



State & Local Government Benefits Association

Volume 18, Issue 3

December 2006

President's Letter

By Cindy Downey

Special points of interest:

- 2006-2007 Board
- 25th Anniversary
- Award Program

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“A Tale of Two Cities”

The SALGBA Board of Directors met in New Orleans September 22 & 23 to finalize preparations for the 2007 Annual Conference to be held there next April. We are pleased with our venue and feel that once again, excellent speakers will be presenting timely, relevant educational topics to the membership.

We understand that some of our members are curious about the “state of things” in “The Big Easy” and wanted to let you know what we experienced.

The Marriott at the Convention Center is a new, beautiful, clean hotel. The surrounding areas, known as the Warehouse District, The French Quarter and Bourbon Street appear as they have for many years. We walked along the Riverwalk and through the streets of these areas and the devastation wreaked by hurricane

Katrina was not evident to us in any of them. There may have been fewer people out and about, but we still needed reservations at the restaurant in order to eat out Saturday evening! We were there the weekend prior to the first football game in the Superdome since Katrina and witnessed many folks taking advantage of the cooler evening weather and enjoying the city.

Transportation to and from the airport was fast and convenient and once again we did not see much evidence of damage via this route.

However, we are aware that there are still many areas reeling from the wrath of Katrina. The destruction and ruin are still present and many people have not returned to their way of life - some never will. We support the “rebirth” of New Orleans and encourage membership to come and experience the city with us next April. Revitalize the city and SALGBA, as we celebrate our 25th anniversary in the place

where SALGBA began. Supporting the area’s economy by encouraging and bringing business to them is one small way we can show this support and help. In addition, the Board is working with some organizations in the area to coordinate a volunteer event prior to the conference to assist the city in helping those who are still feeling the aftermath of the hurricanes. We sincerely hope you will join us.

Please feel free to contact any of us and we will be happy to relay our experiences and discuss the “state of things” as we personally saw and felt it.

Thank you,

Cindy Downey

President, SALGBA
Board of Directors

Please give welcome to a new staff member

The Institute of Government is proud to welcome out newest staff member Lori Winter. Lori joins the Institute of Government at Eastern Kentucky University as Administrative Assistant. Her background encompasses over 18 years of administrative experience, including 15 years in the legal field. Lori states, "I am committed to keeping the office organized and running



Caption describing picture or

smoothly. I look forward to working with SALGBA and other organizations we assist, to provide dependable, quality service to their members."

The Institute feels very fortunate to have found such a talented, organized and personable individual. In the short time she has been with us she has already become a vital part of our team.

Please join us in welcoming Lori to our team. She will

be onsite to assist SALGBA with the upcoming 25th Anniversary conference. So please take a moment to introduce yourself and welcome her.

You can reach Lori at lori.winter@eku.edu or at 859-622-4382.

2006-2007 SALGBA Board of Directors

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SALGBA 2007



New Orleans, Louisiana

for the:

State and Local Government Benefits Association Annual Conference

April 1 - April 4, 2007

Marriott New Orleans at the Convention Center

859 Convention Center Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70130 / 800-305-6342



SALGBA Room Rate

\$120.00 plus 13% tax

(\$2.00 city occupancy fee per room, per night)

Single or Double

2007 SALGBA Conference Schedule at a Glance

Saturday, March 31, 2007					
3:00pm-6:00pm	Registration Open				
Sunday, April 1, 2007					
7:00am-2:00pm	Golf Tournament		TPC of Louisiana		
8:00am-4:00pm	Taste of New Orleans Living Tour		Swamp / Plantation Tour		
12:00pm-6:00pm	Registration Opens				
1:00pm-3:00pm	Pre-conference Sessions \$25		Project Management George Smith		
5:00pm-5:45pm	Board Reception				
6:00pm-8:00pm	Opening Night Networking Reception in Exhibit Hall				
Monday, April 2, 2007					
7:30am-4:00pm	Registration Open				
7:30am-8:15am	Continental Breakfast				
8:30am-10:30am	Welcome & Keynote--Opening Session		Dr. Loren Scott		
10:30am-11:00am	Break in Exhibit Hall				
11:00am-Noon	Break out Sessions		Benefits 101	Role of the Internet in Improving Healthcare	10 Strategies to Control Public Sector Health Care Plan Costs
			David Kester	Charles Smith/Robby Linn	Gary Redding
			Harris County, TX	eDoc	Aon Consulting
11:00am-Noon	Break out Sessions				An Integrated Approach to Medical Management of Aging Populations
					Dr. Randall Krakauer
					Aetna
Noon-1:15pm	Luncheon		Bruce Wilkinson Presentation		
1:30pm-2:30pm	Break out Sessions		The Evolution (or Revolution) of Workers Compensation	Finding Your Oxygen, Keys to Work-Life Balance and Success	Diamond or Cubic Zirconia?
			Joey Page	Susan Henderson	Wally Gomaa
			City of Plano, TX	Alliance Work Partners	Holmes Murphy & Assoc.
2:30pm-3:00pm	Break in Exhibit Hall				
3:00pm-4:30pm	Roundtable Sessions		Local Entities	State Entities	Educational Entities
				Ron Meyer	Nicki Pfeider
					Joann Looten/Debbie Juul

