

NAMIC Debuts New FMDC Newsletter for State Association Officials

Welcome to the first edition of NAMIC's new newsletter. It is for you, our state association partners, to keep you informed of news related to our Farm Mutual Directors Certification (FMDC) program. Our hopes for this new publication are high. We hope:

- To let you know of FMDC programs taking place around the country so your directors can attend programs of interest to them;
- To demonstrate why an educated board can guide a company more successfully;
- To improve communication demonstrating the value of offering FMDC-certified courses thereby encouraging state association leaders to provide FMDC programs for member company board members;
- To summarize benefits of ongoing professional development in order to help increase participation from your member companies in FMDC certification.

To this end, NAMIC has recently hired a new FMDC administrator, Susan M. Andrews. Susan has experience both in working for an Indiana-based property-casualty insurance company and in managing the Mutual Insurance Companies Association of Indiana. She knows the industry, she knows association work, and is dedicated to helping you give the most value possible to your member companies.

What's Up

There are plenty of opportunities for FMDC candidates to further their education at the upcoming NAMIC convention at the new J.W. Marriott in Indianapolis, IN, on Sept. 18-21, 2011.

We'll be offering the following classes:

MANGEMENT MODULE

- Corporate Governance – Monday afternoon, Sept. 19. Presenter: Kevin Kinross, attorney, Bricker & Eckler LLP, Columbus, OH
- Mergers & Acquisitions: The Nuts and Bolts – Monday afternoon, Sept. 19. Presenter: Kent M. Forney, Bradshaw, Fowler, Proctor & Fairgrave, P.C., Des Moines, IA

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2011 FMDC Program Calendar

Management Module

August 16
Mutual Insurance Association
of Iowa (MAI)
Johnston, Iowa
marilyn@miai.org
(515) 537-2080

Operations and Insurance Module

August 23
Illinois Association of Mutual
Insurance Companies (IAMIC)
Peoria, Ill.
leadership@iamic.org
(217) 563-8300

Management Module

Operations and Insurance Module
September 19-21
NAMIC Annual Convention
Indianapolis, Ind.
sandrews@namic.org
(317) 875-5250

**Operations and Insurance Module
Webinar**

October 18
NAMIC
lspencer@namic.org
(317) 875-5250

Susan Andrews

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NAMIC is the largest and most diverse national property/casualty insurance trade and political advocacy association in the United States. Its 1,400 member companies write all lines of property/casualty insurance business and include small, single-state, regional, and national carriers accounting for 50 percent of the automobile/homeowners market and 31 percent of the business insurance market. Since its inception in 1895, NAMIC has been advocating for a strong and vibrant insurance industry.



What's Up, Cont'd.

- Governance/Role of the Board - Tuesday morning, Sept. 20. Presenter: Richard Steinberg, Founder & Principal, Steinberg Governance Advisor's, Inc.

OPERATIONS & INSURANCE MODULE

- Impact of Advocacy Activity – What Happens If Not Prevented? – Monday afternoon, Sept. 19. Presenters: Jimi Grande, Sr. Vice Pres.-Federal & Political Affairs, NAMIC, Washington, D.C. and Neil Alldredge, Sr. Vice Pres.-State & Policy Affairs, NAMIC, Indianapolis, IN
- Evaluating New Business – Monday afternoon, Sept 19. Presenter: Jim Halvorsen, CPA, Clifton Gunderson, Marshfield, WI
- Reinsurance – Tuesday afternoon, Sept. 20. Presenter: Larry A. Bray, CPCU, Vice Pres.-Reinsurance, Wisconsin Reinsurance Corp., Madison, WI

New Best Practices

Many thanks and congratulations to the Tennessee Association of Mutual Insurance Companies (TAMIC) for introducing a new best practice! They streamlined the process of incorporating new FMDC applicants into their annual meeting and educational conference in March through the registration process.

When new FMDC candidates registered for the meeting, TAMIC collected their applications and their \$25 application fees with their annual meeting registrations, then submitted one check to NAMIC with all the new application forms. Thus, fees for all new applicants were paid with one check at the same time TAMIC submitted their application forms. It saved TAMIC and member companies from receiving multiple invoices.

This new process was more efficient for everyone involved! Kudos to TAMIC! It's a great idea and a great time and effort-saver for everyone! Send us your idea for a new best practice at sandrews@namic.org

When I'm Calling You

We want to make our FMDC program as valuable and useful to you, our state association partners, as possible. To help us accomplish this goal, we'd like your input. So new FMDC administrator Susan Andrews will be calling state associations in August. She'll call to introduce herself, but she'll also ask what you like about the FMDC program, as well as other NAMIC programs, and what we can do to make it more useful to member companies.

So when Susan calls, we hope you'll make a few minutes to ask any questions you might have, and give her any ideas you have for new programs and new speakers. She'll also welcome your input on how you think the FMDC program benefits your member companies, and how we can improve it so your member company directors will benefit even more.

More FMDC Opportunities

We have two more opportunities to attend FMDC programs that you'll want to know about.

Management Module

Who: Ohio Association of Mutual Insurance Companies (OAMIC)
What: 10th Annual Fall Seminar – Taking Charge of the Future.
Date: October 27, 2011
Place: Villa Milano, 1630 Schrock Rd., Columbus, OH 43229
Title: Succession Planning
Presenter: Timothy Sullivan, Vice President-Claims, NAMICO, Indianapolis, IN
Contact: Mitch Wilson, Vice Pres.-Information and Education
Ohio Insurance Institute
PH: (614) 228-1593 or E-mail: mitchw@ohioinsurance.org

Finance and Accounting Module

Who: NAMIC
What: Lunch-hour Webinar
Date: November 10, 2011, 12:30 p.m.
Place: Right from your desktop
Title: Insurance-Specific Performance Metrics (Finance & Accounting Module)
Presenter: Daniel Daveline, Financial Regulation Manager, NAMIC
Contact: Susan Andrews, FMDC Administrator, NAMIC
PH: (317) 875-5250 or E-mail: sandrews@namic.org

Program Participation & Happenings

Did you know eleven state associations have now participated in NAMIC's FMDC program?

Various states have offered programs either partially or totally devoted to director training. The result is better informed and trained board members who are better prepared to provide vision and direction for your member companies. To date in 2011, nine programs have been held or are on our FMDC schedule.

We have a list of courses that are approved for FMDC credit. We can provide you with the list of courses – and the information each course must cover – to make planning your program easy. We can even provide a list of speakers from past FMDC classes. But we're happy to have your ideas for programs, also. Just let us know your topic ideas and we'll take them to our FMDC committee for approval.

And don't forget, NAMIC sponsors FMDC programs and webinars through the year. So check our website at www.namic.org/seminars/dircert.asp for complete information. Why not consider participating, too?