

July 2006

Summer Greetings! I hope each of you is enjoying the summer season.

Enclosed is a client newsletter regarding medical expenses, produced by the National Association of Enrolled Agents (NAEA). Take a moment to read the information so that you are prepared for 2006 taxes. It's never too early to plan!

Please take that snippet of wisdom to heart for all your financial affairs. I urge clients to have an attorney update wills (or prepare them, if you've been negligent) and revisit other vital legal documents on a regular basis. *Consider additional estate or other planning issues with a financial triad comprised of your attorney, financial advisor, and accountant.* Your financial advisor can help structure retirement goals, and college planning as well as life insurance needs, and assist in creating a strong financial position with net worth building strategies.

Your accountant offers support via tax and estate planning. For example, with income tax planning, tax liabilities can be estimated to eliminate large overpayments or underpayments (and underpayment penalties and interest). Large overpayments result from not planning. Direct that money toward your financial goals during the year instead of giving the government both the use of those funds as well as its income! *It's your money.* Earn interest or dividends on it or pay down debt.

Your accountant can also help monitor your financial picture, aiding your efforts to track income and expenses as well as assets and liabilities. It can be done manually, with ledgers or check registers or with software, such as Quicken or QuickBooks. The more you know about your money – where it came from, where it went, and how it's doing – the better your fiscal health will be. *The benefits of using a synchronized financial team will far outweigh its costs.*

Professionally, I'm thrilled to announce I've added a website at **www.aekummerea.com**. Please visit! I've also enclosed a brochure. If you're satisfied with my services, please refer me to family and friends. I'd be delighted to speak with them about their accounting needs. I also welcome any feedback on the brochure, the website, or, most importantly, my performance for you.

Please contact me with questions, for referrals to build your financial triad, or if you're ready for some tax planning. I'd love to hear from you!

**If you fail to plan, you plan to fail.
Tax and financial planning is no exception.**