



GOTCHA Covered....

Volume 19 Issue 10

June 7, 2010

Leadership

President

Gail Bradley, AAI,
CPIW DAE

Vice President

Donna Coombs,
LUTCF, AAI,
CPIW

Secretary

Patsy Lachat, AAI, CPIW

Treasurer

Pam Stetler, MBA

Board of Directors

Carla Buma
Jeannie Upright
Barbara Kressler, CIC,
CPCU, CPIW, DAE
Dee Musgrave,
CISR, CPIW

WEB-SITE

www.ipsv.net

Inside this issue:

Legislation	3
Education	
Safety	4
Program & Menu	6
Membership	3
Misc	6

Presidents Message....Gail Bradley, AAI, CPIW, DAE

What a great turn out we had at our last meeting with Council Director Peggy Zanotto and her Assistant Laraine Cramer. She had an opportunity to see IPSV at their finest. We had 5 guests in addition and they all say they will be joining. Barbara will be doing great things next year with that big growth spurt!

I want to say a big Thank You for the honor of being your Insurance Professional of the Year. Sometimes when you are not recognized for your efforts on the job it is a great boost to your ego to be recognized by your peers and that is one of the things I like best about belong to NAIW!

I wish all of the newly installed officers the best of luck for the upcoming year even though I know you will not need it. We all stand behind you 100% and will be there for whatever you need.

The basket raffle at our meetings has been a great and easy fund raiser and hopefully that will continue. If you want to volunteer to bring the basket for any meeting just let the President know.

Last but certainly not least I thank you for allowing me to be your President for the past two years. It has been an honor and a privilege that I hope you all take the opportunity to experience. Remember that you cannot make a mistake. We all have your back and will not let you fail at whatever you do.

Our picnic date has changed to Wednesday June 23rd at my house. If you need directions just let me know and we will be sure that you find us. Feel free to invite a guest and dress casually. Hopefully it will not rain. See you all June 23rd!

Respectfully

Gail Bradley, President

Secretary Minutes....Patsy Lachat, AAI, CPIW

Association Monthly Meeting

May 19, 2010

The regular monthly meeting of the Insurance Professionals of Susquehanna Valley was held at Pine Barn Inn in Danville on 05/19/2010. Barbara Kressler introduced her guests Cindy Dieterick, Valerie Campbell and Erica Grimm all from Keystone Insurers Group, and we welcomed back Maureen McHenry and Kristine Kiehl along with PA Council Director Peggy Zanotto and her assistant Loraine Cramer.

Members in attendance: Jeannie Upright, Patsy Lachat, Donna Coombs, Barbara Kressler, Carla Buma, Charlotte Stetler, Pam Stetler, Jenny Stuart, Cindy Kline, Brenda Weaver, Betty

Secretary Minutes Continued from Page 1

Rafalko, Lori Reese and Gail Bradley.

President Gail called the meeting to order at 6:05 and read the collect.

After we ordered, Peggy installed the officers for next year:

President – Barbara Kressler, VP – Jeannie Upright, Secretary – Brenda Weaver, Treasurer – Pam Stetler, Board members – Gail Bradley, Carla Buma, Cindy Kline and Patsy Lachat.

After the installation Patsy announced our winner of the Insurance Professional of the Year – congratulations to Gail Bradley.

Donna informed all that a Memorial Service for her Aunt Sis would be held the Sunday of Memorial weekend and to contact her if you wanted to attend.

Gail announced that she received a proclamation from Rep. David Millard recognizing NAIW week – May 16 – May 22, 2010 and passed it around so all could see.

The Press Enterprise took photos of the new officers and Gail for the paper.

Peggy gave us an update from State Council and National. She also challenged us to volunteer to serve at the State and Regional level, keep taking part in the monthly conference calls and accessing the State website for information.

Business meeting and Committee Reports:

The secretary's report of the April meeting, as printed in the newsletter, was reviewed and accepted. Pam handed out the Treasurers report; it was reviewed and will be filed for audit.

