



ChapterGram

Iowa CPCU Society Chapter

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CPCU Society Social Media



September 2016

www.cpcu-iowa.org

Contents

Message from the President	2
New Designee Spotlight Good Works Update	3
2015 Golf Outing Thank You Continuing Education for CPCUs	4
Burkhalter Award	5
Chapter Meeting	6

Upcoming Events

Friday, September 2, 2016 1:00 pm	Hy Vee Hall	Good Works: Meals from the Heartland
Tuesday, Sept 13, 2016 11:30 am	Des Moines Embassy Club	Chapter Meeting
Sunday, Sept 18, 2016 3:00 pm	Hawaii Convention Center	CPCU Hawaii New Designee Reception
Saturday, October 8, 2016 7:30 am	Des Moines Fire Station	Good Works: Smoke Detector Installation

Message from the President

Records were meant to be broken and the Iowa CPCU Chapter broke a record this year for the number of new designees. No doubt, breaking the record was due to the annual meeting and commencement ceremony in Honolulu, Hawaii. Our chapter will be celebrating with 181 new designees in Hawaii from September 16 - 20. We are looking forward to keynote speaker, John Quinones, co-anchor of ABC Primetime, as well as hearing from Dewitt Jones, a professional photographer, film director and writer. In addition to the great speakers there will be classes on underwriting, claims, future of our industry, and career building to fill our days in Hawaii.



Back home in Iowa, we honor our new designees with a reception in Des Moines and at I-Day in November. Our reception was very well attended at Wellman's on August 8 and we gave away a \$50.00 gift card to Marcus Treimer based on participation in a networking activity during the reception. We had a good time meeting each other and we will hope to see everyone at the reception in Hawaii on Sunday, September 18 at the Hawaii Convention Center from 3 - 4:30. An email was sent inviting new designees to the reception in Hawaii in mid August. Please let us know whether you will be in attendance.

Even though we have not had chapter meetings since May, the CPCU chapter has been active with several different activities this summer. The continuing education classes on Emerging Issues were well attended on July 13 and I've heard great feedback about the event. Thank you to the Professional Development committee for providing a great experience. The Charity Golf event raised approximately \$1,600 at Legacy Golf Course on July 21 and will help fund our future Good Works project to give smoke detectors to local families through the Des Moines Fire Department on October 8, 2016. We also had a great networking event at Chocolaterie Stam on August 16 where we learned more about the history of the chocolatier and why they chose to open their store in Iowa. We all ate too much chocolate.

We have 3 more monthly meetings, our Good Works projects, social outings and I-Day coming to complete our 2016 year. Be sure to clear your calendars for the next meetings. In September, Terri Vaughan, one of our members, will be speaking about Insurance Risk Management. You won't want to miss Terri speak. In October, Pinnacle Actuarial Services will be speaking about claims. I-Day will be held November 10, 2016 at Prairie Meadows starting at 8:30 AM. Joel Silverthorn from AM Best and Kim Hazelbaker from the Highway Loss Data Institute will be speaking about Personal Lines. The invitation will be electronic this year like our monthly meetings. Our last meeting of the year will be held at Wakonda Club and Alison Cate from EMC Insurance Companies will be speaking about Generations in the Workplace.

If you would like to honor an individual for contributing to the Iowa insurance industry, check out page 5 in this Chaptergram for details on the Burkhalter award and nomination process.

Even over the busy summer I continued to learn from webinars, presentations, conferences and interaction with you. I attended a class to learn more about dealing with difficult situations. I have taken this class in many forms but I knew I could take something new away to apply to my professional development. When I am having a difficult conversation with a fellow employee, I picture myself on the same side of the table as the person I am having the difficult conversation with and the issue is on the other side of the table.

- Dalith Wells, President, Iowa Chapter President

New Designee Spotlight

Matt Graber, CPCU
The IMT Group
Personal Lines Underwriter



I grew up in Newton, Iowa (Go Cardinals!) and I attended Central College in Pella where I earned my Bachelor's Degree in Business Management with an emphasis in Marketing. During my time at Central College, I was a 4-year letter winner on the Men's Track & Field team and a National Runner-Up in the shot put. I also studied abroad in London, UK, for a semester where I made many memories that will last a lifetime.

After graduation, I moved to West Des Moines where I began my career at Wells Fargo. I worked as a Loan Servicing Specialist for one year in the Real Estate Tax Division. In May 2012 I got a job at The IMT Group as an Underwriting Assistant. Now, I am an Underwriter working primarily with our expanding territories in Minnesota. I love what I do, my teammates, and our agent force that I get to work with on a daily basis. I have been with The IMT Group for four years now and I look forward to continuing my career at this awesome company for many years to come.

