

1040 Taxpayers Ask IRS

This column of questions and answers on federal tax matters is provided by the local office of the U.S. Internal Revenue Service and is published as a public service to taxpayers. The column answers questions most frequently asked by taxpayers.

Q. I bought several tickets to a concert performed for the benefit of a charity. Are the cost of these tickets deductible as a charitable contribution?

A. The payments for admission or participation in any benefit performance, banquet, charity ball, etc., for a qualified organization are deductible only to the extent they exceed the fair market value of the performance or other privilege.

For example, if the concert would normally cost \$10, but the benefit cost \$20, you may claim the extra \$10 as a charitable contribution. If you claim the deduction, you must show that the payment is above the fair market value. Whether you use the tickets or

not has no bearing on the amount you may deduct.

Q. Is the tax on my utility bill tax deductible?

A. Generally, utility taxes are not deductible unless they are imposed at the same rate as the general sales tax, and are considered part of the general sales tax.

Q. I was married last month, but I am continuing to use my maiden name at my job and for other business purposes. Can I use my maiden name and still file a joint return with my husband?

A. Yes, but there are complications. When the joint return is processed, the IRS will file it under

the primary surname and social security number, which in this case is your husband's. There will be no record of a tax return filed under your maiden name.

Consequently, every year that you file jointly using your maiden name, you may receive a delinquency notice from the IRS.

Until the system is changed, the only way to resolve this is to follow the instructions on the delinquency notice and state that you filed a joint return with your husband, listing his name, Social Security number and your name.

Q. I recently made a profit from the sale of some stock I owned. I didn't withdraw the profit from my account, but used it to cover some earlier losses. Will I have to pay tax on the profit?

A. Yes. Profits are taxable as income in the year received, whether or not you withdraw them from the account. The fact that you used them to offset losses does not eliminate your tax liability.

Negroes are forbidden to serve to witnesses in court cases, and are condemned to lifelong servitude, unless they have either been Christians in their native land, or free men in a Christian country.

1712 New York City
An early slave revolt claims the lives of nine whites, and results in the execution of 21 Negroes. Six others commit suicide.

The Veterans Administration manages an insurance program of 8.9 million policies with a face value of \$90.8 billion.

Continued from Page 1

1723 Virginia
The colony enacts laws to limit the increase of free Negroes to those who are born into this class, or manumitted by special acts of the legislature. Such laws are so effective that, by 1782, there are only 2,800 free Negroes in the territory. This same year, free Negroes are denied the right to vote and forbidden to carry weapons of any sort.

1735 New York
Dutch burgher John Van Zandt whips his slave to death for being picked up outside of his quarters. Van Zandt is tried by a coroner's jury which asserts that the slave was killed "by the visitation of God."

1740 South Carolina
The colony passes a slave code which forbids slaves from raising livestock, provides that any animals owned by slaves be forfeited, and fixes severe penalties for slaves who make "false appeals" to the governor on the grounds that they have been placed in bondage illegally.

1741 New York
A series of arsonist acts throughout the city prompts a massive white backlash which results in the burning of 11 Negroes and the hanging of 18 others. Public suspicion of slaves stems solely from their presence, rather than from any circumstantial or direct proof of their connection with the crimes.

1750 Framingham, Massachusetts

Crispus Attucks, later to become one of the first heroes of the American Revolution, escapes from his master.

1752 Mount Vernon

There are 18 slaves at Mount Vernon at the time George Washington acquires the estate there. Under Washington, the number grows to 200. At his death, the President provides for their manumission. Washington's record shows a concern for their physical welfare, but affords little proof of equal concern for their mental or moral betterment.

1754 Philadelphia

Quaker John Woolman publishes "Some Considerations on the Keeping of Negroes", an exhortation to fellow members of the Society of Friends to consider manumitting their slaves on grounds of morality. Three years later, some Quakers take formal action against members who ignore this plea and continue to own slaves. In Philadelphia, Quakers dealing in the slave trade are barred from making contributions for financial upkeep. In New England, Quakers who import slaves are similarly penalized; in London, the suggestion is made that they be expelled from the Society.

1760 New York City

Jupiter Hammon, believed to be the first Negro poet in the colonies, publishes "Salvation by Christ With Penitential Cries".

CONSUMERTIP

There are ways to cut down on the three pounds of garbage you produce daily.

Newspaper recycling is good for an annual savings per person of 15 gallons of gas and two pulpwood trees.

Then, too, you should avoid needless packaging, according to the Environmental Protection Agency.

Look for potato chips sold only by the bag and toothpaste by the tube

--you don't need the outer box.

Many a "usable" can become a "reusable" cloth towels, gift wrap, plastic containers and shopping bags, to name a few.



PSYCHOLOGIST VISITS SHAW - Dr. Helen Crisp, a psychologist with the N.C. Department of Human Resources, visited Shaw University last week and spoke to education majors in Mrs. Kathryn Shepard's class. Afterwards she discussed the different aspects of human development with (left to right) Karen Frye, John J. Moore, Hazel Ingram and Diatha Ivey.

DEADLINE

The deadline for news and pictures to appear in THE TRIBUNAL AID is THURSDAY NOON.

Material arriving after Thursday's deadline will be published the following week.

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Danish Pastry Shoppe

FRESH BAKED MERINGUE PIES . . . \$1.59

DELICIOUS POTATO ROLLS ONE DOZ. . . 49¢

5 BAG RED BAND FLOUR

79¢

PLAIN OR SELF RISING

Delicatessen

ROUND OF BEEF FULLY COOKED . . . 79¢

BOLOGNA . . . 69¢

POTATO SALAD . . . 69¢

TOSSED SALAD . . . 69¢

HOT DOGS . . . 4 for 99¢

FOOD WORLD

32 OZ. BOTTLE HUNT'S KETCHUP

69¢

EVERYDAY LOW DISCOUNT

Everyday Discount Price

MOUTHWASH . . . 96¢

BALLARD BISCUITS . . . 79¢

BISCUITS . . . 63¢

BISCUITS . . . 57¢

Everyday Discount Price

APPLE JUICE . . . 39¢

JELLO . . . 18¢

SPARKLIN LIQUID . . . 37¢

ALPO DOG FOOD . . . 33¢

Everyday Discount Price

WHITE HOUSE FLOUR . . . 25¢

APPLE SAUCE . . . 25¢

STAR KIST TUNA . . . 87¢

STAR KIST TUNA . . . 73¢

ALL PURPOSE WHITE POTATOES

85¢

10 POUND BAG

WESTERN ANJOU PEARS

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LB. BIG PRODUCE VALUE

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ORAFIX DENTURE ADHESIVE

DEAR MR. WOLFE:

I am trying to get my husband's veteran benefits but I don't have his discharge papers. I filed for a duplicate, but they tell me that I have the branch of service and the dates before they can issue me one. My In-laws are mad at me and won't give me any information. What can I do? I need the money bad.

(G.M.)

DEAR G.M.:

It is true that you can get a duplicate discharge paper, but you do have to let them at least know what branch of service so they can start tracing it. I would suggest that you contact his last employer and ask that his personnel file be checked. This is confidential information and employers have to be careful how this information is distributed but they should at least be able to tell you what branch of service he was in and what dates. This is usually on the application form that one fills out when applying for employment. Good Luck.

What is your question? Direct it to:

A.J. WOLFE
c/o Tribunal Aid
PO Box 921
High Point, N.C. 27261

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