

**2018 NAEA National Conference
Instructor Biographies**

Aaron Blau, EA, CPA
LG Brooks, EA
Salvatore P. Candela, EA
Frank Degen, EA, USTCP
Marc Dombrowski, EA
Thomas A. Gorczynski, EA, USTCP
Robert (Bert) Hartmann, EA
Claudia A. Hill, EA
Kevin C. Huston, EA, USTCP
Lisa Ihm, EA
Clarice Landreth, EA
Robert McKenzie, EA, JD
David F. Miles, EA
Kathy Morgan, EA, USTCP
Alan Pinck, EA
Laura Strombom, EA
Aaron B. Whitaker Jr., EA

Aaron Blau, EA, CPA, is an Arizona-based certified public accountant and enrolled agent whose medium-sized practice focuses on small, closely held companies and individual income tax preparation. Aaron is an active member of the Arizona Society of Enrolled Agents and chairs the Central Arizona Chapter. In addition to being a National Tax Practice Institute™ (NTPI®) Level 2 instructor, Aaron teaches QuickBooks to small business owners and volunteers with the Arizona State University Alumni Association.

LG Brooks, EA, is a senior consultant at The Tax Practice, Inc., a representation firm in Dallas, Texas. In full-time practice since 1990, his areas of practice include tax representation, tax consulting, tax preparation, and pre-Tax Court litigation support services. LG is an NTPI Fellow® and teaches in NTPI Level 1, Level 3, and the Graduate Level in Representation.

Salvatore P. Candela, EA, is the owner and founder of The Tax Advocate Group, based in New York, which focuses on tax controversy resolution. His firm represents taxpayers before all administrative levels of the IRS, and is committed to helping taxpayers resolve their IRS problems. Sal is an NTPI Fellow and an NTPI Level 2, Level 3, and Graduate Level in Representation instructor.

Frank Degen, EA, USTCP, is an NTPI Fellow and a non-attorney admitted to practice in the United States Tax Court. He has served twice as NAEA President, and as Chair of IRSAC, the IRS Advisory Council, in 2009. Frank practices as a sole proprietor in Setauket, New York. Frank is an NTPI Level 3, Graduate Level in Representation, and Tax Preparation Issues instructor.

Marc Dombrowski, EA, is president of Tax Help Associates, Inc. with seven offices on the East Coast. He has specialized in IRS and state collection/representation issues since 1994. Marc has considerable experience in federal/state payment plans, trust fund recovery penalty cases, offers in compromise, lien priority law, innocent spouse, and penalty abatement cases. Marc is a proud NTPI Fellow and is an NTPI Level 2 instructor.

Thomas A. Gorczynski, EA, USTCP, is the CEO of Gorczynski & Associates, LLC in Baltimore, Maryland. His firm specializes in tax preparation, international tax compliance, and tax problem representation. Tom is admitted to practice before the United States Tax Court. He is a speaker and writer on tax law and procedure and has been published in *EA Journal*. Tom is an NTPI Fellow and instructor of NTPI Level 1, Graduate Level in Representation, and Tax Preparation Issues.

Robert (Bert) Hartmann, EA, received his EA card in 1989 and is an NTPI Fellow. Bert is a founding member of the Northern Nevada Society of Enrolled Agents, where he has served as president, vice president, treasurer, and is an annual tax update speaker. His practice is located in Sparks, Nevada and employs two other EAs. He has been an NTPI Level 2 speaker for almost fifteen years.

Claudia A. Hill, EA, MBA, is a nationally recognized tax professional and frequent lecturer on taxation of individuals, tax planning, and representation before IRS. She is editor-in-chief of the Wolters Kluwer (formerly CCH) *Journal of Tax Practice and Procedure* and a frequent presenter at the IRS Tax Forums. She is an NTPI Fellow and an instructor of NTPI Level 1, 3, the Graduate Level in Representation, and Tax Preparation Issues.

