

**Capital Chapter of ISCEBS
Annual Meeting
December 4, 2008**

Presidents Message



The Capital Chapter is now in its 20th year of providing educational programs and networking opportunities for members of the local benefits community. We have had a successful year financially and have had some outstanding sessions, including a dual track All Day session. I would like to commend my fellow board members for all of their hard work in making this an outstanding year. I would also like to thank those companies who hosted our educational sessions and those who sponsored our events. Without that kind of support, our jobs would be a whole lot more challenging.

This year we had a couple of firsts, at least in my memory and the memory of those on the Board.

- We held our first session in Virginia. Based on that success, it is likely we will try that again.
- This year's annual meeting had a dual track, one for retirement and one for health. In addition we expanded our scope by including a session on total Compensation. Based on the feedback from participants, we may try that again as well.
- In the category of less spectacular, perhaps even annoying, we completed our first 990 tax form, thereby reassuring the IRS that we are not a front for a terrorist organization.
- An experience that we would not like to repeat is the sudden need to transition our support services back to Antonette Artiz. Kathleen Young had a sudden illness that may prevent her from returning. We are fortunate that Antonette was willing to fill in and I'm sure that you join me in wishing the speediest recovery for Kathleen.

Educational Sessions:

The educational sessions we held included the following topics and speakers:

- The RFP Process - American Federation of Teachers
 - George Bognar, The Segal Company – Consultant perspective
 - James McGee, Transit Employees H&W – Plan sponsor perspective
 - Bruce Grant, Anthem – Vendor perspective
- Integrating Wellness into Employee Benefit and HR Programs
 - Kay Curling, SRA International,
 - Sasha Richmond, Hewitt
- Hot Topics and Trends in Employee Benefits, 2008

- Heather Kazimi, The Segal Company – Total Compensation
- Retirement
 - Andy Adams and Jay Schmitt, Strategic Benefit Advisors – Retirement Plan Fees
 - Michele Kocak, Independent Benefit Services – Top 401(k) Mistakes
 - Bruce Bach and Credico, Watson Wyatt Worldwide – Pension Protection Act
- Health & Welfare
 - Amy Burgoyne and Michael Petryna, Aetna – Value-Based Design
 - Skip Walker, Anthem BCBS – Wellness, Where is it Going
 - MaryAnne Hrubka and Thomas Klett, Watson Wyatt Worldwide – Absence Management
- Randy Tyson, Buck Consultants – Benefit Communications
- Trick or Treat? Reduce health Care Trend Now; Prepare for Health Care in 2010 and Beyond. Mercer
 - David Ratcliff, Mercer
 - Ross Konigsberg
- Legislative Outlook International Brotherhood of Teamsters
 - Phyllis Borzi, Department of Health Policy, GWU

In addition to these educational sessions, we hosted a local networking happy hour in June. We also hosted a Capital Chapter dinner at the national symposium in Orlando.

Financial Report:

The Capital Chapter had another successful year financially with a current cash balance of \$5,656 in December 2008. This is largely due to the good will of members of the benefits community who stepped forward and sponsored or hosted sessions in 2007. We owe enormous gratitude to the following companies who offered to sponsor or host an educational session in 2007:

- Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield
- International Brotherhood of Teamsters
- Mercer Human Resource Consulting
- Nobliss
- American Federation of Teachers

We hope these companies will continue to partner with us in 2008 and beyond.

Membership:

As a sign of the times that benefits professionals are busy, highly overscheduled types, local membership in the Capital Chapter continues to be flat to declining over the past five years.

If you are currently eligible for International or Associate/Student Membership and have not yet joined or renewed for 2009, please do! If you would like to discuss membership options, please feel free to reach out anyone on the 2009 board and they will be able to help you.

Recognition and Awards:

We would like to congratulate the following local students for attaining their CEBS designation in 2008:

Terri S. Lavenstein, CEBS
Shaun M. Snyder, CEBS
Kathleen Marie Conlan, CEBS
Stephen D. Sanker, CEBS
Anne S. Vandegrift, CEBS
Michelle I. Lieberman, CEBS
Randi Lynn Killen, CEBS
Michael G. Aylward, CEBS

We would also like to congratulate the following who have completed one of the intermediate designations on their way to the CEBS designation.

CMS Maren Kelley
CMS Michelle I. Lieberman
CMS Kimberly A. Sutherland
CMS Eleanor Anne Stone Vandegrift
GBA Kathleen M. Gentile, CEBS
GBA Terri S. Lavenstein
GBA Jill Meola
GBA Beatrice F. Newbury
GBA Renae C. Stewart
GBA Jennifer L. Wills
RPA Rhonda R. Harris
RPA Joanna L. Wilbur

Well done, everyone!

Finally, we would like to recognize our Virtual Assistants, Kathleen Young and Antonette Artiz, for working so tirelessly over the past year getting our invitation flyers out, putting together binders, resolving venue issues and fielding member questions throughout the year. Our events are run on time and within budget, and we simply couldn't do it without her.

I have had a wonderful time meeting and working with chapter members and the board over the past year. I feel honored to have served such an intelligent and diverse group. Thanks so much to all of you for giving me the opportunity.