



new member newsletter

welcome to RIMS! If you have joined RIMS in the past three months, this is your first issue of the New Member Newsletter and the first of four quarterly issues that you will receive over the coming year. We use this newsletter to introduce our valued new members to the breadth of services, products and resources that RIMS has to offer. We want to share the value that RIMS provides whether you are at the beginning or mid-point of your career, located in a major metro area or a rural setting, work for a corporation, government agency, non-profit organization or are a student.

In this issue, we focus on RIMS networking opportunities—both traditional, face-to-face networking, as well as the newer online-based world of social networking.

Much of RIMS member networking takes place through our chapters. There are 80 RIMS chapters in total—68 in the U.S., 10 in Canada and one each in Mexico and Japan. Have you had a chance to connect with your local chapter? Attend a chapter meeting? Find out who the officers are, when the next activities are scheduled and how you can get involved at www.RIMS.org/ChapterDirectory. And if you have questions about chapter services, feel free to e-mail us at chapterservices@RIMS.org.

Beyond networking at the chapter level, we offer many other opportunities through professional development courses, E-Groups, RIMS Annual Conference & Exhibition, regional conferences and more. And we don't just network within the risk management community—our

Government Affairs Department, headed by Kathy Doddridge, oversees the Society's networking with legislators and regulators to ensure that the voice of risk management is heard on Capitol Hill and throughout the federal government. Working closely with her is Nathan Bacchus who spearheads our state/provincial legislative activities. You'll meet Kathy and Nathan as well as RIMS Chapter Services team in this issue.

RIMS will open its online 2008 Member Satisfaction Survey later this month. As a recent member, you may feel that you haven't the experience to contribute to it but the goal of this survey is not just to rate our existing benefits but also to get your ideas and suggestions for new ones. It's your opportunity to tell us how we can serve you.

And keep your eyes open for registration information for RIMS first-ever virtual conference and exhibition, RiskLive!, on November 12-13 at www.RIMS.org/RiskLive. This is your chance to experience a new kind of networking with risk managers from around the globe! And it's free to RIMS members! This is just the beginning of new ways in which RIMS aims to help our members enhance your professional success.

Mary Roth, ARM
Executive Director
Risk and Insurance Management Society, Inc.



JOIN US FOR THE FIRST-EVER RIMS VIRTUAL CONFERENCE & EXPO—**RISKLIVE!**

Don't wait all year to learn about the latest trends and innovations in risk management or discover new resources—attend **RiskLive! RIMS Virtual Conference & Expo** taking place on November 12-13. This unique, interactive event has everything that you'll find at a traditional conference—educational sessions, an Exhibit Hall and networking events—all live on your desktop. You'll be able to attend virtual presentations, view product demonstrations in the online Exhibit Hall, chat with exhibitors and even network with other attendees. Mark your calendar for the online event of the year! **Registration is FREE for RIMS members!**

Log on and register today!

www.RIMS.org/RiskLive



RIMS Virtual Conference & Expo



CHAPTERS—WHAT THEY OFFER YOU!

Some of the greatest opportunities and most unique benefits that accompany your RIMS membership are available directly through your local chapter. Did you know that RIMS members name education, professional development and networking opportunities among the top benefits that they enjoy from their membership? The best way to take advantage of all your membership offers is to participate in your chapter's activities and events.

Programs

Most chapters offer a variety of programming throughout the year, and some chapter meetings may feature a high-caliber speaker addressing "hot" industry topics. For example, during their September 19 breakfast meeting, RIMS New York Chapter presented "S&P's ERM Analysis for Non-Financial Corporations—Will You Be Ready?" Most chapters participate in community service or fundraising activities, which afford members the opportunity to make a direct impact within their local community, raising the visibility of the risk management profession while providing opportunities to network with peers. On October 11th, RIMS Palm Beach Chapter hosts its 10th Annual RIMS Classic Golf Tournament which benefits the Safety Council of Palm Beach County, Inc.

Another type of chapter meeting is an annual "I-Day"—a full day of educational sessions, networking and fundraising activities. RIMS South Texas Chapter hosts a Seminar Golf and Spa Day. Other chapters choose to take advantage of the Professional Exchange of Risk Knowledge (PERK) Program. RIMS Chapter Services Department and 11 industry partners have teamed up to offer Chapters a selection of nineteen 60-90 minute program topics, available free to your chapter. RIMS Arizona Central Chapter will be hosting a "Business Interruption—Coverage, Claims and Recovery" session delivered by Ernst & Young on November 12.

