

## Charlotte Association of Insurance Professionals

The Charlotte Association of Insurance Professionals had another successful year this year. My theme for 2014/15 was "Mentor – Share Your Knowledge". Our group has always done a wonderful job of providing advice and help when needed to those filling various board and committee positions. As President, I relied heavily on past presidents like Geraldine Plott and Sharyn Clark to provide guidance and the occasional friendly reminder of my responsibilities. Trisha Herold, our Assistant Secretary, worked closely with Geraldine Plott to learn the 'ins & outs' of membership. In addition, several members participated in the state initiative to mentor across associations.

Again this year, we balanced social opportunities with educational events at our meetings. We kicked off with a membership and networking event at Park Lanes Bowling Alley in September. This is a great opportunity for us to invite guests and for members to better get to know one another. In November, we did a fundraiser for Dress for Success and Executive Director Kerry Barr O'Connor came to speak with our group about their organization and how our donations help in the community. We had another social opportunity in the spring with our second bowling event in March. In April, we had four legged furry guests visit us from The Dog Knowledge. Two service dogs and their trainers came in to show off their skills and teach us about the importance of service dogs. It was quite a hit!

Our annual scholarship golf tournament was held in April. We had approximately 75 golfers and representation from numerous insurance companies, agencies and support services in the local insurance community. It was a beautiful day and a successful one for our association as we will continue to present two scholarships to local insurance programs at App State and UNCC.

Our annual awards dinner was held on May 12<sup>th</sup>. We honored the outstanding men and women in service to our community with the Burnette/Nobles Safety awards. We presented Officer Wesley Corell, Medica Kariena Bernesser, and Captain Sylvia Smith-Phifer and Engineer Jeffrey Phifer with the awards. Our 2015 Associate of the Year award was presented to Tim Smith of Hull & Company and our 2015 Professional of the Year award was presented to Trisha Herold of Wells Fargo Insurance Services. We were pleased to have one of our scholarship recipients in attendance – Valorie Carder from UNCC.

We participated in various service projects throughout the year – volunteering at the Susan G Komen Race for the Cure in October, quarterly visits to Friendship Trays, collection of school supplies for local classrooms and collection of clothes and accessories for Dress for Success. As always our Community Service committee did an excellent job providing us with options to serve the Charlotte-Mecklenburg community.

Thank you to the 2014-15 officers for all your hard work – Kelly Bryant, Steven Schallau, Rhonda Johnson, Geraldine Plott and Trisha Herold. We wish success to our 2015-16 officers – Kelly Bryant (President), Geraldine Plott (President-Elect), Sharyn Clark (Vice President), Rhonda Johnson (Treasurer), Jacque Clark (Secretary) and Norell Smith (Assistant Secretary).

Respectively submitted,  
Hollan Delany, ARM, ASLI, CAIP President