## Simplifying The Treasurer's Job

| Simplifying Your Club |
| :---: |
| Accounting |
| Suggestions |
| binio:=. |
|  |


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| :---: |
| Laurie Frederiksen |
| I am my club's treasurer..... |
| One of your friends at |
| bivio |
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|  |
|  |



Example:
PTA Treasurer, Church Treasurer
Single Ownership
Vs
Multiple Ownership
One Account $\rightarrow$ One Set of transactions $\rightarrow$ One Owner
Investment Club

[^0]

## So,

at the beginning,
your club will probably think,
we'll all put in the same amount of money on the same date and share all our expenses equally!

That's easy to understand!
Except...
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## Life Happens

People miss payments for legitimate reasons
People will have times where they can't contribute as much as they used to People will need some of the money they've invested in your club
People may want to join your club
Under these circumstances, it becomes more complicated for your treasurer to enter transactions and keep everyone "equal"
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But,
That is no reason you can't
have a healthy, well
functioning investment club

Because,
Your treasurer can easily account for everyone having different ownership
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Trying to do so is going to lead your treasurer into trouble

## Simplifying The Treasurer's Job

|  | Partnership Accounting |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Unit Based Accounting |  |
| biviow- |  | ${ }^{13}$ |



## But,

We also need to track club member ownership of the Pool of Assets
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We use Unit Based Accounting to allow for the inevitable variation in club ownership

In an Investment Club, perfectly acceptable reasons will result in member contributions differing in amounts and timing

This is OK
To account for ownership correctly, certain club transactions need to be entered in specific ways

Cash contributions from club members need to be entered as Payments using the Payment form
Asset removal by members needs to be entered as a withdrawal using the withdrawal form

You need to follow the path to keep your job simple

|  |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Operating Your Club in Ways <br> that Let You Keep Your Club <br> Accounting Simple |  |

How to be a One Minute Treasurer.......

- Equality
- Setting Up Your Club Accounting
- Data Entry
- Monthly Tasks
- Expenses
- Investments
- Taxes
- Getting Help
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How to be a One Minute Treasurer.......

## Equality

- Don't Define Equal Members of an Investment Club by their Investment Amount
- Why?
- Because you are using unit based accounting
- Because everything is allocated to each member based on
percent ownership at the point in time a transaction occurs.
amounts on exactly the same days, the treasurer will have to do
more than just enter transactions.
Chase down payments
Use temporary accounts to hold payments until they are "officially"
received
- Life happens
- New Member can never be "equal"
- Equal should be defined in terms of participation in club activities, not money

Some members may not be able to afford what others can but that
doesn't mean they are not a valuable, contributing member of the club

- A computer is doing all calculations so there is no benefit of this being "simpler"
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How to Be a One Minute Treasurer

## Accounting Setup

- Use bivio for your club accounting - Why?
- Simple to Use
- Cost Effective
- One, low yearly price. No extra charges
- Online Access
- All club members can find out club information themselves
- bivio Support
- Provided by BI Club treasurers and Chapter directors. They answer your questions with answers they'd like to receive themselves
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How to be a One Minute Treasurer. ${ }^{\mathrm{TM}} \ldots$.

## Accounting Setup

- Use brokers which are supported by AccountSync
- BUYandHOLD
- Charles Schwab
- E*TRADE
- Fidelity Investments
- OptionsXpress
- Scottrade
- ShareBuilder
- TD Ameritrade
- UBS Financial Services Inc
bivio"

| How to be a One Minute Treasurer....... |
| :---: |
| Accounting Setup |
| - Partnership Agreement |
| - Payment Deposit Valuation Date |
| • Same as Transaction Date |
| - Why? |
| " Simplifies treasurers job |
| " Allows for automation of payment entry |
| - Withdrawal Valuation Date |
| • 2 Days before Monthly Meeting finalizing |
| payout |
| - Why? |
| " So payout amounts are timely |
| " Gives one day for treasurer to prepare reports |
| for meeting |

