



## PHILADELPHIA CHAPTERGRAM

**INTERIM VOLUME 6 Number 1**      **Peter F. Palestina, CPCU, Editor**      **November, 2000**

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Editors' note: The views and opinions of the authors of the articles appearing in the chaptergram are his or her own and not necessarily shared by the officers and members of the CPCU Society and the Philadelphia chapter.

**Visit your Chapter website at [www.philadelphiacpcu.com](http://www.philadelphiacpcu.com)**

### HIGHLIGHTS ON 2 SPECIAL COMMITTEES

We would like to take this opportunity to highlight two special Committees that have great plans for this Chapter year.

#### GOOD WORKS COMMITTEE

**Chairperson: John Conklin, CPCU**

As the holiday season quickly approaches, it won't be long before we put ourselves into that inevitable "state of frenzy". We'll exhaust ourselves in the obligatory process of gift buying, card swapping, decorating, partying and on and on and on. And when it's all over, we'll declare that ... "next year I'm going to do it differently".

Some of us may go as far as saying ... "I'm going to do something simple, but special, for someone other than myself or my own family"!

Well here's a chance to do just that. Our Philadelphia Chapter of the CPCU Society is organizing a holiday luncheon for children from one of Philadelphia's oldest child welfare agencies; *Southern Home Services*.

SHS works with emotionally troubled, neglected, and abused children between the ages of 7 and 18. They are a non-profit agency that provides quality services to preserve, build, and stabilize children and families within their communities.

Our Philadelphia Chapter would like to make this holiday season (in late November or early December) a little more special for these kids this year. And we need your help to make it happen! We are looking for volunteers to help with food, drinks, set-up, etc ...

If you want to be a part of what will hopefully be a "special day" for kids less fortunate than you and me, please send me an e-mail [john\\_r\\_conklin@rsausa.com](mailto:john_r_conklin@rsausa.com)

#### ***Southern Home Services Essay Contest***

John will be heading a Committee to organize an Ethics Essay for the kids at SHS. The Chapter will sponsor awards and prizes to the first, second and third place winners.

### Research Committee

**Chairperson: Kathy Frenzel, CPCU**

We have several research projects on tap for our 2000 – 2001. Here are two notable projects in progress:

If you would like to work on or have ideas for a research project, please contact Kathy at [kfrenzel@gateway.net](mailto:kfrenzel@gateway.net).

**Sharon Ehrhardt, CPCU**

#### ***"The Availability of Residential Property Insurance in New Jersey Coastal Communities"***

Sharon's research will demonstrate whether or not residential property coverage is available in coastal New Jersey areas, and what restrictions in coverage apply, if any (i.e. higher deductibles, wind deductibles; higher premiums). On September 10, 2000, three hundred fifty surveys to coastal community agents were mailed. Thus far, there has been a 5% return, although the due date is December 30, 2000. This is a much higher than average return which is based on 1% of unsolicited mailing response. Any interest? If so, please contact Sharon at [sharone@mcmahonagency.com](mailto:sharone@mcmahonagency.com).

**Harry Cylinder, CPCU, ARM**

#### ***"The Experience of Insurance Professionals as Temporary Workers"***

Harry proposes a research project on the experience of insurance professionals as temporary workers. This topic is particularly relevant as so many insurance professionals in our area are out of work. This appears to be due to the great number of mergers, acquisitions and subsequent downsizing. Harry is looking for volunteers to assist him with amassing the data, statistical analysis and conclusions.

Contact Harry at 215-549-7112 (telephone) or 215-924-4227 (fax).

#### ***"Displaced Insurance Professional Support Network"***

We believe a support network may be helpful for those industry professionals who are between employers, have been unemployed or are concerned about future employment.

Contact Harry with your input at 215-549-7112 (telephone) or 215-924-4227 (fax).

### **John Topoleski, CPCU Passed Away**

We are saddened to report that Chapter Member John Topoleski, CPCU, affectionately known as "Top", passed away on September 18, 2000. John devoted much of his time to the education of insurance professionals, teaching courses, grading exams for the Institutes, and encouraging many to get educated in insurance. He will be sorely missed.

### **SEPTEMBER MIX & MINGLE A SUCCESS**

Our second 9/20/2000 Mix & Mingle held at the Dock Street Brassiere was again a success. To check out the photos to see what the two Mix & Mingle were like visit our website at [www.philadelphiacpcu.com](http://www.philadelphiacpcu.com) and go to the Bulletin Board page.

