

Chapter News

A PUBLICATION
OF THE CAPITAL
CHAPTER OF ISCEBS

President's Message

The Capital Chapter of the International Society of Certified Employee Benefit Specialists (ISCEBS) is proud to be completing its 14th year of providing high quality educational programs for employee benefit professionals. The Chapter also continues to be an organization where employee benefit professionals come together to share their experiences and to network with other employee benefit professionals.

Each of us has a story to tell about meeting the challenge of attaining our CEBS designation. In addition, nobody understands the demands, and rewards, of work in the employee benefits field like a fellow employee benefits professional. Our field is an interesting, dynamic arena. Those holding the CEBS designation play a vital role in employees' lives, whether it be in efficiently administering health and welfare plans, bargaining with vendors, performing retirement counseling, tracking new legislation, filing 5500 forms, or meeting other compliance deadlines.

The CEBS designation is widely recognized as the "Gold Standard" in certifications. Employers look to those with the CEBS designation for information and guidance during strategic planning efforts. Among the things they ask, "How much do benefits cost us now? Are we getting what we pay for? Can we obtain them in a more cost efficient manner? Is there a better way of providing these to our employees? What is new on the benefits horizon? What role will/should cost sharing play in our future benefit packages? How do we stay competitive so that recruitment efforts succeed? How do we best communicate with our employees so they can efficiently maximize the benefits we offer?" They turn for answers to CEBS professionals who have made a commitment to excellence through continuing education.

Throughout the year, Capital Chapter Board members met to plan the year's events. Board members took advantage of leadership educational opportunities offered by Pam Wu of the International Society. As a group, the Board remained committed to continuing the educational tradition set long ago by the Chapter's founders. In addition, Board members participated in the ongoing effort to recruit new Chapter members. They also encouraged students who have undertaken the challenge of attaining the Group Benefits Associate (GBA), the Retirement Plans Associate (RPA), or the Compensation Management Specialist (CMS) to ultimately join us in the Certified Employee Benefit Specialist (CEBS) designation.

This year has proven to be another during which the Capital Chapter members have actively promoted the Chapter educational activities. The future success of the Chapter depends on your continued enthusiastic support!

Gerry

INTERNATIONAL
SOCIETY OF CERTIFIED
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT
SPECIALISTS

Fall 2003

Chapter Officers

President

Gerry Lynch, CEBS
(301) 926-7894

Vice President

Teri Davis, CEBS
The Union Labor Life
Insurance Co.
(202) 682-4900

Treasurer

Elizabeth Poole Frank,
CEBS
ICMA Retirement
Corporation
(202) 962-4653

Secretary

Richard Johnson, CEBS
Mercer Human
Resource Consulting
(202) 296-0909



Board of Directors

John Crawford, CEBS

Ruthann Timmer, CEBS

C W A S & RT
(202) 434-1389

Barbara Ports, CEBS

Fannie Mae
(703) 833-1216

Linda Hennessey, CEBS

The Catholic Diocese of
Arlington
(703) 841-2513

Committees

All Day Program

Barbara Ports, CEBS

Breakfast Program

John Crawford, CEBS
Richard Johnson, CEBS

Membership

Hemant Berry, CEBS

Newsletter

Teri Davis, CEBS

If you would like to volunteer for a committee, please contact the chairperson of the committee listed above.

Check out our Website

Capital-chapter-isocebs.org

2003 Program Overview

This year the Capital Chapter sponsored an educational session on "defined compensation" or "employee directed" health and welfare plans. The session was hosted by, and conducted at, Mercer Human Resource Consulting. A panel discussion format allowed for the presentation of a program, which included both the vendor perspective, and the employer's view of the success of the actual implementation of an employee directed plan. Attendees heard firsthand from the panel members regarding employer concerns, employee participation and acceptance, communication issues, and the all-important "what we would have done differently" stories. Despite the snowy weather in Washington in February, the session was well attended.

In May, the Capital Chapter sponsored an All Day educational session focusing on Health and Welfare issues. As we all know, health care costs continue to soar and play havoc with corporate, and personal budgets. Program attendees were addressed by speakers from The Segal Company, Towers Perrin, and Mercer Human Resource Consulting all of whom brought the latest news on the state of affairs of rising healthcare costs and described the latest cost control efforts. In addition, attorney Gregory F. Moore of O'Donoghue and O'Donoghue presented information about the timely topic of compliance with the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act. During lunch at the All Day session, former Chapter President Richard Eddy, from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, gave us a lighthearted presentation on his experience of working in Italy in a talk titled "The Benefits of Pasta." Both the States of Maryland and Virginia approved the All Day Session for Continuing Education credits for licensed professionals.