How to be a One Minute Treasurer.......
Accounting Setup

- Partnership Agreement Cont...
- Withdrawal fees
- Only charge actual expenses or
- Graduated scale based on time in club
- Why?
- Life happens. Members shouldn't be penalized to access their funds
Withdrawal paid as close to Withdrawal Valuation Date as
- Why?
- Member belongs to club till payment is made. Allocations for transactions based on percent ownership and club
valuation being affected
- Stocks transferred reflect amount determined on valuation date
- If the payoff goes into the next year, there will be tax
implications for the current year and the next
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How to be a One Minute Treasurer.......
Data Entry

- Have members mail their payments to your brokerage directly
- Why?
- Eliminates a step. Members may be able to setup recurring electronic payments so you can count on receiving them in your club account on a certain date
- Members should have responsibility for making sure checks are deposited, not treasurer
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How to be a One Minute Treasurer.......


## Data Entry

- Let bivio enter your transactions automatically
- Why?
- No Typos!
- Quicker Reconciliation
- Alerts when bivio and brokerage cash balances disagree

How to be a One Minute Treasurer.......

## Data Entry

- Use the penny identification system for payments
- Why?
- So you know whose is whose
- AccountSync will "learn" which amounts belong to which club member and suggest that as the entry you want to make




## How to be a One Minute Treasurer. ${ }^{\mathrm{TM}} . .$. <br> Monthly

- Reconcile your books at the end of each month.
- Cash and security shares should match exactly!
- Members should review and confirm member payments
- Members should review income, expense and securities transactions
- Why?
- Computers are good but not perfect!
- Reconciliation goes quickly if done once a month
- Tedious if longer time periods involved
- Unless you know all entries are correct, all subsequent entries may be wrong.

Withdrawals may be wrong

- Expenses may not be allocated correctly
- Member shares are not being accounted for correctly - Taxes may be incorrect
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| How to be a One Minute Treasurer....... <br> bivio | Verify <br> Monthly |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Mransactions |  |$|$ or penalties

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How to be a One Minute Treasurer.......

## Monthly

- Don't try to demand that everyone invest every month. Don't hassle with "late fees"
- If members aren't participating, no amount of fees or punishment will make them do so
- If they don't want to participate in the club, they should resign
- Trying to force someone to "behave" will drain positive energy from your club's operations

How to be a One Minute Treasurer. ${ }^{\mathrm{ma}} . .$.
Expenses

- Only enter expenses in your club books that apply to all members
- Why?
- That is what the software is designed for
- Expenses can be allocated to each member in one of two ways
- Each person pays an equal percentage of their share of the club - Each person pays an equal dollar amount
- Software is not designed to enter expenses that only apply to a single member

Having to enter that type of transaction is very complicated for
your treasurer

- Member expenses are passed through in a partnership. There is no benefit to accounting for individual ones in enter them in the same place on their personal income tax
- Just because you have a club treasurer and a financial - Just because you have a club treasurer and a financial
account doesn't mean all expenses should go through it
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How to be a One Minute Treasurer. ${ }^{\text {™ }} . .$.
Monthly

- Use Club Email System to Have Members Check Treasurers Reports Online Before Meeting
- Online Reports mean no printing. All members can access from their personal computers
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How to be a One Minute Treasurer....... ${ }^{41}$

## Expenses

- Do not enter non-deductible expenses in your club books
- Why?
- Again, you are not running a check register,
you are accounting for an investment partnership
- These expenses can create extra work for the
treasurer with no benefit to the club
partnership
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How to be a One Minute Treasurer.......
Expenses

- Reimburse members who pay club expenses with units, not cash
- Why?
- No Net change in cash available
- Expense transaction removes money from all members
- Member reimbursement in units uses the money above to "pay" member in units
- 0 net affect on club cash
- Simplifies quicker payment of expenses. No need to wait for a check to clear. Club can't have a credit card. Member can put charge on personal credit card.
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How to be a One Minute Treasurer. ${ }^{\mathrm{TM}} .$. .

## Investments

- Invest in Stocks
- Why?
- Accounting and Tax program setup to handle them easily



How to be a One Minute Treasurer.......

## Those big payouts do present some tax headaches.

Because the distribution isn't technically a dividend-it's considered "return on capital"-about 20 percent of it is taxed as regular income, and not at the lower 15 percent rate usually applied to dividends. (The remainder is not taxed until the shares are sold.)

