



**Risk and
Insurance
Management
Society, Inc.**

RIMS NEWS

THE AWARD WINNING HOUSTON CHAPTER

Outstanding Chapter Programming
Advancing the Risk Management Profession
(Chapter of Distinction)

January 2008

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2008 Officers and Directors

President

Ginny Penzell, ARM
El Paso Corporation
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First Vice President

Nancy Stucky
GPM, Inc.
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Treasurer

Stephanie Degreve
Swift Energy
Stephanie.degreve@swiftenergy.com

Assistant Treasurer

Michelle Wilkerson
Newfield Exploration Company
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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK...



Greetings, and welcome to 2008! I hope you all had a happy holiday season, and will enjoy a safe, healthy and prosperous 2008! I also hope that one of your New Year's resolutions will be to attend more Houston Chapter RIMS meetings. We value your presence and want to see you there.

In 2007, we accomplished some very important objectives which included a very successful Fall Conference with the proceeds going to support the University of Houston endowment, the sponsorship of ARM classes and the awarding of scholarships to deserving students. Furthermore, the Houston Chapters of RIMS and CPCU once again shared the holiday spirit with the children of Wellsprings by providing them with a party on December 8. The children enjoyed decorating (and eating) cookies, making keepsake boxes, stringing popcorn and, of course, receiving gifts from Santa. It was because of your generous support that these goals were successful. Thanks to everyone who participated.

If you missed the December 2007 meeting, you missed a very interesting and thought provoking speaker. Deborah Nowinski, the Founder and Artistic Director of Dionysus Theatre (www.dionysustheatre.org) gave an inspiring discussion on how this non-profit organization helps spread a message of love, dignity and tolerance for people of all abilities by providing the theatre experience to teens and young adults who are disabled, disadvantaged or chronically ill.

I am proud and honored to serve as your 2008 President and I look forward to serving you, our membership. I am also very fortunate to be working with a wonderful Board. Some have a long-time involvement with RIMS and others are new to the Board. I thank you all for volunteering your time, talents and energy.

We have an exciting year ahead with great speakers and networking opportunities. Please be sure to check the calendar on our website to schedule in these wonderful opportunities.

Vice President/Secretary

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Vice President/Asst. Secretary

Victor Pivetta
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Membership/Attendance

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Associate Director/Membership

Jennifer Howard
The Blood Bank
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Public Relations/Newsletter

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Goodman Global, Inc.
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Job Placement

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Jacobs Engineering Group
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Chapter Liaison

Christine Sparks, ARM
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Education

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Associate Director/Education

Shona Bascon
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Legislation

Nikolas G. Kapatos
Sterling Bancshares, Inc.
nick.kapatos@banksterline.com

RIMS Delegate

Ella Andrews
Friedkin Companies, Inc
eandrews@friedkin.com

Finally, remember that this is your organization. Please do not hesitate to share your thoughts, ideas, and volunteer to participate on a committee.

Ginny Penzell

January Meeting Topic and Speaker

“Texans for Lawsuit Reform”

Speaker: James Grace Jr.

Texans for Lawsuit Reform (TLR) has been working for more than a decade to create a civil justice system that discourages non-meritorious lawsuits or outrageous claims for damages. TLR seeks to encourage quick and efficient dispute resolution, wants injured parties to be made whole by the party causing the injury at the earliest possible time and envisions a litigation system purged of intimidation, allowing plaintiffs to be fairly compensated and defendants to get a fair day in court. TLR strives for a trial environment in which the outcome is based solely on the merits of each party's case.

To meet its goals, TLR is active in political campaigns (through the TLR Political Action Committee), in legislative advocacy, in public relations, in judicial selection, and in the development of case law.

Jim Grace is chair of Baker Botts' Texas government relations section. Mr. Grace counsels clients on corporate and government relations matters, and advises federal and state political action committees on compliance with campaign finance laws. He has extensive experience in a wide range of legal, governmental, and political matters, having served as both an in-house counsel and private-practicing lawyer. He also has actively participated in a wide range of federal, state, and local political campaigns.

