



Dear Tax Peeps,

Tax Time in Tinseltown ... again! I'm late getting this letter out because I just got back from the East coast. I was in Washington where I visited the National Association of Enrolled Agents, checked out the Tax Court, the Internal Revenue Service Center, and attended The Women's March, and then went to New York where I met with some clients and saw "The Front Page." Really good show. Now I'm back and ready to go.

Big news! I am a grandmother! Clark Gary Granger was born October 27th . Not only is he incredibly good looking, but a genius as well. He can already do that baby sign language. Last time I babysat him he signed to me, "I want to be a tax consultant like you, Grandma." How about that! He's in his crib right now studying the Internal Revenue Code. Sorry for bragging, but you know how grandmothers are.

We have the same crew working as last year. Bill preparing returns, Alice at the front desk, Suzi and Jen assisting me, Debbie bouncing between the front desk and data input along with Femio and my daughter, Caity. Paula will be in at the end of the season to man the extensions. It's a full house.

I am trying to move away from the interview format for preparing returns this year. Hopefully this will eliminate long waits on the couch and the need for calls to find out if I'm running on time. You will have two choices:

1. Send your W-2s and all other items of income (Form 1099s, etc.) along with your filled-in worksheets. I will work from spreadsheets and lists, but it's SO MUCH BETTER to transfer numbers to the worksheets (you will find them waiting for you to download at www.pamelapriceea.com). This is because the items are listed in the correct order and it will keep you from missing something. Read the worksheets thoroughly. If you're not sure what category to put something in just put it where you think it goes. Write notes if you need to. Scan and email all this information to alice@pamelapriceea.com AT LEAST 2 WEEKS PRIOR TO YOUR INTERVIEW. We will call you with questions. Hopefully when you come in we will just be going over the results with you. If you would rather we can just go over it on the phone.

2. Number one is far better, but if you aren't able to send your information in at least two weeks ahead, you will come in and I'll go over the worksheets with you to be sure all questions are resolved. I will try to give you an idea what the bottom-line will be, but it is unlikely that your return will be completed during the interview. We hope to be able to have a week to a 10 day turn-around on these returns, and will call or email you with the results.

FEES: There will be a \$40 basic fee increase. Of course, the increase would be more if there was additional work on the return this year, and conversely it would be less if the work decreased. Bill has elected to decrease his workload and I have given my mighty staff raises each year, so you can guess who is taking home less. That, plus the fact that a survey of the market shows my fees to have fallen below the average again, demands an increase. H&R Block charges more than I do.

Mail-ins are welcome and, since there is no appointment, the \$40 fee increase will usually not be charged. We have a pretty good turn-around on mail-ins, but as the season progresses the pile grows higher, so it is advised that you get them in asap. If we get it after March 15th you probably will get extended. Last year we got 43 in between the 11th and the 15th of March!

There are changes this year, but nothing that would affect your preparation. If you have an Earned Income Credit or an Additional Child, and file prior to February 15th, your return will be delayed until that time due to fraud in those areas.

Read over the material on the website and call us if you have any questions.

See you soon.

Happy calculating.

Pam