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President's Report



Bryan Stevens President

First of all, I am honored to be leading this organization for the upcoming year. AWIA does a lot for the insurance agents of Wyoming, and I hope to continue to build upon that in the months to come!

There were plenty of legislative issues we were involved in earlier this year. Uber is in Wyoming,

and we were very involved in making sure that the insurance coverage requirements would protect passengers, drivers, and everyone one else on the road. We also determined as an organization that the driving without insurance penalty was lacking, and with the help of Representative Lars Lone and our excellent lobbyist Mary Lynne Schikich we were able to double the minimum penalty from \$250 to \$500.

There is more work to be done in the legislature this year, and Mary Lynne is going to be integral in helping us get done what we need to get done.

Our work on the compulsory insurance law enforcement got put on hold this year. When we got the bill out of the Legislative Service Office the wording was not acceptable for us to enact real

-time monitoring. We will continue to work on the bill, but we are going to take our time with it. With this year being a budget session the board has decided to put that piece of legislation on the back burner for the year.

Personal auto losses were at record highs this past year, as most of you know. I feel that the absolute most important thing we can do for our clients is make sure that they are covered correctly and educate them on driving habits and why rates increase, even if they have not had any claims.

Again, I am incredibly honored to be leading this excellent organization. Please feel free to reach out to me with any concerns. Here's to a great year!



Liz Luce PIA National Director

As you might guess with all that is going on in DC, these are busy days for PIA. Keeping a watchful eye on the day to day issue of health care is a full time job for a dozen people!

Sometimes it seems as if it's a partial ruse to keep our eye off other issues that loom and threaten our business.

One such threat is the NAIC's current topic on Cybersecurity. Of key importance is their definition of an event as "any act or attempt, successful or unsuccess-

ful, to gain unauthorized access to, disrupt or misuse... information..." PIA feels that this

would include receipt of phishing emails without regard to whether information was gained. Can you imagine having to report to the Dept every time someone had an email that was suspicious? And the notification must be within "72 hours from a determination that a Cybersecurity Event has occurred". So it's late Wednesday before Thanksgiving when there is a threat. Monday is too late, by

(Continued on page 2)



Liz Luce, ARM. AAI & Gary Blackwell PIA President

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Tony Schebler, CIC & Spencer Houldin, IIABA National Chairman

Tony has decided to step down as our National Director for the IIABA or BIG I for this next year. He has served in this position for several years giving a lot of his personal time to the position which the board is extremely thankful for as Tony always represented the organization at numerous conventions. The National Director position takes a lot of your personal time to attend these conven-

Tony Schebler IIABA NATIONAL

tions and keep up with what is happening on the National level. That being said, we need someone to fill Tony's big shoes as our National Director so if you are interested please get ahold of one of the board members or Karla so a decision can be made at our next board meeting. This is a big commitment as Tony will tell you but well worth for the organization.

The IIABA has been working hard to protect the interests of our member agents, in 2016 the IIABA was the only trade association participating in the legal action against the DOL, the DOL overtime rule scheduled to take place in 2016 was delayed as a result of litigation. Other topics that are being monitored are the restriction or elimination of the Federal Insurance Office (FIO), the IIABA Government Affairs Committee is supporting

this position, which is also endorsed by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC), clearly the goal is to keep regulation in the state level by the state insurance departments.

As a member of the BIG I Markets you have lots of resource's available to you and some articles from the BIG I are included in this newsletter The legislative PAC INSURPAC is on page 23, you can make a difference within our industry. Check out www.independentagent.co m



PIA National Director's Report

(Continued from page 1)

law the NAIC wants this reported by late Saturday afternoon. These are just two examples with which PIA is concerned and is providing ongoing responses to the proposed model law.

PIA's website PIANET.com has a wealth of information from employee benefits to discounts on services/materials to reviewing company contracts as well as the legislation under consideration. Just login and peruse

the wealth of knowledge available to you and rest assured your association has your back. One way to ensure that we are able to continue the fight on the Hill is give to PIAPAC. Even \$20 can make a difference. That PAC money allows staff to attend events with decision makers, it helps campaigns where lawmakers are under fire-those lawmakers who understand what we do. All donations are appreciated. Thank you!



Tools you can use from

you PIA membership are

AWIA Website updated

EVP Update:

Please take a look at our updated website, www.awia.com the Big I is helping put more links for your benefit on our website. If you already have a sign on, of course it will still work but as we worked on this we noticed many members had not been on the website for years or ever. As you pay your agency dues please include the sheet with all your employee's email addresses and Karla will get sign on information to all your employees. If you do not

get a sign on please email Karla at awia@vcn.com and I will provide you with one so you can have access to all that is available. Anything else you would like to see on the website let Karla know and I will work on seeing if I can get it included. Hopefully this will be beneficial to all members and employees of all agencies.



