



CPCU
SOCIETY

ChapterGram

Iowa CPCU Society Chapter

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CPCU Society Social Media



October 2015

www.cpcu-iowa.org

Contents

Message from the President	2
New Designee Spotlight Career Development & Succession Planning Executive Panel Event	3
Gary Carter, CPCU - From Software Developer to Helicopter Pilot	4
Burkhalter Award	6
Chapter Meeting	7

Upcoming Events

October 15, 2015 7:30 am	Des Moines Botanical Center	Chapter Meeting
October 28, 2015 11:00 am	Glen Oaks Country Club	Career Development & Succession Planning Executive Panel Event
October 29, 2015 4:00 pm	Fuddruckers West Des Moines	New Designee Reception
November 12, 2015 8:00 am	Des Moines Marriott Downtown	CPCU I-Day 2015
December 17, 2015 3:00 pm	Wakonda Club	Chapter Meeting

Message from the President

I would like to thank Sarah Middendorf, Ryan Swalve, and Christina Reidel for our successful charity golf outing this summer. As a result of the event, we were recently able to present \$4,100 to Blank Children's Hospital-Fire Safety House! Thank you to all the golfers and corporate sponsors that made this donation possible.

We are currently seeking nominations for the prestigious Burkhalter Award. **The deadline for nominations is October 5th.** The Burkhalter Award is designed to recognize individuals who have influenced the Iowa property and casualty insurance industry and their community through civic involvement. If you know someone or an organization that has made an outstanding contribution to our profession, we urge you to let us know. To nominate an individual for the Burkhalter Award, complete a nomination form by clicking here: <http://cpcu-iowa.org/burkhalter-award-nomination/>



We had our first meeting this Fall at the West Des Moines Hilton Garden Inn on September 17th. Gary Slater, CEO of the Iowa State Fair, gave an in-depth presentation of behind the scenes perspectives at the Iowa State Fair. Our next gathering is Thursday, October 15th at 7:30 a.m. for a breakfast meeting at the Des Moines Botanical Center. Dr. S. Elwynn Taylor will speak to our group about weather trends. During the October meeting we will vote on approval of the following Officer and Director Nominees for 2016:

Vice President — Adam Haugerud
Secretary — Stephanie Wells
Treasurer — Chris Murphy
Director of Internal Operations — Brad Soma
Director of Communications — Dan Mulcahy

Dalith Wells will automatically move into the position of President, while Jeff Wilson and Doug Nuehring will continue in their two-year terms as Directors.

The Chapter is presenting a Professional Development Seminar at Glen Oaks Country Club on Wednesday, October 28th from 11:30 to 1. Bob Skow will moderate a panel of speakers addressing the topic of Career Development and Succession Planning. Cost is \$15 per CPCU member or \$25 per Non-Member. Lunch is included with the registration fee.

Our New Designee Reception will be held on Thursday, October 29th at Fuddruckers in West Des Moines from 4-6 p.m. We invite all our new CPCU designees to come and meet the members of the Iowa Chapter.

Mark your calendars now to attend I-Day on November 12th held at the downtown Des Moines Marriott. As always, I-Day is the place to learn and network with your fellow insurance professionals. Hope to see you at one of our next events!

Kimberly D. Smetzer, CPCU
President, Iowa CPCU Society Chapter

New Designee Spotlight

Kent A. Candee, CIH, ARM, AINS, CPCU, API
Environmental Health Services Manager
EMC Insurance Companies



In 2000 I was able to fulfill a dream of working for an insurance company as an industrial hygienist—one who helps protect workers from chemical, physical, biological, and ergonomic hazards. One cultural trait of EMC is their support of employees in pursuit of continuing education, which allowed me to become a certified Industrial hygienist (CIH) upon my arrival. After transferring into a management position, I started to realize how little I knew about insurance operations and terminology. I needed to improve my knowledge and gain a better understanding of how the pieces fit together from underwriting, claims, loss control, operations, and finances.

My initial insurance studies were in risk management and general insurance. I then shifted my focus to the broader CPCU designation after some prompting from co-workers and research. Pursuit of the CPCU designation was challenging both in content and finding the time to study between work and fulfilling my father and husband obligations. Not to mention being one who suffers from test anxiety.

One thing in life that is very fulfilling is goal accomplishment. Receiving a reward upon achievement is even more gratifying. My reward is being Hawaii bound with my lovely wife in September 2016 for the conferment ceremony.

When I am not studying, you can find me volunteering with various boards, leading youth and adult mission trips, stock investing, biking, and walking.

Career Development and Succession Planning Executive Panel Event

Are you wondering how to take that next step up the ladder in your organization? Do you know what skills or qualities it takes to make that climb? If you have questions, this event has the answers.

We are very privileged and honored to welcome Sean Kennedy (IMT CEO), Scott Reddig (GuideOne COO) and Scott Jean (EMC EVP) to share their expertise in an interactive and informative discussion regarding this strategic approach to developing employees that embraces creating and managing talent pipelines for high level positions.

Moderating this group is Bob Skow (CEO, Independent Insurance Agents of Iowa) who entered the Iowa Insurance Hall of Fame in 2007.

Please bring your questions and join us for this exciting event October 28, 2015 at Glen Oaks Country Club, West Des Moines, Iowa by purchasing your tickets [online](#). Registration is from 11:00 am to 11:30 am. Lunch will be served at 11:30 am.

