

Let's say Hello to our
2026 IAMIC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**January
2026**



Your IAMIC Board is committed to serving you—serious about leadership, but never too serious to enjoy the journey. They guide your education, rules and by-laws, and policies and procedures, while bringing energy and approachability to every course and event.

Seated: Secretary/Treasurer Linda Olson, Chair-Elect Katie Smull, IAMIC Executive Director Jackie Rakers and Board Member Beth Wingerter.

Standing: Board Members Matt Harford, Abel Castor, Chair Jeremy Weaks, Steve Carroll, Past Chair Ben Leezer and Collin Dooley.



ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANIES

IAMIC is forged in longevity and fortitude made up of members of the Association. Each Mutual Insurance Company has more than 100 years of knowledge and experience.

IAMIC offers the building blocks and a wide range of resources and smart tools you need to succeed. Every Event IAMIC offers provides you with networking opportunities, whether it be your peers or professional contacts in the insurance world. Come learn, make memories, and build connections that move your future forward.

2026 IAMIC Events

- Member Data Updates & Photos Due..**January 30
- Claims Early Bird Deadline.....**February 9
- Joe Reid Scholarship Deadline.....**February 22
- Claims & Trade Show.....**February 23/24
Double Tree, Bloomington
- Regionals Early Bird Registration.....**February 24
- Regionals.....**March 10 & 11
March 10 *Carriage House, Altamont—South
March 11 Deer Valley Golf Course—North
- Roger E. Needham Scholarship Deadline ...**
.....April 1
- Underwriting Early Bird Registration.....**April 1
- Insurance Industry Day.....**April 14
- Underwriting.....**April 23
*Pere Marquette, Peoria
- CCP/Washington D.C.....**May 19 & 20
- Joe Reid Golf Outing.....**June 4
The Rail, Springfield
- Nominations Due.....**July 15
For Company Achievement Award, LAUTUM &
Fire Department of the year
- Convention Early Bird Registration.....**July 26
- IAMIC Convention.....**August 17-19
Par-A-Dice, East Peoria
- NAMIC Convention.....**September 27–30
Denver, Colorado

*We will be at new locations for the South Regional and Underwriting Seminar.



New Shared Email Address:

You have probably started seeing

more emails from staff@iamic.org. To improve response time, IAMIC has begun using this shared address so that all staff can access and respond to your messages in a timely and coordinated manner. You can still reach Jackie at leadership@iamic.org
NOTE: Don't hold your coffee cup over your computer like above...it could lead to a small disaster.

Is Your Disaster Plan Up to Date?

You never know what's going to happen tomorrow, so plan TODAY! Preparedness is the cornerstone of effective risk management. As you look to the new year, take the time to review your organization's disaster plan and ensure it reflects your current operations, staffing, and communication protocols. Confirm that emergency contacts, vendor information, and coverage details are current, accurate and accessible. A current, well-structured plan safeguards business continuity when it matters most.



Celebrating a Milestone in 2026?

Is your company marking a special anniversary next year? We want to celebrate you and recognize your achievements and spotlight your success throughout the years. Contact Jackie to let us know about your upcoming anniversary—we'd love to CELEBRATE YOU and your commitment to our industry.

Honoring 150 Years of Hamlet Mutual — And Looking Ahead Together



Pictured above Front Row: Dennis Nelson, Mark Doonan, Jackie Rakers, Drue Griffin, Ann Jahn, Bill Boruff. Back Row: Stan Boruff, Clint Huffstutler, Abel Castor, Chris DeMarlie, Sue Frieden, David Mueller.

As Hamlet Mutual Insurance Company celebrates an impressive 150 years in business, we pause to recognize the generations of policyholders, directors, agents, and employees who built this proud mutual tradition. Hamlet Mutual has long stood as a trusted neighbor in the community, offering dependable protection and personal service close to home. In recent years, the insurance industry has continued to face new challenges, from rising costs to increasing regulatory demands. To stay strong, responsive, and locally focused, Hamlet Mutual Insurance Company has merged with Farmers Pioneer Mutual Insurance Company. Together, they will be better positioned to navigate these industry changes while keeping member needs at the center of every decision. For policyholders, this merger means continued access to the coverage you rely on, with the added benefit of shared expertise, resources, and stability. The combined organization will remain committed to offering the best possible products and competitive rates, while preserving the personal relationships and hometown service that define the mutual insurance difference. As we celebrate 150 years of Hamlet Mutual, we also celebrate the next chapter—built on the same values of integrity, community, and mutual support.

Communication! Communication! Communication! IAMIC is the central hub for communication, education, and government relations for the Illinois Mutuals. We strive to keep you informed of all current happenings within our industry while looking to the future and helping you navigate what we see coming. We also try to help prepare for the unexpected. Cultivating our vast resources helps IAMIC to help you when the unexpected happens.