Big "I" Markets

Your membership in AWIA also gives you access to all Big "I" Markets, an online market access system available exclusively to Big "I" members featuring no fees, no volume commitments and competitive commissions Benefits of Big "I" Markets:

- Ownership of expirations
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- •EFT commission payments
- •Only one login needed to access all programs
- •Weekly e-newsletter featuring product knowledge and special interest pieces
- •Doing business with Big "I" Markets supports your state

What can you access? A suite of top tier products including affluent homeowners, bonds, commercial packages, habitational, nonstandard homeowners.

To review a list of products available please click here

- . More in-depth information on each product can be found in our 2013 Product Guide or after by logging in to
- www.bigimarkets.com.

Questions? We are here to serve you. Contact bigimar-kets@iiaba.net or

call (703) 647-7800.



Susan Worthington Agent of the Year



Note from Susan

AWIA and before that IIAW, has been a part of my life for 47 years. First as a member, then as a board member, your president and then your exec for 17 years. I want to thank all of my AWIA family for your friendship and support. It

has truly been my pleasure to have worked with all of you. Thank you for honoring me as your agent of the year. It means a great deal to me.

Remember: Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, today is a gift that is why it is called the present. It is my hope that you all live everyday as the gift it is Thanks,



Ken Hauck Capital Premium



Industry person of the year

PIA website access

Your membership gives you PIA benefits also, if you click on the PIA logo on the front page of our website it will take you to the PIA site with all the items that are available. Again to gain full accessibility you will need to be logged in and your Log in for the AWIA site is the same one you will need here. Using these websites can be very valuable to your agency so please give them a try and search around to see what value your membership can be for you company.

Page 4



THE ASSOCIATION OF WYOMING INSURANCE AGENTS

What You Need to Know

As the price of hobbyist drones decreases, there has been a noticeable uptick in their purchase as gifts. Whether you're on the giving or receiving end of hobbyist drones' increasing popularity, it's important to be aware of hobbyist drone owners' legal responsibilities and practical considerations. For instance, drones can weigh more than 50 pounds, so if a drone falls from the sky, it can cause considerable property damage or bodily injury. Drones can crash for a variety of reasons, including operational error or mechanical problems. The resulting damage has the potential to affect people, animals, and personal property on the ground.

For these reasons, it makes sense to contact your local insurance agent to evaluate whether you should insure your drone. Hobbyist drone use may be covered

coverage to address potential violations of the privacy of those around you. Coverage may also depend on whether the privacy violation is deemed to have been intentional.

Talk to your agent to find out what coverage you may already have that would be applicable to losses related to your use of a hobbyist drone and to determine whether you need additional coverage (and, if so, what that coverage ought to provide) for other types of potential losses.

Drone Regulation

Until recently, owners of hobbyist drones that weighed more than 0.55 pounds (250 grams) were regulated by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and were required to be registered as "unmanned air vehicles." However, after the FAA rule was challenged by a drone

The FAA's basic safety tips for users of hobbyist drones remain applicable:

- Don't fly higher than 400 feet
- Avoid obstacles and manned aircraft around you
- Keep your drone in your sight at all times

Have You Visited the Big 'I' Virtual University Lately?

by Jennifer Becker Category: in Education

Most independent agents and brokers are always seeking ways to stay ahead of the competition. A sure-fire approach is to arm staff with superior training, professional accreditations and access to exclusive insurance, business and technical information.

Good news! The Big "I" Virtual University (VU) is a one-stop shop to help you with all the above—and access is free for all Big 'I" members.

Don't miss out on high-level content that can help everyone at your agency—from the frontline customer service team, to technical gurus, to those responsible for back-office perpetuation planning.

Highlights include:

- Ask an Expert. VU faculty answer your specific questions.
- Webinars. Tune in for educational sessions on the latest and hottest topics, delivered by the experts. Up next: Is the Absolute Pollution Exclusion Really Absolute? Hint: NO!
- Research. In-depth articles on personal lines, commercial lines and life-health may sometimes be enough, but at the VU, you can access the research behind the narrative. Also peruse articles on agency management, sales and customer service.
- Talent recruitment and development resources. Visit the hiring area for sample job descriptions, posting tips, tips for creating an internship program and much more.
- O VUpoint e-newsletter. This biweekly update arrives in the inboxes of insurance professionals worldwide. Opt in for free.
- Consumer articles. You'll not only find consumer-centric articles to publish on your blog, website or e-newsletter, but also rest easy knowing that with the VU, articles are always timely and accurate.
- Links to key resources. Whenever a summary isn't enough, go directly to an article's key references, whether it's a form, resource or another article
- Comprehensive commentary on key forms and endorsements. The VU shows you the forms and then explains them thoroughly.
- Certificate of insurance resource center. Get the COI facts from a frequently updated comprehensive resource that features links to every applicable state-specific statute, regulation or legal opinion.
- **Perpetuation planning.** Whether you're planning to sell or preparing for retirement in general, the VU provides access to expert articles that help you stake your future into solid ground.

