



**CPCU**  
SOCIETY

# ChapterGram

Iowa CPCU Society Chapter

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CPCU Society Social Media



January 2014

www.cpcu-iowa.org

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## Upcoming Events

|                                      |   |  |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| January 17, 2014 (Friday)<br>7:30 am | Machine Shed<br>Restaurant                  | Speaker: Lt Col Wunn<br>Kosovo Partnership |
| February 13, 2014<br>11:30 am        | Community Choice<br>CU Convention<br>Center | Iowa Department<br>for the Blind           |
| March 2014<br>Date and time - TBD    | TBD   | Ethics Day                                 |

## Message from the President

Happy New Year!

In December, the Iowa Chapter met at the Wakonda Club for some networking, hors d'oeuvres, and holiday cheer. We also honored Connie Doud as Past President and thanked her for the service to the chapter for the past 18 months. Connie always went above and beyond her duty and led our chapter through the various transitions required by the national CPCU Society.

Our December speaker was Jerry Brimeyer from State Farm, who discussed Coaching Style Leadership. Due to the multiple requests and positive comments on the exit survey, we will be working to bring him back to speak at a future meeting.

Thanks to everyone who donated food or cash for the DMARC food pantry collection. We were able to donate multiple food items and more than \$110 in cash, which will help to feed local families in need.

Our next gathering is Friday, January 17 at 7:30 am for a breakfast meeting at the Iowa Machine Shed. Lieutenant Colonel Michael Wunn of the Iowa National Guard will speak to our group about the Kosovo Project and the Iowa State Partnership Program.

At this time of year, I try to take a few moments to reflect on the year gone by and set resolutions for 2014. I am very grateful to be a part of the Iowa CPCU Society Chapter. We have so many wonderful and talented individuals who come to our meetings and sit on the board. I am honored to know and work with you. In the coming year, I resolve to get to know more of our members and increase participation on the board.

If your New Year's resolution is to attend more Iowa CPCU Chapter meetings in 2014, we've got a deal for you. Our 2014 Annual Meeting package is still available. Once purchased, you are automatically registered for all of our 2014 chapter meetings and I-Day. If a conflict arises and you are unable to attend a particular meeting, you can send someone in your place.

"Your success and happiness lies in you. Resolve to keep happy, and your joy and you shall form an invincible host against difficulties." - Helen Keller

- Erin Osier, President, Iowa Chapter



## New Designee Spotlight

**Brandon Volz, CPCU**  
**Commercial Underwriter**  
**Liberty Mutual Insurance**

The Christmas season in Iowa has always been a special time of the year for me. Growing up in Carroll, some of my best childhood memories are crossing North Grant Road to the Carroll Municipal Golf Course bundled up in gloves, hats, and snow shoes too big with some friends and a sled ready to break a land speed record. It was a simple pleasure with a simple goal. No matter the outcome we would celebrate at home with a hot chocolate and go out the next day to explore some more. Times have changed, but as I go home for Christmas this year, I feel similar sense of accomplishment on a professional level.

*"Alice came to a fork in the road. 'Which road do I take?' she asked.*

*'Where do you want to go?' responded the Cheshire Cat.*

*'I don't know,' Alice answered.*

*'Then,' said the Cat, 'it doesn't matter.'*

*~ Lewis Carroll*



A couple years ago, I made a promise to myself to earn a CPCU designation. Being out of college for some time, I had to learn how to study for the tests and balance my work and personal commitments. This turned out to consist of early morning studying coupled with last-minute cramming sessions. As I ticked off the required tests and pushed the 'submit' button on the final test, it was with a sense of relief to see the 'PASS' note come up. Since passing the test, new doors have been opened, and it's awesome to be involved with the Iowa Chapter and meet the other designees at the annual convention.