SPONSORSHIP

Sponsorship from our member companies helps IAMIC deliver high-quality programs, keep registration costs manageable, and provide an exceptional educational experience. There's a wide range of sponsorship opportunities to suit every budget—no contribution is too small to make a meaningful impact. We encourage companies to sign in on IAMIC.org to view up-to-date sponsorship selections. Supporting sponsorships not only raises your company's visibility with industry decision-makers but also demonstrates your commitment to strengthening the Mutual insurance community.

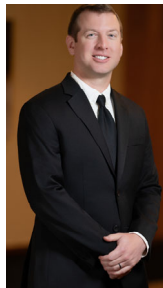
IAMIC SURVEYS

Explore how IAMIC Member Surveys provide Boards with meaningful, member-driven benchmarks to evaluate performance across peer Mutuals. The article highlights how survey data can support informed oversight of budgeting, compensation planning, operational effectiveness, and long-term strategic goals. By participating, companies not only gain valuable insight for their own decision-making, but also help strengthen the collective knowledge and stability of the Mutual insurance community.

Read the full article on iamic.org by navigating to **Membership** → **Member Surveys**.

"I have attended IAMIC seminars since 1993 and have served on the board and a few committees. IAMIC seminars are the best and it helps the new adjusters as well as the old adjusters like myself.

Steve Prosser,
Central Illinois Mutual



Introducing Collin Dooley, IAMIC's newest Board Member

Collin serves as an Accountant at Western Illinois Mutual, where he has worked since 2022. He is a graduate of Illinois College with a degree in Accounting and Finance and earned his MBS from the University of Illinois at Springfield. Collin has been active with IAMIC since joining WIMIC and has earned his MIP (Mutual Insurance Professional) from NAMIC in 2024. Collin and his family—his wife, Casey; daughter, Carson; and their cat, Jasmine—find great joy in spending time outdoors, whether fishing, hunting, or enjoying sports together with family and friends.

SEMINARS

Claims Seminar February 23 & 24 – Bloomington, IL

Join us for this two-day seminar, beginning with engaging roundtable discussions on Monday. This interactive format offers a valuable opportunity to exchange ideas, share experiences, and explore more effective ways to address industry challenges. RAC is sponsoring Monday's happy hour then join us for dinner in a relaxed setting where you can connect with peers, cultivate new relationships, and gain fresh perspectives on our industry.

Monday, Feb 23

- 03:00 p.m. - 05:00 p.m. Hallway Talk
- 05:30 p.m. - 06:30 p.m. Networking Happy Hour – Sponsored by RAC
- 07:00 p.m. - 09:00 p.m. Networking Dinner

Tuesday, Feb 24

- 08:00 a.m. - 08:45 a.m. Do You Know Where Your Money Goes?
- 08:45 a.m. - 09:00 a.m. Break/Tradeshow
- 09:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Trusts & Transitions— Navigating Claims After Loss
- 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Break/Tradeshow
- 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Smart CLAIMS
- 10:30 a.m. - 01:00 p.m. Lunch/Tradeshow
- 01:00 a.m. - 02:00 p.m. Mitigating the Mitigation

Southern Regionals Seminar March 10 – Altamont, IL (New Location)

Northern Regionals Seminar March 11 – Deer Valley, IL

DIRECTORS: We've designed this curriculum for YOU! Each class will help you look at your mutual with a new perspective, and help you to make sure your mutual is striving rather than just surviving. The challenges of the past few years have changed the landscape of our industry but if we continue to learn and analyze our business we will become stronger for it.

Regionals Schedule

- 09:00 a.m. - 09:15 a.m. IAMIC Updates—Legislative and Industry Updates
- 09:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. I\$ Your Company Attractive?
- 10:15 a.m. - 10:45a.m. Break
- 10:45 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Micro vs Macro
- 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. Lunch
- 12:45 p.m. - 01:45 p.m. Insuring your Existence
- 01:45 p.m. - 02:00 p.m. Break
- 02:00 p.m. - 03:00 p.m. Coffee Talk vs. Conflict of Interest

Communication is key! Education is the answer.

Scholarships are available...Apply Today!

The goal of a scholarship is to help you learn, grow and succeed. IAMIC offers two different types of scholarships to help you achieve this goal.

The **Joe Reid Scholarship** is available each year to help with the cost of a 2-night hotel, reasonable food costs & travel to Washington D.C. to be a voice for our industry on the hill. If the NAMIC CCP program wasn't built into your budget, this scholarship can help you participate in and support the Mutual industry. The Joe Reid Scholarship application deadline is February 22, 2026.

The **Roger E. Needham Education Scholarship** offers up to \$1,000 toward any insurance industry-related course. We provide an education scholarship to support professional growth and the future of the mutual insurance industry. This scholarship must be used within 1 year of receipt of the scholarship. The Roger E. Needham Scholarship deadline is April 1, 2026.

How to apply for our scholarships. Just sign in to the IAMIC.org website.

- * Select members in the blue menu bar.
- * Select scholarships (3rd from the bottom) in the drop down.
- * Select [Click here](#), fillout and submit the application. ***It's that easy!***