

Subject:

RIMS: Chapter Officers' Weekly Update, January 22, 2009

Chapter Officers' Weekly Update

January 22, 2009

This information bulletin is distributed weekly in an effort to reduce the amount of separate emails our chapter officers receive from RIMS. The weekly email bulletin highlights chapter/member-related information including new benefits to chapters, changes at RIMS and upcoming events. Please review this email when you receive it to remain on the cutting-edge of what's relevant for chapters from RIMS. We would also be glad to include information from your chapter, relevant to your chapter colleagues (announcements, meetings, brief success stories); we do not intend to replace the chapter officer e-group but to supplement it. Please send your submissions to chapterservices@RIMS.org.

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Chapter Officer News

Last Chance! Make your Chapter table reservations today!

Make sure your Chapter's presence is known at the RIMS 2009 Annual Conference & Exhibition in Orlando, Fl. by requesting a chapter table today! Again this year, RIMS is offering chapters the opportunity to reserve tables, by request, for these key events at the conference:

Monday, April 20—at the Orange County Convention Center, Valencia Room, 4th fl
8:00 -10:00am **RIMS 2009 Opening Session and Keynote Address**

RIMS is pleased to offer this special benefit to Chapters, but ask that you please be considerate of other RIMS members by only requesting a table if you are confident you can fill the seats you're requesting. We apologize for the inconvenience, but RIMS will fill all vacant seats 20 minutes prior to the start of the sessions. Don't have 10 chapter members attending? You can always share a table with another chapter - just send us your request for half a table and we will take care of the rest.

Please send your Chapter table requests to chapterservices@RIMS.org by Wednesday, January 28, 2009. An e-mail will be sent to you with the location and number of your table prior to the conference. Thank you in advance for your quick response. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact RIMS Membership and Chapter Services Department at chapterservices@RIMS.org or (212) 655-6041.

990s Filing:

(The information below was extracted from IRS.gov.)

The new Form 990 series returns are effective for 2008 tax years (returns filed beginning in 2009). To allow organizations time to adjust to the new forms, the IRS is phasing in the new returns during a three-year transition period. During the transition, an organization's annual filing requirement depends on its financial activity. The charts below indicate the general exempt organization filing requirements during the transition period.

2007 Tax Year (Filed in 2008 or 2009)	Form to File
Gross receipts normally ≤ \$25,000	990-N
Gross receipts > \$25,000 and < \$100,000, and Total assets < \$250,000	990-EZ or 990
Gross receipts ≥ \$100,000, or Total assets ≥ \$250,000	990

2008 Tax Year (Filed in 2009 or 2010)	Form to File
Gross receipts normally ≤ \$25,000	990-N
Gross receipts > \$25,000 and < \$ 1 million, and Total assets < \$2.5 million	990-EZ or 990
Gross receipts ≥ \$1 million, or Total assets ≥ \$2.5 million	990

Remember, filing the e-Postcard is free and easy. To file, small tax-exempt organizations will need only a few basic pieces of information: the organization's employer identification number, its tax year, legal name and mailing address, any other names used, an Internet address if one exists, the name and address of a principal officer (make sure to list the name and address on your chapter's bank statements) and a statement confirming the organization's annual gross receipts are normally \$25,000 or less.

For more information please visit: www.irs.gov/charities/article/0,,id=169250,00.html or www.irs.gov/charities/article/0,,id=184445,00.html.

Reminder to RIMS Delegates to return ballot

On January 16, an email from Scott Clark, RIMS Secretary was sent to all RIMS Delegates with a ballot on the "Election of Two Members to RIMS Nominating Committee." Article IX, Section 1 of RIMS Constitution and Bylaws states: "In the winter of each year, the chair, with the approval of the House of Delegates, shall appoint for a three- (3) year term, Members to the Nominating Committee, replacing those individuals whose terms have expired."

The following individuals have been appointed to the Nominating Committee and now require the House of Delegate's approval:

Roger Andrews, Utah Chapter, for a term from March 1, 2009 – February 29, 2012.
Karen Beier, Golden Gate Chapter, for a term from March 1, 2009 – February 29, 2012.

These individuals will join members David Dolnick, Faith Cring, Glen Frederick, Alicia Junta, and Lynne Lovell.

RIMS Delegates may cast a vote online at <http://www.rims.org/nomballot>. The deadline for voting is February 16, 2009.

Society News

Fourth Quarter RIMS Benchmark Survey™ Shows Soft Market Losing Steam

Insurance premiums for businesses continued a five-year trend of falling rates during the fourth quarter of 2008, but recent data suggests a reversal of this trend may soon be underway. Rates for property, general liability, and directors' and officers' (D&O) insurance premiums all decreased at a materially slower pace than in recent quarters, according to RIMS Benchmark Survey™, the industry's leading survey of policy renewal prices as reported by North American corporate risk managers.