**2007 Schedule at a Glance
continued...**

Tuesday, April 3, 2007					
7:30am-4:00pm	Registration Open				
7:30am-8:00am	Continental Breakfast				
8:00am-9:30am	Tuesday Keynote--General Session	Personalized Health Care--Where is it Going?			
		Dr. Rob Epstein			
		Medco			
9:30am-10:30am	Break out sessions	Procurement Law	Fiscal & Physical Implications of Bariatric Surgery	Meeting the Challenge of Speciality Pharmacy Cost Management	Pension Protection Act
		Karen Walker	Paul Handel	Carol Bailey	Marilyn Collister
		Holland & Knight	BlueCross & Blue-Shield of TX	Pharmaceutical Strategies Group (PSG)	Great West Retirement Services (GWRS)
10:30am-11:00pm	Break in exhibit hall				
11:00am-Noon	Breakout sessions	How to Make Medical and Behavioral Integration Real	Value of Vaccines	Mercer National Survey of Employer Sponsored Health Plans	Case Study: KY Retiree Medical Solutions
		David Whitehouse	Dr. Dana Evans	Blaine Bos	Bob Walt/KTRS
		United Behavioral Health	GlaxoSmithKline	Mercer Health & Benefits	Humana
Noon-1:15pm	Awards Luncheon				
1:30pm-2:30pm	Breakout sessions	Managing & Insuring Business Continuity & Disaster Recovery	Global Contribution Driven Benefits	The Evolution of Value Based Pharmacy Benefits	Retirement Legislative Update
		Jeff Scardino	Don Heilman	Iver Juster	Millie Stangis
		JLT Holdings, Inc.	Gallagher Benefit Services	ActiveHealth Management	ICMA-RC
2:30pm-3:15pm	Break in exhibit hall--Door Prize Drawing				
3:30pm-4:30pm	Wellness Sessions--Interactive	Group Walk	Fitness Center	Qi Gong	Success of Care Management Programs in KY Employees Health Plan
		Grace Rogers	Personal Trainer	Debbie Juul	Jennifer Ewing & Christine Wilcoxson
					Humana & KY
6:00pm-9:00pm	Gala Event	Cruise aboard the Steamboat Natchez			

Wednesday's on Next Page..

TO REGISTER ONLINE GO TO
WWW.SALGBA.COM

2007 Schedule at a Glance continued...

Wednesday, April 4, 2007					
8:00am-9:00am	Jurisdictional Members Business Meeting/Breakfast				
9:00am-10:00am	Breakout sessions	GASB 43/45: Adoption Issues, Misconceptions & Metrics	Moving Science Into Health Coverage: A Purchasers Guide to Clinical Preventive Services	Tiered Hospital Benefit	Defined Contribution Plans
		Elliott Cobin/Bill Holby	Andrew Lanza / Kathryn Campbell	Frank Johnson	Rick Johnson
		PriceWaterhouseCoopers/King & Spalding's Municipal Group	Center for Disease Control / Center for Prevention & Health Services	State of Maine	Segal
10:00am-11:00am	Breakout sessions	NH Local Government Center's Slice of Life Initiative--A Multi-Year Case Study	The Records Management Challenge--The Pathway to Paperless	Risk Management Tools & Procedures for Benefit Administrators	Retiree Medical—Can We Keep the Promise?
		Adam Long/Scott Weden/Carrie Musil	JoAnn Looten	Dennis Kunimura/Flint Michaels	Don McGuire
		Gordian Health Solutions/NHLGC/Gordian	MOSERS	State of Utah/Ingenix	Anthem/Wellpoint Retiree Services
11:00am-Noon	Wednesday Keynote--	The Hurricanes Were Just the Beginning--OGB's Part in Louisiana's Road			
		Panel Moderated by Hubert Lincecum			
Noon	Adjourn--See you next year in San Diego				

CURRENT 2007 SPONSORS & EXHIBITORS

Platinum Sponsors:

Medco
 Segal
 Express Scripts
 Pharmaceutical Strategies Group
 Humana
 Mercer Health & Benefits
 UnitedHealth Group
 Cigna
 International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans

Gold Sponsors:

VSP

Silver Sponsors:

Great West Retirement Services
 APS Healthcare

Bronze Sponsors:

FBMC

EXHIBITORS

Medco
 Segal Company
 Gordian Health Solutions
 Cigna
 Wellpoint Next Rx
 Ingenix
 WellPoint
 Pharmaceutical Strategies Group
 Social Security Law Group
 Great West Retirement Services
 Smith & Nephew Endoscopy
 Anthem BlueCross & Blue Shield
 Mercer Health & Benefits

eDoc America
 The Hartford
 APS Healthcare
 Express Scripts
 Humana
 UnitedHealthcare
 FBMC

SALGBA Nominations being accepted for..