In September, we sponsored our annual Legislative Overview and Update which was held at and hosted by, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. This ever-popular program once again proved to be a success. The featured speakers were Phyllis Borzi, Counsel at O'Donoghue and O'Donoghue, and Nell Hennessey, President Aon Fiduciary Counselors, Inc. They gave the attendees an up close look at employee benefit legislation, which is under consideration, and what the chances are for passage and enactment of each.

2004 Officers and Board Members

President Teri Davis
 Vice President Barbie Frank
 Treasurer Rich Johnson
 Secretary Barbara Forts

Board Members John Crawford (term expires 2004)
 Hemant Berry term -expires 2006)
 Debbie Green (term expires 2005)
 Jim McGee (term expires 2004)

Ballots containing the names of these candidates, as well as those of any other nominees received through the petition process, will be mailed to Chapter members. Completed ballots must be post-marked no later than December 2 and returned to the Chapter for tabulation.

If no nominations are received via the petition process, the mail ballot process will be waived, and the candidates chosen by the Nominating Committee will be declared elected and their official duties will begin January 1, 2004.

New CEBS for 2003

CEBS

Paula K. Bowman , CEBS Benefits Consultant Acacia Life Insurance Bethesda, MD	Shane Canfield, CEBS President Educators Benefits Services Inc. Glen Burnie, MD	Debra L. Fluker, CEBS Benefits Manager The Carlyle Group Washington, DC	Kim M. Jackson, CEBS Benefits Analyst CACI International Inc. Arlington, VA
Meredith S. Kane , CEBS Systems Consultant Washington, DC	Daniel M. Kelly, CEBS TIAA-CREF Washington, DC	Becki S. Marchand, CEBS Investigator US Department of Labor Washington, DC	Misty K. McGuire, CEBS Systems Analyst Watson Wyatt Worldwide Washington, DC
Stefanie A. Mortenson , CEBS Human Resources Specialist Alexandria, VA	Nancy J. Newman , CEBS Hewitt Associates LLC Washington, DC	Julie A. Olson, CEBS Vice President Peter F. Yelverton Company Inc. Alexandria, VA	Craig M. Olswang, CEBS National Accounts Executive Aetna Inc. Falls Church, VA
Kelly G. Pettit, CEBS Account Manager Keller Benefit Services Inc Bethesda, MD	Marsha A. Piacente, CEBS Senior Benefits Analyst Veridian Fairfax, VA	David J. Reilly, CEBS Vice President, Sales Jon S. Frank & Associates Inc. Prince Frederick, MD	Dahlia A. Sabek, CEBS Senior Specialist, Benefits Compliance National Rural Electric Cooperative Associati on Arlington, VA

Future Meeting(s): **December:** Annual Meeting - Thursday, December 11, 2003 from 6 - 8 pm at the Capital Hilton. RSVP by Friday, December 5 to: Antonette Artiz, email: support@capital-chapter-iscebs.org or call (301) 736 - 4707

Fellowship Designations:

The following individuals earned or renewed their Fellowship status in 2003.

Amy E. Aronson, CEBS
Benefits Specialist
Fairfax County Public Schools
Springfield, VA

Diane Bastin, CEBS
Management Consultant
Alexandria, VA

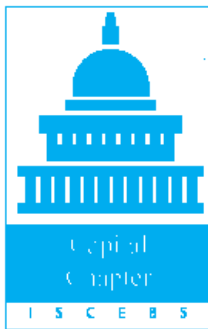
Elizabeth A. Dayan, CEBS
Director Benefits
Washington Post Co
Washington, DC

Myrna Mahabir, CEBS
Auditor
Pension Benefit Guaranty
Corp
Washington, DC

Bruce W. Grant, CEBS
Group Sales Manager
Mutual of Omaha
Washington, DC

Celeste D. Humphreys,
CEBS
Benefits Specialist
Digene
Gaithersburg, MD

Joseph E. Lo Tempio, CEBS
Sr Advisor Pension Design
National Rural Electric
Cooperative
Arlington, VA



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