

Ross Arnel, LUTCF



Ross Arnel has been an Associate Member of the SDA since 1992, when he and Jennifer Greene were seated at the “children’s table” at Ye Olde Waverly Inn for their first SDA Holiday Party. Since that humble beginning, Ross has been very active in the organization, and there are very few meetings that he has missed in the 15 years he has been a member. In addition to his near-perfect attendance record, he has also presented a number of seminars on employee benefits issues, and organized speakers on health-related subjects such as group health insurance, long-term care, flex spending, disability insurance and AFLAC. Ross has been an active member of the Program Committee for over ten years and received the first and only Special Recognition Award in December 2003 “for his generous contributions and years of service to the NY Chapter of the SDA.”

A native of Scarsdale, New York, Ross now lives in Edison, New Jersey with his wife, Chris, and two daughters –Michelle and Samantha. They find Edison a perfect place to raise a family, and Ross can pursue his interest in tennis(he has captained USTA teams) and biking. He is a huge sports fan who also loves going to the theatre and comedy clubs. His favorite occupation is spending time with his family and friends. For several years he was on the Board of Directors of the United Synagogue of Hoboken.

He is a graduate of Widener University in Chester, PA, with a degree in American History. While at college he lettered in tennis for four years and was a radio DJ and had his own comedy program on the radio – the Comical Bank — with a large crowd of regular listeners. For the first few years out of college he worked in retail (at Gimbels as an assistant buyer and then at Wamsutta in sales), but then decided to follow in his father’s footsteps and enter the insurance business. Although his mother said that she would leave them both if they decided to work together, Ross after 7 months with The Equitable did join his father at Mass Mutual— he says he misses his mom, but business is business! Through this work, Ross found a special interest and niche with Employee Benefits, and after five years went out on his own and started Arnel Associates LLC, specializing in serving the design industry, a field he learned to love through his mother’s work as an interior designer. In 1993 he attained the designation of LUTCF (Life Underwriting Training Council Fellow) – a program which he credits with teaching him how to grow his business and to market it successfully.

Ross enjoys sharing his more than 20 years of knowledge in the benefits industry with other members of the SDA. He loves going on the tours, where he has the opportunity to visit new places and buildings and listen to specialists that he would not otherwise meet. He really enjoys the luncheon round tables where so many interesting subjects and issues are discussed. He is looking forward to the next 15 years with the SDA!