



SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES

Article from:

# Small Talk Newsletter

April 2000 – Issue No. 15

and feedback from members quickly and efficiently. If you have not already, please provide your e-mail address for publication in the SOA on-line directory.

**The Section newsletter is *small talk*.**

Our newsletter, which is compiled and circulated twice each year, continues to be one of the most widely read SOA publications among our members. Thanks to the vision of its editor, Jim Thompson, *small talk* consistently provides current topics of relevance to a diverse membership. You can get involved in selecting and / or addressing topics for future issues by contacting Jim at his directory address.

In case you are wondering about other ways to get involved, I can think of three. The first is to consider running for Section Council. In addition to the activities above, Council members are also included on the life and finance practice advancement committees, the committee on professional development seminars, and the council of Section chairpersons. We are fortunate this year in that each Council member has taken responsibility for at least one task, so that no one has been overwhelmed by the amount of work required. The deadline for Council nominations is May 12, so if you are interested, please contact me ASAP.

The second way is to contact a Council member if there is an area in which the Section is, or you think should be, involved that interests you. Fresh ideas and an extra set of dedicated hands are always welcomed. The third way is to share your concerns and suggestions, either through meeting discussions or newsletter publication. Whatever way you choose to get involved, you will find that our Section's size and composition give you the opportunity to be heard, to have an impact, and to make a difference.

*Rod Keefer, FSA, is associate life actuary at Erie Family Life Insurance Company in Erie, Pennsylvania, and Chairperson of the Smaller Insurance Company Section Council.*

## ***Minutes of the Smaller Insurance Company Section Council Meeting***

*Thursday, March 2, 2000, 3:00 PM EST, Conference Call*

**Present:** Rod Keefer, Ed Slaby, Dale Hall, Lori Truelove, Jim Thompson, John O'Sullivan, Lois Chinnock, and Richard Ostuw.

### **Approval of Minutes of December 9 Conference Call**

ROD KEEFER NOTED THAT the minutes of past section meetings and treasury reports were now on the SOA Web site under the SIC Section heading.

We briefly discussed the pros and cons of blast e-mailing the members of the Section with a set of updated news. This would cost about \$10. We decided to pursue this and include in the e-mail information about the Spring Meeting, Web site information and a call for anyone interested in running for the SIC Council. Rod will be drafting the text of this and sending it to Lois.

### **Treasurer's Report**

DALE HALL INDICATED THAT the Section has a fund balance of \$15,447 as of December 31, 1999. The fourth quarter brought expenses associated with the Annual Meeting, as well as printing and mailing costs for the newsletter and Section ballots. Additional commitments include \$2,500 for the SOA expense allocation project, \$1,000 for library indexing, \$1,500 for "The Actuary's Career Planner," and approximately \$1,400 for the Annual Meeting luncheon. The unallocated balance at year-end was \$10,447. Dale will be writing up this information for the next newsletter.

### **Newsletter:**

JIM THOMPSON HAS A March 20 deadline for the May issue of *small talk*. He will be following up with some ideas from the NAIC meeting on March 9-13, including the AOMR, XXX, and the resulting ASOP for XXX. We decided to pursue reprinting a *National Underwriter* article that ran in January.

### **Spring Meeting**

DALE HALL WILL BE facilitating our session at the Spring Meeting in San Diego. A "hot issues" session is being planned. Scott Cipinko from the NALC and Doug Robbins from Tillinghast will be speaking. Dale will be writing an article for the newsletter to advertise the session.

Annual Meeting: We will have one session and a roundtable breakfast at the Annual Meeting. Our speaker on database marketing will not be available to attend. Rod and Jim will assist in running the breakfast. The session will revolve around technology decisions that small companies face. Ed Slaby will be run this session.

### **Valuation Actuary Symposium**

JOHN O'SULLIVAN MENTIONED THAT the SIC was reportedly holding a seminar before the meeting on September 13. This was the first we had heard of the idea. We decided that while there may be merit in hosting or splitting a seminar with another Section in the future, the time-frame was too short for this year. An interactive forum will be held for our Section at this meeting. Several topics will be discussed including new C3 RBC methods, Section 7 opinions, setting X factors, internal management and the use of consultants.

### **Other business**

ROD KEEFER AND ED SLABY will attend the up-coming meeting of the Council of Section Chairs. We should all think of SIC Section members who would be interested in serving on the Council so we can fill our election slate.

The next meeting has been set for a conference call on May 10, 2000, at 3:00 Eastern time.

*Submitted by Dale Hall  
March 14, 2000*