Plus, shareholders must pay taxes in all states the pipelines cross, meaning lots of forms.
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How to be a One Minute Treasurer. ${ }^{\mathrm{TM}} . .$.
So if your club owned this:
It would have to file taxes in all those states

AND

Each member of your club would have to file taxes in all those states
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How to be a One Minute Treasurer. ${ }^{\mathrm{TM}} . .$.
Taken From An Actual Support Response to a Club that Had Invested in an MLP

I suggest that you give a copy of the following to each club member (including those who
withdrew during 2008):
(d) A statement that the member K-1's are incomplete. An appropriate portion of
the Enbridge tax information should be reported on each member's individual tax the Enbridge tax information should be reported on each member's individual tax
return, but properly allocating that information via the member $\mathrm{K}-1$ 's is something return, but properly allocating that information via the member K-1's is
you do not know how to do (and that none of the club account software
supports). You should also point out the part of Ira's email
indicating that the club and every member may need to file a
state tax return in each of the 19 states identified in the
Enbridge tax information and that this too is something you
do not know how to do
You should have the club vote on hiring a qualified tax professional to address the issues you can't handle. If that is not approved, you could insist that someone
other than you sign the club tax return. And, of course, insist that the club sell other than y
Enbridge.
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How to be a One Minute Treasurer.......

## Investments

- REIT's
- Stay Away
- http://www.betterinvesting.org/NR/exeres/4895FEEA-F9D4-416F-BF73-895185BFBC1E.htm
- Treasurers list discussion of REIT Entry Jan 2009
- Treasurers list discussion of entering K-1 info 3/3/2009
- Mutual funds and ETF's
- More accounting work at tax time
- Split yearly dividend entries into qualified/non qualified
- Possibly Return of Capital adjustments to club records
- Dividends received in January are reported on previous year 1099's
- Need to change date
- May affect previous year's transactions
bivióas-m-1.

How to be a One Minute Treasurer.......

## Investments

- Reorganization (split, merger, spin-off etc)
- Unavoidable
- bivio AccountSync will make the necessary accounting entries

How to be a One Minute Treasurer. ${ }^{\mathrm{TM}} . .$.

## Investments

- DRIP's
- Not recommended
- No longer a way to beat high commissions
- Investing should be done with a deliberate decision, not automatically
- Each small drip investment will need to be tracked as a separate purchase
- May have to be separately handled if a reorganization occurs
- Automatic purchases increase the possibility of a wash sale occurring
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How to be a One Minute Treasurer.......


How to be a One Minute Treasurer.......
Account For Member Ownership Correctly

- Money Contributed
- Record as Member Payment
- Why?
- All contributions buy ownership in the club

Each member receives the full benefit of their contribution
Any cash in the club is available for investing or club expense

- Member Withdrawal
- Use Withdrawal Form
- Do Not Just Write A Check
- Why?
- The members units must be removed from the club records to remove his

A member withdrawal is similar to selling shares of stock. It has tax
consequences to the individual member
determine the amount of capital gain or loss he will have to to will
on his personal income tax. This needs to be calculated and reported to him correctly
Until you to through the withdrawal "process", the person is still a
member of your club
bivióar--.

How to be a One Minute Treasurer.......

## General

- Benefits of Using an Online Program
- No daily data backups required
- Performed by bivio
- No worries about loosing data due to a hard drive crash
- No problems with switching computers
- bivio security controls exceed those on your personal computer
- No issues with the type of computer hardware you use. Mac vs. PC
- Several people can help maintain your club's records from different locations
- Software always up to date
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How to be a One Minute Treasurer. ${ }^{\mathrm{TM}} . .$.
- Ask Questions
- A One Minute Treasurer knows it's a lot easier to fix something before you write a check than after
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Would rather be learning investing than accounting



Simplifying The Treasurer's Job


A One Minute Treasurer....

- support@bivio.com
- Club_cafe@bivio.com
- http://lists.betterinvesting.net/read/?forum=club-treasurers
biviown...





## Simplifying The Treasurer's Job



| A One Minute Treasurer..... |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Questions? |  |
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[^0]:    One Account $\boldsymbol{\rightarrow}$ One Set of transactions $\boldsymbol{\rightarrow}$ Multiple Owners
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