



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

# L.A. RIMS NEWS

**Los Angeles Chapter**

The Newsletter for Risk and Insurance Management Professionals

January 2002

## **PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

Happy New Year! Yes, I'm back again...but I'm not the only one returning to serve on the board. I look forward to working with such a fine group of people. I'm excited about the strides our chapter is making in expanding our scholarship program and look forward to working with our board in implementing the program. It is important to me to be a part of this endeavor.

Hope you enjoyed our Holiday Dinner Dance and Installation. Thank you for your attendance and support. Michelle Darringer and her staff deserve thanks as well for organizing this wonderful event. There was excellent food, great music, and good company. Also, thanks to Michelle and Rae Knapp, for coordinating the terrific raffle prizes.

For 2002, the wheels have been set in motion to resurrect the Joint Southern California Chapters Meeting. I have already begun working with the San Diego Chapter in the preliminary stages. With January's Education Day, February's luncheon speaker Ellis Stanley, the upcoming RIMS Annual Conference, and golf tournament planning, our board is already in full swing.

Wishing you the best for 2002!

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

## **CHAPTER CLIPS**

### **SENIOR RISK MANAGER FORUM IN NEW ORLEANS**

Following is a letter from Roger Andrews...

Dear Chapter President and Chapter Delegate:

## **CHAPTER CLIPS**

RIMS has created a project to involve senior risk managers who are no longer a part of RIMS at the chapter level. We are hoping that you could help us identify the less active senior risk managers, with fifteen years of professional experience or more, so we can personally invite them to attend the 40th RIMS Annual Conference & Exhibition this year in New Orleans from April 14-18. This year's conference will feature a session specifically for senior risk managers. With the assistance of two former RIMS presidents, Ron Stasch and Steve Wilder, we are planning a mega-session on Tuesday morning, April 16, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. The session will include two panel discussions featuring the CEO's from the major brokers and carriers who will be discussing the most relevant issues. The audience will then have the opportunity to ask questions. There will also be a "firing line" discussion involving a major CEO, the incoming RIMS president, Chris Mandel, and others. We anticipate considerable interest in this session. We need your help to identify those senior risk managers who are no longer involved in your chapter. Please forward a list of those less active or inactive members (or even non-members who you are courting for membership), so that we can send them a personal invitation to the conference and highlight this session. Please send the list...by Friday, January 25th. I appreciate your help with this initiative.

Sincerely,  
Roger L. Andrews  
Vice President International & Special Projects

If you know of anyone who is interested in attending, please submit names and contact information to Kathy Merkovsky at [kmerkovsky@portla.org](mailto:kmerkovsky@portla.org) prior to January 25th

## CHAPTER CLIPS

### RISK MANAGEMENT ON THE INTERNET

There are many insurance related websites on the internet. The following list provides websites that you may be familiar to you but it may include a few that you haven't used before:

- A.M. Best & Co. ([www.ambest.com](http://www.ambest.com)) Ratings and reports of insurance carriers.
- AIA – American Insurance Association ([www.aiadc.org](http://www.aiadc.org)) Property and casualty insurance trade organization, representing over 370 insurers.
- APIW – Advancement of Professional Insurance Women ([www.apiw.org](http://www.apiw.org)) Professional organization of women in insurance, reinsurance and risk management.
- AAIS – American Association of Insurance Services ([www.aais.org](http://www.aais.org)) Specialty programs that include artisans, small contractors, farmer owners, inland marine guide, boat owners, commercial output, contractors and developers.
- Captive.com ([www.captive.com](http://www.captive.com)) "Virtual office park" for risk and insurance professionals involved in the captive industry.
- CBMU – Canadian Board of Marine Underwriters ([www.cbmu.com](http://www.cbmu.com)) Canadian marine industry trade group.
- CIAB – Council of Insurance Agents and Brokers ([www.ciab.com](http://www.ciab.com)) Only 1% of insurance agents and brokers in the U.S. qualify to belong to the Council, yet their members place 80% of the country's commercial insurance premiums.
- GRX – Global Risk Exchange ([www.grx.com](http://www.grx.com)) Internet-based commercial insurance exchange offering large corporations direct access to top-tier insurance markets.
- IDMA – Insurance Data Management Association ([www.idma.org](http://www.idma.org)) Nonprofit professional organization. Provides insurance data management trends. Provides educational programs in AIDM and CIDM.
- IFB – Insurance Fraud Bureau ([www.ifb.org](http://www.ifb.org)) Association that works to prevent and end fraudulent insurance transactions.
- IMUA – Inland Marine Underwriters Association ([www.imua.org](http://www.imua.org)) Founded in 1930 with over 400 member companies representing 90% of all inland marine insurers.
- Insurance Canada ([www.insurance-canada.ca](http://www.insurance-canada.ca)) English and French directory of services in Canada, insurance news, books, forms, and advertising.

