

# SCS Connection

*Southern Capital Services, Inc.*

## Save the Date!

### Our Next Client Event is Coming in May

We were very pleased with the turnout and reception to our client event for women last month, and now we are preparing the next one. It will consist of two parts and take place on [Thursday, May 21](#). The first part will cover Social Security. Questions to be addressed include: What is the best age to take it? What are the advantages and disadvantages to waiting until age 67 instead of 65, for example? What considerations need to be taken into account when deciding when to take Social Security?

If you or any of your friends and relatives have questions like these, please set aside some time on May 21 to attend. It will be midday with lunch included. More detailed information will be sent out closer to the time. Please feel free to contact us early if you would like to reserve a spot.

The presenter will be Edward de Arcos of BlackRock Funds. Many of you will recognize one of the BlackRock funds currently in your portfolios. Prior to joining BlackRock, Mr. de Arcos was a Vice President for the Institutional Services Group (ISG) at Nuveen Investments and worked with Private Bankers and institutional clients in Florida, the Caribbean, and Latin America. During his 23 years of experience in the financial services industry, Mr. de Arcos was Director of Lease Finance at Ryder System, Inc. before joining Nuveen in May 2000.

Edward received his BSBA in Marketing from the University of Florida and his MBA from Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama. He is a Certified Financial Planner (CFP®) and earned his Certified Investment Management Analyst (CIMA) designation through the Investment Manage-



**Edward de Arcos**  
*BlackRock Funds*

ment Consultants Association in conjunction with the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. Edward is also a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) and is a member of the Miami Society of Financial Analysts. He will be able to help answer specific, individual questions about Social Security after the presentation.

The second part of the client event is a charity golf outing that afternoon. Those who would like to

play can adjourn with us to a nearby course for 18 holes of fun. The cost will be \$50 to include cart and green fees, and all proceeds will go to benefit the Daphne Optimist Club whose mission is "bringing out the best in kids." Prizes will be awarded! For those interested in golf, you are welcome to put together your own foursome, or we will be happy to group you as we know who is playing.

A few of the Optimist activities your contributions will go to support include essay and oratorical contests where the student participants compete for scholarship awards; a Christmas event for children whose families might not be able to afford many gifts; and an annual teacher appreciation banquet where outstanding teachers from the local schools are recognized. We hope to have local club members on hand to help with the golf portion of the event.

Our goal in putting on client events such as these is to not only to inform and offer a variety of topics that will be of interest to different segments of our client base, but also to have fun. And, the events are not just intended for our local clients. At the women's seminar, we had clients fly in from as far away as Illinois and Maine! As always, if there is a topic you would like to see us cover, please call and we will see if we can get it into the event planning process.

*Eric Nager, CRPS®*



*“Planning is bringing the future into the present so that you can do something about it now.”*

*-Alan Lakein-*

## Don't Forget The Spousal IRA!

By Eric Nager, CRPS®

With tax season upon us and the April 15 deadline for individual taxes rapidly approaching, we have written much about getting your 2014 Individual Retirement Account (IRA) contribution in before that date. What we have not written as much about is the spousal IRA. A spousal IRA is a way for a spouse without earned income to still be able to save for retirement.

If a couple is married, filing jointly, and one spouse does not have earned income, an IRA contribution can still be made up to the allowable deduction limits for a traditional IRA, with certain income restrictions. For both tax years 2014 and 2015, that limit is \$5,500 for those up to age 50, and \$6,500 for those age 50 and older. Anyone turning 50 years of age in a given

tax year is considered 50 for the entire year for tax purposes. If the working spouse is covered by a retirement plan through her/his employer, and the reported adjusted gross income (AGI) is less than \$183,000, the spousal IRA qualifies for deductibility. If the income is between \$183,000 and \$193,000, it qualifies for partial deductibility.

If adjusted gross income is over \$193,000, or if the couple does not need the current year tax deduction, a spousal IRA contribution can also be made to a Roth, which is subject to certain similar income restrictions. For a married couple filing jointly, a full spousal Roth IRA contribution can be made if AGI is under \$181,000; a partial one can be made between \$181,000 and

\$191,000. We'll be happy to discuss with you the pros and cons of a traditional IRA versus a Roth IRA.

The IRA contribution and AGI limits shift upward over time, so as always, check with your tax professional each year before making any contributions. It is better to find out if a contribution is allowable and/or deductible ahead of time than to withdraw a disallowed contribution and amend a tax return. And, until April 15, IRA contributions can be made for both traditional and Roth IRAs for tax years 2014 and 2015. After that date, they can only be made for 2015.



## Let Us Know of Major Life Changes

Have you recently been married, divorced, had a child, retired, or become disabled in some way? All of these are major life events and impact greatly on your financial situation. While we like to meet with our clients on a regular basis, we consider events such as these to be “triggers” for a comprehensive review with us. When your circumstances change, you would like to change your current portfolio objective, or if the current draw from your account is no longer appropriate, please call to make an appointment to discuss your new situation. By making an appointment, we can review the changes and map out a revised investment strategy plan for your retirement.

## Goodbye, Sweet Moxie

We will no longer carry the column by Moxie H. Nager as he has moved on to Kitty Heaven.

Farewell, dear friend.

1999–2015