SALGBA BOARD VACANCY

SALGBA Nominations are now being accepted for the 2007-2010 board of directors vacancy. You can obtain a nomination form online at www.salgba.com or by contacting Tina Scott at 859-622-2535 or at tina.scott@eku.edu.

Nominations will be accepted until February 15, 2007 at which time the Nomination Committee will review nominations and create a slate of candidates. The slate will be sent to the primary jurisdictional members no later than March 1st to cast their votes. The deadline for votes will be 4:30pm EST on Tuesday, April 3rd.

The newly elected board member will be announced during the SALGBA Jurisdictional Business meeting at the national conference on Wednesday, April 4th. This is a great opportunity to become involved in an organization designed specifically for government benefits professionals.

SALGBA AWARDS PROGRAM

SALGBA'S Awards Program offers the following categories of recognition:

***Linn Baker Lifetime Achievement Award** recognizes a jurisdictional member for exemplary contributions to the association over a period of time.

***Jurisdictional Member of the Year Award** recognizes a jurisdictional member who has contributed the most time, effort, knowledge, and promotional activities to the association in the past calendar year.

***Associate Member of the Year Award** recognizes an associate member who has contributed the most time, effort, knowledge, and promotional activities to the association in the past calendar year.

***Exemplary Efforts in Benefits Profession Award** recognizes a jurisdictional entity for its

implementation of a benefits program that has substantially reduced costs, increased member awareness, improved member education, or enhanced member wellness, etc. during the last calendar year.

Nomination Process:

Any jurisdictional or associate member in good standing may nominate an individual member or member entity by completing the appropriate nomination form and returning with documentation to the SALGBA office no later than February 1, 2007. Nomination forms for each award category are available online at www.salgba.com.

Selection Process

The SALGBA Nominating Committee will review all nominations and select the winners in each award category.

2007 CONFERENCE OPTIONAL EVENTS

The 2007 SALGBA Conference committee is excited to present this year's optional events.

GOLF

The 2007 SALGBA Golf Tournament, sponsored by Medco, is being held at the prestigious TPC Louisiana, home of the Zurich Classic of New Orleans and noted "one of America's Top Five Best New Courses" as selected by Golf digest, January 2005. The TPC is owned and operated by the PGA Tour. The Pete Dye designed course is set amid Louisiana's stately



cypress and oak trees so you can play an exceptional round of golf in the Louisiana ambiance.

Registration fees for jurisdictional members is \$50 and associate members are \$100. Non conference attendees who are registered guests of a player may register for \$125.

Registration, including handicaps and payment, must be received no later than March 1, 2007. There are no refunds after March 1, 2007.

TOUR

The 2007 SALGBA Tour, sponsored by FBMC

embarks on a private coach, taking you upon a journey through the highlights of the bayous and the splendor of the Ante-bellum South.

You adventure begins aboard a climate controlled swamp board viewing the wonders of the bayou, then you sit back for a journey along River Road to Oak Alley Plantation. You will enjoy a Cajun style lunch at Oak Alley Plantation before touring the glamorous mansion.

Registration for the tour is limited to 50 participants and the registration fee is \$40. Registration and payment must be received no later than March 1, 2007.

Associate News

“RECENT TRENDS IN HEALTHCARE ”

By

PATRICK N. RENAUD

Since my last quarterly report on **Recent Trends in Healthcare** in August, 2006, I have decided to add two categories that can stand alone in healthcare trends, **Employee Benefits** and **MD**.

We will begin by reviewing the latest **Healthcare Trends**, which will include the effect of healthcare services on the economy, quality arguments about longevity, health reform as seen by the government, insurance problems, the catastrophe awaiting retirees and the future of healthcare. **CDHC Updates** will feature growth, success of CDHC plans, the Wal-Mart effect, the non-utilization of information and HSA updates. **Legal Matters** will review fraud, malpractice reform, transparency, “Fair Share” status and a HIPAA update.

In **EMR** we will comment on the status of the Federal legislation, current availability, security and privacy concerns, the estimated cost of EMR and the lack of usage and understanding. In our new section, **Employee Benefits**, we will review getting the most out of benefit plans, competitive benefits, benefit plan design, open enrollment issues, and employment trends effect on benefits. The argument that **Medical Costs** is the engine that drives the economy will be further examined as well as trends for 2007, the effect on both employers and employees/retirees, and control strategies practiced by both health insurers and employers.