I began working towards my CPCU in order to gain valuable insurance experience as I was still relatively new to the industry. Also, our company really values continuing education which motivated and challenged me to gain this designation so I could be more effective at my job. I started my CPCU journey in February 2013 and completed it in August 2015. I didn't initially start the process thinking that I would be able to complete it in time for the Hawaii trip but as I got closer it was definitely extra motivation. As I progressed through and completed the course work, I could really tell that my knowledge of the insurance industry had expanded. This knowledge allows me to be more accurate and confident in my day-to-day underwriting decisions with my agents and teammates. And celebrating in Hawaii isn't so bad either!

I met my wife, Ashley, at Central College and we got married in November 2014. We currently reside in West Des Moines and are enjoying being first-time homeowners. I love watching the Iowa Hawkeyes, the Dallas Cowboys and the Atlanta Braves. I also enjoy Premier League Soccer, especially West Bromwich Albion. In my free time I like to play slow pitch softball, work outside in the yard, and work on some woodworking projects. I can't wait until Ashley and I can travel back to London sometime in the future.

Good Works Update

The Good Works Committee has two great events planned for this fall. The first event will be Meals from the Heartland's annual hunger fight on Friday, September 2, from 1-3 pm at Hy Vee Hall. Please consider volunteering a few hours of your time to help make a difference and sign up [online](#).

The second event will be installing the smoke detectors we are donating alongside the Des Moines Fire Department. This event will be Saturday, October 8, at 7:30 am. It will start with breakfast at the fire station and then our volunteers will be paired with fire department personnel to go into neighborhoods that are in need of smoke detectors to install them. Since this is a Saturday event we would also like to open the event up to spouses/family members. Sign up for this event is also [online](#).

Should you have any questions about either event, please contact Alyssa Saunders, CPCU, at 345-2722 or Alyssa.B.Saunders@emcins.com.

2016 Golf Outing Thank You

The Iowa CPCU Society Chapter would like to thank all of our participants, sponsors, Legacy Golf Club and Pro Image Sign & Lighting for their involvement with the July 2016 golf outing. Your participation and generosity has helped us put on a successful event and raise over \$1,600 to purchase smoke detectors for the Des Moines Fire Department which will be donated during Fire Safety Week (October 9-15). This year's sponsors are:

Platinum Level

- Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company
- The IMT Group

Silver Level

- Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company

Bronze Level

- Continental Western
- Mutual Boiler Re
- Secura
- Western National

Hole Signs

- Pro Image Signs & Lighting

Golf Committee:

Sarah Middendorf

Ryan Swalve

Director of Member Activities: Jeff Wilson

Please contact any member of the golf committee if you have any ideas, would like to participate or help plan 2017's event!

Continuing Education for CPCUs

Starting July 1, 2016, CPCUs may begin earning credits that count toward the CE for CPCUs program. Although The Institutes do not have a specific date yet, CPCUs will be able to begin reporting their credit hours sometime during the second half of 2016, when the reporting platform becomes available.

Based on a survey conducted last year, current CPCUs and CPCU students overwhelmingly indicated that they felt a formalized reporting of continuing education would increase the overall value of the CPCU designation.

Goals of the program include allowing CPCUs to select educational activities that are most relevant to them as well as elevating the overall experience within the CPCU Society.

The Institutes are encouraging all CPCUs to honor their commitment to continuing education. While no one's CPCU designation will be invalidated for failing to report continuing education, CPCUs who comply with the reporting requirements will be publicly recognized for their commitment to their industry and career.

For additional details, as well as FAQs, please visit the Continuing Education for CPCUs [website](#).

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 award will be presented at I-Day on November 10, 2016.

Previous Burkhalter Award Recipients

Year	Recipient
2015	Bob Conroy
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



2015 Burkhalter Award Recipient Bob Conroy

[**Nomination Form**](#)

Chapter Meeting

Date & Time	Tuesday, September 13, 2016, 11:30 am
Location	Des Moines Embassy Club, (Downtown Des Moines, Ruan Center)
Speaker	Therese M. Vaughan, Ph.D., ASA, ACAS, CPCU, MAAA
Topic	Insurance Risk Management/ Drake Insurance

Dr. Vaughan is a leading expert in insurance regulation, having spent the bulk of her career as a scholar of regulation, an insurance regulator, or a representative of U.S. insurance regulation domestically and internationally. She is currently Dean of the College of Business and Public Administration at Drake University. She also serves as a director of Validus Holdings, Verisk Analytics, and Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield.



From February 2009 to November 2012, Dr. Vaughan served as the Chief Executive Officer of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC). As CEO, she oversaw the operations of the NAIC and served as its primary representative and chief spokesperson in Washington, D.C. She represented the NAIC as a member of the Executive Committee of the International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS) and as a member of the steering committee for the U.S./E.U. Insurance Dialogue Project.

Read Dr. Vaughan's full bio [online](#).

To enable us to have an accurate count for the tour, please mail or e-mail reservations by **September 6, 2016** to:

debbie.conroy@cpcu-iowa.org

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

Name(s): _____

Company: _____

To register online, 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 Adam Haugerud at (515) 508-5435.