Kevin C. Huston, EA, USTCP is the president of Blue Ridge Tax Advisors Inc., in Asheville, North Carolina. He has authored several tax and financial articles for professional journals. Kevin is admitted to practice before the United States Tax Court as a non-attorney practitioner and presented the 2016 National Conference plenary. Kevin is an NTPI Fellow and is teaching this year in NTPI Level 1, the Graduate Level in Representation, and Tax Preparation Issues.

Lisa Ihm, EA, became an enrolled agent in 1986. Lisa teaches seminars nationwide about a wide array of tax topics ranging from basic individual issues to partnership/corporation and estate/trust issues. Rather than simply reciting the rules, she digs below the surface to make you think about how tax laws affect your clients and how you can use those laws to your clients' benefit. She works and lives in Coronado, California. Lisa is an instructor in the Tax Preparation Issues track.

Clarice Landreth, EA, is the Quality Assurance Analyst at Omni Financial in Broomfield, Colorado. Clarice has over 15 years of experience representing taxpayers before the IRS and state taxing authorities. Clarice is currently on the Board of Directors of the Colorado Society of Enrolled Agents and is a current NTPI Planning Committee member. Clarice became an NTPI Fellow in 2013 and is an NTPI Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 instructor. She also serves as a Level 2 discussion leader.

Mary Beth Lougen, EA, USTCP has over thirty years of income tax experience, working and living both in the United States and in Canada. Beth opened American Expat Tax Services to make quality expat tax preparation available to everyone. Previously while working with a major tax firm, she created training for U.S. tax theory, software and company policies and procedures, and provided support by researching and interpreting tax laws, tax treaties, and regulations. Beth is a proud NTPI Fellow and Graduate Level in Representation and Tax Preparation Issues instructor.

Robert McKenzie, EA, JD is a partner of Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr LLP of Chicago, Illinois. Prior to entering private practice, Robert was employed by the IRS Collection Division. He served as a member of the IRS Advisory Council (IRSAC), was Vice Chair Professional Services of the ABA Tax Section, and Dean of the National Tax Practice Institute™. Bob is an NTPI Levels 3 and Graduate Level in Representation instructor.

David F. Miles, EA, is a consultant with 20/20 Tax Resolution, Inc., and has more than 18 years of tax resolution experience. He works nationally as a taxpayer representative, focusing on state and IRS collections. He is an active tax educator, most recently partnering with nationally recognized payroll provider ADP for an education seminar. He has been interviewed regarding tax topics for various news articles and television, including *Tax Talk Today*, and has been a contributor to the *EA Journal*. David is an NTPI Fellow and will be teaching in NTPI Levels 1, 3 and the Graduate Level in Representation.

Kathy Morgan, EA, USTCP just completed her 25th year with H&R Block. Her work has been published by several tax research companies, including Parker Tax Publishing and TaxConnections.com. She also speaks and instructs on a wide variety of tax issues. Through her company, Puzzled By Taxes, she offers tax preparation and representation services. Kathy is an NTPI Fellow and is pleased to make her NAEA National Conference debut as an instructor in Level 2.

Alan Pinck, EA, is the NAEA Education Committee Chair, past Education Foundation Trustee, and has previously held board positions in CSEA. He teaches at the CSEA Super Seminars and teaches a Part 2 SEE preparation class. His practice in the San Francisco Bay Area specializes in personal and business tax return preparation as well as audit representation. Alan serves as an NTPI Levels 1, 2 and Graduate Level in Representation instructor.

Laura Strombom, EA, became an EA in 2000 and owns All About the Numbers in Stockton, California. She gained extensive bookkeeping and accounting experience prior to sitting for the SEE. Laura became an NTPI Fellow in 2010 and is excited to teach at her first NAEA National Conference. Laura will be teaching in Level 1 and the Tax Preparation Issues track.

Aaron B. Whitaker Jr., EA, retired from the IRS as an Associate Chief in the Appeals Division in 2006. Aaron specializes in representation issues before the IRS and in the preparation of individual and small business tax returns. He is a past member of the NAEA Education Committee and serves as an NTPI Level 2 discussion leader and Level 2 instructor.