



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

# L.A. RIMS NEWS

**Los Angeles Chapter**

The Newsletter for Risk and Insurance Management Professionals

January 2001

## **PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

First and foremost I would like to thank everyone for attending our holiday function and thank Michelle Darringer for her efforts in coordinating the event.

I would like to comment on some of the highlights of the board's efforts during this year and identify a few of our objectives for next year.

Kathy Merkovsky, the outgoing President, has provided excellent leadership and is overall responsible for the chapter's accomplishment during the last year. Through the organization concentrating on the core objectives, the following was accomplished:

- Increased the chapter's overall membership since 1998 by 12% even though the insurance industry has been consolidating
- Increased our financial discipline resulting in an increase of both revenues and net income
- Improved the chapter's communication by continuing to develop the LA RIMS Website

Another example of the last year's achievements was the monthly luncheon meeting and Education Day which were coordinated by Bill Witt. Bill has done an excellent job as the chapter's program director, and the meetings have included such topics as "Global Challenges for Risk Management," "Expansion of Workers Compensation Benefits" and "riskmanager.com." On behalf of the board, I extend my appreciation to Bill for his efforts.

In looking forward, next year we will continue our existing activities including the golf tournament, the monthly luncheons, the Port of Los Angeles Boat Tour and the holiday party.

We will continue to focus on the organization's mission statement to help ensure we achieve our objectives. Two areas on which we will concentrate

### **1) Create an Effective Communication System:**

We will commit to having meetings with various company members and Friends of RIMS to outline the LA RIMS' objectives and to discuss and identify the interests and expectations of our members and friends. We will emphasize our desire to develop committees within our insurance community to work together on our events and to help achieve our mutual objectives.

### **2) Develop and Implement a Long Term Educational Program – Several Steps**

- During the last several years we have shored up the financial position of the chapter and foresee the ability to establish a significant annual scholarship fund to a Southern California University
- Continue to support Monroe High School
- Provide reimbursement for tuition and fees for ARM candidates

That's it. I would like to wish everyone a happy New Year and thank you for your continued support of the Los Angeles Chapter. See you next month.

Michael Carlin  
RIMS-LA President

### **OUTGOING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Thank you for your support in 2000. I encourage you to continue your support of the LA RIMS Chapter in the year 2001. It is in good hands under the leadership of Michael Carlin and the new Board of Directors. For 2001, I ask that you make a New Year's resolution and join us in the development of our chapter's events and programs by participating on a committee. (Stay tuned for more details on the committees that are forming for 2001.)

Wishing you a healthy and prosperous new year!  
Kathy Merkovsky,  
2000 President, RIMS LA Chapter

# CHAPTER CLIPS

## HOLIDAY PARTY

The Holiday Party was outstanding! And if you won a raffle prize, you left the party with the Christmas spirit and a gift as well.

Following are the lucky raffle winners and their prizes:

**Julie Doherty** – \$25 gift certificate to Cheesecake Factory

**Peter Junker** – \$25 gift certificate to Cheesecake Factory

**Ed Silverman** – \$25 gift certificate to Cheesecake Factory

**Paul Pendolino** – \$25 gift certificate to Cheesecake Factory

**Kathy Torres** – Swedish Barbie and Hot Wheels

**Stacy Stevens** – 2000 Barbie

**Danny Flores** – Father of the Bride Liz Taylor Barbie

**Steven Anthony** – 2 lb. box of Sees Candies

**Bernie Mel** – 2 lb. box of Sees Candies

**Chip Stewart** – Tiffany ornament

**Ruth Lindstrom** – Tiffany ornament

**Dolly Parker** – coffee and cider prize package

**Steve Wilder** – backgammon and checkers set

**Barbara Smith** – 4 tickets to Disneyland

**James McCullough** – Chilean wines

**Barbara Fein** – radio cassette recorder

**Nurit Sheehan** – Snowman hot chocolate gift basket

**Roger Dwizorti** – gift basket

**Christopher Gayfort** – beer

**David Chipnarit** – ice cream maker

**Vaje Samilian** – wine & candle basket

**Diane Wren** – margarita basket

**Juan Buendia** – \$75 gift certificate to Nordstrom's

**Tom Pasinisi** – champagne gift basket

**Lee Michaiels** – \$75 gift certificate to Nordstrom's

**Sid Parsley** – dinner cruise

**Elizabeth Martin** – stay at Ritz-Carlton

Congratulations to all the prize winners!

