

September Newsletter

2008

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OCTOBER 2 SEBC FLY-IN

Are you registered yet?

The SEBC Fly In is Thursday October 2 – just around the corner. Here is the link to register - <http://sebc.org/signupforms/aec.php>. If you have misplaced your program, a pdf of the advance program is attached.

Kathy Solley and her committee have planned an excellent program. The topics are so very timely with the events of the past weeks.

The conference kicks off bright and early with Bruce Johnstone, Senior Marketing Investment Strategist, Fidelity Investments, who will talk on "MARGIN CALL!....A Run on the Bank? FED Bail Out!... Stagflation?... or Opportunities in the U.S. (or Non-U.S.)?" We expect an exciting, insightful session on the economy, a topic near and dear to all our hearts these days.



Gary Earl, Senior Vice President of Cigna Healthcare will focus on the "Big Picture" and provide his thoughtful observations on the state of healthcare. Or maybe you will elect to attend Endowment Investing with Jim Taylor from the GA Tech Foundation or maybe ERISA Litigation with Rick Menson from McGuire Woods.

Mary Eaves, an attorney with Greenbaum Doll and Lou Campagna from the Department of Labor in Washington are planning an intriguing fiduciary session in which Mary's plan committee consults with the DOL about its duties and options when the plan suddenly learns it will receive a "windfall" recovery from a lawsuit settlement or a demutualization.

Or maybe you will elect to attend the session on potential credit losses in the US Financial System (what a timely topic!!!) or the one on what the PPA has meant to 401(k) plans.



At lunch, Catherine Miller of Charles Schwab Co. will discuss "Rethinking Retirement", sharing the interesting results from a recent Schwab survey of participants and their views toward retirement. Come and be surprised.

Executive Director

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Andy Jung at Montag & Caldwell will live the afternoon with his "Lessons Learned from Volatile Markets" and a frank look at when the crystal ball fails. Or maybe you will opt to hear from Joelle Sharman of Ford & Harrison as she examines the plaintiff's perspective in ERISA litigation and share some of the "good, bad and ugly". Or perhaps you will select the session on Consumerism and HDHP's with plan sponsor - Choicepoint, an insurance company and a consultant.

And then during the last hour of sessions select from Steve Newby at ING Investments presents a lively session on infrastructure investing -- the energy opportunity which sounds more relevant by the day, Claims Resolution after GLENN and ERISA Accounts in 401(k) plans.

With so many excellent and timely topics, the challenge will be trying to determine which session to attend each hour. The Program Committee is to be commended for planning such an excellent conference.

To emphasize that the SEBC is a membership organization and not just another conference, we have set aside extra time in the morning coffee break for networking and encourage the attendees to come with the goal of meeting at least two new contacts.

The Georgia Tech Global Learning Center is a great facility. There is plenty of space, continuous coffee and snacks, easy in and out from the parking garage, and lots of nooks and crannies to duck into for that urgent cell phone call.



The entrance to the Learning Center is on the right as you approach the Georgia Tech Conference Hotel – the entrance for the parking garage is 800 Spring Street – between building 1 and 7 in the map. The entrance to the Global Learning Center is on the second level (the blue level) of the parking garage. Keep in mind that Spring Street is one way south (towards downtown). Parking is \$10.00 for the day.



Or take MARTA to the Midtown Station – it is about a 5 block walk or take the Georgia Tech Trolley (a real treat!) from the Marta Midtown Station right to the front door of the center.

Here is the link for all the directions <http://www.gatechcenter.com/directions.php>

PLANNING AHEAD - 2009 AEC – Grove Park Inn, Asheville, NC

Next year the AEC will be May 13-15, 2009 at the Grove Park Inn in Asheville, NC. Open since 1913 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Grove Park Inn is one of the oldest and most famous resorts in the south. It is built on the side of Sunset Mountain and it boasts a 120 foot long great hall lobby that is flanked by 14 foot fireplaces. A must see!

Start thinking about a long weekend – the spa is wonderful so maybe a weekend getaway or maybe bring the family – lots of fun things for the children to do in and around Asheville. Mother's Day is the Sunday before the AEC for your planning purposes.

THANK YOU THANK YOU - The SEBC is so thankful to all our wonderful sponsors – and of those who will be at the Fly In



Terry Howard



David McElroy



Tim McCabe



Bryan Skradis



Jeff Capwell and Richard Menson



Legal and Legislative Update

With the Labor Day holiday and the Congressional vacation, there was little movement from the Hill. Below are a few updates on the regulatory front:

- Notice 2008-73 provides transition relief on funding rules for certain small pension plans.
- DOL releases three proposals on investment advice to plan participants:
 - Proposed regulation
 - Proposed class exemption
 - Report to Congress on computer-assisted investment advice for IRAs
- GAO releases report on fiduciary obligations faced by 401(k) plan sponsors
- IRS clarifies definition of dependent for divorced and separated parents (Revenue Procedure 2008-48)
- IRS revises EPCRS program (Revenue Procedure 2008-50)

SEE EVERYONE ON OCTOBER 2 AT THE SEBC FLY IN!!!