland and Akron.

After retiring, Owens advised the governments of Jamaica and the Virgin Islands on how to set up programs to combat tax fraud and financial crimes. "We were not heroes", Owens wrote of himself and his colleagues, but were "ordinary guys who happened to be African-American and should be remembered as part of black history, and also as part of the IRS family."

#### **Trivia Questions**

- 1. Who first introduced the custom of shaving in England?
- 2. What animal was Napoleon said to be terrified of?
- 3. Whose nickname was the "Ebony Express"?
- 4. Who invented the turbo-jet engine?
- 5. In personal ads, what does the abbreviation GSOH stand for?
- 6. What is gypsum also known as?

#### (Answers on page 21)

"Knowledge is realizing that the street is one way; wisdom is looking in both directions anyway."

Albert Einstein

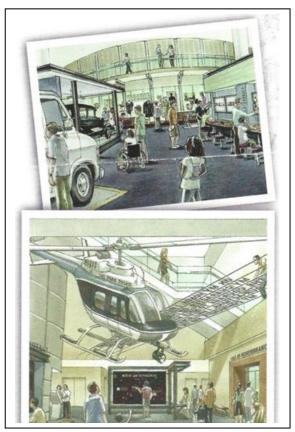
"When you look at the world in a narrow way, how narrow it seems! When you look at it in a mean way, how mean it is! When you look at it selfishly, how selfish it is! But when you look at it in a broad, generous, friendly spirit, what wonderful people you find in it."

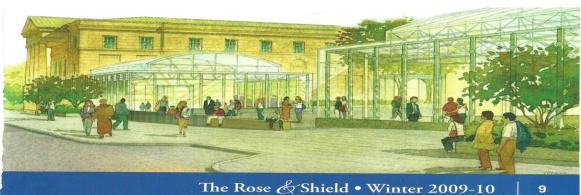
Horace Rutledge



arlier this year, the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF) Board of Directors approved an extended timeline and \$29 million in cost savings for the National Law Enforcement Museum. Since then, the Museum's exhibit designers, Christopher Chadbourne & Associates (CCA), have been hard at work reformatting the exhibit design and refining the Museum content.

Here is a preview of <u>some of</u> the new designs. Working with Museum Programs staff, CCA has both retained the key content areas from the original design and created new, even more dynamic and engaging ways of telling the story of law enforcement in America.





The Museum remains on track to break ground in the **fall** of 2010 and open in 2013. To learn more about the Museum and how you can help make it a reality, go to <u>www.LawEnforcementMuseum.org.</u>

AFSA-IRS Newsletter

#### From the Editor....again!

Many of you have been or will be in a quandary about whether to sign up for Medicare Part B. Regular Medicare is a no brainer since it costs you nothing but Part B is another matter. Costs are at least \$100 per month in addition to any other insurance you may have. I'll let you know the exact cost when I get my first bill. Later on that. Most of us carried our health insurance into retirement and really didn't know how that would interact with Medicare and Part B. I've spoken with numerous people, including those from Medicare, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, NARFE and individuals. After all of those conversations it boiled down to "it's an individual decision". I chose not to enroll in Part B. Here is what happened to me fairly soon after making that decision although I won't go into details.

Last summer, soon after enrolling in Medicare and declining Part B, I had some episodes and after extensive outpatient tests, including an angiogram, was immediately referred to a Neuro-Surgeon who said an operation on my carotid artery was needed right away. I immediately had surgery without time to think about it. Unfortunately it was the week of the convention and I was unable to join a great conference in Las Vegas. But I was also fortunate to have found this in time to enjoy a great recovery and resume my normal active life in a short time.

However soon thereafter, I started receiving bills from the doctors and hospital. Medicare completely took care of the in-patient bills, but since I didn't enroll in Part B, my insurance company was responsible for all of the out-patient tests and doctor's bills, which were extensive. I assumed that since I was paying well over \$400 per month for BC/BS Standard coverage, things would be pretty much taken care of. Wrong! When all was said and done, I was saddled with a total bill (after insurance payments) of over \$3000 out of my own funds. As I understand it now, had I enrolled in Part B, all of the bills would have been paid through either Medicare Part B or insurance.

I have since enrolled in Part B, although I will have to pay a 10% penalty for late enrollment, and I still don't know if I made the right decision. As I understand it now, I will be able to go from the BC/BS Standard plan to their Basic plan and have the same coverage, thus saving some money there. Since my wife is not yet eligible for Medicare, I will be keeping the Standard coverage for another year or so but she, when eligible, will be enrolling in both Medicare and Part B.

The bottom line is, it's your decision but remember that if you decline Part B, your insurance company will pay, but not everything. You will still have out of pocket costs. Should you decide to enroll in Part B later you will be charged that 10% penalty for every year you put off enrolling in Part B.

If anyone else has any specifics that may help in future decisions, let me know so we can share this information with others. There are plenty of retired agents out there who will need advice and guidance on Medicare and Part B in the future, and I will gladly provide your experiences in upcoming newsletters.

