

**National Conference 2017  
Instructor Biographies**

**Aaron Blau, EA, CPA**

**LG Brooks, EA**

**Salvatore P. Candela, EA**

**Catherine A. Clow, EA**

**Frank Degen, EA, USTCP**

**Marc Dombrowski, EA**

**John R. Dundon II, EA**

**Thomas A. Gorczynski, EA, USTCP**

**Robert (Bert) Hartmann, EA**

**Claudia A. Hill, EA, MBA**

**Kevin C. Huston, EA, USTCP**

**Lisa Ihm, EA**

**Amy L. King, EA**

**Clarice Landreth, EA**

**Howard Levy, JD**

**Robert McKenzie, EA, JD**

**Alan Pinck, EA**

**John Sheeley, EA**

**Sherrill Trovato, EA, USTCP**

**Steven L. Walker, JD**

**Jo-Ann Weiner, 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 an NTPI® Level 1 and 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 and Level 3, and is a Graduate Level in Representation instructor.

**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 past Graduate Level in Representation instructor.

**Catherine A. Clow, EA**, is an NTPI Fellow and NTPI Level 2 discussion leader/instructor. She is a past Chair of the NTPI Planning and Education Committees, and served as a trustee of the NAEA Education Foundation. She has also served on the Best in the West Education Foundation. Cathy's practice in Auburn, California specializes in individual and business tax preparation and representation.

**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 1 and 2 instructor.

**John R. Dundon II, EA**, works for U.S. taxpayers to resolve tax disputes and de-escalate stressful situations for individuals, partnerships, and corporations with federal and/or state tax issues. Previously, he has served as the President Emeritus, President, Vice President, Secretary, and Membership Chair of the Colorado Society of Enrolled Agents. John is an NTPI Fellow and a Tax Preparation Issues 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, NTPI Level 1 and Graduate Level in Representation instructor.

**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 over ten 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 CCH, Inc.,

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 and the Graduate Level in Representation.

**Kevin C. Huston, EA, USTCP, ChFC, CLU**, 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 US Tax Court as a non-attorney practitioner and presented the 2016 National Conference plenary. Kevin is an NTPI Fellow, an NTPI Level 1 and Graduate Level in Representation instructor.

**Lisa Ihm, EA**, became an enrolled agent in 1986. Lisa teaches seminars nationwide about a wide array of tax issues 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' benefits. She works and lives in Coronado, California. Lisa is an instructor in the Tax Preparation Issues track.

**Amy L. King, EA**, became an enrolled agent in 2004, and opened King Tax Service LLP in Enumclaw, Washington. Her firm prepares over 750 individual tax returns and works many IRS audit cases a year. Amy teaches a wide variety of tax seminars across the country. In June of 2013, she was a participant on Tax Talk Today. She is a proud NTPI Fellow and an NTPI Level 2 Instructor.

**Clarice Landreth, EA**, is the Internal Auditor/Training Coordinator at Omni Financial in Broomfield, Colorado. Clarice has over 13 years of experience representing taxpayers before the IRS and state taxing authorities. In 2015, she served as the Secretary 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 and Graduate Level in Representation instructor.

**Howard Levy, JD**, is a former IRS trial attorney. Based in Cincinnati, Ohio, Howard is a partner in the law firm of Voorhees & Levy, LLC. Howard's expertise centers on IRS collection and examination problems, tax court litigation, trust fund investigations, and the use of bankruptcy as a method of resolving IRS problems. He is an NTPI Level 3 and Graduate Level in Representation instructor.

**Robert McKenzie, EA, JD**, is a partner of 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.

**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 Level 1 and 2 instructor.

**John Sheeley, EA**, became an NTPI Fellow in 2012. He previously served as an officer and board member of the New York State Society of Enrolled Agents. His Goshen, New York based tax practice

focuses on U.S. citizens abroad and the U.S. subsidiaries of foreign businesses. His recent teaching and focus is on the legal cannabis industry. John is an instructor in the Tax Preparation Issues track.

**Sherrill Trovato, EA, USTCP's** Southern California firm specializes in tax preparation and controversy representation. She developed a prep course designed to assist practitioners seeking admission to the Tax Court bar as a non-attorney; since 2002, 79.5% of those passing the exam have been her students. She is a past president of NAEA, an NTPI Fellow, and has been a regular NTPI instructor since 2002. Trovato teaches in the Graduate Level in Representation.

**Steven L. Walker, JD,** is a tax attorney representing individuals, businesses, trusts, and estates in sensitive tax controversies. Steven is a former IRS Office of Chief Counsel Attorney, worked at the California Franchise Tax Board, and is a past Chair of the Taxation Section of the State Bar of California. He is an Adjunct Professor at the University of San Francisco School of Law, where he teaches in the LLM Taxation Program. Steven is an instructor for the NTPI Graduate Level in Representation and Tax Preparation Issues track.

**Jo-Ann Weiner, EA,** worked for the IRS for 35 years before founding J.L. Weiner & Associates, LLC in 2012. As a Certified Fraud Examiner, Jo-Ann works with corporations victimized by fraud. Jo-Ann is a class of 2015 NTPI Fellow, and an NTPI Level 1 and Graduate Level in Representation instructor. She currently serves as a Director on the Board of the New Jersey Society of Enrolled Agents and is the Education Committee Chairperson for South Jersey.

**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.