

President's Notes

Happy New Year to everyone. Resolutions are always a hot topic at this time of year and your Chapter has made some of its own which we hope will be of benefit to you!

I first have to convey some news regarding the current Board. Anita Johnson, one of the most dedicated and hard working Board members (Anita has served in many positions for many years) is transferring to Texas. We are thrilled for her but will miss her terribly. She has been a huge asset to this Chapter. You will have the opportunity to thank her and wish her well as she will be joining us for her last Central Arizona Chapter luncheon this month.

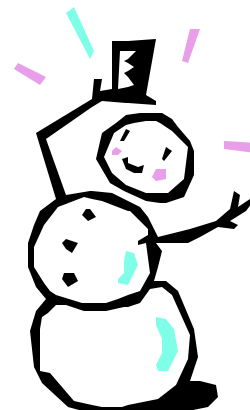
This news highlights one of our on-going resolutions; to continually attract new volunteers to head or participate in our various committees. While it does take some time, the rewards are well worth it in the wonderful members that you have the opportunity to meet and get to know and the new skills and knowledge it provides. I know I personally have gained a much larger perspective of all the differing roles we all have. Please give this some thought as we would truly appreciate any time that you could give.

We will be resurrecting the Research Committee with a brand new subject which is of interest to us all. The topic will be announced shortly. Our Scholarship Fund is progressing nicely. We are still identifying potential candidates and our goal is to award one or more Scholarships for the 2007 Fall semester. I will be submitting an article to both the Business Journal and Insurance Journal regarding our Scholarship Fund and will include some general information about our Chapter. I'll let you know when it will be published.

We are planning two new seminars to coincide with one of our spring monthly luncheons; there will be a morning seminar and a different one after lunch. Dates and topics will be announced soon.

As always, please let me know if you have any suggestions, comments, etc. I look forward to seeing you on the 17th.

**Byrd Horner, CPCU, ARM, CRM, CIC
President**



Central Arizona Chaptergram

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Meetings:

- *January 17, 2007*
- *February 21, 2007*
- *March 21, 2007*
- *April 18, 2007*
- *May 16, 2007*

Regulation & Legislation

Flood Insurance Training Requirements

The Department of Insurance has recently issued Regulatory Bulletin 2006-09 advising licensed property insurers and producers of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) training requirements. The Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2004 requires all producers selling flood insurance policies through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) to be properly trained and educated about the NFIP to ensure producers provide the best service to their clients. Producers who sell flood insurance will have to complete three hours of NFIP training.



Education Requirements

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and state-approved continuing education providers are developing NFIP-related courses. Insurance producers may satisfy the NFIP education requirements by completing three hours of NFIP training. Although NFIP training requirements are not independently enforced by the DOI, insurance producers selling federal flood insurance policies must comply with the minimum statutory flood insurance training and education requirements. Such training may also apply towards producers' continuing education requirements.

Failure to comply with the educational requirements could jeopardize the producer's authority to write flood insurance through NFIP.

Good Works



Founded in 1990, Homeward Bound is a transitional housing program for domestic violence families with children in the metropolitan Phoenix area. Homeward Bound is recognized as the largest provider of transitional housing in the state of Arizona. They own and operate 162 housing units to accommodate mothers and children who are victims of domestic abuse. Homeward Bound assists families with a "hand up" not a "hand out." Families are expected to contribute 30% of their gross income towards housing, utilities, and support services. In addition to transitional housing, Homeward Bound provides comprehensive social services programs including case management, mental health services,

employment services, life skills programs, and affordable and accessible childcare. Homeward Bound's ultimate goal is to assist families achieve economic independence, secure long-term, safe and affordable housing, and to break the multi-generational cycles of homelessness and domestic violence.

Contact: Dawn Bogart
Phone#: (602) 263-7654
Address: Homeward Bound
2302 W. Colter
Phoenix, AZ 85015

Habitat For Humanity Update



Saturday, January 6th was Habitat for Humanity CPCU Good Works Volunteer day.

If you look closely at the middle of the picture where the paint roller is sticking up – you'll see the homeowner Cindy just to the left of the paint roller.

Our own Sandy Masters noted this was her first experience volunteering for Habitat for Humanity and she thought it was a great to get to know other CPCU members and meeting the homeowner was an extra treat for her.

The homeowner, Cindy said she'll be moving in to the home with her son, daughter-in-law, and maybe her mother. This will be the first house she has ever lived in. Kudos to Diana Dean-Spurgeon for organizing the volunteer day and for making sure the crew was well fed!

Free Lunch for CPCU Candidates!

For the March 21st Central Arizona CPCU meeting, we are inviting all CPCU candidates and those who are seriously considering pursuing the CPCU designation to join chapter members for a free lunch at the Phoenix Country Club. Do you know someone who is pursuing the CPCU designation? Do you know someone who should be pursuing the CPCU designation? Invite them as your guest for lunch at the March meeting. This will be a great opportunity to network and to share your story about the value you have received by becoming a CPCU.



At this meeting we also celebrate “Ethics Awareness Month”. In honor of “Ethics Awareness Month” all CPCU candidates present will have their name entered into a drawing for a chance to receive an education grant valued at up to \$700. For more information contact Julia Tallent (602) 861-8736 or Sandy Masters (480) 895-0109.

January luncheon speaker— Michael Miller

Michael D. Miller is the President and Chief Operating Officer for the Scottsdale Insurance Group. Over the course of his 29-year career in the insurance industry, Mike has worked in various leadership capacities. As President of Scottsdale Insurance, Mike has what he believes is the best job in the E&S industry. The company benefits from talented associates, tenured customers, industry leadership, ongoing profitability and growth, and the strong support of parent company Nationwide.

For the past 21 years, Mike has played an integral role in the Nationwide Insurance organization. He joined Nationwide in 1985 as the Manager of Corporate Accounting. In 1988, he was promoted to the Director of Corporate Accounting. Subsequently, in 1993, he moved to Des Moines, Iowa where he assumed the role of CFO for the Farmland Companies, another Nationwide subsidiary.

Mike first joined the Scottsdale Insurance Group in 1995 as Chief Financial Officer. After five years in that role, he accepted the job as CFO for the Nationwide Insurance property and casualty companies in Columbus, Ohio. He served in that capacity until an opportunity came up at Scottsdale Insurance in 2003. Upon his return to the Scottsdale Insurance Group – a company he had hoped one day to lead – Mike acted as the Executive Vice President of Operations and Administration until he took on the role of President and COO at the end of 2004.

Mike has an undergraduate degree in Accounting and Business Administration from Defiance College, and a graduate degree in Business Administration from Indiana University. He holds the CPCU, CLU, ASLI, ChFc, ARe and FLMI designations. Deeply committed to corporate citizenship, Mike currently serves on the boards of the Valley of the Sun United Way, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale, and the Scottsdale Cultural Council.

Mike and his wife Paulette have two children, Jason and Jenna.



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Luncheon Information:

From September through May, we hold a monthly luncheon at the Phoenix Country Club. The meeting starts at 12:00 noon and ends about 1:00 pm. There is an informative speaker for each meeting. The luncheon is held on the third Wednesday of the month.

The meeting is on the second level of the main building at N. 7th St and Thomas Rd.

Chaptergram Information:

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Article Deadline: The 20th of each month.

Chapter Officers & Directors

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