Gary Carter, CPCU - From Software Developer to Helicopter Pilot



Gary Carter, CPCU, a software developer at EMC, has returned from military leave after a deployment to Kuwait and Iraq. He served as a platoon leader, a battle captain and a medical evacuation officer-in-charge (MEDEVAC OIC) during his time overseas. Gary presented a flag and certificate to EMC President and CEO Bruce Kelley, CPCU, on Wednesday, August 12. "I flew the presented flag for EMC Insurance Companies in recognition of the unparalleled support they provided for me and my fellow soldiers," said Gary. He received a care package in December while in Kuwait and said, "I was able to

encourage my other soldiers who were spending the holidays away from their loved ones, thanks to the generosity of EMC and its employees."

Following his return, we caught up with Gary to learn more about his experience. Our questions and his responses are below.

How long have you been a member of the Guard?

I have been a member of the Iowa National Guard since 2007. While assigned as Platoon Leader to C Co 2-147th AVN, Boone, Iowa we were tasked to deploy to Kuwait in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

How long were you deployed?

I was deployed from June 7, 2014 - April 28, 2015. However, I left work in April 2014 to conduct pre-mobilization training at Camp Dodge in Johnston, Iowa; Boone, Iowa; and Volk Field, Wisconsin. We then flew 10 UH-60 Blackhawks from Boone, Iowa to Fort Hood, Texas on June 7th to conduct our validation training and work with our Deploying Aviation Task Force. In August, we finally arrived in Kuwait to begin our mission. I returned home April 28, 2015, then had 28 days of accrued leave to use before attending the UH-60M transition course at Fort Rucker, Alabama from June 4 - July 17. After completing that course, I am now qualified to fly the new UH-60M helicopters which are arriving in Boone, Iowa throughout this year.

How did your Guard involvement impact your CPCU completion?

I started the course work for the CPCU in June 2007. I completed the last exam in December 2007 and then shipped off January 10, 2008 to Basic Training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. I actually achieved my CPCU while training at Fort Gordon, Georgia because there was a three-year Insurance Related Experience requirement, which I did not achieve until June 2008. I then attended the designation ceremony in Philadelphia, PA the week after I returned from my Advanced Individual Training.

Gary Carter, CPCU - From Software Developer to Helicopter Pilot

What have been your responsibilities in the Guard?

From October 2011 until October 2014 I was assigned as a Platoon Leader in C Company 2-147th. I shared the responsibility of leading, training and mentoring for 22 Officers and 52 Enlisted Soldiers, and



management of 10 UH-60 Blackhawks and their required maintenance and fueling equipment. This was my primary responsibility but I also had to maintain all my proficiency and currency requirements as a helicopter pilot and crew member.

From October 2014 - December 2014 I was assigned as a Battle Captain. This meant I was responsible for the Tactical Operations Center managing all flight and support operations conducted by Task Force Shield at Camp Buehring, Kuwait. The task force consisted of MEDEVAC, Air Assault, Air Movement, Maintenance and Air Traffic Control Services. I would provide a daily update brief to the Battalion Commander, Staff and Company Commanders.

From December 2014 - February 2015 I served as the Officer in Charge of MEDEVAC operations at Baghdad Embassy Complex, Baghdad, Iraq. I managed a 24-Hour First-Up MEDEVAC team of 2 UH-60s, 13 Air Crew Members, 8 Maintenance Personnel and 4 Radio Operators. We were forward deployed to support Operation Inherent Resolve. We were replaced by active duty MEDEVAC during the last week of February.

From February 2015 - April 2015 I served as a Pilot in Command and Air Mission Commander for C Company while assisting in Platoon Leader/OIC duties at Taji Airforce Base, Taji, Iraq. We flew daily missions in central Iraq providing MEDEVAC Chase, Air Movement and Resupply for coalition forces throughout Iraq.

I am now the Assistant S-3 Air Operations for 248th Aviation Support Battalion in Boone, Iowa, where I will assist in the planning and support of flight operations for all army aviation assets in the state of Iowa.

Are there any similarities between the Guard and your desk job?

There are not a lot of similarities between what I do for EMC and my responsibilities in the Guard. But, that is why I like it so much. It helps to fill the gaps in life experiences. I work at a desk writing computer code during the day then I get to fly helicopters and train soldiers at night and on the weekends.

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 broadcasted 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 deadline is October 5, 2015. The award will be presented at I-Day on November 12, 2015.

Previous Burkhalter Award Recipients

Year	Recipient
2014	Bob Skow
2013	Wade Sheeler
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](#)



2014 Burkhalter Award Recipient Bob Skow

Chapter Meeting

Date & Time October 15, 2015, 7:30 am

Location Des Moines Botanical Center, 909 Robert D. Ray Dr, Des Moines

Speaker Dr. S. Elwynn Taylor, Iowa State University Professor of Agronomy and Extension Climatologist

Topic Weather Trends

Iowa State University professor, Elwynn Taylor's vision of mega-trends in technology, climate and society opens the horizons of our enigmatic world. His extensive knowledge and understanding of the world around us enlightens and entertains professional and general audiences. His insightful presentations are immediately useful in the management of business and life. Few can explain the complexities of our world in a manner as clear, concise, and pleasant, as does Dr. Taylor.



Dr. Taylor received his doctorate in Biology from Washington University in St. Louis. Scholars internationally recognize his expertise in the interactions of the biological and the physical environment. Widely requested for banquet, convention and technical keynote presentations, audiences value his affable and informative delivery. He is the recipient of the "Excellence in Extension Education" and the national "Excellence in Economic Education" awards. He received the Iowa Regent's professional achievement award.

To enable us to have an accurate count for food purposes, please mail or e-mail reservations by **October 8, 2015** to:

debbie.conroy@cpcu-iowa

Or 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 Dalith Wells, (515) 345-7458.