## CHAPTER CLIPS

- III – Insurance Information Institute ([www.iii.org](http://www.iii.org)) Answers questions, reports news and lists organizations.
- Insurance News Network ([www.insure.com](http://www.insure.com)) Information regarding annuities, auto, business, health, homeowners, life, personal, company ratings and more.
- Insurance USA ([insuranceusa.net](http://insuranceusa.net)) Access to market unique annuities, life insurance, long-term care products and benefit-enhancement programs.
- Ins Web ([www.insweb.com](http://www.insweb.com)) Extensive information about insurance markets for buyers and producers.
- Integrated Benefits Institute ([www.ibiweb.org](http://www.ibiweb.org)) Nonprofit organization focusing on integrated benefits.
- Lloyd's of London ([www.lloydsolondon.co.uk](http://www.lloydsolondon.co.uk)) Provides information on available Lloyd's syndicates.
- NCCI – National Council on Compensation Insurance ([www.ncci.com/](http://www.ncci.com/)) Provider of workers' compensation data and research.
- Property & Casualty ([www.propertyandcasualty.com](http://www.propertyandcasualty.com)) Industry information.
- Ultimate Insurance Links ([www.ultimateinsurancelinks.com](http://www.ultimateinsurancelinks.com)) The name speaks for itself. Plus, it is updated regularly.

Look for more Risk Management on the Internet in next month's newsletter.

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

### DID YOU KNOW?

The City of Los Angeles, the American Red Cross (ARC) and the Allstate Foundation are helping homeowners become more prepared for earthquakes. The ARC, armed with a grant from the Allstate Foundation, proposed to the City a free non-structural mitigation program for homeowners across Los Angeles. The program's objective is to reduce damage to life and property by conducting non-structural mitigation activities in single family dwellings. EPD located eligible and willing homeowners by distributing notices through the Departments of Aging, Disabilities and Recreation and Parks. Labor and equipment donated by volunteers were used to retrofit a home at the

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATES CONTINUED

Program's kickoff event on August 18th in Northridge. Retrofitting includes water heater strapping, kitchen cabinet latches, automatic gas shutoff valves, large appliance strapping and small item bracing. Clients are also given flashlights, smoke alarms and an emergency tool kit. Funds are allocated to retrofit 180 homes and that maximum is rapidly being reached.

But remember, even if you are not eligible for the program you can still perform low-cost preparations in your home!! Call EDP at (213) 978-2222 for further details.

### THE PENTAGON

A building, institution, and symbol-was conceived at the request of Brigadier General Brehon B. Sommervell, Chief of the Construction Division of the Office of the Quartermaster General on a weekend in mid-July 1941. The purpose was to provide a temporary solution to the War Department's critical shortage of space. The groundbreaking ceremony took place on September 11, 1941. The building was dedicated on January 15, 1943, nearly 16 months to the day after the groundbreaking.

Source: [HTTP://www.defenselink.mil/pubs/pentagon/facts.htm](http://www.defenselink.mil/pubs/pentagon/facts.htm)

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Assistant Risk Manager ABACUS

Contact: Arthur Ochoa  
Phone: 818-347-8989  
Fax: 818-347-9998

Education, knowledge, skills and experience requirements of the position:

- Bachelor degree in finance, accounting, risk management or business administration
- ARM (Associate in Risk Management) certificate preferred
- Computer skills: Microsoft Word, Excel, Power Point, Access
- Minimum 5 years corporate environment work experience in a corporate risk management/insurance department or insurance brokerage or insurance company.
- Must be self-motivated team player and able to work independently on various projects simultaneously with minimal supervision.

#### **Essential Functions:**

Manage day to day activity for workers' compensation, general liability and automobile liability insurance programs. Analyze losses and trends and recommend,

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

implement and manage projects that eliminate exposures, reduce claims frequency and costs.

Manage monopolistic states' workers' compensation programs. Coordinate with states to receive loss runs to be downloaded into the RMIS on a quarterly basis.

Participate in Cost Management Program including presentations to Area Vice Presidents, Field Operations Managers & Branch Managers highlighting losses, control measures, reporting practices and targets.

Create financial models to perform retention analysis projects and feasibility studies for self insurance or alternative risk financing methods for specific line of coverage.

Manage insurance cost allocation program for field operations.

Review vendor contracts and store leases for compliance with insurance requirements. Identify exposures and advise legal/purchasing when circumstances presented warrant deviations from standard.

In conjunction with Risk Manager, prepare insurance renewal submissions including Excel spreadsheets and Power Point presentation slides for both graphics and text.

Assist field team members as needed with questions/problems related to workers' compensation and general liability insurance claims or other related insurance issues.

Perform various department projects as assigned.

## 2001-2002 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### January 2002

**16th** Education Day Conference  
The New Otani Hotel

### February 2002

**20th** Luncheon Meeting  
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.**