By the time you read this, Christmas and New Year's will have passed and we'll be focused on new department goals, new metrics to hit, and new personal and professional goals to accomplish in 2014. In addition to the insurance knowledge and new relationships, earning the CPCU has reinforced my belief that one must choose a road and figure out where you want to go in your career, because it does matter.

## Good Works from the Grinnell Subchapter

The Grinnell Subchapter has a long standing history of providing support to local fire departments and the brave men and women for all of the service and enrichment they provide to local communities. Most recently, they raised \$1,050 to donate to the Newton Fire Department. With those funds, Newton will purchase a new fire education DVD and use the remaining money to pay for the installation of smoke detectors in the homes of people with a hearing impairment.



Pictured are: Adam Moore, Subchapter President; Jarrod Wellik, Newton Fire Chief; and Mark Johnson, Subchapter Secretary-Treasurer.

## Iowa Insurance Hall of Fame Seeking Nominations

Since its beginning in 1997, the Iowa Insurance Hall of Fame (IIHOF) has recognized 82 industry leaders who have made their mark on our industry on a local, national, and world stage. Their leadership and vision have set the standards for others to follow.

The Iowa Insurance Hall of Fame was formed to celebrate the fact that Iowa's insurance operations have grown to become a leading force within the industry, impacting financial services around the globe. By noting the outstanding individual contributions that formed the backbone of our industry and preserve its integrity today, the IIHOF hopes to inspire a vision of unrivaled success for the next generation of insurance industry leaders.

But there is a problem - unless they are nominated, those that you are sure should be included will never be inducted. Each year, someone asks why a particular "pillar" of our industry was not inducted. The answer is simple - they were not nominated.

You can help the IIHOF in this very important program. To do so, please go to their web site at [www.iihof.org](http://www.iihof.org) and click on "Nominations." The nomination form lists the information needed for a nomination to be considered.

The deadline for submissions is March 1, 2014, and the annual induction event will be held on May 21, 2014, at Drake University's Olmsted Center. As a part of this year's induction program, two more "Iowa Insurance Hall of Fame" scholarships will be presented.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact Jeff Jeffus at 223-9438 or e-mail at [jeff.jeffus@stateauto.com](mailto:jeff.jeffus@stateauto.com). Thanks for your continued support of the Iowa Insurance Hall of Fame.

**THE DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS JUST 2 MONTHS AWAY!!!!**

## Renew Your Membership with the Iowa Chapter

By now, you should have received your annual membership renewal from the CPCU Society. If you haven't already, please consider renewing your membership with the Society, which automatically renews your membership with the Iowa Chapter. As a Society and Chapter member, you have access to many benefits, such as:

- Membership in a great local Chapter, the third largest in the United States. We offer many meetings, events, and Good Works community projects throughout the year. Our meetings received an average rating of 4.37 out of 5 from our attendees in 2013.
- More than \$2,000 worth of technical education resources such as interest group webinars, subscriptions to CPCU Society publications, and unlimited access to The Institutes ten online CPCU courses covering more than 1,000 topics, as references and knowledge refreshers.
- A 25% discount on Institutes study materials, a 35% discount on unlimited online CE from CEU.com, and access to The Institutes Community.

For more information about CPCU Society membership benefits, [click here](#).



## 2014 Annual Meeting Package

Would you like to cross one more item off your monthly to-do list in 2014? If so, consider purchasing the 2014 Annual Meeting Package. The cost of the package is \$210, which includes all seven meetings shown on page 6 plus the I-Day seminar and luncheon, but does not include Ethics Day. This represents a savings of \$25 when compared to purchasing all meetings and I-Day separately. To purchase the package, mail in the registration form below or pay online at our website using the link below.

