



October 2008 Member Newsletter

President's Message

Our September kick off meeting was a successful and enlightening event. Herb W. Morgan of Efficient Market Advisors, LLC gave us an insightful presentation of current state of the economy just as the markets were becoming very volatile. John Conner of Borel Bank provided a reassuring perspective of the banking industry for institutions such as Borel Bank which are not involved in Wall Street's subprime loans. The hosted reception was also a success, allowing many of our members to get reacquainted with each other and develop new friendships. Thanks again to both John and Herb for their excellent presentations and to Borel Bank for financially hosting the event.

Our next meeting is on October 28th and will be presented by Howie Pearson, Senior Philanthropic Advisor and Development Legal Counsel at Stanford University. His topic is "Current Trends in Charitable Giving." The topic and his bio are described more fully below. This topic is especially timely for year end tax planning and allows us to get an update on the current state of charitable giving. Members should bring any questions they may have.

Reservations for dinner meetings can be made on our website www.financialplanningforum.org. For those of you who have not yet renewed your membership for the year, we encourage you to also do so by using the website. The link to the website will accept your reservations for the October meeting and your membership renewal for this year. **Please renew as soon as possible as the member listings will be refreshed following the October meeting.** For those who prefer, you can still renew your membership and make dinner reservations and payment with a check by mail or fax to Karin Swanson.

Please remember that our monthly meetings are being held at the Palo Alto Sheraton Hotel, rather than at the Stanford Court Hotel. The Palo Alto Sheraton is located at 625 El Camino Real, in Palo Alto, just south of the El Camino Real underpass with University Avenue and less than a mile south of the Stanford Court Hotel. Parking will be provided at the Sheraton, with a voucher given at the meeting for the ticket you will receive when you enter the hotel's parking lot.

We look forward to seeing you at the October meeting and appreciate any suggestions you may have to the Board to better serve you.

C. Bruce Hamilton, President

2008-2009 Board Members: Krista Conover, Jennifer Cray, Veronica Dostal, Brad Elman, Todd Flesner, Bruce Hamilton, Neil O'Keeffe, Karin Swanson, and Richard Zimmerman

CURRENT TRENDS IN CHARITABLE GIVING
B. HOWARD PEARSON, STANFORD UNIVERSITY
DEVELOPMENT LEGAL COUNSEL AND
SENIOR PHILANTHROPIC ADVISOR
OCTOBER 28, 2008

This presentation is best described as a survey of charitable planning techniques being frequently used in 2008-09, with a focus on trends and on those techniques particularly attractive in a low-interest environment. Topics covered will include charitable lead annuity trusts, charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts (including terminating them early), use of retirement plans, and planning issues associated with charitable pledges.

B. HOWARD PEARSON is Senior Philanthropic Advisor and Development Legal Counsel at Stanford University and a lecturer at the Stanford Law School where he teaches two courses: Trusts and Estates and Estate Planning. After graduating from Stanford University in 1976, he received his Juris Doctor from the University of Utah College of Law in 1979. Following law school and a federal judicial clerkship, he joined the firm of Brobeck, Phleger & Harrison in San Francisco and Palo Alto where he was an associate and partner in the field of estate planning for fifteen years before joining Stanford in 1995. Mr. Pearson has served regularly on panels and committees of the American, State and local Bar Associations. He has been a faculty member of the Practising Law Institute's annual Estate Planning Institute since 1993. He is also a co-editor of California Probate Practice, published by Matthew Bender.