



LOS ANGELES

Hospitality Financial and Technology Professionals

FEBRUARY 2000 ISSUE



James Le, President

*Happy
Valentine's
Day!*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Wow! Hats off to Bob Rebhan and American Express for providing us with some very helpful information and hints on credit card fraud.

I hope all of you have taken the time to sign all your credit cards! We all know how important that is now. I also would like to thank you members for all the positive feedback from our meeting at the Westin Bonaventure. It's always very helpful to me and the Board to know what topics have the most impact and importance to you.

This month's meeting will be held at the beautiful Hilton LAX, and I wish to thank Mr. Ko Igarashi for inviting our chapter in February. Steven Buck and Teresa Sharp of Arthur Andersen will lead an informative discussion on hotel industry trends related to the administration and management of real and personal property taxes. Specific issues will include: assessment appeal and audit defense procedures; real property tax increases in California; fixed asset (FF&E) strategies; process automation of the annual compliance; and a summary of the Assessor's approaches to valuing hotel property.

This is a subject which most of us usually do not spend much time on, but may well be very worth paying attention to. This will be a very informative meeting.

I would like to leave you with one last thought. **The strength of our chapter depends solely on our members.** Without you, there is no organization. There are so many ways you can be involved with the chapter: join a committee, host an event, write an article for the newsletter, be active in the annual membership drive. Please join in, and see how rewarding your input can be!

See you at the Hilton!

James Le

THE HILTON LAX

5711 West Century Blvd.
(310) 410-4000

Thursday, Feb. 17th
Doors open at 6:00 PM!
Cocktails 6:00 - 6:45 PM
Speaker 7:00 PM
Dinner 8:00 PM

"Property Taxes"

Speakers:

Steve Buck and Teresa Sharp
Arthur Andersen L.L.P.

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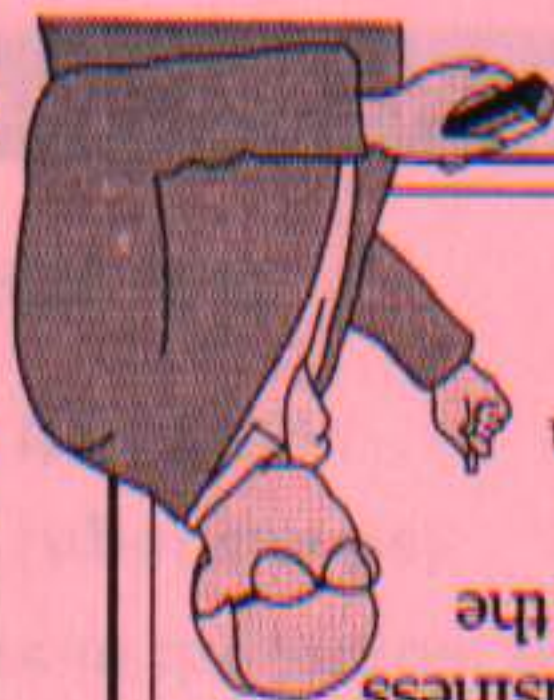
The price for the
dinner meeting is
\$35.00 per person
(\$45.00 Non-members)

Please make
checks payable to "HFTP"
("No Shows" will be billed)

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Call (626) 836-1222 for
reservations or fax the
enclosed RSVP form
by Tuesday, Feb. 15th.

"I generally avoid temptation unless I can't resist it." - Mae West



Steven Buck Mr. Buck is a senior property tax manager in the Los Angeles office of Arthur Andersen's State and Local Tax (SALT) Group. He is responsible for property tax services provided by the firm in the Southern California and Nevada regions. He specializes in real and personal property tax assessments and appeals. Mr. Buck has over twelve years of appraisal experience, including the valuation of commercial, industrial and residential properties. He has performed an analysis of the assessments and valuation of more than 3 million square feet of Class A office space in Los Angeles, including the newest office towers in Century City, Los Angeles and Westwood. He is also responsible for analyzing the assessments and valuation of major hotels and large multi-family residential projects.

Teresa Sharp Teresa is the lead manager in the Personal Property Tax area of Arthur Andersen. She has been a member of the State and Local Tax Practice for over eight years and specializes in Personal Property, Sales/Use, and Miscellaneous Business Taxes. Teresa is also the technical support manager in the Business Tax area with over nine years' experience in State and local taxes. Prior to joining Arthur Andersen LLP, Teresa held a tax accountant position for a large retailer, Arden Group, Inc.

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

February 28-29, 2000
Casino Controller's Conference 2000
New York-New York Hotel & Casino
Las Vegas, Nevada
Sponsored by HFTP and the University of Nevada,
Las Vegas International Gaming Institute.

February 27, 2000
CHAE/CHTP Exams
New York-New York Hotel & Casino
Las Vegas, Nevada



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Address Correction Requested