



THE AWARD WINNING HOUSTON CHAPTER

June 2010

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2010 Houston Chapter Board Members and Advisors

President

Victor Pivetta, ARM
TOTAL American Services, Inc.
Pivetta@msn.com

First Vice President

Stephanie Degreve

FROM THE DESK OF THE CHAPTER PRESIDENT...

School is out and summer is right around the corner.

The Houston Chapter has a lot going on as well as important dates to remember.

The RIMS broker panel discussion on contingent commissions is coming up on June 16, 2010. This session is designed to give the membership a better understand of contingent commissions, conflicts of interest, disclosure, work transfer payments, fiduciary funds, etc. The distinguished broker panel will consist of representatives from Marsh, Lockton, Aon Risk Services, Alliant and Bowen Miclette & Britt. Nick Kapatos, our Houston RIMS Legislation Director, will be the panel moderator. We are looking forward to this greatly anticipated event. Our monthly meeting attendance has been averaging around 90 members, guests and students and we hope this topic will exceed our highest attendance this year.

Finally, be sure to mark your calendar for the RIMS Houston Chapter Fall Conference at The Woodlands Resort on October 22, 2010. If you are interested in helping to organize this event or provide a donation you can contact me at pivetta@msn.com or one of the Chapter Officers and Directors. Again this year we will also have vendor exhibitors, although space is limited.

Look forward to seeing you at the above events.

Victor Pivetta
Chapter President

Meeting Topic and Speaker

Wednesday, June 16, 2010
11:30am-1:30pm

Topic: *Broker Commissions*

Swift Energy
Stephanie.degreve@swiftenergy.com

Vice President /Treasurer

Michelle Wilkerson
Newfield Exploration Company
mwilkerson@newfield.com

Vice President/Secretary

John Lawson, ARM
Goodman Global, Inc.
john.lawson@goodmanmfg.com

Vice President/Asst. Secretary

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

Membership/Attendance

Jennifer Howard
Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center
jhoward@giveblood.org

Public Relations/Newsletter

Sondra K. Faul, CIC
The University of TX HSC-H
sondra.k.faul@uth.tmc.edu

Job Placement

Barbara Lewis
Jacobs Engineering Group
barbara.lewis@jacobs.com

Chapter Liaison

Jo Anne Lancaster, ARM
Westlake Chemical Company
jalancaster@westlake.com

Education

Sharon Guillory, ARM
Rain CII Carbon, LLC
sguillory@raincii.com

Associate Director/Education

Tiffany Barnes
Halliburton
Tiffany.barnes@halliburton.com

Legislation

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

RIMS Delegate

Ella Andrews
Friedkin Companies, Inc
eandrews@friedkin.com

Panel includes:

Stephen Skeeter – Marsh
William “Bill” Burke, Jr – AON
Mary Beth Crabb – Alliant
Loyd Esler – Willis
Jim Drew – Bowen, Miclette & Britt

Moderator:

Nick Kapatos – Board Member, Legislation

Today Discussion Will Focus On:

This session is designed to give the membership a better understand of contingent commissions, conflicts of interest, disclosure, work transfer payments, fiduciary funds, etc.

[This program is closed to the media](#)

Welcome New/Renewed Members

No new members this month.

Past President

Nancy Stucky
The Mitchell Family Corporation
nstucky@mitchellfamilycorp.com

Advisors to the Board

Jim Drew, ARM (**ARM Instructor**)
Bowen Miclette and Britt, LLC
jdrew@bmbinc.com

Julia Mercer
PSC, LLC
jdmerc@pscnow.com

Ginny Penzell, ARM
El Paso Corporation
ginny.penzell@elpaso.com

Shawn Pickens, CPA (**Web Master**)
sppickens@earthlink.net

100 Most Influential People in Finance

Guts, gumption and a global mind-set are the themes of our 2010 list of the 100 Most Influential People in Finance.

