



CPCU
SOCIETY

ChapterGram

Iowa CPCU Society Chapter

2012-2013 Officers

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CPCU Society Social Media



September 2013

www.cpcu-iowa.org

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Upcoming Events

September 12, 2013
3:00 pm Nationwide Insurance Leadership Seminar:
Professional Presence

September 19, 2013
11:30 am Hotel Fort Des Moines Attorney and Expert
Witness Perspectives

October 17, 2013
10:30 am (2 hr meeting) Embassy Club West Identity Theft and
Data Breach

November 14, 2013
7:30 am Downtown Marriott I-Day

December 12, 2013
3:00 pm Wakonda Club Coaching Style Leadership

Message from the President

I hope you have enjoyed your summer and are ready to get back into the routine that comes with fall and back to school. The Iowa CPCU Society Chapter has planned a great series of educational programs, community events, and professional development opportunities for you as we begin the last half of our new calendar year program.

You are probably wondering why I am still writing the Message from the President. Due to changing our fiscal year from July 1 – June 30 to a calendar year, and changing our bylaws accordingly, I have the distinction of becoming the longest serving President of the Iowa Chapter, as our Historian Brad Fels keeps reminding me. We will be having our election of officers for the coming year in October, and they will be installed at I-Day in November.

I would like to thank Brian Wright, Stephanie Wells, and Sarah Middendorf for planning our golf outing, as well as our corporate sponsors: Allied Insurance, EMC Insurance, Farmers Mutual Hail Insurance, GuideOne, The IMT Group, and LaMair-Mulock-Condon. As a result of this charity event, we have been able to present \$2,700 to Blank Children's Hospital.

Our chapter gave back to the community on August 29 as a group of CPCU volunteers helped assemble and package meals for Meals from the Heartland. This event gave us an opportunity to serve others and bring recognition to our organization. Consider helping in the future, as it is truly a rewarding experience. Look for photos from the event in the October ChapterGram, or visit our Facebook page to see them today. While you're there, be sure to "Like" us and stay up-to-date on the Chapter's activities.

Vice-President Erin Osier and Secretary Kim Smetzer have been busy preparing informative meetings for the upcoming year. Our first meeting will be held at the Hotel Fort Des Moines on September 19. Look for more information on page 7 of this ChapterGram, and plan now to attend.

Also, be sure to mark your calendars for November 14 for the Iowa CPCU Society Chapter I-Day. We have a variety of great speakers planned and will also welcome our many new designees. It is sure to be a great event.

Become an active member this year, volunteer and attend. We look forward to seeing you soon.

- Connie Doud, CPCU, CCP

President, Iowa CPCU Society Chapter



Welcome Back!

New Designee Spotlight

**Erin Wonsmos, CPCU, AINS
Marketing Coordinator
The IMT Group**

I often hear many people in the industry say, "I didn't plan to have a career in insurance, it just kind of happened." Believe it or not, I'm actually one of those people that studied insurance in college. I know, I know. For several of my childhood years, I was brought up filing policy amendments and renewals, not to mention practicing my penmanship writing down many messages for my father, an Independent Insurance Agent. As a sophomore at the University of Iowa studying pre-business during an exceptionally tough market, I was faced with a decision: continue to study the business world, possibly something more specific, or change my study path. I decided to continue down the business route and got involved with the Vaughan Institute of Risk Management and Insurance. Through the Vaughan Institute, I was lured to learn more and become more involved in the industry. The people in the industry, as well as the clients you impact, made me believe I was finding something I wanted to be a part of. I graduated with a degree in Finance and a Risk Management and Insurance Certificate from the Vaughan Institute of Risk Management and Insurance, where I continue to remain active, serving as liaison of the Vaughan Institute Young Alumni Board.



I was fortunate enough to land a job with The IMT Group at the conclusion of my time as a Hawkeye in 2009 as a Business Analyst, moving to the Marketing Department in March of 2012. At IMT, from the moment I began walking around the building, I knew it was evident that earning the CPCU designation is a prestigious accomplishment. After studying insurance in college, I took advice from many and began taking insurance continuing education exams a few months after college "while I was still in the study mode," passing my final CPCU designation in November of last year. I look forward to the CPCU Conferment ceremony in New Orleans in October!

I'm a passionate Hawkeye fan who epitomizes bleeding black and gold. When not cheering on Hawkeye athletics, you can find me working on my golf game, enjoying Mexican food, traveling, and hanging out with family and friends.

Institutes Distinguished Graduate Award

By: Ted Lussem

In the September 2012 ChapterGram, I introduced you to Chris Murphy, who had received his fifth Distinguished Graduate Award. This award is given by The Institutes to the one person nationally that receives the highest cumulative grade average in each of the designation programs during any one year. I recently found out that I needed to update this article because Chris has received his sixth Distinguished Graduate Award for the Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) program. Chris has also received three Awards for Academic Excellence over the years for scoring in the top three nationally in other designation programs.



If you have received a similar award and we haven't recognized you in a recent ChapterGram, please [let me know](#). We certainly enjoy celebrating the successes of our CPCU members!