[Click Here](#) to Purchase the Annual Meeting Package Online

### 2014 Annual Meeting Package Mail-in Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ Annual Meeting Packages x \$210 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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



## 2014 CPCU Events

|                                      |  |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| January 17, 2014 (Friday)<br>7:30 am | Machine Shed Restaurant                  | Speaker: Lt Col Wunn<br>Topic: Kosovo Partnership                  |
| February 13, 2014<br>11:30 am        | Community Choice CU<br>Convention Center | Topic: Iowa Department<br>for the Blind                            |
| March 2014<br>Date and time - TBD    | TBD                                      | Ethics Day   |
| April 17, 2014<br>11:30 am           | Smokey D's<br>BBQ Restaurant             | Speaker: Darren Warth<br>Topic: Food Preparation &<br>Loss Control |
| May 15, 2014<br>11:30 am             | Des Moines Embassy Club                  | Speaker: William Howell<br>Topic: Alternative Energy               |
| September 18, 2014<br>3:00 pm        | Exile Brewery                            | Topic: Equipment Breakdown   |
| October 16, 2014<br>7:30 am          | Des Moines Golf &<br>Country Club        | Speaker: Ann Weber<br>Topic: Legislative Update                    |
| November 7, 2014 (Friday)<br>8:00 am | Prairie Meadows                          | I-Day 2014   |
| December 11, 2014<br>3:00 pm         | Wakonda Club                             | Speaker: World Food Prize<br>Topic: Fighting Hunger                |

| 2014 Iowa CPCU Society Chapter Schedule |          |                              |
|---|----------|------------------------------|
| January 17                              | 7:30 am  | Machine Shed Restaurant      |
| February 13                             | 11:30 am | Community Choice CU Conv Ctr |
| March (TBD)                             | TBD      | Ethics Day                   |
| April 17                                | 11:30 am | Smokey D's BBQ Restaurant    |
| May 15                                  | 11:30 am | Des Moines Embassy Club      |
| September 18                            | 3:00 pm  | Exile Brewery                |
| October 16                              | 7:30 am  | DSM Golf and Country Club    |
| November 7                              | 8:00 am  | I-Day: Prairie Meadows       |
| December 11                             | 3:00 pm  | Wakonda Club                 |

**Update your schedule magnet and save the dates for our 2014 meetings. We look forward to seeing you soon.**

## Chapter Meeting

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| Date & Time | Friday, January 17, 2014. 7:30 am <b>**Note this is a Friday morning**</b> |
| Location    | Iowa Machine Shed Restaurant ( <a href="#">map</a> )                       |
| Speaker     | Lieutenant Colonel Michael A. Wunn - Iowa National Guard                   |
| Topic       | The Iowa - Kosovo Partnership  |

### Speaker and Topic:

Lt Col Michael Wunn grew up in West Des Moines, Iowa. He joined the Iowa Army National Guard in June 1991 and was assigned to the 135<sup>th</sup> Mobile Public Affairs Detachment. Wunn served in a variety of public affairs positions within the MPAD including as the commander from 2001-2006. In July 2006, Wunn was assigned as the Public Affairs Officer for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade Combat Team, 34<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division and in November 2012 he transferred to the Joint Forces Headquarters, Iowa National Guard.



Wunn received his commissioning through the Drake University Reserve Officer Training Corps and has completed Adjutant General Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, Public Affairs Officer Qualification Course, Combined Arms and Services Staff School, and Command and General Staff College. Previous overseas deployments for training and mobilizations include Panama (1993/94), Germany (1996/97, 2002), Korea (2003), El Salvador (2004), Kosovo (2005/06) and Afghanistan (2010/11).

Lt Col Wunn will be speaking about the Iowa-Kosovo Partnership, which was created in March 2011 with the long-term goal of developing the Kosovo Security Force and fostering mutually-beneficial interests across all levels of society. For more information about this Partnership and Lt Col Wunn, [click here](#).

To enable us to have an accurate count for food purposes, please mail or e-mail reservations by January 13, 2014 to: [debbie.conroy@cpcu-iowa.org](mailto: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](http://www.cpcu-iowa.org)) and click on the link on the main page under Meetings & Events. For questions about the meeting, not concerning reservations, please call Kim Smetzer at (515) 365-4340.