Volunteering

Summer's over and it's a great time to get in touch with your local chapter to introduce yourself and see how you can get more involved. Socialize, meet peers and volunteer to make a positive difference. And, to volunteer at the Society level, visit www.RIMS.org/Volunteer to find more information and submit an application! To get more information or volunteer for a standing committee, visit www.RIMS.org/Committees.

Leadership Opportunities

Getting involved in RIMS allows you to do things you already enjoy or perhaps try out some new activities that you've always wanted to do with little risk involved! This is a great way to learn and enhance your talents in areas such as: crafting a P&L statement, presenting ideas to your colleagues, planning chapter events, mentoring a student of risk management and much more! The goal is to offer our members a chance to engage in activities that may not be in day-to-day activities, but skills that you'd like to develop. Leadership opportunities at RIMS offer a small, friendly and supportive environment—now is your chance to give back to your field!

Tips for Getting to Know Your Chapter

- Check your chapter's website (www.RIMS.org/ChapterDirectory) and RIMS calendar of events (www.RIMS.org/Events) regularly to stay informed of what's going on near you.
- Get involved! Perhaps you're outgoing and would enjoy the opportunity to help the Chapter Programming Chair hand out badges at the next monthly meeting? It's a great way to start small, but to quickly get acquainted with your fellow chapter members.
- Get to know your chapter officers—these risk management professionals serve as volunteer leaders within your chapter community and are an excellent resource for navigating your involvement in RIMS activities. If you'd like to explore opportunities for serving as a chapter leader, your chapter officers can introduce you to leadership opportunities and guide you through the process.
- Contact RIMS Membership and Chapter Services Department. RIMS is pleased to assist you in finding out how to connect with your chapter.



Director of Membership & Chapter Services, Jill Berman Levy, presents RIMS Educational Conference attendee Robert Kirchmeier with a complimentary registration to RIMS 2009 Annual Conference & Exhibition.

2008 RIMS FLORIDA EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

The 2008 RIMS Florida Educational Conference was held July 29—August 2 at the Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort in Naples. This annual conference was jointly hosted by all seven RIMS Florida Chapters. The program included a balance of educational sessions and fun networking opportunities, and drew 670 conference participants.

The conference kicked-off with a golf tournament to raise funds that were donated to Florida colleges and universities in order to further promote risk management education. Kevin M. Quinley, vice president of the Council on Litigation Management, delivered a keynote presentation that launched an affair boasting thirty-nine educational sessions and covering a variety of risk management-related topics including litigation, safety, insurance, environmental and human resources.

"The continuing success, and dynamic and innovative format, of the Florida RIMS Educational Conference definitely raises the bar," said Mike Benishek of RIMS Tampa Bay Chapter and 2008 Florida RIMS Educational Conference Committee Chair. "The seven Florida Chapters look forward to assisting with, and participating in, RIMS Annual Conference and Exhibition when it comes to Orlando in April."

MEET THE STAFF

CHAPTER SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Cindy Tirilli, Chapter Services Manager, serves as liaison between chapters and RIMS headquarters. She oversees programs to assist RIMS chapters and officers in their efforts to provide meaningful benefits to local members, including planning and facilitating strategic planning and chapter leadership development workshops, forming new chapters and ensuring communication between RIMS Board of Directors and chapters. Cindy is also staff liaison to RIMS Quality Advisory Council (QAC).

Darlene Lebron, Chapter Services Liaison, delivers RIMS web support and leadership training materials to chapter officers, including webinars, tip sheets, training materials and direct technical assistance. She manages the weekly distribution of the Chapter Officers' Bulletin, coordinates the PERK (Professional Exchange of Risk Knowledge) Program, co-facilitates the Building a Stronger Chapter (BSC) leadership workshop, and maintains chapter officer and director rosters and chapter records. The Chapter Services team works hands-on with chapters to support their activities, growth and general well-being.



Mark Prysock, Kathy Doddridge, Nathan Bacchus

Mark Prysock is General Counsel at RIMS. He oversees all legal matters for the Society and serves as staff liaison to three committees: Board of Directors, Nominating Committee and House of Delegates. He also oversees the Government Affairs Department.