Prior to joining Baker Botts, Mr. Grace served as director of Texas State Relations and senior counsel for CenterPoint Energy, Inc. Before serving in an in-house counsel capacity, he was a member of a Houston-based law firm where his practice concentrated on merger and acquisition transactions, securities offerings, and general corporate matters for companies involved in oil and gas exploration and production; oilfield and energy services; natural gas liquid processing; propane and heating oil; and chemical production and distribution.

Mr. Grace served as a judicial clerk for the Honorable Samuel B. Kent of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Galveston Division.

Past President

Cynthia Vickers, ARM
El Paso Corporation
cynthia.vickers@elpaso.com

Web Master

Pending

Meeting Dates for 2008

January 16, 2008

February 20, 2008

March 19, 2008
Joint Meeting
With CPCU Hosted by RIMS

April 27- May 1, 2008
46th Annual RIMS Conference
San Diego, CA
Possibly no Chapter Meeting

May 21, 2008

June 18, 2008

July 16, 2008

August 20, 2008

September 17, 2008

October-Fall Conference TBA

November 19, 2008

December 10, 2008

Please see our Chapter Website for
additional information:

<http://www.rims.org/ChapterWebsite/RIMSChapter.cfm?CWID=6652>

Or

WWW.RIMS.ORG – Chapters -
Houston

Mr. Grace was commissioned an officer in the United States Navy by the President of the United States and currently serves with a reserve unit.

2008 RIMS Houston Chapter Officers & Directors

The following slate of Officers & Directors were approved by a majority vote of those deputy members present at the December Chapter Meeting and installed in their respective offices by Mary Isbell, Vice President of Risk Management for Freidkin Companies, Deputy Member and former Board President and RIMS Delegate. Everyone agreed by responding, with a vocal “eye” to the questions presented by Mary to be honest, hardworking and promote the profession of Risk Management.

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GPM, Inc.

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El Paso Corporation

NOTICE:

Effective January 1, 2008, the RIMS Society has changed their method of collecting Local Chapter Dues. In the past there were two deputies included with the membership, then a charge for each additional deputy added. Under the new structure they will begin collecting chapter dues on a per deputy member basis. The new structure for the Houston Chapter Dues is \$55 per deputy member. The change will be reflected on the renewal invoice. The dues structure for associate membership has not changed.

RIMS Applauds passage of Terrorism Risk Insurance Bill

On December 18th, the U.S. House of Representatives voted 360-53 to approve the Senate's version of "The Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007".

For your information, in summary, the bill contains the following provisions:

- Removes "foreign" distinction from definition of terrorism, so domestic acts are covered
- Extends the current program for 7 years, until 2014
- Enhances certainty surrounding \$100B cap
- Requires Treasury to notify Congress (within 15 days of an attack) if loss estimates will exceed \$100B
- Requires Treasury to issue regulations (within 240 days of enactment) on pro-rata payments if losses exceed \$100B
- Requires Treasury to report Congress (within 180 days of enactment) the process for determining pro-rata payments
- Requires insurers to provide disclosure to policyholders of the \$100B cap
- Requires the President's Working Group on Financial Markets to report back to Congress on market conditions in 2010 and 2013
- Requires the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to identify any specific markets which are experiencing unique capacity constraints to report back to the Congress (within 180 days of passage) with recommendations on how to address those capacity constraints.
- Requires the GAO to examine the NBCR issue and to make recommendations to Congress (within one year of enactment) on ways to expand insurance availability in this area.
- Changes the timing of the mandatory recoupment to provide for staggered recoupment of policyholder surcharges for events that occur during 2011 (i.e. 35% of surcharges to be recouped by September 30, 2012, and the balance by September 30, 2017). This provision was designed to address paygo to meet the self-imposed requirement that all legislation be revenue neutral.

Wellsprings Party

The holiday spirit was very evident this winter when the Houston Chapter of RIMS and CPCU had a wonderful party for Wellsprings, an organization for abused mothers and their children. On Saturday, December 8th, the children and their mothers gathered at Grace Lutheran Church which was decorated by the RIMS volunteers. The children enjoyed decorating Christmas cookies with lots of colorful icing, making ornaments, decorating stockings, eating pizza and playing games in backyard. Santa (A.K.A. Mack Rogers) showed up to meet his excited guests and deliver gifts.