(Contributed by Treasury & Risk Management Magazine)

Congratulations to our Houston Chapter RIMS Member

David Fix from KBR

<http://www.treasuryandrisk.com/Issues/2010/June-2010/Pages/100-Most-Influential-People-in-Finance-2010.aspx?page=1>

Weather Research Center

Contributed by Jill F. Hasling, CCM

The National Flood Workshop has been extended the deadline for submitting abstracts for RIMS members until June 15 2010.

PURPOSE:

The National Flood Workshop is organized by Weather Research Center (a private, non-profit educational and research center based in Houston, Texas) and its partners. The purpose of this workshop is to bring together various agencies, emergency managers, academia, and professionals from across the nation to encourage dialogue on the various aspects of flooding. This includes the meteorological and hydrological conditions observed before, during, and after flood events, technological advancements being made in remote field data acquisition and flood modeling, and regulations and requirements in flood mitigation and floodplain management. The goal is to establish an annual national workshop to discuss flooding and related topics, provide educational and training courses, and most importantly to help reduce loss of life and property damage from floods.

Abstracts can be submitted on line at
www.nationalfloodworkshop.net

Scholarships

Contributed by Sharon Guillory, Education

Special Announcement: Risk and Insurance
Management Society

Houston Chapter 2010 Scholarship Winners

Emily Havlick

Joseph D Faul, Jr.

The Houston RIMS Education Committee has selected Emily Havlick and Joseph D Faul, Jr. to each receive \$1,000 Chapter Scholarships. These scholarships will be presented at the Houston RIMS June meeting.

Emily Havlick attends Southwestern University, majoring in Biology with a minor in Environmental Studies. Emily made the Dean's list in the 2009 Fall semester, was Manager of the Student Activities Office and Chairman of the Nomination Committee for Delta Delta. Her community service activities include Colleges against Cancer, University Programming Council, Student Health Advisory Council, and many others.

Joseph Faul will be attending Kingwood College, majoring in Music with a minor in Spanish. Joseph was in the honors program in high school and graduate as the Valedictorian of his class. He received various awards while attending Triumph Christian Academy including the Certificate of Peacefulness and the Supervisor's Award for three consecutive years, Certificate of Responsibility, and many others. His community service activities include volunteering for two years as a Junior Counselor for the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston's Summer Sports Camp, obtained CPR certification, has volunteered at the Gulf Coast Blood Center since 2006 and has ridden in/raised funds for the National Multiple Sclerosis 150 for the past five years.

The scholarship recipients were chosen on the basis of academics, community service work, and extracurricular activities, among others.

Please join the Houston Chapter of RIMS in congratulating our 2010 scholarship winners.

Meeting Dates for 2010



June 16, 2010
Broker Commissions

July 21, 2010
**Modelling and Strategic
Trends Analysis**

August TBD, 2010
Evening Social

September 15, 2010
Education

October 22, 2010
Fall Conference

November 2, 2010

December 15, 2010
Evening Meeting

ARM 54

Contributed by Sharon Guillory, Education

The Houston Chapter of the Risk and Insurance Management Society, Inc. (RIMS) will be sponsoring an ARM 54 class this Fall. This course is part of a three semester specialty program leading to the Associate in Risk Management (ARM) Designation. The course is open to the general public, including all risk management, insurance and safety professionals.

ARM 54 – RISK ASSESSMENT

CLASS LOCATION: Bowen, Mickette & Britt
1111 North Loop West, Suite 400, Houston, Texas

CLASS START DATE: Tuesday Evenings–Starting August 17, 2010, 5:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M. (ends – mid November 2010).

PAYMENT INFORMATION:

Make checks payable to: **Houston Chapter of RIMS**

Please mail your check and enrollment form to:

Tiffany Barnes
Risk Management – Insurance Supervisor
c/o Halliburton
10200 Bellaire Blvd.
91-3NE33C
Houston, Texas 77072
Phone: 281-575-5043
E-mail: Tiffany.Barnes@Halliburton.com

See flyer for more details

Senate Passes Sweeping Reform Bill

Contributed by P & C National Underwriter

The Senate late Thursday night passed historic legislation making the most sweeping changes to financial services regulation since the Depression by a vote of 59-39.