2013 Golf Outing - Thank You

The Iowa CPCU Society Chapter would like to extend a special thank you to our corporate sponsors for the June 2013 golf outing. Your generosity again helped us to have a successful event and raise money for Blank Children's Hospital. Our 2013 corporate sponsors were:

Allied Insurance
EMC Insurance
Farmers Mutual Hail

GuideOne
The IMT Group
LaMair-Mulock-Condon



Burkhalter Award

The **Burkhalter Award** is presented to individuals for outstanding achievements and contributions to the insurance industry in Iowa. The impact and effect of the contribution and achievements of the recipient will be recognized and broad based in the community.

The **Burkhalter Award** is designed to recognize people who have made a contribution to the property and casualty insurance industry and their community through civic involvement.

The **Burkhalter Award** is named after Major General Louis D. Burkhalter, Jr. who was the first individual in Iowa to attain the CPCU designation; a charter member of the Iowa Chapter of CPCU; and the first president of the Iowa Chapter. Mr. Burkhalter had a long and distinguished career in the insurance industry, military and through his civic activities.

The fields of achievements to be evaluated include the following:

Promoting the field of insurance within the business community through civic and non-civic activities; achievements beyond primary professional responsibilities; innovation within the industry; specific achievements which benefit the industry; research efforts; volunteer work in the industry and community; and leadership activities in the governmental arena.

GOALS OF THE BURKHALTER AWARD

- Recognize outstanding service to the community and insurance industry.
- Give community visibility to the recipient and his/her achievements and contributions.
- Generate interest and motivation within the Iowa insurance industry to aspire to this award.
- Contribute to the public image and visibility of the Iowa property and casualty insurance industry.

YOUR NOMINATION FOR THIS YEAR'S AWARD IS ENCOURAGED

The Iowa Chapter seeks qualified recipients for the prestigious **Burkhalter Award**. If you know of someone who has made an outstanding contribution to our profession and their community, we encourage you to submit a nomination.

We've made it even easier for you to nominate an individual for the Burkhalter Award!

The nomination form is now online, allowing you to type and click your way through the nomination process. [Click here](#) to access an online application. The award will be presented at I-Day on November 14.

Burkhalter Award Recipients

Year Recipient

2012	Dean Brooks
2011	Theodore (Ted) D. Lussem
2010	Judith A. Brannon
2009	Dr. Therese M. Vaughan
2008	Larry Matthews
2007	Bruce G. Kelley

Nomination Form



2012 Burkhalter Award Recipient Dean Brooks & Iowa Chapter Vice President Erin Osier

Leadership Seminar - Professional Presence

Date & Time	September 12, 2013. 3:00 - 4:30 pm, with networking immediately after.
Location	Nationwide Insurance, 1100 Locust, Skywalk Level Auditorium
Speaker	Deborah Rinner Godwin, Tero International (view bio)
Topic	5 Fast Tips to Professional Presence

As a professional, you are likely the type of person who knows exactly what you want from your career and who actively works at it. You are viewed as a solid professional who can make things happen. The question is, as you market yourself to make the most of opportunities, are you exuding the professional polish necessary to make the leap from solid professional to executive? Join us to hear five fast tips to enhancing professional presence. The session will cost \$25 for CPCU Society members and \$35 for non members. [Click here](#) to register online.

There will be an informal networking session (no cost) beginning immediately afterward at Raccoon River. People are welcome to join us for just the session, just networking, or both.

May Chapter Meeting Photos



May Chapter Meeting Speaker - Laurie Mardis



Excellence Award Recipient Chris Murphy with Chapter President Connie Doud



Scholarship Chairperson Doug Nuehring with Tim Nielsen, father of scholarship recipient Jeff Nielsen



Ted Lussem, scholarship recipient Ryan Swalve, and Scholarship Chairperson Doug Nuehring

Chapter Meeting

Date & Time September 19, 2013. 11:30 am

Location Hotel Fort Des Moines

Speakers Beth Coonan and Russ Sporer

Topic Attorney and Expert Witness Perspectives

Speaker Bios:

Elizabeth A. Coonan is a member at BrownWinick. Elizabeth represents clients in the areas of employment, workers' compensation and business immigration law. She assists employers in various aspects of their business including internal policy development and enforcement and workers' compensation strategy and prevention. View Elizabeth's full bio [here](#).



Russ Sporer is a former principal of NOEL Insurance and a current active partner in County Risk Management Services. He has been a member of the CPCU Society since 1979. Russ has been active in insurance industry affairs including such things as president of Independent Insurance Agents of Iowa, board member of the Iowa Small Employer Health Reinsurance Program and a variety of other industry related activities. Russ has provided litigation support to defense attorneys for over 75 errors and omissions claims involving insurance agents and has testified in court as an expert witness regarding insurance agents standard of care issues. Learn more about Russ [here](#).



To enable us to have an accurate count for food purposes, please mail or e-mail reservations by September 13, 2013 to:

debbie.conroy@cpcu-iowa.org

Make checks payable to: Iowa CPCU Society Chapter

Mail checks to: Iowa CPCU Society Chapter
Attn: Debra R. Conroy, CIIP, CIC
1000 73rd St Ste 18
Windsor Heights, IA 50324

Name(s): _____

Company: _____ Total Enclosed: \$ _____
Cost: \$25 per person

To register by credit card, visit our chapter website (www.cpcu-iowa.org) and click on the link on the main page under Events. For questions about the meeting, not concerning reservations, please call Erin Osier at (515) 223-6998.