



RICHMOND CHAPTER

International Society of Certified Employee Benefit Specialists

February 2007

RICHMOND CHAPTER

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Cathy Kercheval
(804) 628-3724

President's Message

On behalf of this year's Richmond ISCEBS Board, I wanted to extend New Year's greetings to each of our new and returning chapter members. We are excited about the Richmond Chapter's coming year and have already identified some pertinent topics to present during our upcoming educational sessions.

While 2007 presents many opportunities for continued industry development, I would like to step back and share some of the accomplishments of our chapter during 2006.

Our chapter continues to attract new members and has also maintained a strong and steady membership of dedicated employee benefit professionals. Our chapter ended the year with 79 members, 60 of which hold the CEBS designation. Our chapter also recognized 10-year chapter members and members that have attained a "Fellowship" status at our annual social held last September. We enjoy one of the strongest ISCEBS chapters in the country, which is clearly a byproduct of a dedicated and high-caliber membership.

Our chapter remains financially strong thanks to the dedication of our board and to the continued support we receive from the benefits community. This year's sponsors contributed \$3,500 to help our chapter underwrite the cost of our educational sessions held throughout the year. Last year's sponsors included: Anthem, Aon, Dominion Benefits, Delta Dental, Cigna, Mercer, MetLife, Optima Healthcare, and Prudential Financial. I would personally like to thank all of our sponsors for their continued support of our chapter's mission.

Our chapter hosted 5 educational sessions in 2006 including a half-day fundamentals session on Benefits Legislation and a full-day session on Health & Welfare programs. Both programs offered participating members continuing education credits for Virginia Insurance license requirements.

I would like to thank all of the Board and Committee Members for their support and contributions during 2006. A lot of work goes on behind the scenes that makes our chapter rank as one of the best in the country. I would personally like to thank our retiring board and committee members: Barb Bailey, Kevin Barger, Laura Bondurant and June Dennis for all of their efforts both last year and the many years that they have been active on our local board.

2007 promises to be another interesting and challenging year in the Health/Welfare and Retirement industry. Our industry continues to face tremendous regulatory and financial challenges as well as social and ethical issues affecting both the Health/Welfare and Retirement sectors of our industry. Our goal for 2007 is to continue to introduce programs that are relevant and pertinent to the issues that affect our Health/Welfare and Retirement programs.

Our first program of 2007 will be a luncheon on February 22nd at the Westwood Club. The topic will be "Employer Wellness Initiatives: What Incentives Best Drive

Educational Event

Outcomes?" which will be presented by Adam Long, Ph.D., of Gordian Health Solutions. The program will focus on the best way to design and structure wellness incentive plans.

Finally, I am pleased to present this year's Board and Committee Members. The 2007 Board and Committee Members are as follows:

President	Michael Huennekens
Vice-President	Sharon Jahn
Secretary	Craig Rupert
Treasurer	Susan Landsidle
Board Member at Large	Gary Powers
Board Member at Large	Claire Holbrook
Board Member at Large	Cathy Rusch
Past President	Brian Marks
Education Chair	Gary Powers
Publicity Chair	Gary Powers
Membership Chair	Cathy Kercheval
Sponsorship Chair	Claire Holbrook

I look forward to serving as this year's Chapter President and hope to see all of you at our first luncheon on the 22nd of February.

Please Join Us for the February 22, 2007 Educational Event

Presentation:	"Employer Wellness Initiatives: What Incentives Best Drive Outcomes?"
Speakers:	Adam Long, Ph.D. Director, Health Management Research Gordian Health Solutions, Inc. Franklin, Tennessee
Date and Time:	Thursday, February 22, 2007 11:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. Lunch starts at 12 noon Presentation starts at 12:30 p.m.
Location:	Westwood Racquet Club 6200 West Club Lane (804) 288-6028
Cost:	\$25 (\$15 for members of the Richmond Chapter of ISCEBS)
Please RSVP:	By February 19, 2007 to Susan Lansidle (smlandsi@sentara.com or 804-521-7442)
Questions:	For questions concerning the program, contact Gary Powers, CEBS, at 804-320-8438, or e-mail Gary_S_Powers@aon.com.

Make checks payable and mail to:
Richmond Chapter-ISCEBS
P.O. Box 6513
Richmond, VA 23230

Note: Meeting fees are non-refundable unless cancellation is received before February 19, 2007.
Unpaid no-shows will be billed.

Upcoming Events

Mark Your Calendar For The Following Upcoming Chapter Events in 2007

**April 26, 2007, 8:00-9:30 a.m.
(Breakfast)
Westwood Club**

Pension Protection Act of 2006: Funding Consideration
Speaker: Mercer Human Resource Consulting

**June 20, 2007
Half-Day Session (Morning)
Westwood Club**

Legislative Update: Benefits Legislation and Compliance Issues

Membership Update

Attention Students !!!

If you are a current student and have not yet joined our local chapter, we would like to extend an invitation for you to join our chapter on a free-trial basis for 2007. During the trial membership period, we will waive the annual dues of \$40 for the 2007 calendar year.

The membership is a great opportunity to network with other benefit professionals in our area and entitles you to receive the Chapter Newsletter, attend all chapter events at the reduced member rate, and have your contact information published in the chapter directory distributed in the Fall.

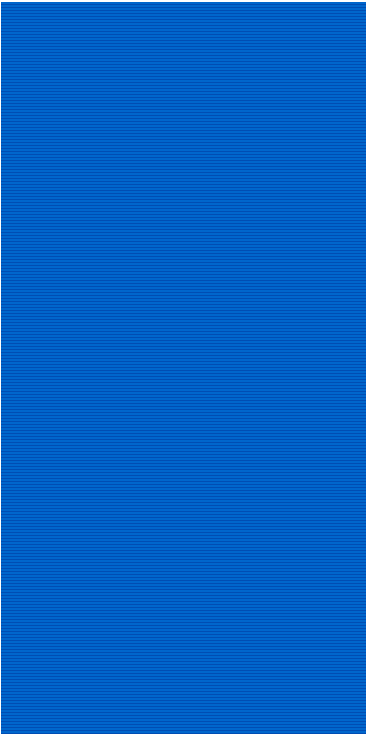
If interested, please contact Cathy Kercheval, Membership Chair, at 628-3724.

The 9th Annual Employer All-Star Awards

The Richmond Human Resources Management Association (RHRMA) and the Greater Richmond Chamber's (GRC) workforce development initiative, WorkforceE3, are pleased to host the 9th Annual Employer All-Star Awards.

This awards program supports the 3 Es (Employment, Education, and Economic Development) in building a quality workforce in Greater Richmond and continues to honor achievements of both public- and private-sector organizations in workforce development.

The RHRMA and GRC are pleased to announce the following awards for 2007:

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- Employer of Choice
 - Employee Engagement & Retention (NEW!)
 - Workforce Development (NEW!)
 - HR Process Excellence or Re-Engineering (NEW!)
 - Diversity Excellence Award
 - Best Recruiting Practices (NEW!)
 - Alfred P. Sloan Award for Business Excellence in Workplace Flexibility

Organizations may apply for one or more of these awards by completing the appropriate application online. Please visit the RHRMA website (www.rhrma.org) and click on the Employer All-Star Awards link for award details. The deadline for all entries is February 23, 2007.

The awards will be presented to the winners during a breakfast at the Richmond Convention Center on Wednesday, May 2, 2007. During the presentation, winners will highlight their best practices in workforce development. In addition, winners will receive community recognition through press releases in local publications.

Questions? Please contact Bill Auchmoody (bill.auchmoody@goldenpersonnel.com).