



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

RTMS NEWS
MAY
2003

THE AWARD WINNING HOUSTON CHAPTER

Advancing the Risk Management Profession

“Security: What You Should and Shouldn’t Do”

Having a firm grasp on your personal security is important in every person’s life. “Security: What You Should and Shouldn’t Do” will allow attendees to gain insight into what criminals look for and what you can do to protect yourself. In your home, in your workplace, in an empty parking lot, are you ready for the unexpected?

On Wednesday, May 21, 2003, the Houston Chapter of RIMS is pleased and excited to have Austin Davis, with SecureSense, LLC, present information on how to keep you and your family safe. Austin is a police trainer, security consultant, and corporate speaker as well as an experienced comedian who combines 15 years in crime prevention with a humorous approach to education. He has given thousands of crime prevention and security workshops to a broad base of clients that includes numerous Fortune 500 companies.

Austin Davis’ new partnership with Sandra Wilder, a financial risk mitigation expert and president of a large residential co-operative board, has created SecureSense, LLC. The organization is dedicated to the idea that education can save people’s lives and property. The company believes it is their mission to provide personal security instruction and education through the use of national speaking engagements and original video instruction.

Annual Strategic Planning Retreat

The Houston Chapter board held it’s annual strategic planning retreat March 29 at the Woodlands, and by all accounts it was a great success. But the real value of the meeting will be seen throughout the year as the ideas that were generated and discussed there are implemented.

There was far too much discussed in the eight hours of meetings to cover in this short space, but here are a few of the highlights and themes.

Greater Involvement: A healthy organization is an active one. And an active organization requires the support and involvement of everyone. Deputy members and Associates can expect to have more opportunities to be involved in more activities throughout the year that will help build a better chapter, improve networking opportunities, and add greater value to being a member of the Houston chapter.

Improved Member Services: Continuing Education Units (CEU’s) may be in the future for some of our upcoming sessions. A committee will be formed to generate ideas for new programming topics that will provide information on timely topics of interest to our members. The planning process for the Fall Conference will be revamped to assure the best possible results. And various initiatives are being evaluated – including a possible scholarship program – that will underscore the concept that membership really

A Stronger Chapter: The chapters’ financial strength has historically allowed us to provide numerous services that have benefited chapter members. Several initiatives under way will serve to ensure our financial position continues to remain strong. These range from changing the way we pay for lunch and speaker’s aids at our monthly meetings, to increasing our membership levels, to changes in sponsorship levels of the Fall Conference.

(continues on page 3)

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From the President's Desk

We are all back in our offices after the successful Society Annual Conference last month. There were plenty of opportunities for fun, fellowship and education. I hope you all partook in a little of each. I realize that we just finished the annual conference but the Society is always looking for good ideas, speakers, etc to enhance the conference experience. Please take some time to consider what you can do to support the Society in the upcoming year whether it is as a speaker, moderator, or you passing along the name of a terrific speaker you have heard recently. By the way, if you had an opportunity to participate in this year's conference, I would like to hear from you. Please email me with the role you took in this year's conference.

This month we want to take an opportunity to say thank you to all our staff. I for one could not do what I do for RIMS without the support of my company and specifically my staff. I am sure most of you feel the same way so let's take some time this month to honor them at the monthly luncheon meeting. Please invite them to join us on May 21, 2003.

In addition to recognizing our staff at work, I would like to recognize the many volunteers that support the Houston RIMS Chapter. The Board cannot express the gratitude we have for those who unselfishly give their time to support our chapter. It is only with your support that we are able to accomplish so much each year.

Again, thanks for all your support. I am looking forward to seeing you at the monthly meeting on May 21, 2003.

Sincerely,

PAM



Pam Chavez, (center) President of the Houston RIMS Chapter was presented with the [Advancing the Risk Management Profession](#) award during the 41st RIMS Annual Conference & Exhibiton. The presentation was made by the incoming RIMS National president Lance Ewing (left) and the outgoing president Chris Mandel (right).



Regulatory & Legislative Issues

California

Republicans in California have asked the Governor for a special session to come up with a solution to the state's workers' compensation "crisis".

In an April 3 letter to Gray Davis, signed by Republicans in both the House and Senate, leaders blame the state's economic partly on the dysfunctional work comp system: "California's fiscal health will only be restored when we have a healthy economy. Addressing the current workers' compensation problem will be a strong positive step in the right direction."

Reports out of the capital say that some Democrats are also concerned with the situation, and at least one, Sen. Jackie Speier, D-San Mateo, has requested a special session. Speier currently has pending several work comp bills, including one that would limit the number of chiropractic visits to 15 unless otherwise authorized by an MD.

Gov. Davis is said to be coming up with his own work comp plan, as last year's "reform" that introduced new rates for TTD and PD failed to provide, in the short term, promised savings. This sounds like this new "reform" may resemble Texas HB 2600.

Texas

The Texas Medical Association and Texas AFL-CIO have decided to abandon their position on medical networks legislation and are now actively opposing same.