Users must have their login and password to access the VU. Password recovery is available online. Send your questions to VU staff.

The Voice of the Commercial Lines Customer — Research from The PIA Partnership





VS



rofessional ndependent Insurance Agents

August 1, 2017

Small business owners say their agent wins!

PIA Partnership research shows that professional independent agents are the preferred choice for most small businesses.

But agents can't be complacent! The Internet is here to stay and agents need to respond.

The PIA Partnership and its participating companies have recently completed an extensive research project examining the perspective of small business owners as they make insurance choices and receive value added service in today's online world. The research found that while choosing a professional independent agent continues to be their clear preference, small businesses are adapting to change and they want their agents to adapt with them.

What is The PIA Partnership?

The PIA Partnership is a group of insurance companies that share resources and work closely with PIA to conduct research and develop tools and resources designed to benefit professional independent insurance agents.

Participating Carriers in The PIA Partnership

- Central Insurance Companies
- Encompass Insurance
- Erie Insurance
- Liberty Mutual Insurance
- MetLife Auto & Home
- National General Insurance
- Nationwide Independent (formerly Harleysville Insurance)
- Progressive Insurance
- Selective Insurance Group
- State Auto Insurance Companies

- The Hanover Insurance Group
- The Hartford
- The Motorists Insurance Group



There were informative presentations by Jeff Rude, Deputy Commissioner, Spencer Houldin IIABA Chairman, Gary Blackwell, PIA President, Make-a Wish a project supported with grant, Senator Scott and Representative Sweeney





For over 25 years, the Big "I" Professional Liability Program underwritten by Westport Insurance Corporation (rated "Excellent" by A.M. Best) has been the premiere choice of IIABA member agents for insurance agents and brokers E&O insurance. Why? Because our program is a trusted source for the most comprehensive coverage in the marketplace.

Key features of this program include:

- Claims made for with full prior acts available
- Broad definition of professional services and who is a named insured
- · Available first dollar defense
- · Defense costs in addition to the limits of liability
- · Aggregate limits and deductibles
- · True world wide protection
- · Liberal extended reporting periods
- · Coverage for advertising activities including libel and slander
- · Various policy credit opportunities

Why Big "I" E&O? Because not only does the program's exclusive policy form provide market-leading coverage benefits, such as advertising activities and contractual liability, but a comprehensive loss prevention seminar is also available to help you avoid claims and to improve business processes.

The Westport policy form contains exclusive enhancements that are available only to members that write their E&O through Big "I" Professional Liability Program.

For more information, please contact Kerri Emmons at (406) 442-9555 ext. 105 or kemmons@iiamt.org

The Fireman's Fund policy offers broad coverage tailored to insurance agencies. Fireman's Fund is currently rated A XV by AM Best and is the second largest provider of Agency E&O in the country.

TARGET MARKET & ELIGIBILITY

The target market for this program are agencies and/or brokers with gross revenues of \$3,000,000 or less, a staff size of less than 30 employees, and that have been in business for at least three years. The primary revenue source for these agencies will include traditional property and casualty sales, but may include ancillary income from Accident & Health, Life, Annuity and other financial products including securities. Coverage will not be provided for real estate activities associated with these P&C agencies.

Eligible Risks

- · Coverage for agencies where the primary source of their revenue is from traditional property and casualty sales.
- · Majority of business placed in standard markets
- · Minimum of 3 years in business under the current ownership or evidence of adequate licensed experience for the principal of the firm.

Favorable claims experience

Ineligible Risks

- · Any Agency that does not derive a minimum of 60% of their revenues from the sale and/or servicing of Property and Casualty Insurance Products.
- · Any Agency acting as a real estate agent or broker, property manager or mortgage broker and does NOT carry separate E&O coverage for these activities.
- · Any Agency with revenue generated from the sales or administration of structured settlement annuities.
- · Any Agency that operates as a Third Party Claims Administrator (Claims TPA) for other than workers compensation plan.

Any Agency involved in the marketing, sales or servicing of Alternative Risk Transfer Arrangements, Captive Plans or Arrangements, Risk Retention Groups, or Risk Purchasing Groups

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(continued from page 7)

COVERAGE HIGHLIGHTS & AVAILABILITY Coverage Highlights

- · A rated carrier
- · Specialized experience in claims settlement
- · Coverage for the sale of both P&C and L&H available
- Admitted carrier
- · Broad definition of covered professional services and activities
- · Available first dollar defense
- · Provides coverage for services provided to Controlled, Owned, Related, and/or Managed entities
- · Policy limits available up to \$10,000,000
- Deductibles with aggregates

Full prior acts available

For more information, please contact Kerri Emmons at (406) 442-9555 ext. 105 or kemmons@iiamt.org

To Learn more about E&O Click Here

E&O Tips Regarding Certificates

Tools from The PIA Partnership

Because good relationships with the carriers you represent are vital to your success, PIA National keeps an open line of communication with insurance companies—and uses it on your behalf. PIA members can constructively voice their concerns, so carriers understand how their decisions affect their agency partners.

