

### *Update Stress?*

The beginning of a new year brings on new opportunities. We often make resolutions that may include more exercise, spending increased time with family or simply changing how we choose to react to the challenges of life.

Our first meeting of 2007 started off with estate planning updates in federal taxation and California law. Mike Jones and Bob Temmerman did a great job of providing us with these updates in a dynamic area constantly changing with new cases, rulings and legislation.

Our estate planning council strives to provide timely and accurate presentations. Nevertheless, it is not unusual to feel overwhelmed by the deluge of new information. More than once I have left an update meeting concerned, stressed or even considering early retirement. There is one thing that does give me hope that was mentioned in our January meeting; clients are reluctant to blame a professional who has treated them fairly and with kindness and respect.

We may be honored, sought after and even revered by our peers. An unfortunate byproduct of this adulation can be the development of pride and arrogance. A kind and respectful attitude, on the other hand, will often turn away envy, strife and retribution. It is easy to react in like manner when attacked. More difficult is to answer an accusation with a soft response. To me, genuine care and concern for our clients is the most lasting update message for 2007.

- Douglas B. Bohne

### **“The Economic and Financial Outlook for 2007 — A Positive Forecast”**

The U.S. economy begins 2007 in remarkable health. Consumer spending and employment growth are strong, capital spending is growing, and financial wealth has expanded significantly. Nonetheless, there are a variety of factors that will influence the economy’s direction in 2007 — inflation, the Federal Reserve’s policy on interest rates, the monetary policies of our trading partners, and the changing political climate in Washington.

***Wednesday, February 21, 2007***

*Lafayette Park Hotel  
3287 Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Lafayette*

***6:00 PM NO HOST BAR (New)  
6:30 PM Dinner and Speaker***

***Cost: \$36.00 dinner (if mailed in)  
\$41.00 (at the door)***

***(Please note: New 2007 Prices)***

***Reservations and cancellations must  
be received by Monday, Feb 19th, at  
1:30 p.m. to be assured of a  
reservation. Please send your check in  
the enclosed envelope today! or call***

***Bonni at:***

***925.686.4819***

### ***Mark Your 2007 Calendars!***

***March 21, 2007***

***John Hartog***

***April 18, 2007***

***Joint Council Meeting  
with East Bay and Tri Valley***

***May 16, 2007***

***Susan Kay and Barbara Moser***

Our speaker, **Jeanette Garretty** will discuss these issues and provide a forecast for economic and financial markets over the remainder of this year and into 2008. Ms. Garretty has worked with ultra high net worth clients in various capacities for more than 25 years. Prior to joining Wells Fargo’s Private Banking unit, she was Chief Domestic Economist and Head of Industry Analysis at Bank of America. She holds a Ph.D. in Economics from Stanford and an M.S. in Mathematical Economics from Santa Clara University. Her board memberships have included the National Association of Corporate Directors, Santa Clara University Board of Regents, Santa Clara University Board of Fellows, Joint Venture Silicon Valley, the Bay Area Economic Forum, and the American Cancer Society. In 2001 and 2003 she was named one of the 75 Most Influential Bay Area Business Women by the San Francisco Business Times. Jeanette is a nationally recognized speaker on economic conditions and financial strategies. This is a program you’ll not want to miss.