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### President's Message

David Smith

The time has come...

After a great year, I am very proud to turn the reins of leadership over to a great new team for our Association. Teri Gutierrez has been an outstanding President-Elect and Membership Chair, bringing order to chaos and helping get things right in TAHU. I am proud to have her follow me as President and know that you will be just as pleased with her year as I have had as President Elect.

With Teri comes a host of other new and old faces to the Executive Committee: Ken Schaper, who has been an active member after moving to the Triangle, brings a fresh perspective, from our neighbor to the North, New Jersey. He has already gotten to know so many people and I am very pleased that he agreed to serve as the President Elect for the coming year.

Beth Donner, who has been our secretary for the last year and Membership Chair for two before that, is elevating her game to be our Vice President. Finally, we're lucky enough to have Hannah Baggett also joining the Executive Board as the Secretary/Treasurer of the Association for the year ahead.

Please continue to support your leaders, giving them feedback on what you want and expect and I know that these great folks will take care of your needs.

It has been my great pleasure to serve as President of this Association. Thank you for the honor of serving our association and you as its members.

David

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### President-Elect's Message

Teri Gutierrez, President-Elect

It is with great pleasure that I announce the new executive board for the 2006-2007 year. Filling my spot as President Elect is Ken Shaper. He also gets the VERY important job of membership chair. Please help him continue our growth. Beth Donner has moved up into the Vice President spot and will be in charge of our luncheon speakers and sponsors. Many thanks to our sponsors this last year, it is with your support that we are able to keep our dues as low as it is. Last but not least is Hannah Baggett has agreed to step up and handle the Secretary and Treasure position.

I have a volunteer for each of the board positions but if you are still interested please call me. I can always find a spot for you, co-chairs make everything that much easier... the new board will be introduced at the June lunch. Please consider helping out on a committee when we share the responsibilities we all have to put in less time to reap greater rewards.

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### TAHU Membership

Teri Gutierrez, Membership Chair

I would like to thank all of the members that made an extra effort to recruit new members during the membership contest. Here are the results..... six members recruited one new member each, they were, Marry Karr, Michele Saunders, Rufus Langley, Mike Kennedy, Dean Holmes, Allison Tolksdorf and David Smith. Four members of our association, Judy Fourie, Bernard Obie and Tony Gutierrez and yours truly, recruited two or more new members and will earn movie passes as promised. With this membership push, I am happy to report that we have added 17 new members since February 1<sup>st</sup> totaling 201 members as of May 1st. Unfortunately we lost 4 members over this same time period. This makes us the third largest association in the state. Charlotte has about 10 more members than we do but the leader size wise is the Triad Association with 40 more members than we have. I know we can grow larger than Charlotte and with a little more effort from all of us we can be bigger than Triad.

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### May TAHU Luncheon

Tuesday, June 13, 11:45 PM  
Brier Creek Country Club  
9400 Club Hill Drive  
Raleigh, NC 27617

[Register Online](#)

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### June TAHU Luncheon Gold Sponsor



[pfizer.com](http://pfizer.com)

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### 2006 NC Insurance Day on the Hill

NC Legislators are making laws that affect you and your business; don't be "out of sight— out of mind". It's your time to be seen and heard at the NC General Assembly. May 24 & 25.

[Details](#)

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### New TAHU Members

TAHU welcomes our new members and thanks their (Sponsors):

- Emi S. Ferry (Mary Karr)
- Brian T. Leighton (Tony Gutierrez)
- Renee Luongo (Judy Fourie)
- Veeda McClary (Michele Saunders)
- Jennifer Shook (Allison Tolksdorf)
- Margaret Wickman (Judy Fourie)

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### 2006 NCAHU Spring Membership Blitz Winners

Congratulations to Sharon Covington and Judy Fourie our \$112.50 winners for signing up 2 new members each.

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### TAHU Newcomers' Orientation

All new members and interested Guests are invited to stay for our brief Newcomers' Orientation immediately after the luncheon meeting.

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### Continuing Education

No CE Course in June.

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bigger than I had.

Recruiting and retaining our members is everyone's job. Keeping our numbers strong is even more important as we head into the mid-term elections, our very jobs are at risk. Please keep up the good work.

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### **TAHU Awards**

**Rufus Langley, Awards Chair**

AWARDS-Next month we will find out at the Nation Convention if the Triangle Association of Health Underwriters receive any awards for this past years activities. We have applied for Pacesetter, Website and Distinguished Service Award. Additionally, please nominate a member for the Member of the Year, Spark-Plug or the Rufus B. Langley -Outstanding Leadership Award. These need to be to the board by this months meeting. Should you have questions please contact me by phone at (919) 313-6713 or email [rufus@forresterinsurance.com](mailto:rufus@forresterinsurance.com). Thanks.

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### **2006 NAHU Capitol Conference**

**Antonio Gutierrez, Law & Legislative Chair**

We as benefit professionals have two opportunities to directly influence law makers every year concerning health care legislation and our industry; nationally at the NAHU Capital Conference in Washington DC, and locally at the NCAHU "Day on the Hill" in Raleigh NC. Both are equally important to the future of health care and to our collective interests as a profession.

Wednesday and Thursday May 24—25 is "Day on the Hill" where we have an opportunity to speak to our state legislators concerning health care issues that affect every North Carolinian and our profession. We have the privilege of living and working near the seat of power of state government in Raleigh North Carolina. With this privilege comes responsibility for each other and for our industry. So invest in your future and the future of your profession and join me at the "Day on the Hill". If you are interested in attending, email me at [Antonio.Gutierrez@ibs4me.com](mailto:Antonio.Gutierrez@ibs4me.com) .

[Details](#)

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### **HUPAC & NCPAC**

**Sam King, HUPAC Chair**

Again, I ask that you make contributions to our two PACs. National Health Care will be a hot topic in the elections to come. The New York Times recently produced an editorial from Paul Krugman, a columnist for the paper, stating 41% of non-elderly American adults, with incomes between \$20,000 and \$40,000 were without health insurance for all or part of 2005. While this is not new information or recognition of the problem, one can only think that candidates positions and their stated solutions will be **the issue that defines domestic debate** for the coming elections. WE NEED YOUR HELP!!

Commit yourself to a \$10.00 a month contribution. Contact me for details on how to set this up.

[Contribute to HUPAC](#)

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### **The Massachusetts Health Plan: How Did They Do It?**

View this very informative web cast detailing how the Massachusetts health plan will work.

Web cast:  
[kaisernetwork.org](http://kaisernetwork.org)

Presentations materials:  
[allhealth.org](http://allhealth.org)

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