Our **Agency Agreement Review Service**, available to both PIA members and carriers, provides an opportunity for PIA to advocate for agents when carriers consider changes to their agreements. Staff highlights concerns for members to consider so they can make informed decisions about the agency agreements that govern their business relationships.

Through our ongoing activities with **The PIA Partnership**, PIA's company council, we develop hands-on tools specifically designed for use by agents to help them strengthen their agencies. During 2017, The PIA Partnership will be releasing two new programs for PIA members. One is an educational program to help agents understand the cyber risks they and their clients face and how they can reduce those risks. The second is an update of PIA's very popular Perpetuation Central website, which will be coupled with a series of succession/ perpetuation workshops, both live and on-demand.

The PIA Partnership — a joint effort of leading insurance carriers and PIA — develops hands-on tools for PIA member agencies such as:

- > The Voice of the Commercial Lines Customer. Our eye opening research helps independent agents understand how they can stay ahead of online competition in commercial lines.
- > **Closing the Gap Growth & Profit.** Project and plan for new business growth and profitability using PIA's calculators. Use PIA's turnkey approaches for improving retention, sales and account-rounding in your agency.
- > **Agency Touch Points The Voice of the Customer.** Learn how to capitalize on Partnership research to give personal lines customers what they really want.
- > **Reaching Gen Y.** This online tool helps agents understand and reach Gen Y age group insurance consumers and convert them into loyal agency customers.
- > **Perpetuation Central.** This hands-on, interactive tool guides agencies through the decision-making, planning and implementation steps of agency perpetuation or ownership transfer.
- > **Practical Guide to Successful Planning.** This valuable resource helps agents plan for success within their own agencies and coordinate their plans with those of the carriers they represent





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- · A flood zone determination tool



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Selective provides flood insurance for both personal and commercial risks nationwide. And while most flood policies are typically written on personal property, we've seen an increased need for flood protection on commercial entities such as:

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Take charge. Writing flood with Selective provides you the opportunity to work with a carrier who will support your growth potential through account rounding, increased retention, mitigated E&O exposures and delivery of a best-in-class customer experience. Our commitment is to provide you with flood insurance solutions that will help increase market share and drive more business through your doors.

AWIA NEWS August 1, 2017

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THE ASSOCIATION OF WYOMING INSURANCE AGENTS

Thank you to our Platinum Partner Acuity for 2017 with a \$3000 donation to the AWIA Organization



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AWIA NEWS August 1, 2017

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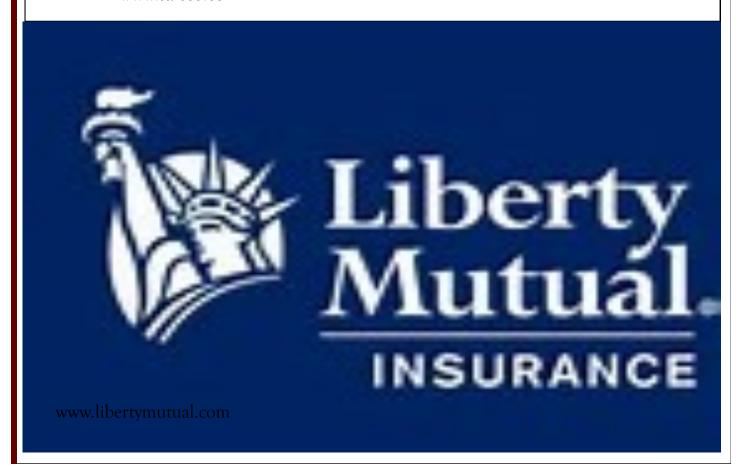
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PROGRESSIVE

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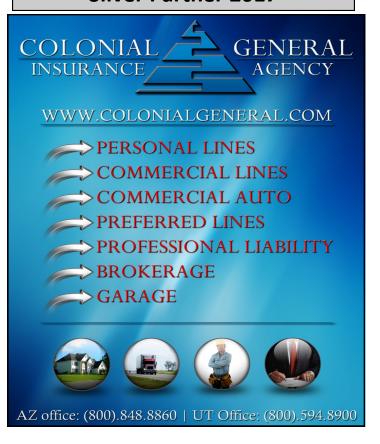
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IOIN TODAY

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Executive VICE AND CONTROL OF THE PROPERTY OF

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Board

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