

**CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION NEWS**

# Did you get your taxes filed in time this year?



BY KELLY LIESE POTVIN

Just like the carpenter never getting around to doing his own home repairs, or the mechanic repairing his wife's vehicle, I was so busy doing clients taxes I didn't get mine in on time.

This was the year of the big CRA crack down. Recipients of the monthly Child Tax Benefit [baby bonus] who hadn't filed both the husband and wife's tax returns by June were probably cut off with very little warning. The monthly CTC benefit is based on the prior year's earnings. For example the July 2008 - June 2009 monthly benefit is based on the family's earnings from 2007. The same applied to the personal GST received quarterly. No return, no cheque.

I have been kept busy this summer preparing taxes for new clients who lost their baby bonus, some of which are drivers. All of whom were surprised.

Last year GST cracked down by not sending out refund cheques to those Owner / Operators who were behind on their quarterly GST returns.

This year I will remember as "the year of no baby bonus". What's next?

Last month I attended the Warkworth Show and Shine. While I was away from my booth a gentle-

man told my associate that he hadn't filed in 20 years. He asked him if I was open-minded. Open minded? I have no problem doing taxes from any year, even 20 years ago. I know what laws were applicable for each year. Will I send in a false return? No, for a number of reasons...

1. I can be charged for knowingly filing a false return.

2. I represent 100's of clients, who, if I get charged with the above offence, are at risk of having their

tax returns audited. I have no doubt they were prepared properly, but the time wasted would be astronomical.

3. There are programs available to help ease and or erase penalties as well interest relief.

Keep in mind that not everyone who files late does so because they owe money. A couple of years ago I prepared tax returns for a new client dating back 10 years. He was a driver, and as such had refunds due for each year. He just never got around

to filing.

It's important to file your tax returns. If you haven't filed yet this year, or for a number of years, call me and we'll see what steps you can take to lessen the penalties and or interest. It's never too late to file, and always better if you file on your own, prior to Revenue Canada contacting you.

If you have any questions regarding this, or any other tax subject, please send them to [kelly@itsallaboutnumbers.com](mailto:kelly@itsallaboutnumbers.com). ■

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# What is the 10-4 Teddy Bear Wheelchair Foundation?

The 10-4 Teddy Bear Wheelchair Foundation was founded in October 2006 by Richard Masys and

dedicated to the memory of his companion of 15 years, Mary, who passed away after her long battle with cancer.

Richard was in the CB craze back in the late 70's and also worked within the trucking industry for the past 10 years handling

paperwork, getting drivers and their freight into the U.S. Back in 2002 he heard the song "Teddy Bear" on a Boxcar Willie CD and got the idea of raising funds through the sale of teddy bears in order to purchase wheelchairs for children whose parents could not afford. The idea was put on the back burner. After Mary's passing, he decided to dedicate this project in her memory. Mary was a very dedicated teacher in Special Education for over 30 years, Richard said, and this would be a wonderful

tribute to keep her memory alive.

He is hoping that all truckers, as well as their companies, across Canada purchase a

teddy bear. He would like to hear the words: Hey Truckers, please give Teddy Bear a ride.


Funds raised from the sales of teddy bears stay within the province that they are sold in.

Please visit Richard's web site at [www.10-4teddybear.com](http://www.10-4teddybear.com) and listen to the original song recorded by Red Sovine by clicking on the icon below Mary's biography.


Richard can be contacted by email at [hyjmas@sympatico.ca](mailto:hyjmas@sympatico.ca) or by calling (514) 696-2869. ■



UPCOMING SHOWS & EVENTS




**A.T.S.S.A MEETINGS**  
**TORONTO MEETINGS - OCTOBER 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2008**  
 Vaughan, Ontario  
 Meetings are held at 6:00 p.m. every second Thursday of the month. A full course dinner is served at every meeting.



**A.T.S.S.A BELLEVILLE MEETINGS**  
 Ramada Inn, Belleville  
 Meetings are held at 7pm every 1st Thursday of the month. A buffet dinner is served at every meeting.

**OCTOBER 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2008 - 5PM**  
**TRANSPORT FOR CHRIST - 7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BANQUET**  
 John Knox Christian School  
 800 Juliana Drive, Woodstock, ON

**OCTOBER 31<sup>ST</sup> - NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2008**  
**THSAO COUNCIL OF DRIVER TRAINERS ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE**  
*"Do Diligence"*  
 Ambassador Hotel & Conference Centre  
 Kingston, Ontario  
 Contact: Betty Taylor, 877.242.4827



**NOVEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup> & 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2008**  
**OTA 82<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION**  
 Doubletree International Plaza Hotel  
 655 Dixon Road  
 Toronto, ON  
 Contact: Melanie Kowdrysh  
 Phone: 416.249.7401

