**WAYS TO MAKE TAX SEASON BETTER AND MORE FUN**

**FOR YOU AND YOUR STAFF**

* Better hours during tax season
* A continuous recognition and “selling” of the benefits of tax season for staff
* Making sure staff are presented work they will enjoy and find stimulating
* Have staff meet with clients to get tax information, sit in on such meetings, or call client for additional information and to obtain answers to open item questions
* Setting up self-checking methods so less work is submitted that needs to be corrected
* Floating weekend day off during tax season
* Close the office the weekend after March 15, and the day after April 15
* Flowers or plant to the spouse of a staff person, dinner on you after tax season, a surprise gift for young children of staff
* No Mickey Mouse overtime or “bonus” payments – pay for the work
* Don’t make people work late before there are actual tax returns to do
* Better scheduling of work
* Flextime during tax season and/or certainly on weekend days
* Involve them in decision making process on clients they work on
* Occasional surprise ice cream or yogurt treats in the afternoon
* Close the evening of Valentine’s Day (without a make-up date)
* St. Patrick’s Day beer fest at the local bar and no work that night
* Masseuse weekly to loosen tension in staff’s backs
* Think of some other things that will interest, excite and provide some fun.

*This information was provided courtesy of Edward Mendlowitz, CPA, partner emeritus, WithumSmith+Brown, P.C. Ed was a speaker at the PSTAP Practice Management Seminar.*