For the past several years, the Houston Chapters of RIMS and CPCU have sponsored this holiday celebration which has enabled many of the children served by Wellsprings and their mothers to experience the only holiday celebration they will have each year.

For many of the children, this is one of the highlights of their holiday season. Thanks to all those who helped make this celebration happen.

Houston Job Postings

- Assistant Risk Manager
- Claims Adjuster
- Development Marketing Underwriter
- Corporate Risk/Insurance Analyst

[Please see the chapter website \(hot link at end\) and the RIMS.org Jobs Listing for details.](#)

Welcome New/Renewed Members

- Bechtel Group, Inc. – Mark Falloon
- The Lubrizol Corporation – James Ganger
- The Methodist Hospital System – Charles Putnam
- Hercules Offshore – Lisa Rodriguez and Mark Yarmolich
- Fort Bend County – Wyatt Scott

Winter Tips



For anti-freezing hose bibs, the hose must be disconnected to make the faucet freeze-proof. Failure to do so will trap water in the faucet body, which then can freeze. If the hose is disconnected, the anti-freeze faucet can properly drain, and this will prevent freezing.

Water pipes which are exposed to freezing temperatures or drafts should be covered with insulation. Whenever possible it is best to drain systems



not being used in severely cold weather. Small water pipes will freeze quicker than will waste or sewer pipes.

Never leave openings or garage doors ajar in severely cold weather because a cold draft can freeze water lines in minutes. Pipes located in unheated basements or garages should be insulated with a commercial covering.

Should a pipe break and water flow into your structure, immediately turn off water and call your restoration provider and insurance company. The tips below are suggestions for different items found within your structure.

Water Damage

Carpets and Rugs

With water damage, the goal is to speed drying of carpets and rugs. Remove rugs from carpeting, then position a fan to blow air over the surface. If your house was flooded, removal of carpeting may be necessary.

Electrical

Disconnect power in affected areas and do not use your television or other appliances standing in water or on wet carpeting and rugs. Never use your vacuum cleaner to remove water.

Furniture

Remove furniture in affected areas, and place plastic beneath the legs of larger pieces.

Floors

Remove standing water as quickly as possible, using either a mop or towels.

Air Conditioning

Air conditioning systems will accelerate the drying process; however, keep your thermostat at 72 degrees or higher, never below 72.

Art

Remove all art, whether paintings, photography or prints, from wet walls and store in a safe dry place.

Ceilings

If your ceiling is sagging, punch small holes to release trapped water and do not turn on ceiling fans or lights. As with any emergency, use common sense with water damage. Check for water seepage in clothing, luggage, and other fabrics and remember to remove books and magazine to a dry place. Continuous water damage cracks furniture, stains floorings, and corrodes appliances. In addition, molds will form over a period of time.

Information provided by:

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ACT Restoration Services, Inc.
12610 W. Airport #120, Sugarland, Texas 77478
W: 281-565-9400; F: 281-565-9401; C: 713-248-4011
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www.actrestoration.com



RIMS is looking for the best and the brightest stars in risk management.

You may know someone who excels at the task at hand, someone who goes above and beyond the call of duty. Now is your chance to submit an award nomination and recognize a risk professional or RIMS Chapter that best exemplifies the meaning of extraordinary. You know who deserves the spotlight—now let us know!

The RIMS award categories are:

Harry and Dorothy Goodell Award

For outstanding lifetime achievement furthering the goals of risk management and the Society, our most prestigious award.

Ron Judd Heart of RIMS Award

For individuals keeping their local chapter and the discipline of risk management vibrant and resilient.

Arthur Quern Quality Award

For raising the quality of products, services and enterprise risk management.

Richard W. Bland Memorial Award

For impacting risk management in the field of legislation or regulation through outstanding performance by a RIMS deputy member.