Membership – Donna, Membership/Public Relations Chair advised that renewal memberships were handed/mailed out and the dues are \$86.00 for National plus \$19.00 for our local association. Please be sure to mail your renewal form and check to Pam before the end of June and she will deposit all checks together. Also Donna sent the picture of our presentation to Camp Victory to the Press Enterprise.

Education – Barbara advised that they were over half way through the INS 22 class.

Safety – Carla, Safety Chair had no new items, just as printed in the newsletter.

Legislative – Patsy, Legislative Chair, advised that the Primary Election showed that voters are ready for changes and reminded everyone to be informed about the candidates for the General Election in November.

Sunshine – Jeannie sent birthday cards to Carla and Gail

Correspondence – Patsy read an email from Jamie at Camp Victory thanking us for our help at the May 1st work day and also a letter thanking us for the \$400 donation.

Programs – June 23 – Picnic at Gail's house. Jeannie passed out a sign up sheet so everyone could put down what they will be bringing.

Old Business: nothing to report

New Business: Gail reminded everyone of Mini Boards July 16 – 18 in Salem, Mass. Gail, Jeannie and Patsy will be attending.

Pam advised that the Women's Center in Bloomsburg is starting a Children's Library and is taking donations of books and DVDs for ages 4 – 10.

Pam also advised that St. Joe's sent a check for \$300.00 for us to purchase gifts again for the Soup Kitchen in Danville for the Christmas party. She is also looking for kids toys (can be gently used) for ages 2 and up. You can take them to future meetings, as well as inexpensive jewelry for ladies. Brenda informed us that thanks to sales at Fashion Bug the women's shopping was all done and Maureen will watch for sales on men's stuff at Bon Ton as well as toys.

Donna advised that the United Way was having a Trash to Treasures sale at Bloomsburg University on Saturday, May 22 from 8 – noon.

Pam won the 50/50 - \$19.00 and donated it back to the fund.

Door Prize: Donna brought the basket and tickets were sold for \$5.00 each resulting in \$85.00 profit - Jeannie won.

After all present participated in For the Good of the Cause, and there being no more business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by Gail at 8:25.

Respectfully submitted,
Patsy Lachat, Secretary

Membership....Donna Coombs, LUTCF, AAI, CPIW

As I write this article my thoughts are with Cornelia MacDermott, my beloved aunt "Sis" whose memorial service is this weekend. In this, my last write-up as your VP, Membership & Public Relations chair, it seems appropriate to remind us all that without "Sis", our association may never have been "born". At least, not by me. It was my early introduction to the Insurance Women of Wyoming Valley through my aunt that inspired me to be the catalyst for the founding of the Insurance Professionals of Susquehanna Valley. In the 1960s, she was deeply involved in the activities, the friendships, the fun of NAIW – and I was very impressionable. So when I began my insurance career, I remembered, and wanted the same. How fortunate for all of us that "Sis" was my aunt for 57 years!

I leave you with the following quote by Robert Louis Stevenson, a favorite of our president-elect, Barbara Kressler, and slightly paraphrased:

"That person is a success who has lived well, laughed often and loved much; who has gained the respect of intelligent people and the love of children; who has filled their niche and accomplished their task; who leaves the world better than they found it, whether by an improved poppy, a perfect poem, or a rescued soul; who never lacked appreciation of earth's beauty or failed to express it; who looked for the best in others and gave the best they had."

This was my aunt "Sis".

Legislative....Patsy Lachat, AAI, CPIW

The following are excerpts from Congressman Glenn "GT" Thompson's May Newsletter:

Agriculture Committee Hits the Road for Farm Bill Hearings

Starting back in April of this spring, the Agriculture Committee on which I serve, held a series of field hearings in agricultural areas across the nation, in order to have input from farmers and experts on farm policy in advance of the 2012 Farm Bill.

The Committee also takes comments from the public on its website: <http://agriculture.house.gov/inside/feedbackform.html> The farm bill deals with conservation trade, marketing, food assistance, farm support, energy and rural development, and nutrition - all things important to farmers. The current farm bill was enacted in 2008 and parts of it will expire in September 2012.