Data from RIMS Benchmark Survey™ corroborates Advisen's recent forecast that the commercial insurance premium market cycle is close to its bottom. Commercial insurance prices should begin increasing by the fourth quarter of 2009 or the first quarter of 2010, according to Advisen analysts.

To access the full press release - visit www.RIMS.org/Newsroom.

Make sure you get your FREE summary of the Benchmark Survey results by completing the survey today!

As you may recall, last year's RIMS Benchmark Survey book contained a brand-new section on Broker Services, based on the results of a survey conducted in January 2008. That supplemental survey is being replicated this month, asking for risk professionals' input on broker services, enterprise risk management and workers compensation – all designed to enhance the depth and breadth of the data provided in the 2009 RIMS Benchmark Survey™.

All respondents will receive a free summary of the results and a more complete, detailed analysis will be incorporated into the 2009 Survey book which will be available in May.

The RIMS Benchmark Survey™ is one of our most valued products—at least that's what those responded to our recent Member Satisfaction Survey have told us—so click on the link below to complete your survey.

Reduce your claims costs

Even with the best loss control program, claims are inevitable. Learn how to manage your workers compensation exposure and reduce your loss costs at the RIMS **Workers' Compensation Management workshop**, taking place February 12-13 in Nashville, TN.

Attend this course and gain a comprehensive understanding of Workers' Compensation Laws and coverage. Learn how adjusters, case managers, private investigators, attorneys and other professionals can work with you to reduce costs and facilitate early return to work.

Workers' Compensation Management
February 12-13, Nashville
A RIMS Fellow® (RF) workshop
Register today at

Member Information Update

Student Outreach Task Force Announces Cooperation with Gamma Iota Sigma

The Student Outreach Task Force has initiated a structured linkage between RIMS and Gamma Iota Sigma (GIS), the International Collegiate Professional Fraternity for students pursuing careers in risk management, insurance and actuarial science. Through an exchange, GIS and RIMS will have exhibit booths at each other's 2009 conferences. So don't forget to stop by the GIS booth at the RIMS Annual Conference & Exhibition on April 19-23 in Orlando. For more information about the Gamma Iota Sigma Annual Conference visit www.gammaiotasigma.org.

The Student Outreach Task Force was formed in 2008 upon the Member and Chapter Services Committee's recommendation that the RIMS Board of Directors designate a strategic initiative for the recruitment, involvement and retention of student members. The members of the task force represent the various RIMS standing committees and include: Gordon Adams (co-chair), Chair of the Member and Chapter Services Committee; Peggy Accordino (co-chair), former chair of the Student Involvement Committee; Al Gorski (vice chair); Mike McDonald (Board of Directors liaison); Jan Barnes; Dan Kugler (Spencer Foundation liaison); Linda Wylie; Noelle Salamone (Gamma Iota Sigma liaison); educator, Deborah Little; and RM Student, Peter Pang. This task force is charged with developing both long and short term goals and strategies for enhancing student involvement in RIMS and boosting student membership, and reporting back to the Board for review and implementation.

Are you already involved in student mentoring at a local university? If so, please email Bob Tuscanes at rtuscanes@RIMS.org and let us know what you are doing!

Features

Chapter Best Practice:

On behalf of the Greater Quad Cities Chapter, RIMS Delegate Hal Larson suggests, "chapters reach out to the students in your Chapter's area. Consider establishing a Risk Manager/Student mentoring program. This program will help students and mentors learn and grow together, and can be of great value when the student graduates and begins to look for a job."

RIMS Trivia:

Everyone who responds correctly to the RIMS trivia question will be placed in a pool for a prize drawing once a month. The answer to the RIMS trivia question will be posted in next week's update. This month's winner will be announced in the first newsletter of next month.

Trivia Question:

Who is the RIMS 2009 Conference & Exhibition General Session Keynote speaker, known for his breakthrough leadership approach, based on effective leadership in demanding environments, especially those characterized by uncertainty, ambiguity and rapid change?

RIMS Trivia Answer for 1/15/09:

Community Service Day has become a staple at the RIMS Annual Conference & Exhibition. Last year, RIMS Community Service Day was at King Chavez Academy Charter School. Which non-profit organization will Community Service Day help this year?

RIMS Community Service Day will help the Give Kids The World Village (GKTW), a non-profit 70-acre resort for children with life-threatening illnesses whose one wish is to visit Central Florida's best-loved attractions.

Since its inception in 1986, GKTW has welcomed more than 92,000 families from more than 67 countries, thanks to the generosity of individuals, corporations and partnering wish-granting organizations.

On Sunday, April 19, RIMS attendees will help with maintenance projects that allow the Village to function. These include low, moderate and high-impact projects such as clearing trash, assembling welcome baskets, cleaning public areas, painting the exteriors of villas, installing fencing and helping with construction. Actual projects will be determined closer to the event.

To register for this event you must be registered for RIMS 2009. Register today at www.RIMS.org/RIMS2009 and don't forget to add this event to your itinerary.

To learn more about Give Kids The World Village, go to www.gktw.org

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