



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

# L.A. RIMS NEWS

Los Angeles Chapter

The Newsletter for Risk and Insurance Management Professionals August 2002

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are in the midst of planning our Education Day, which will be held October 16th at the New Otani Hotel. Education Day gives our members the opportunity to attend sessions that provide current methods, opinions, and trends in our industry. I know that most of us can hardly find time to eat during the day, let alone attend a meeting outside of the office. But, consider this:

- 1) Education Day is only a few hours, not days.
- 2) You don't have to fly to this conference.
- 3) Education Day is affordable.
- 4) You'll be gathering information and ideas from your peers.
- 5) The presentations will be timely topics.
- 6) You will be fed a hearty meal.
- 7) Your staff is invited to attend as well.
- 8) You will leave the conference knowing more about risk management.

If you have suggestions for topics or speakers, or you would like to participate in the planning, please contact Leo Costantino at 213.922.4620 or [costantinol@mta.net](mailto:costantinol@mta.net).

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for Education Day on October 16th!

**Kathy Merkovsky**  
**President, RIMS L.A. Chapter**

## CHAPTER CLIPS

### MESSAGE FROM THE RIMS NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Dear RIMS Member:



During the April, 2002 Board of Directors meeting in New Orleans, the Board approved an increase in membership dues by 3.5 percent per year from 2003-2005. I am writing to bring this change to your attention so that you can plan accordingly for your 2003 budget and beyond.

The Board approved the increase based on several factors:

- RIMS is looking to avoid a substantial increase in one year and will instead have a small increase from 2003 to 2005.
- RIMS business strategy is to avoid excessive dependence on conference fees for revenue or on investment income, which can be unstable during certain periods.

As I said at the Annual Membership Meeting, we are committed to setting the standards for "world class risk management" and to giving our members the tools they need to succeed. We have a Web site that serves as a professional consultant to our members by keeping them informed of the latest issues through RISKWIRE and offering them a search engine dedicated to risk issues at AskRIMS.org. Our e-groups give our members access to the experiences and solutions of thousands of other risk professionals. RIMS Annual Conference & Exhibition, next year in Chicago, will continue to be the leading risk management conference in the world and our members receive a substantial discount off

## CHAPTER CLIPS CONTINUED

registration fees. Join us for world class education and networking in Chicago from April 6-10, 2003.

Thank you for your continued association with RIMS, the premier risk management society.

Sincerely,



Christopher Mandel  
President

### THE RISK ANALYSIS GROUP SEMINAR

The Risk Analysis Group is offering a two-day seminar covering Risk Assessment and Security Education. "The Essentials of Securing Enterprise Assets; From the Front Gate to the Hard Drive" will be presented by Former U.S. Secret Service Agent Lawrence Cunningham on August 13-14, 2002 at the Doubletree Hotel in Westwood. For more information, please contact the Risk Analysis Group at 877.558.5559 or visit [www.riskanalysisgroup.com](http://www.riskanalysisgroup.com)

### RETIRED MEMBER CATEGORY BEGINS AT RIMS

RIMS is pleased to announce a new membership category for retired professionals who would like to stay in touch with the industry. The Retired Member category is for:

- members who were previously employed in risk management or one of its related specialties and
- who were previously Deputy Members or Associate Members of RIMS prior to retirement.

Continue to receive all the benefits afforded to RIMS members. Continue to stay involved. Dues will be \$100 per year plus any applicable local Chapter dues. If you have any questions, e-mail [membership@rims.org](mailto:membership@rims.org).

### UCR EXTENSION FALL QUARTER CLASSES

For information contact University of California, Riverside Extension at 909.787.4111 or check out our web site: [www.UCRExtension.net](http://www.UCRExtension.net)

#### September 9 - November 25, 2002

Overview of the California Workers' Compensation System, Riverside, CA, Mondays, 6-9:30p.m., Fee: \$345. Analysis of the California Workers' Compensation system with perspectives on the legal and medical aspects and the roles played by various professionals and institutions.

#### September 19 - December 12, 2002

Principles of Risk and Insurance Management, Riverside, CA, Thursdays, 6:30-9:30p.m., Fee: \$345. Introduction to risk and insurance management as applied to the work environment. Risk control, risk financing and claims administration will be explored.

#### October 5, 2002

Workers' Compensation Liens, Ontario, CA, Saturday, 9:00a.m.-1:00p.m., Fee: \$125 (includes refreshments, materials and parking). This seminar is intended for professionals in the workers' compensation arena. Concentrating on liens for medical treatment and medical-legal expenses, it examines the laws, regulations, cases and procedures necessary to prosecute or defend lien claims. Strategies for adjusters, physicians, medical office personnel, applicant and defense attorneys and hearing representatives are presented.

### ARM DESIGNATION

The following individuals have recently earned their ARM designations: **Scott Ritto, ARM**, Insurance & Risk Manager for the Metropolitan Stevedore Company, and **Marco E. Sandoval, ARM**, Insurance Administrator for Amgen, Inc.

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

### DIRECTOR OF RISK MANAGEMENT THROUGH STONE & ASSOCIATES

This is an opportunity to truly make a difference. Your skills, knowledge and past experience will all come into play with the County of Los Angeles.

Working with one of the largest employers and budgets, your ability to analyze, develop and implement a huge RM program along with Safety, Claims Management and use of your political know-how to interact on all levels in this very high profile position. You will report directly to the Chief Administrative Officer and be responsible for building the County's Risk Management program, using considerable judgement.

#### Desirable Qualifications:

- A Masters Degree
- Extensive experience in developing strategic plans, goals and policies for a comprehensive risk management program in a large organization.
- Extensive analytical skills in the areas of risk determination and evaluation and adjustment or investigation of third-party liability and/or workers' compensation claims.
- Demonstrates knowledge, skills and abilities required to work effectively with public officials, professional personnel and outside agencies.
- Strong writing, communication and presentation skills.
- Experience working with and knowledge of workers' compensation laws and regulations.

Compensation is from \$107,301,00 to \$160,952,00 along with a full benefits package inclusive of a retirement plan, megaflex benefit plan, savings 401k and deferred compensation plan.

Apply to Stone & Associates by August 6, 2002 @ 5:00 p.m.

Diane Stone  
Stoneex8@aol.com  
310.475.0081 fax  
310.475.7433 phone

## TIPS OF THE MONTH

**Reduce anxiety** by slowing down to calm down. Instead of rushing to a meeting, walk slower. Those few extra seconds will help you arrive more relaxed.

**Help people solve problems** themselves instead of dumping them in your lap by peppering them with questions. *Ask:* "What have you done so far?" "Who have you sought out to help?" and "What information do you still need to solve this?"

*Excerpted from August 2002 Communication Briefings*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*All monthly meetings are held at the New Otani Hotel, unless otherwise noted*

August 7, 2002  
Port of L.A. Boat Tour & Lunch  
San Pedro, CA

August 21, 2002  
Monthly Luncheon  
Topic: Brand Risk - Are You Managing It?  
Speaker: Eric Granof  
Lippincott & Margulies

September 18, 2002  
Monthly Luncheon

September 18-20, 2002  
RIMS Western Regional Conference  
Port Ludlow, WA

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