

# IRS TAX CHALLENGER NEWS

### DEDICATED TO IRS TAX PROBLEM RESOLUTION

### www.TheTaxSolvers.com



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## Just the Medicine We Need at Christmas

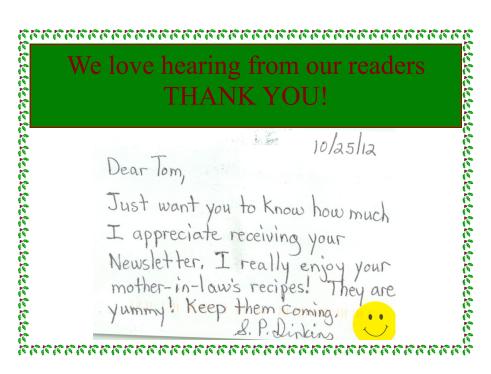
We like movies! During the Christmas holidays, there are movies we watch every year. "White Christmas," "Holiday Inn" (Fred Astaire's unforgettable drunken New Year's Dance and his "Say It With Firecrackers" are favorites), "Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street," "It's a Wonderful Life" and, of course, "A Christmas Story" (with scenes like "An A Plus for Ralphie"). All of these movies have a theme of redemption of the main character with the impossible becoming reality. Christmas celebrates the birth of our Savior by God, making the impossible a reality for us.

What has not been strange this year is that as lawyers we have seen many people with tax troubles. We often see someone who has had a financial crisis or business downturn, health crisis, or family crisis who now faces the IRS owing taxes. It's our privilege to help people with tax problems and try to pass on the Christmas spirit throughout the year-redemption in the face of tax difficulties. CPA's, financial advisors, attorneys, and prior clients regularly refer to us clients who face such a crisis. Sometimes, it's the widow who is left an annuity that was not properly rolled over. The solution is advocating in a private letter ruling to obtain a waiver from the IRS of the rollover deadline. Other times, it's the innocent spouse who faces tax liability they should not be facing. Periodically, it is working closely with a CPA in an audit defense where the IRS is seeking to unfairly tax a taxpayer by disallowing legitimate business expense deductions. Helping a client who is an underdog in their tax situation keeps Kris Kringle's spirit alive-redemption in the face of adversity.

To make this just a bit more understandable, let me share with you a family story. As you know, our dad was a small town family doctor. One year, he was getting ready to go out to make house calls around Christmas. Uncle Joe was home on vacation from medical school. Dad asked Uncle Joe if he would like to come along with him while he made house calls. Uncle Joe said, "I believe I would." So, out they went that cold December evening. One patient who had a heart condition lived alone. After checking her over and completing her medical care, she told them that she had a request. It was that they sing to her *Silent Night*. So, that December night two doctors, both over six feet tall (Uncle Joe is 6'7"), sang to her *Silent Night*. It was the heart medicine she needed.

So, we hope during the holidays, it will be a time where you have a spirit that cannot be defeated, that you remember why you choose to help others both in your profession, and in your personal free time through your church or civic organizations. We hope this holiday season you will help spread joy, peace, prosperity and what is noblest in each of us. By doing so, you will also receive these things. We hope during this holiday season that you savor the full measure of having a Savior born for each of us this Christmas. It's the heart medicine we all need.





## IRS TAX CHALLENGER

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#### www.TheTaxSolvers.com

#### "We help you get your life back from the IRS!"

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To be removed from our mailing list, call 317-635-4010.



## Thoughtful Things

"How did it get so late so soon? It's night before it's afternoon. December is here before it's June. My goodness how the time has flewin. How did it get so late so soon?" Dr. Seuss

### Be A Superhero!



At Ebbinghouse Law Group we are in the business of making you a superhero to the people you refer to us. Your reputation and relationship is enhanced using us as a trusted resource to solve their tax problem.

#### Thank You For Your Referrals!

We appreciate your referrals. As you know, we represent people in tax audits, payment plans, offers in compromise, innocent spouse and many other IRS problems. It really makes our day when you have referred someone to us. It is the ultimate compliment. We highly value your trust and will take care of everyone you send us. You are doing them a favor telling them about our services and us a favor too by sending us quality people we enjoy helping.

This publication is intended to educate the general public about IRS Tax Problem Resolution. It is not intended to be legal advice. Every case is different.



#### Crazy Times With the Looming Financial Cliff

This year has been a strange one with the country facing a financial cliff. Unless Congress acts, many tax provisions are slated to automatically expire on December 31st. The \$5,120,000 Lifetime Gift Exemption will automatically become only a \$1,000,000 Lifetime Gift Exemption. Instead of a husband and wife together being able to make tax free gifts in the total amount of \$10,240,000, after 12/31/12, they could only make total gifts of \$2,000,000. It means that \$8,240,000 of tax free gifts for such couples will be wasted if they have not made their gift before December 31<sup>st</sup>, needlessly subjecting their estates to high taxes. Congress may act in some way, but cautious people who have significant assets have been making tax free gifts to make sure they don't lose the exemption in case Congress does not act or reduces that amount of the exemption. The Alternative Minimum Tax ("AMT") also will catch many unsuspecting taxpayers if Congress does not act on it, too. It's estimated that 30 million taxpayers, roughly onefifth of taxpayers, will be hit by the AMT in 2012 according to the Joint Committee on Taxation. The Tax Reform Act of 1969, a predecessor to the AMT, sought to equalize for all taxpayers the taxes paid by individuals or corporations. Those who received the bulk of their income from capital gains or benefited from accelerated depreciation on real estate and other activities and paid relatively low rates of tax were taxed more. Although the AMT was originally enacted to target 155 high-income households, it now affects millions of families each year. One reason, it is not adjusted for inflation. There also have been changes in the tax code over the years. Congress in the past passed various patch bills, to minimize the impact of the AMT on most taxpayers. It is possible that Congress will have acted by the time you are reading this. We certainly hope so.

Tom's mother-in-law (Joan Doloris) is a fantastic cook and he wanted to share her recipes with you. Each month we will feature great down home comfort food for you to enjoy.



## **CREAMY HASH BROWNS**

- 1 package (2 lb) frozen cubed hash brown potatoes
- 8 oz shredded or cubed Velveeta
- 16 oz sour cream
- 1 can cream of celery soup
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 1 pound bacon, cooked & crumbled
- 1 large onion, chopped
- $\frac{1}{2}$  cup butter, melted
- $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp pepper (fresh ground)

Place potatoes in an ungreased crock-pot. In a bowl, combine the remaining ingredients. Pour over potatoes and mix well. Cover and cook on low for 4-5 hours (until potatoes are tender and heated through).