The key components of the bill for the insurance industry, H.R.-4173,

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.

Please see our Chapter Website for additional information:

WWW.RIMS.ORG/HOUSTON

or

WWW.RIMS.ORG – Chapters – Houston

The Houston Chapter
RIMS mailing address is

5090 Richmond Ave. #86
Houston, TX 77056-
7402

Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection ACT, include provisions giving authority to the Federal Reserve Board to regulate such nonbanks as insurers under certain circumstances and creation of an Office of National Insurance (ONI) within the Treasury Department. The bill will now go to a formal conference with the House to reconcile differences between the House and Senate, which is likely to start as early as next week. Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., chairman of the House Financial Services Committee, said he hoped work on a final bill would be finished by June 30.

Under both the House and Senate bills, the Fed would be given oversight of a troubled insurer if a Financial Stability Oversight Council composed mostly of federal regulators determined that a nonbank constituted a potential systemic risk to the financial system.

Representatives of property and casualty insurance groups voiced support that financial services reform retains state regulation of insurance.

At the same time, trade group officials said they would continue to monitor the bill as it proceeds to final passage to ensure that more onerous regulation of insurers is not added to the legislation as House and Senate negotiators craft final legislation.

In a statement, Leigh Ann Pusey, president and chief executive officer of the American Insurance Association, said, "The regulatory reform bill that the Senate passed appropriately recognizes that the property and casualty insurance industry does not pose systemic risk."

She noted that existing state-based resolution mechanisms remain in place and policyholders remain protected by the state guaranty fund system.

Robert Rusbult, president and CEO of the Independent Insurance Agents and Brokers of America, voiced gratitude that the Senate financial services regulatory reform legislation (as does the House bill) leaves day-to-day regulation of the insurance market at the state level.

"Property and casualty insurers played no role in creating the crisis and pose no systemic risk to the overall economy," Mr. Rusbult said. "In fact, the state regulatory system, while in need of more uniformity and efficiency, has a proven track record of ensuring insurer solvency, industry competition and growth, and consumer protection."

Ken Crerar, president and CEO of the Council of Insurance Agents and Brokers, noted with satisfaction that the Senate decided not to vote on an amendment that would have forced banks to divest themselves of all insurance-related activities they conduct directly.

"Insurance sales—as opposed to underwriting—present no systemic financial risk whatsoever and have no relation to the meltdown that precipitated this congressional effort," Mr. Crerar said.

**Educational and
Associations Websites:**

**American Institute for CPCU
and Insurance Institute of
America www.aicpcu.org**

**Charter Property Casualty
Underwriters Society
www.cpcusociety.org**

**Institutional Risk
Management Institute
www.irmi.org**

**The National Alliance
www.scic.com**

**Construction Risk and
Insurance Specialist
www.cris-ce.com**

**For further Educational
Opportunities Forms or
Information, please visit the
Chapter website at:**

**[http://houston.rims.org/RIMS/
HoustonChapter/Home/Default.aspx](http://houston.rims.org/RIMS/HoustonChapter/Home/Default.aspx)**

Jimi Grande, senior vice president of federal and political affairs for the National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies, said, "The final product of the Senate is not a perfect bill, but it is one that for the most part recognizes the unique nature of insurance and respects the state-based regulatory system."

David Sampson, president and CEO of the Property Casualty Insurers Association of America, said members are concerned about the final Senate bill, but appreciate improvements made by the House and Senate.

Among the concerns, he said, is that the bill could "still impose [upon insurers] real burdens on an industry that has remained stable through the financial crisis." It should include the modest federal authority in the House provision creating a Federal Insurance Office and should better distinguish "state-regulated insurers in the provisions relating to assessments and proprietary trading," he said. A critical difference between the House and Senate bills that will be the subject of intense lobbying by the insurance industry is that the House bill sets up a \$150 billion fund to be prefunded by all financial institutions. The money would be used by a Resolution Authority managed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation to pay for the resolution of a troubled financial institution that poses a systemic risk to the financial system.