Kathy Doddridge leads the government affairs team and lobbies RIMS issues at the federal legislative and regulatory levels. Read more about Kathy in the interview on this page.

Nathan Bacchus, State and Regulatory Affairs Associate, works directly with chapters in developing and maintaining effective government affairs programs at the chapter level. He also monitors and researches legislative and regulatory issues that affect RIMS at the state and local levels.

WHAT'S NEW IN RIMS GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS INITIATIVES? INTERVIEW WITH RIMS DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS, KATHY DODDRIDGE

What are some of the key responsibilities that RIMS Government Affairs Department is charged with?

Between Nathan Bacchus, our state and regulatory affairs associate, and myself, we cover the entire front on both state and federal issues which affect the business of risk managers. Nathan, who works in RIMS New York headquarters, tracks state trends and I am based in Washington, D.C., to cover federal legislative and regulatory issues. Working with RIMS External Affairs Committee, Board of Directors and senior leadership, we make sure that the association influences policy makers both directly and through grassroots initiatives.



Can you be more specific?

My day-to-day job involves following the industry news and talking to members of Congress and their staff as well as the key regulatory bodies to ensure that the interests and policy positions of risk managers are effectively communicated. The bottom line is that policy makers at the state and federal levels entertain proposals that affect risk managers and their businesses constantly. My job is to make sure policy makers know how their decisions affect RIMS membership. Part of my goal for RIMS is to expand and organize our grassroots initiatives.

What initiatives do you drive at the Chapter-level?

We are currently working towards completing a "Legislative Handbook" to publish and distribute to state and local committees that want to be more involved politically. While some RIMS chapters are already very active, others are just getting started. The handbook is designed to serve as a how-to manual for chapters to get a government affairs program underway. While Nathan and I are always available as a resource for guidance, part of Nathan's job is to visit the various chapters for more hands-on instruction. We believe that the more active our committees are at all levels of government, the more the Society stands to gain as a whole and on behalf of individual members.

What else can RIMS members look forward to?

Our biggest event of the year is RIMS on the Hill—the two-day annual legislative conference in Washington, D.C. The first day focuses on lobbying techniques, educational panels designed to prepare members for lobbying and networking with colleagues. The second day is spent going to Capitol Hill to lobby members of Congress on RIMS legislative priorities. The more members who attend RIMS on the Hill, the more effective we are. Registration for the June 2009 legislative conference will open this winter.

Any tips for new members on how to get involved in government affairs?

New members can learn more about RIMS-supported issues and get involved without leaving your desks. I would encourage all new members to go to the website at www.RIMS.org/GovernmentAffairs and visit RIMS Legislative Action Center. From there, you can acquaint yourself with the key issues and send a letter to your member of Congress with just with a few clicks. Please stay tuned to the website and your inboxes over the coming months to learn about ways new members can get involved. If you have any ideas or questions, I would love to hear them. My e-mail address is kdoddridge@RIMS.org.

RIMS FALL 2008 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSE CALENDAR

Developing a Risk Management Program for Your Organization*

October 23-24, Winnipeg

Developing a Safety System for Your Organization

A new workshop

October 27-28, New York

Move Your Program to the Next Level: RIMS Risk Maturity Model for ERM*

October 29-30, Las Vegas

Risk Analysis Tools for Effective Risk Management*

November 6-7, Montreal

2008 RIMS ERM Summit "Turns on the Flywheel: Accelerating ERM Momentum"

November 6-7, Atlanta

For advanced ERM practitioners only

Register today to share ERM approaches with your peers and gain new insights on how ERM will benefit your business.

Enterprise Risk Management*

November 13-14, Atlanta

Global Risk Management Fundamentals

A new workshop

November 13-14, New York

Techniques of Risk Management

November 19-20, Miami

Move Your Program to the Next Level: RIMS Risk Maturity Model for ERM*

November 20-21, Phoenix

Entrepreneurial Risk Management: Risk Management as a Profit Center

A new workshop

December 4-5, New York

**Earns you credit towards the RIMS Fellow® (RF) Designation*

WWW.RIMS.ORG/EDUCATION

RIMS KEY CONTACTS

Many of your questions may be answered by a visit to our website (www.RIMS.org), but if you can't find the answers there, RIMS staff is always excited to hear from our members!

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