



# INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF CERTIFIED EMPLOYEE BENEFIT SPECIALISTS

March 2009

ISCEBS RICHMOND CHAPTER NEWSLETTER



RICHMOND CHAPTER

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## President's Message

The first luncheon of 2009 was a great success, with over 60 attendees at our February session at the Westwood Club. Kate Marriott and Lynn Jacob with Williams Mullen spoke on "Employee Benefits in a Changing Environment" discussing the evolution and change to the employee benefits deal. Their presentation was very well received.

Our next educational session will take place at the Westwood Club on Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Gretchen Young, Aon Consulting's Washington-based lobbyist, will give us an update on key benefit topics currently under discussion in Congress and the new Administration. She will cover a range of subjects, focusing initially on the prospects for health care reform in 2009. This will definitely be a session you will not want to miss!

I also want you to mark your calendars now for our half-day educational session scheduled for Thursday, June 11<sup>th</sup>. This half-day session will feature 4 topics pertinent to the Health and Benefit issues facing employers in our marketplace today. We expect to qualify for 4 CE credits for this session.

I am pleased to announce that the Board has agreed to significantly reduce the fees for the half-day session to \$40 for Members and \$60 for Non-Members. This is a 33% reduction for members and 20% reduction for Non-Members! The half-day fees have been further reduced to just \$20 for Members and \$30 for Non-Members if you are currently unemployed.

I am also pleased to announce that the Board has decided to implement a Richmond Chapter Web-site by the end of this calendar year. We are currently in the midst of an RFP process and expect to choose a new vendor by the end of April. The objective of our site will be to post a schedule of events, details of specific events, contact information for Board members, information about the ISCEBS and the Richmond Chapter, links to related organizations, job information, etc. Having our own Web-site will greatly enhance our ability to communicate with our members going forward.

Finally, we are in the midst of our annual "Chapter Challenge," where we work with the national society to retain and recruit new members to our local Richmond ISCEBS chapter. As we have indicated in the past, our chapter's viability is dependent on a strong and diverse membership of qualified employee benefit professionals. I would like to remind any members that have not paid their national or local dues to please do so as soon as possible so we can continue our strong membership levels. Please contact Dave Talbert, our local Membership Committee Chair, if you have any questions or know of any benefit professionals that are interested in joining our local chapter.

I look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming events and thank you for your continued interest and support of our local Richmond Chapter.

Regards,

Gary S Powers, CEBS  
President, Richmond Chapter ISCEBS

## Please Join Us for the April 23rd Luncheon Meeting!

<b>Presentation:</b>	<i>Update From Washington: Benefits Legislation Under the New Regime</i>
<b>Speaker:</b>	Gretchen Young Aon Consulting
<b>Date and Time:</b>	Thursday, April 23, 2009 11:45 - 1:15 Luncheon Meeting
<b>Location:</b>	Westwood Racquet Club 6200 West Club Lane (804) 288-6028
<b>Cost:</b>	\$25 (\$15 for members of the Richmond Chapter of ISCEBS)
<b>Questions/RSVP:</b>	Please RSVP by April 20th to: Amy Burgoyne <a href="mailto:BurgoyneA@aetna.com">BurgoyneA@aetna.com</a> , (804) 314-4310
<b>Make checks payable and mail to:</b>	Richmond Chapter-ISCEBS P.O. Box 6513, Richmond, VA 23230 <i>Or you may pay at the door, if you have RSVP'd.</i>

Note: Meeting fees are non-refundable unless cancellation is received before April 20. Unpaid no-shows will be billed!

## Are you *LinkedIn*?

What is *LinkedIn*? It is a professional networking and communication tool.

Your professional network of trusted contacts gives you an advantage in your career, and is one of your most valuable assets. *LinkedIn* exists to help you make better use of your professional network and help the people you trust in return.

We have created a group on *LinkedIn* for the Richmond ISCEBS Chapter. Once you have joined, search for the "Richmond ISCEBS" group, and click "Join this Group". We would like to see this group be a place to post information about the chapter, ask and answer questions from our chapter members and post/find employment at our firms.

If you have any questions, please call Rick Owens at 804-782-7553 or email Rick at [rick.owens@suntrust.com](mailto:rick.owens@suntrust.com).

## New Website Coming!

We are excited to announce that the Chapter is planning to implement a web site! The issue was discussed at the December board meeting, and at the February meeting the Board voted to proceed with the project. The board believes that the Chapter needs to have a web presence to attract and inform those who rely on the internet to obtain their information, and who may not receive our newsletter directly or indirectly. It will also give us more visibility to the community. Surprisingly few chapters have web sites at this time, so although we may not be "pioneers", we are among the early adopters in the ISCEBS family of chapters.

The site will enable chapter members and the public to access information about the chapter, see our schedule of events, obtain contact and joining information, and possibly register and pay for educational events.

We have issued an RFP to selected vendors to do the site design and hosting. Our target launch date is June 1. We will let you know once the site is up and running. Stay tuned! If you have any questions, please contact Craig Rupert.

## Membership Chairman's Message

Calling all members past and present!

Our membership drive runs through March 2009 and there is still time to join. To date we have 6 new members and room for many more! Based on the overflow interest in our February seminar, many have the desire for a better understanding of our industry. Our education schedule will continue to deliver high caliber informational topics....so don't miss out!

If you haven't sent in your membership renewal or know of someone that may be interested in joining or learning more about the ISCEBS program, please let me know.

You can quickly and easily renew your membership online at [www.iscebs.org/form](http://www.iscebs.org/form), by faxing your application to 262-786-8650, or by mail to: ISCEBS, P.O. Box 209, Brookfield, WI 53008-0209.

Thanks for your continued support of ISCEBS and the local Richmond Chapter!

David Talbert  
Membership Chair  
[dtalbert@kspHlc.com](mailto:dtalbert@kspHlc.com)