There's no word yet on how the Hon. Judge John Dietz of Travis County ruled on the Texas Medical Association and Texas AFL-CIO challenged to the new medical fee guidelines. A ruling was anticipated around April 15th.

Staff Appreciation Day, May 21st.



(Annual Strategic Planning Retreat continued from page 1)

Outreach/Visibility: We will continue to build on the relationship we have begun with the fledgling Gamma Iota Sigma risk management fraternity at the University of Houston. We have also re-committed to support the Anita Benedetti student sponsor program. Finally, we will be working with the Houston Chapter of CPCU's to co-author an article for the Houston Business Journal.

This year promises to be an active one. One in which you can expect to see important changes in the chapter, and with improved opportunities for member involvement and networking. You will be hearing more about many of these initiatives throughout the year. In the meantime, if you are interested in learning more about opportunities to get more involved, please contact Pam Chavez or any of the board members.

(summary written by Bob Card, Philip Services Corp)

Meeting Notices, Newsletters and other chapter correspondence are now sent out by **e-mail**. If you are a deputy member and are not receiving yours please let us know by contacting Jim Lyon, Membership Director. All others, Associates and Non-Members, please contact Monica Olis. Deputies can update/correct information by logging on to the Society web site: www.rims.org.

Member's Corner

The Houston Chapter has the privilege of welcoming the following new Corporate Deputy members:

- Fort Bend I.S.D.
 - Dorine Craig, Insurance Specialist
- Academy Sports & Outdoors
 - David Pittman, V.P. Chief Risk Officer

We would also like to welcome our new Affiliate Member:

- Michael Scheiffer, VP Administration

Note from Membership Services:

This month, the Houston Chapter of RIMS is organizing a Membership Committee to better serve the membership needs of our Chapter. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact Jim Lyon, Membership Director at (713) 625-7174 or Victor Pivetta, Associate Membership Director at (713) 871-9365.

Houston Rims Fall Conference 2002

March 17th Golf Tournament

And the results are....

- 1st Place 52.7
 Bob Palmer
 Lee Williams
 Chip Hanley
 Frank De Leon
- 2nd Place 53.3
 Vance Root
 Scott Newell
 Paul Remson
- 3rd Place 54.4
 Justin Curren
 Dave Rapp
 John Shahidi



- Ladies' Closest to the Hole (#4)
 Men's Closest to the Hole (#17)
 Ladies' Longest Drive (#1)
 Men's Longest Drive (#18)

Inge Feagin
 Kevin Cochran
 Mary Botkin
 Bob Palmer

Thank you to everyone for their patience with all the re-scheduling due to the inclement weather.

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Houston Area Job(s) Listing for May 2003

Weingarten Realty Investors - Corporate Risk Manager (05/2003)
 Goodman Manufacturing Company, LP - Safety Engineer (03/2003)
 Apollo Partners - Career Opportunities in Houston (05/2003)

- ❖ Any job listing descriptions, contacts, etc. can be found at The Houston RIMS website: <http://houston.rims.org/ChapterWebsite/RIMSChapter.cfm?CID=328>
- ❖ For further information regarding positions or to place a job opening for your company in our newsletter, contact Toni Green, Director - Job Placement, via email at toni.green@nli-usa.com or by telephone at (281) 423-3357.
- ❖ For information regarding National RIMS listings, contact Jennifer Berman at RIMS New York at (212) 286-9292 or email: jberman@rims.org.
- ❖ Also, look online at the Houston Chronicle's classified web site under employment. Do a key word search for Safety or Risk Management: www.houstonchronicle.com/classifieds or look online at the Houston Press's classified web site: www.houstonpress.com/classifieds

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Houston Chapter of RIMS

UPCOMING EVENTS

Luncheon Meetings are at 11:30 am

2003

May 21, 2003

Staff Appreciation

June 18, 2003

Broker Appreciation

July 16, 2003

August 20, 2003

September 17, 2003

Recognition of those
receiving the ARM
designation.

October

Fall Conference

November 19, 2003

Roster of New Board Members Presented
Closed Meeting "Deputy Members Only"

December 17th, 2003

50th Anniversary Celebration
Installation Ceremony: New Officers

Check the web Site: www.rims.org >chapters
>chapter web sites > Houston.
Watch for event information.

Reservation Deadline

is **Friday May 16th, 2003 at 4pm.**

Please send your response by e-mail to
ginny.penzell@elpaso.com or fax the
notice to her, at 713.420.6350.

The Luncheon Registration form is avail-
able on the chapter web site at
www.rims.org

choose "chapters" then "chapter web
sites" then "Houston" look for the
"Monthly Meeting Notice" on the list to
the left.

MEETING PLACE

Crowne Plaza Medical Center Hotel.

6701 Main @ Holcomb, Houston, TX 77030.

Phone # 713.797.1110

**Parking is available in the hotel garage for \$3.00.
Bring your parking ticket to the registration table
for a validation sticker.**

**Parking is also available on the surface
lot to the south of the hotel**

