

Snow covers Colonial Williamsburg



Tidewater CPCU Newsletter

www.tidewatercpcusociety.org

WINTER 2014

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome fellow CPCUs to a new year. I want to begin by thanking our Past President Janet Chaves, CPCU for her hard work in guiding our chapter through the transition into our new partnership with The Institute. Janet had the additional "pleasure" of serving for a year and a half as President as we switched to a January to December timeframe. Janet continues her work on the Board as Immediate Past President.

As you may have noticed, we have a new chapter website, www.tidewatercpcusociety.org. Thanks to the CPCU Society and their new website vendor, I was able to start up the new site and I have added some new content. We have a new job board with our first job posting so check it out. If you have items or events you would like me to add, just let me know.

We welcome back Past President Elisabeth Peterson, CPCU as Vice President and Education Chair, Laura Harbeson as Secretary and Gary Telecsan as Treasurer. Gary took over



for Pete Palermo who did a fantastic job with our chapter's finances for many years. Best wishes Pete and thanks for your years of service to the chapter.

I hope you will continue to enhance your designation and join us for some events this year.

Brian Grieff, CPCU

Chapter President, 2014

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

MEMBER PROFILE	2
UPCOMING EVENTS	3
GOLF ANYONE?	4

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Please renew your membership to the CPCU Society and the Tidewater Chapter. Many companies pay these dues or will reimburse you for them. The larger the membership we have the more events we can schedule.

We will be working on some interesting speakers and get-togethers, but we need some participation and interest.



MEMBER PROFILE—HEATHER CAREY

Heather Carey
Mini Bio of Januva

From Jamaica to New York and now in Virginia I am the why(?) child. I have a thirst for learning and adventure and I question everything. I am an amalgamation of contrasts because as much as I enjoy conversation and entertaining I also enjoy my solitude. I say that I am plastic my mother says I am bi-polar. I stumbled into the world of insurance when I applied for a secretarial job and the man who interviewed me said he had an opening in the medical claims department which paid more. I moved to Virginia after Travelers downsized. I wandered around a bit then ended up at USAA in 2001. I was offered a position in the policy service department in 2000 and turned it down to stay with my current employer. Realizing I have made an error, I waited 11 months to reapply and became a member of the March 21, 2001 class. Soon after, I made an appointment with the education department. I needed to know the scope of insurance, what is its purpose and how it came to be. A wonderful lady by the name of Letty started me on my quest and my first class was 'Underwriting' March 2, 2002 and then I took 'Introduction to Insurance' April 2002. These

classes established my foundation for the understanding of the insurance industry and ignited my desire to learn more. I continued on and achieved three designations, INS, AIS, and API by July 2003. I took my first CPCU exam December 12, 2003 but did not take another test until June 2004. After failing my next two tests I gave up my pursuit. I changed from policy service to claims around 2006 and later started working on attaining my Bachelors degree and wanting not to lose the excitement I felt about learning. I then pursued my Masters in psychology. Earning my masters was not for financial gain but helped me to discover who I am and how to help others learn and conquer their obstacles. When obstacles are seen as opportunities one will achieve unbeatable strength. After my Masters I realized I had unfinished business accomplishing my CPCU designation. I finished my Masters July 2012 and took the next CPCU exam September 2012. My plan was to finish my CPCU January 2013 but the best laid plans are straight and life plans contain hills, valleys and curves and sometimes sink holes. Life builds character and provides for good stories to share with others as lessons. November 2012 I

was presented an opportunity to be on the Catastrophe team for Hurricane Sandy I learned so much and am glad I had such an enriching experience with my wonderful team members helping out the military members. After 25 days I returned to my pursuit of the CPCU with only 3 more tests to take. I took the CPCU 540 February 2013 and passed. Two more to go, CPCU 530 and AIC 32, bummer, failed/passed. I was so upset about that darn CPCU 530. I was determined and chose May 22, 2013 as test date. Success, tears, excitement!!!! I am official. My knees buckled and I just wanted to scream. My son and husband did not get it. My husband said something like "So does that mean you will start making dinner again?" All I know is that I was off to New Orleans 10/26/2013. How exciting. I went to the opening ceremony and I felt like Cinderella at the Ball. Great experience, great people, looking forward to sharing the feeling of excitement with others.

"the best laid plans are straight and life plans contain hills, valleys and curves and sometimes sink holes."

UPCOMING EVENTS

Insurance, Risk Management and Financial Planning Career Reception at Old Dominion University

February 19th from 5:00—7:00 pm

Webb Center North Cafeteria

Network with students seeking careers in Insurance, Risk Management and Financial Planning.

Promote the CPCU brand



ODU CMC

EXECUTIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM

Darden School of Business

University of Virginia

March 30—April 4, 2014

Designed for Senior-Level Managers with 12 or more years of industry experience

Accelerate the development of your leadership skills

Learn how to lead organizational change in a high-performance environment

Understand insurance industry issues and how they influence decision-making

Build a global network of industry peers and experts

Cost is \$8100 per attendee, including lodging and meals

Check out the Executive Education program brochure complete with agenda and application now!



CPCU LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

Pointe Hilton Squaw Peak Resort

Phoenix, AZ

April 23-26, 2014

Seminars and speakers offer leadership advice and skills

Network with fellow CPCU chapter officers

Meet with CPCU Society leaders

Cost is free, just need to get there and pay for lodging

2014 Tidewater CPCU Golf Tournament

Our major charity fundraiser



WE WILL BE PLAYING GOLF AGAIN THIS YEAR FOR A GOOD CAUSE

We are working on determining a date for our annual golf tournament and we need sponsors and volunteers to once again make it a success. If you would like to be involved, please join our Golf Committee.

Last year we held our twelfth annual event and we donated \$6,000 to Edmarc Hospice for Children.

This year we may look to add another charity if we can again have a successful tournament. Thanks to all those who sponsored us and donated of their time and money in the past.