MD is our second new section that deals exclusively with physicians, where we will look at the new face of medicine, examine the physician shortage, review quality concerns and finish this section by commenting upon the use or lack of use of email and the status of discipline. **Medicare** is always a hot topic with Medicare B premiums for 2007 and reimbursement sharing the limelight with Medicare D premiums for 2007, coverage gaps, and views on the plan. Additionally, we will look at the CMS issues and Democrat initiatives. **Pharma** issues such as FDA reform, generic replacements, the Wal-Mart initiative, prescription importation, mail-order savings and other news will be critiqued.

Last, but not least, **Uninsured and Universal Coverage**, we will begin by updating the picture on the uninsured, we will then look at alternatives for the uninsured, the Massachusetts update is next with a follow-up on other State’s initiatives and end with a discourse on universal guarantees.

As usual, I will end this somewhat lengthy dissertation by providing a summary and my conclusions.

HEALTHCARE TRENDS

This revised section will concentrate on general healthcare trends, leaving the specific trends for the nine sections that follow. We will begin by reviewing the effect of healthcare services upon the US economy; next we will review the quality arguments about longevity. Healthcare reform as seen by the government, health insurance problems, the catastrophe awaiting retirees in healthcare and the future of healthcare as seen in 2020 will round out this section.

The Effect of Healthcare on the US Economy

In an article found in *BusinessWeek* the fact of the importance of healthcare jobs to the economy is graphically shown. From July, 2001 to July, 2006, the healthcare industry has added over 1.7 million jobs in the private sector compared to a decrease of 300,000 jobs combined in the rest of the private sector. The percentage of growth was 0% - 30% in 12 states; 31% – 60% in 12 more states and over 60% in 26 states during that time period.

[Click here for the entire article...](#)

State and Local Government Benefits Association

...the premier organization for public sector benefits professionals

Membership Application

Entity _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____

Name _____ Email _____

Position/Title _____

Website _____

Referral Source: Website SALGBA member Other _____

How did you hear about SALGBA? _____

What do you most hope to gain from your membership? _____

Membership Descriptions

Jurisdictional Member

A public sector entity actively engaged in administering an employee benefits program. Jurisdictional members may vote at the annual business meetings and are eligible to serve on the Board of Directors. The Secondary Member is a reduced fee for additional members from the same entity however there must be a Primary Member from the entity on file or applying.

Membership Type: **Primary Entity Member \$195** **Secondary Entity Member \$50**

Local Government School/University State Entity Other: _____

Associate Member

A consultant organization, insurance company or other professional group that is a seller of employee benefits services, not a purchaser. Associate Members do not vote or serve on the Board, except in the nonvoting capacity of Associate Member Advisor. They are encouraged to serve on committees. The Secondary Member is a reduced fee for additional members from the same entity however there must be a Primary Member from the entity on file or applying.

Membership Type: **Primary Associate Member \$300** **Secondary Associate Member \$150**

Company Type: Dental/Vision Health Insurance Pharmaceutical Company Software Management Consultant Other
(Please explain) _____

Payment Information

The annual membership fee is due with this application. Payment may be made by check and payable to SALGBA, or by credit card. In order to pay by credit card please contact the SALGBA National Office at 859.622.2535 or visit www.salgba.com.

Please submit completed application with payment to:

SALGBA
113 McCreary Hall, ECU
Institute of Government
521 Lancaster Avenue
Richmond, KY 40475-3102
Phone: 859-622-2535; Fax: 859-622-4378
salgba@salgba.com

NON-PROFIT EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATION
TAX IDENTIFICATION NO. 57-0752871

Signature _____ Date _____

**REFLECTING ON SALGBA'S HISTORY
HONORING THE LEGACY INSPIRES US FOR
THE FUTURE**

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Want to register for the 2007 conference? Simply click below...

[TO REGISTER ONLINE](#)

[CLICK HERE](#)

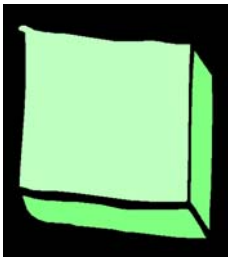
RECENT SALGBA MAILINGS

CGBA Applications for Certification and Re-Certification credit have been mailed.

Please remember that applications must be postmarked no later than January 31, 2007 in order to be considered. There are no exceptions to this policy!

A Holiday Greeting has been sent to each member. It is a small token of our appreciation for your dedication and support. SALGBA wishes everyone a safe and happy holiday season!

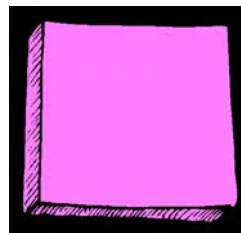
SALGBA spotlights the Rocky Mountain Region



Colorado



Utah



Wyoming



Idaho



Montana



North Dakota



South Dakota