### **ANTI-FRAUD CAMPAIGN**

Most of you may be aware by now that the CPCU Society and the National Insurance Crime Bureau has kicked off a campaign to educate the public on insurance (Insurance Cheats are Deadbeats, and They Cost You Money!). The Chapter will be actively involved in this campaign. Pete Palestina, CPCU heads up the Chapter Fraud Speakers Committee and if you are interested in getting involved you can contact Pete at 215-364-3000 or go to the Anti-Fraud section of the Speakers Bureau page of our website [www.philadelphiacpcu.com](http://www.philadelphiacpcu.com) for more details. Eight Chapter members who have already signed up as Committee members and speakers are: Ann Myhr, Bill Knepper, Jo Battisti, Val Katz, Larry Crawford, Sandy Kuritzky, Sharon Ehrhardt and Art Hanebury. Pete has already spoken in front of various groups and his next presentation will be at the St. Bede's Senior Citizens Association located in Richboro, PA.

Pete has also been appointed as Chairman of the CPCU Society's Fraud Speakers Task Force and was to conduct the Task Force's first meeting at the Society's convention in San Antonio.

### **WANT TO BE AN EXHIBITOR AT I-DAY?**

To add to your visibility as an exhibitor, the I-Day morning continental breakfast, coffee break, and luncheon cocktail session will be held in the exhibitors area. The Philly I-Day Committee's focus on education includes full support of our exhibitors who we believe will assist the I-Day participants to hear, see and experience how your products incorporate into their learning environment. Space will be limited and available on a first come, first served basis. Since we anticipate that these will go quickly, we suggest that you make your reservations immediately. The exhibitor registration fee of \$275 provides for a 8' x 10' draped booth, 2 chairs, a 6 foot table and 1 luncheon ticket. Additional lunches can be purchased at a cost of \$50 per lunch. If you are interested and wish to complete the necessary form, you can do so by visiting [www.philadelphiacpcu.com](http://www.philadelphiacpcu.com) and visiting the I-Day section where you will find links to the Exhibitors information page. Your check for the appropriate amount would be made payable to Philadelphia I-Day Exhibitors and mailed to PO Box 1499, Philadelphia, PA 19105-1499. Please contact David Shepherd, CPCU with any questions at 215-575-5672 or by e-mail [david.shepherd@us.pwcglobal.com](mailto:david.shepherd@us.pwcglobal.com). Philly I-Day this year will be held on December 6<sup>th</sup> at the Wyndam Franklin Plaza Hotel.

### **CONTRIBUTIONS AND CANDIDATES SOUGHT FOR CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Do you have someone in mind, or know of someone who can benefit from our newly introduced Scholarship Fund? If so, please take the opportunity to research the eligibility requirements. If you are interested in contributing to a worthy cause in addition to helping your Chapter help others, your contribution to our Scholarship Fund is appreciated. Simply copy, or cut out and complete the below form and mail it with your contribution check payable to "Philadelphia Chapter CPCU Scholarship Fund". For more information on the Scholarship Fund and the eligibility requirements, visit our website at [www.philadelphiacpcu.com](http://www.philadelphiacpcu.com)

### **PHILA. CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP FUND CONTRIBUTION**

Yes, I would like to help build the Chapter's Scholarship Fund. Enclosed is my contribution in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ payable to "Philadelphia Chapter CPCU Scholarship Fund".  
Your (or Co.) Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mail to: Rick Lee, CPCU  
C/o DVIT  
1015 N. York Rd  
Willow Grove, PA 19090

### **FRANKLIN AWARD NOMINEES WANTED**

We seek your input in making nominations directly to the Nominations Committee. You can go to our website which is located at [www.philadelphiacpcu.com](http://www.philadelphiacpcu.com) and download a nominations form or even use the electronic version to make your nomination right online. Deadline for nominees is January 10<sup>th</sup> and the Franklin Award will be presented on March 16, 2001.

### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES POSTED ON WEBSITE**

We have a page on our website [www.philadelphiacpcu.com](http://www.philadelphiacpcu.com) where we afford employers a free opportunity to post job offerings especially geared to our CPCU membership. We will list both full and part-time opportunities. All ads are subject to approval prior to being posted. Visit the website for further info and let your employer know of this free opportunity. You may want to check it out yourself for your own purposes or to try and help an unemployed associate.

### **CHAPTER TO RECEIVE SPECIAL OLYMPICS AWARD ON NOVEMBER 10th**

We are pleased to report that the Special Olympics Philadelphia community of athletes, families and volunteers has selected the Philadelphia CPCU Chapter to receive the "Outstanding Organization Award f" for 2000. The award will be presented at the Special Olympics annual award banquet at Cannstatter's, 9130 Academy Rd, on the evening of November 10<sup>th</sup>. Chapter President Val Katz and last years Chapter President Pete Palestina will both be on hand to acknowledge receipt of the award and recognition for our Chapter's fine work in this area. Special thanks goes to Cynthia Gantz, CPCU who chairs this event for us.