

President's Message

Teri Gutierrez, TAHU President

The Triangle Association started the month with a bang. Our first speaker of the fall season was Congressman Brad Miller from the 13th Congressional District in North Carolina. Congressman Miller spent about 20 minutes letting us know his feelings about health-care in this country. He admitted to the audience that we probably knew more about the specific issues than he did; and approached his remarks from a personal point of view. During his opening remarks he offered the same list common misperceptions that we have all heard before... "There are 46 million uninsured" and "American businesses are having a hard time competing in the global market because of healthcare costs". Congressman Miller then opened the floor for questions and comments. While the audience and the Congressman did not always agree, I do think that good points were made by everyone who spoke. Most importantly, the Congressman and his staff person Gail Eluwa are open to listen and they went away with a desire to learn more from our group. This is how we start a dialog and correct the misconceptions.

One thing I would like to propose to our membership is that we start to become leaders when it comes to laws and policies that govern our industry instead of followers. We as an industry have gotten a very bad rap. We are ranked right up there (or should I say down there) with used car salespeople and attorneys as people out to get the little guy, the small employer. We need to change that image by becoming innovators of change. I would like feedback from the members on your ideas. I have a rare opportunity to get in front of the department of insurance and communicate these ideas. I am also serving on a State wide committee that is looking for ways to promote wellness. Let me know what you are thinking and we will get the ideas in front of the right people.

New "Identity Theft Protection Act" of North Carolina

October Luncheon Topic

A new, broadly-worded North Carolina law regulates, among other things, the use and disposal of documents containing social security number and other personal information. This law has many implications for business, including implications for the insurance industry.

Starting December 1, 2005, North Carolina employers must implement written policies and procedures for the secure disposal of paper and electronic documents containing "personal information." "Personal information" is defined broadly to include not only social security numbers but also, for example, drivers' license numbers, checking or savings account numbers, credit or debit card numbers, email addresses, pin numbers, passwords, and parent's legal surname prior to marriage.

Starting October 1, 2006, use of employees' social security numbers will also be restricted. Employers must take reasonable steps, including conducting systems tests, to ensure compliance with the law. This includes, among other things:

- Restrictions on transmitting documents that contain an employee's social security number by email or regular mail.
- Restrictions on requiring employees to transmit unencrypted social security numbers over the Internet unless transmitted over secure connection.
- Restrictions on printing or imbedding social security numbers on cards that are required to access products or services, including identification badges, security cards, and insurance cards,
- Restrictions on using social security numbers to access Internet Website unless password or other authentication device is also required.

Next TAHU Luncheon

Tuesday, October 10, 11:45 PM
Brier Creek Country Club
9400 Club Hill Drive
Raleigh, NC 27617

[Register Online](#)

TAHU Luncheon Sponsor — October



deltadental.com

New TAHU Members

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

- Chris Baumgartner (Michael Alexander)
- Joy L. Binkley (Tony Gutierrez)
- Wright Cadwell (NAHU)
- Paula Gateway (Teri Gutierrez)
- Liz Gutierrez (Tony Gutierrez)
- Diana Mason (NAHU)
- Jim Powers, SPHR (David Moore)
- Bess Ramey (Ken Schaper)
- Cordelia Sutphin (Keith Waters)

TAHU Newcomers' Orientation

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

Continuing Education

No CE Course in October.

Breakfast Meetings

Teri Gutierrez, TAHU President

Thanks to all of you that responded to the survey requesting feedback about a possible change to breakfast meetings instead of lunch meetings. Almost without exception we received a positive response to trying breakfast meetings. What was all over the board was the number of times per year to have breakfast meetings instead of lunch.

Violation of Identity Theft Protection Act is an unfair and deceptive trade practice that could expose a business to the risk of triple damages and attorney's fees.

Speaker: Jerry Oliver, Smith Moore LLP, has been engaged in the practice of labor and employment law for more than twenty years. He is the Practice Area Leader for the firm's Labor & Employment Group as well as a partner in Smith Moore LLP's Raleigh office.

TAHU Awards

Rufus Langley, Awards Chair

AWARDS- TAHU had three submissions to NAHU of which Ed Roling received the Distinguished Service Award and our chapter received the Website Award. We did not receive the Pacesetter Award. For the current year we want to win the Pacesetter, Website and the Presidential Citation. Our year has already begun and EVERYONE has responsibility to assist. Your attendance, recruiting new members, Operation Shout, Capitol Conference, National Convention and many other members activities are needed. Please bring a guest to our first meeting on Tuesday September to hear Congressman Brad Miller. Each of us has "skin" in the future of our industry. See you soon and thanks for your service.

Volunteers Needed

Leslie McMillan and Liz Gutierrez, Public Service

TAHU is giving back to the community and we need your help. The membership will participate in the 4th Annual Triangle Town Center Career Fair on October 26th from 9AM to 1:30PM.

On this day, 2500 students will converge on Triangle Town Center to explore various career tracks. TAHU will staff an information table where students can come and speak to us as insurance industry professionals. In 2004 the insurance industry employed about 2.3 million workers in a variety of fields. We would like to mirror this statistic by having a variety of professionals at the information table; computer specialists, customer service representatives, marketing staff, sales agents, and more. Everyone can help!

Volunteering is easy and you can do it for the whole time or an hour. Please distribute this information around your company; you do not have to be a TAHU member to volunteer. If interested, contact Leslie McMillan lsm-insurance@nc.rr.com 919-271-6898 or Liz Gutierrez liz@ibs4me.com 919-522-4640.

So the board has decided to try one per quarter. So mark your calendars for November... that will be our first breakfast meeting. We will start at 8:15 and be done by 9:30 See you then.

HUPAC & NCPAC

"Listen here, if you don't vote, you don't matter! And then you're just as ignorant as them in the city say you are!"
— *Willie Stark, All the King's Men.*

"If you don't vote, don't join NAHU, and don't give to HUPAC, then both you and your business don't matter!" —
Anonymous.

[Contribute to HUPAC](#)

The Foundation for Taxpayer & Consumer Rights

See how this organization portrays California Health insurance carriers, agents and brokers, and why they want Universal Healthcare for all Californians.

ConsumerWatchDog.org