Chapter Recognition Awards

For hard work, dedication, achievement and excellence of a RIMS chapter in:

- Outstanding Chapter Programming
- Advancing the Risk Management Profession
- Outstanding Member Services
- Overall Chapter Excellence

Education Opportunities

• **ARM 56**

• **CPCU**

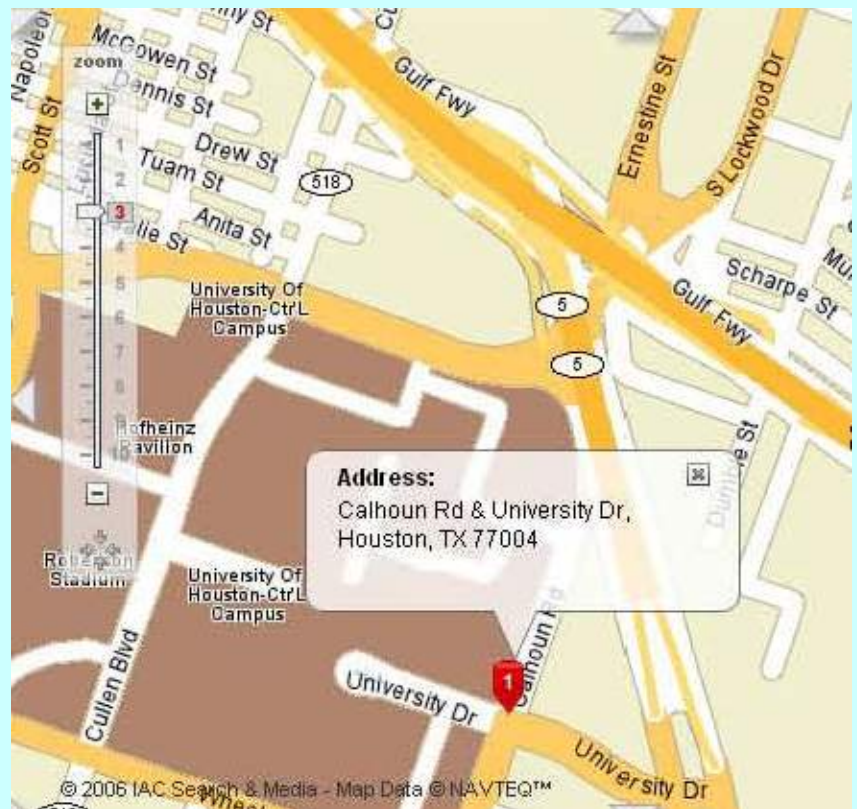
Please see the attached separate pamphlets for more details

The Houston Chapter has lost a long time friend and professional.

Mr. Mansfield was the Chapter President for 1980-81

EDWIN ALLEN MANSFIELD was born August 5, 1935, and passed away on December 30, 2007, at 10:00 a.m. after a brief but hard fight with cancer. Allen was a Son of the Republic of Texas and an American, a patriot and a wonderful husband, father, and friend. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Theresa; his oldest son, Brian and his wife Echo; his daughter Tracy and his youngest son Brad and his wife Melanie; three grandchildren, Grant and Ryan Mansfield and Randall Mansfield; a wonderful group of cousins, nephews, nieces and a host of friends. Allen graduated from Texas A & M with the class of '57 and began working as a Risk Manager with Hughes Tool Company in Houston. When Hughes Tool closed their offices, he took a position as International Risk Manager for Texas Eastern. He later moved to Plano as Risk Manager at Electronic Data Systems where he retired in 2000. Allen took joy in hunting with his North Rosillos Hunting Club and was active in community services in his neighborhood.

Meeting Location



Copy and paste the link below to go to the map to find directions from your location to The University of Houston, Conrad Hilton Hotel

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<http://maps.ask.com/maps?l=lt%3D29.72604%7Clg%3D-95.3403%7Cal%3D0%7Ccx%3D-2221590%7Ccy%3D-726011%7Czm%3D4%7Cvt%3D0~lt%3D29.71905%7Clg%3D-95.33891%7Cad%3DCalhoun%20Rd%20%26%20University%20Dr%2C%20Houston%2C%20TX%2077004%7Csd%3D0%7Cdm%3D0~#1>