



SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES

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Underway

Celebration in full swing; first 6 sponsors sign on

by Cecilia Green

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Although the Society of Actuaries isn't actually 50 years old until June 3 and the official celebration is in October at the SOA annual meeting, the 50th anniversary celebration has begun. Each month during 1999 brings new activities to mark this important milestone. Here's some you may have already noticed:

- On the Web (www.soa.org): special pages with information on the 50th and monthly Anniversary Actutrivia contests on discussion forums.
- In print: Each issue of *The Actuary* has included special announcements of annual meeting speakers and the SOA's 50th anniversary history book, as well as a look back at what influential world events were taking place 50 years ago. *The North American Actuarial Journal's* October 1998 issue carries an article, "The Wartime Birth of Operations Research," first in a series of intellectual history review articles featuring distinguished actuaries whose work influenced world events.
- In the mail: A 50th anniversary sponsor package with a letter from Ian Rolland, honorary chair, was mailed to more than 1,000 companies with details of how they could, for the first time in SOA history, support a major SOA meeting and gain recognition in SOA publications and on its Web site.

First sponsors commit early. Five companies and one individual have already pledged their support of the 50th anniversary, representing all the available sponsorship levels.

Platinum (\$50,000): Milliman & Robertson, Inc. (M&R) and LAI Worldwide are the first sponsors at the Platinum level.

Headed by President and CEO Robert L. Collett, F.S.A., M&R is a firm of actuaries and consultants serving the full spectrum of business, governmental and financial organizations. Founded in 1947 and incorporated in 1957, M&R has more than 1,300 employees located in 29 offices.

"The professionals at Milliman & Robertson recognize the substantial contribution that the Society of Actuaries has made to whatever success we have achieved," said Bob Collett, president and CEO. "We are proud to participate as sponsors in the SOA's 50th Anniversary celebration."

LAI Worldwide is one of the largest and fastest growing executive search firms in the world. The company provides full-service, global search expertise exclusively on a retained basis for major multinationals, large private organizations, and newly emerging start-up companies.

"My organization and I have been involved with the actuarial profession since 1967," said Mike Corey, senior partner – global financial services practice leader. "Throughout those years, I have been fortunate to watch the profession grow to the success it enjoys today. The contribution of the leadership and membership is unparalleled. To be part of the growth is something I'm extremely proud of, and the involvement of LAI Worldwide in the 50th Anniversary celebration is our way of saying thank you for all the profession has given to me and my firm."



Gold (\$25,000): Aid Association for Lutherans (AAL), the first Gold 50th anniversary sponsor, was founded in 1902 in Appleton, Wis., to bring Lutherans together to pursue quality living through financial security and helping one another. Over the past 95 years, AAL has become the nation's leading fraternal benefit society and a member of the Fortune 500.

"AAL is proud to acknowledge the contributions of actuaries and the actuarial profession to its success," said Walt Rugland, F.S.A., chief operating officer. "AAL is nearing its centennial, and the legacy of its past has strong actuarial input. Forceful actuarial influence led to an early conversion from assessment certificates to a legal reserve basis. Two of eight AAL presidents were F.S.A.s, and two AAL actuaries were Academy presidents. Gold sponsorship is our way of saying thanks to the profession and expressing confidence in the future role that actuaries will play in meeting the needs of societies worldwide."

Silver (\$10,000): Munich American Reassurance Company is the first Silver sponsor. Founded in 1959 and headquartered in Atlanta with David Holland, F.S.A., as president and CEO, this firm is the U.S. life reinsurance subsidiary of Munich Re, the world's largest reinsurer.

"Munich American congratulates the Society on its 50 years of excellence," said Jim Sweeney F.S.A., executive vice president and COO. "Our sponsorship is in recognition of the Society's significant contributions to the actuarial profession and to the insurance industry. We have all have

benefited and should take this opportunity to celebrate the Society's 50th anniversary."

Bronze (\$5,000): Two sponsors are supporting the 50th anniversary at the Bronze level: McGinn Actuaries Ltd. and Robert J. Myers, F.S.A.

Daniel F. McGinn, F.S.A., president and chief actuary of this Anaheim, Calif., firm, says his is one of few remaining small consulting firms that deals with significant retirement plans, including one of the largest multi-employer plans in the United States. It designs, establishes, and assists in administration of pension, profit sharing, retirement savings, group employee benefits, and specialized deferred compensation programs. "Part of the reason I am participating in the SOA's 50th anniversary, even

in this small way," McGinn said, "is because this year is my 40th anniversary of becoming a Fellow and the 10th anniversary of McGinn Actuaries Ltd. The SOA has been a cornerstone of my success through the unique opportunities my actuarial career has afforded me."

Robert J. Myers, F.S.A., is professor emeritus at Temple University, former executive director of the National Commission on Social Security Reform, past chief actuary of the Social Security Administration, and a past president of the SOA. He continues to be an active participant in SOA meetings and publications, with his most recent paper, "A Logical, Simple Method for Solving the Problem of Properly Indexing Social Security Benefits," appearing in the *North*

American Actuarial Journal, July 1998. He also is a frequent speaker at public meetings on the future of Social Security. When asked why he decided as an individual to contribute to the celebration, Myers said, "I just thought I owed it to the profession. For the 100th Anniversary, I'll give \$10,000. I'm looking forward to seeing all my friends at the celebration in San Francisco."

Interested in sponsorship? To receive a package outlining the sponsor levels and benefits, contact Cecilia Green, director of integrated communications, at the Society of Actuaries' office (phone: 847/706-3561; fax: 847/706-3599; e-mail: cgreen@soa.org).

Tony Bennett

SOA signs class act for 50th gala

As this issue went to press, the SOA received a verbal commitment from Tony Bennett to entertain at the 50th anniversary gala banquet in San Francisco on Oct. 19.

With his appropriate signature song, "I Left My Heart in San Francisco," and a career spanning five decades, Bennett will bring his warm and mesmerizing style to the wide range of ages attending the banquet.

A post-World War II heartthrob and now the darling of the MTV generation, Bennett has 90 albums to his credit and eight Grammy awards, the most recent being 1995 Album of the Year.

Plan now to be part of an unforgettable evening, rich with the legacy of 50 years of the SOA and this enduring artist. Watch for more details in the annual meeting preliminary program, scheduled for mailing in early summer.



Tony Bennett