The economic downturn has hit hard at our farmers and ranchers, and in the 5th district, dairy farmers especially. This period of information gathering is extremely important, which is why I attended a number of the field hearings. Over the May 14th through 18th period, I was at field hearings in Georgia, Alabama, Texas, and South Dakota.

Agriculture has a role in the economic and environmental health of our country and we need to work toward policies to strengthen U.S. agriculture and provide long-term stability for our farmers and ranchers to compete in the global marketplace. Most farms are small businesses and remain the backbone of the strength of the economy in rural America. These hearings and public input are key to those policy decisions for the future.

National Association of
Women, International
6528 E. 101st St.
Suite D-1 PMB #750
Tulsa, OK 74133
Toll Free: 800-766-6249
Fax: 918-743-1968
E-Mail:
JoinNAIW@NAIW.org
Website: www.naiw.org

Local Association President
Gail Bradley
570-458-5621
brado@ptd.net
Newsletter Editor
Barbara A. Kressler
570-473-2814
bkressler@keystoneinsgrp.com

We are on the web
www.ipsv.net

State Council on the Web
www.naiw-pa.com



Charity Up Date

We have elected **Camp Victory** as our Charity. The proceeds from our **Chinese Auction** will be donated to them. We had a representative from **Camp Victory**, **Jamie Huntley**, attend the **April Meeting** and presented our check.

Upcoming Events....

June 9-12, 2010 National Conference
June 23, 2010 Association Meeting - Picnic at Gail's

Program & Menu....

The June Dinner Meeting will be held at Gail's Pavilion

Please e-mail Jeannie at ottiss98@yahoo.com to make your reservations by June 21st. Last minute adds are ok. If you need to cancel your reservation the day of please call Jeannie at 570-326-2343. Call for directions:570-473-2814

Birthdays....

June - 6/15 Charlotte Stetler
 6/29 Pam Stetler

July - 7/21 Jeannie Upright
 7/27 Lori Reese

August - 8/1 Betty Rafalko
August - 8/4 Donna Coombs

Reminder....

- Code your cell phone with your emergency contact labeled ICE, In Case of Emergency
- Be sure to check out our web site often, as well as the PA State Council web site and the National web site. Addresses on page 4
- Save those aluminum soda and beer, etc., tabs for the Ronald McDonald House

Legislative ...Continued from page 3

What Would You Cut?

You know that Washington has a spending problem. Both parties bear some responsibility for the path the government has taken. But it is time to take the road less traveled. The one where government must do the same thing families do every day at the kitchen table— make decisions on how to tighten their belts.

A new website has been started called “YouCut”. It allows American citizens to vote to cut wasteful spending in Congress. The purpose is to challenge the spending spree that has dominated Congressional thinking. The site puts forth five suggestions per week for cuts to the budget and allows you to choose which one you think should be voted on by the House of Representatives.

The Republican leadership has promised to take the winners to the floor of the House for an up-or-down vote.

The cut, for which almost 30 percent of people voted, was to cut a program in the new stimulus law called the “welfare emergency fund.” It provided \$5 billion in new federal money in 2009 and 2010. The funds were to be spent on “non-recurrent short-term assistance” for welfare and food stamp recipients. That included a one-time \$200 per child “back to school” payment. But as CBS news reported, the funds didn’t always go for notebooks and backpacks in New York state. Instead there were marked increases in lotto and cigarette sales and the report says people bought iPods and video gaming systems, as well as flat-screen televisions.

The second week of YouCut, voters decided they would cut a proposed 1.4 percent pay raise for civilian federal workers from next year’s budget. That would be about a \$2 billion savings in the 2011 fiscal year. The cut would not affect the pay raise for the military.

Some critics have said these cuts are too small to affect the debt. But a journey of a thousand miles always begins with a single step. Many of us in Congress have been recommending cuts, but we have been ignored. Perhaps if it comes from the people, suggestions will be taken seriously.

Please visit <http://www.republicanwhip.house.gov/YouCut> and vote.

The only way to discover the limits of the possible is to go beyond them into the impossible.

Arthur C. Clark