# **New Members**

Robert	Bell	Clinton Twp
Kerry	Bloodworth	Riverview
Alan	Brown	West Islip
Neil	Cohen	West Hempstead
Raynettia	Egland	LaGrange
Gregory	Floyd	Wilmington
Gary	Graf	Gainesville
Gary Lee	Gruver	Streetsboro
Beverly	Hood	Latana
Edwin	Human	Rowlett
Beverly	Ida	Alamo
Richard	LeBar	Conroe
Jerome	Lewis	Davie
Joseph	Macchiaroli	Midland Park
		Daytona Beach
Jerome	McDuffie	Shores
Jose	Mendez	Bayamon
Dan	Morris	Crawford
Juan	Ortuno	Pooler
John	Popham	Granbury
Margaret	Putman	Baltimore
David	Solar	DeLand
Karl	Strohbehn	North Royalton
Mario	Vargas	Houston
Linda	Wallace	Mesa
Andrea	Whelan	Lantana
Walter	Woosley	Waco

MI	bbell3@wideopenwest.com
Fl	kobloodworth@gmail.com
NY	LongIslandTax@hotmail.com
NY	MisterNeilCohen@hotmail.com
KY	Rayegland@mac.com
DE	dyolfga@comcast.net
FL	garyglock@gmail.com
OH	gary.gruver@gruvercpa.com
FL	thehoods@earthlink.net
ΤX	edwin.h@verizon.net
CA	waimea202@yahoo.com
ΤX	
FL	JeromeofLauderdale@comcast.net
NJ	jfmone@optonline.net
FL	jrmcduffie@gmail.com
PR	dilaris@aol.com
ΤX	danbaghdad@yahoo.com
GA	spongejuansquarepants@hotmail.com
ΤX	pophamjj@gmail.com
MD	beth.merillat@ci.irs.gov
FL	dsolar7777@gmail.com
OH	Karl.Strohbehn@sbcglobal.net
ΤX	sylviazuniga-vargas@comcast.net
AZ	Part.Time.Acctg@gmail.com
ΤX	adwhelan@reagan.com
KY	wswoosley@gmail.com

# Trivia Answers (from page 18)

- 1. The Saxons
- 2. Cats
- 3. Jesse Owens
- 4. Sir Frank Whittle
- 5. Good Sense of Humor
- 6. Plaster of Paris

# The Hospital Window

Two men, both seriously ill, occupied the same hospital room. One man was allowed to sit up in his bed for an hour each afternoon to help drain the fluid from his lungs. His bed was next to the room's only window. The other man had to spend all of his time flat on his back. The men talked for hours on end. They spoke of their wives and families, their homes, their jobs, their involvement in the military service, and where they had been on vacation.

Every afternoon, when the man in the bed by the window could sit up, he would pass the time by describing to his roommate all the things he could see outside the window.

The man in the other bed began to live for those one hour periods where his world would be broadened and enlivened by all the activity and color of the world outside.

The window overlooked a part with a lovely lake. Ducks and swans played on the water while the children sailed their model boats. Young lovers walked arm in arm amidst flowers or every color and a fine view of the city skyline could be seen in the distance.

As the man by the window described all this in exquisite detail, the man on the other side of the room would close his eyes and imagine the picturesque scene.

One morning, the day nurse arrived to bring water for their baths only to find the lifeless body of the man by the window, who had died peacefully in his sleep. She was saddened and called the hospital attendants to take the body away.

As soon as it seemed appropriate, the other man asked if he could move to the bed next to the window. The nurse was happy to make the switch, and after making sure he was comfortable, she left him alone.

Slowly, painfully, he propped himself up on one elbow to take his first look at the world outside. He strained to slowly turn to look out the window beside the bed.

It faced a blank wall. The man asked the nurse what could have compelled his deceased roommate who had described such wonderful things outside the window. The nurse responded that the man was blind and could not even see the wall.

She said, "Perhaps he just wanted to encourage you."

Author Unknown

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As	an AFSA member, I an	n interested in:				/				
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S	erving AFSA in other p	positions Yes	No	Being a	ın AFSA F	Represen	tative		Yes	
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convicted of a felony nor left the IRS under any adverse circumstances.

#### Area of Coverage Region Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont 1 2 New Jersey and New Jersey Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia, U.S. Territories and International 3 4 Arkansas, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Tennessee, and West Virginia 5 Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, North Carolina and South Carolina, 6 Florida 7 Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin 8 Arizona, Colorado, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, Utah, and Wyoming 9 Alaska, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington

# AFSA REGIONS AND AREAS OF COVERAGE

AFSA Regional Directors are listed on page 2 of this Newsletter

# ASSOCIATION OF FORMER SPECIAL AGENTS OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE (AFSA) P.O. Box 451148 Sunrise, FL 33345-1148

1,188 AFSA members as of April 5, 2012. Help recruit new members for AFSA