## PRESIDENT'S AWARD

This year's President's Award was given to Michael Carlin. He earned this award through his role as Treasurer and team player. He worked diligently to organize the Chapter's finances, streamlined the accounting process, and co-chaired the annual golf tournament. His hard work was appreciated, his opinions were respected, and his sense of humor was enjoyed by all, especially those that were fortunate enough to work with him. Congratulations Mike!

## A SPECIAL THANKS

The Los Angeles Chapter of RIMS would like to extend their gratitude and appreciation to the sponsors who made this year's annual holiday and installation dinner a great success.

The following sponsors made this event possible with their generosity: AIG, AON/Albert G. Ruben Insurance Services, Inc., AON Risk Services, Marsh, Inc. and Willis. The following companies donated gifts for the raffle prizes: Impact General, Evan Crandall Law Firm, Walt Disney Company, Mattel, AIG, Automobile Club of Southern CA and The Cheesecake Factory.

Again thank you and Happy New Year!



Michael Carlin, Kathy Merkovsky and the band  
at the RIMS L.A. holiday installation dinner

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

### INSURANCE OFFICER

Grade level 15, Finance Division, Reports to Chief Financial Officer. Pacific Capital Bancorp is a banking holding company with three bank subsidiaries: Santa Barbara Bank & Trust, First National Bank of Central California, which also does business under the names of South Valley National Bank and San Benito Bank; and Los Robles Bank.

Pacific Capital Bancorp's insurance program includes coverage for: (1) property and casualty; (2) computer and electronic media; (3) e-commerce; (4) financial institutions bond; (5) directors and officers; (6) trust errors and omissions; and (7) workers compensation; together with other related coverage customarily related to a financial services company.

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## JOB OPPORTUNITIES CONTINUED

Minimum 5 years risk and insurance experience. At least 10 years of progressive experience with outstanding written/verbal communication, technical and time management skills, and claims management experience. Preferred method of applying: Send letter of application and resume to e-mail address: millegac@sbbt.com, or mail to: Pacific Capital Bancorp, Insurance Officer - P.O. Box 1119, Santa Barbara, CA 93102 Contact Information, Phone: 805.884.6625 Fax: 805.884.6696

### RISK MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

**Description:** Responsibilities will include administration and coordination of all Risk Management, Loss Prevention, and Claim Programs within the scope of the position; provide oversight for the issuance of insurance certificates; complete applications; prepare loss runs; perform special projects for Corporate Risk Management; perform other duties as assigned. Coordinate with company personnel, insurance companies, brokers, attorneys, and regulatory authorities.

**Experience:** Candidate should have a strong financial background with at least 5 years previous Risk Management, Brokerage, or Insurance Company experience. Advanced skills with PCs, including MS Office, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Access. An ARM, Casualty, and/or Insurance License is preferred.

**Education:** B.A./B.S. or A.S. Degree in Insurance, Business or Finance, or relevant experience is preferred.

For more details contact Neyda Vanegas at Jacobs Engineering Group Inc., Corporate Human Resources, Phone: 626.578.3500, Fax: 626-568-7112, e-mail: HrCorp@jacobs.com

Jacobs Engineering Group Inc. is an equal employment, affirmative action employer. Application for all positions are invited from minorities, women, veterans, and individuals with disabilities.

### PREMIUM AUDITORS, LOSS CONTROL PROFESSIONALS

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Cal West retains high caliber individuals as independently contracted representatives from a variety of disciplines by tapping the abilities of at-liberty professionals who desire to remain active.

Interested candidates please contact Judith Carson, CPCU, ARM, Vice President at: Phone: 805.449.0097 FAX: 805.449.0098 or e-mail: calwest1@pacbell.net.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Please welcome our newest member:

**Manuel Quezada**, Diversified Maintenance Services, Inc.

Please welcome our newest Associate member:

**Christopher Simons**, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

## 2001 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### January 2001

3rd Board Meeting  
17th Chapter Luncheon  
The New Otani Hotel

### February 2001

7th Board Meeting at Fremont General Corp.  
21st Chapter Luncheon  
The New Otani Hotel

### March 2001

21st Chapter Luncheon  
The New Otani Hotel



### L.A. RIMS NEWS

L.A. RIMS is published monthly. Please send address corrections or articles and photos to LA RIMS office at:  
**P.O. Box 10065,**  
**Burbank, CA 91510**  
FAX 818.843.7423  
Tel: 818.842.6096

**News articles must be received by the 15th of each month.**