The Senate bill mandates no such fund.

Insurers are lobbying for a provision that would exempt nonbank financial services subject to liquidation or rehabilitation under state law from any assessments by federal regulators to pay for resolving systemically risky financial institutions.

Under both bills, states retain authority to regulate the business of insurance and insurance activities are exempt from oversight by the new Consumer Financial Protection Agency.

However, the Senate bill gives strong authority to the new ONI to preempt state law in negotiating bilateral trade pacts regarding insurance with foreign countries. The House version gives states strong authority to negate such preemption.

The ONI would have the authority to compile data on insurance companies and the industry itself in both versions of the bill.

It will also have the authority to serve as an early-warning system that would determine if an insurance company was troubled, and recommend that the Fed and a new Systemic Risk Council place it under supervision.

Both bills contain similar language reforming and modernizing the surplus lines and reinsurance markets by establishing the rules of a domiciliary state to govern regulation and tax assessment of these

products.

The Senate bill contains other provisions that would subject insurance companies to greater regulation of their derivatives activities and limit to some extent investment activities conducted by insurers that own banks or thrifts.

The House provisions mandate far less oversight of these activities.

Update on RIMS National Conference

Here are a few more photos from last month's RIMS conference.



[Please see the Local Chapter website and the RIMS.org Jobs Listing for details.](#)



RIMS National Celebrates 60 Years

Thank you...

to our members for your patronage and support;
without you this Society does not exist

to our board members, past and present, for your
leadership and encouragement; you've brought us to
where we are today

to our volunteers for the gift of your time and
guidance; we greatly value your insight

to our exhibitors for their support both at the Annual
Conference & Exhibition and the various projects on
which we partner

to our speakers for their dedication to education;
sharing knowledge is a pay-it-forward act spurring
stimulating thoughts and dialogue

We could not do it without you!

We want all our members and friends to share their
memories of RIMS: Each month we will ask you to reminisce
on a different subject, so please contribute your experiences
over the past years as often as you'd like! For March, finish
the following thought and **send in your response (go to**

RIMS.org):

"I've been involved with my local chapter..."

New Name Badges

A big thank you to Cynthia Vickers for all of her hard work in making new badges for the membership. She did a great job. By the way, the colors of the badges have meaning.

Green – Board Members

Blue – Deputy Members

Yellow – Associate Members

Light Purple – Committee Members and Volunteers

Please contact Cynthia (cynthia.vickers@elpaso.com) if you need any changes to your badge.

2009 - 2010

Houston Chapter Membership Directories

The 2009 – 2010 Houston Chapter Membership Directories are available. The directory may be picked up at the monthly meetings.

Memberships - National

Please be advised that with the economic conditions and the number of layoffs that has occurred, RIMS National has announced that the Deputy memberships will not be automatically terminated for up to six months for those members that have been laid off. Please notify the National Membership office if a layoff has occurred.

Professional Development - National

***Minimizing Insurance and Claims Costs**

June 10-11, Philadelphia

***Strategic Risk Control**

June 17-18, Ottawa

Integrating Enterprise Risk Management and Strategic Planning

June 21-22, New York

Contractual Risk Transfer

July 8-9, San Francisco

Developing A Risk Management Program For Your Organization

July 12-13, San Francisco

Information and Registration details: [www. RIMS.org/education](http://www.RIMS.org/education)

**Credit towards RIMS Fellow designation given.*

Job Postings

Houston Area – Local Chapter Posting:

Claims Representative, Fiesta Mart, Inc. For more details see:
<http://houston.rims.org/RIMS/HoustonChapter/Home/Default.aspx>

Dallas – Local Chapter Posting

Risk Analyst: apply online: www.cityofmesquite.com

Websites

www.workintexas.com and www.greatinsurancejob.com