

Management Team



(Standing, left to right)

James P. Brannen, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Administrative Officer and Treasurer

Thomas L. May, Vice President – EquiTrust

David A. McNeill, Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary

Donald J. Seibel, Vice President – Finance

Charles T. Happel, Executive Vice President – Chief Investment Officer

Kevin R. Slawin, Executive Vice President – Marketing & Distribution

(Sitting, left to right)

David T. Sebastian, Vice President – Strategy & Business Development

Richard J. Kypta, Executive Vice President – Farm Bureau Life

Russell J. Wiltgen, Chief Actuary

Lori K. Strotzman, Vice President – Human Resources

James E. Hohmann, Chief Executive Officer



James E. Hohmann

Chief Executive Officer

James E. (Jim) Hohmann was named chief executive officer of FBL Financial Group in January 2010. He has more than 30 years of experience in the financial services industry. Prior to FBL Financial Group, he was president and CEO of Allstate Financial with executive accountabilities for 15 Allstate affiliates. Prior to that, Hohmann was president and chief operating officer at Conseco, Inc.; president and CEO of XL Life and Annuity; and president, Financial Institutions, for Zurich Kemper Life. He is a Fellow of the Society of Actuaries and a member of the American Academy of Actuaries. Hohmann earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Northwestern University and an MBA from the University of Chicago, graduating with high honors. Hohmann is a member of the board of governors of the Property Casualty Insurers Association of America and is a former member of the board of directors of the American Council of Life Insurers. He also serves on the boards of Bankers Trust, the Greater Des Moines Partnership, and OMNI Youth Services in Chicago.



James P. Brannen

Chief Financial Officer, Chief Administrative Officer and Treasurer

James P. (Jim) Brannen, chief financial officer, chief administrative officer and treasurer of FBL Financial Group, is a graduate of the University of Iowa with a major in accounting. He joined FBL in 1991 and held various positions in the tax and accounting areas prior to being named to vice president - finance in 2000 and to his current position in 2007. Prior to joining FBL, Brannen managed corporate tax matters for insurance companies at Ernst & Young. He is a certified public accountant and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Iowa Society of Certified Public Accountants. Brannen serves in several civic and industry organizations, including the board of directors of United Way of Central Iowa.



Charles T. Happel

Executive Vice President - Chief Investment Officer

Charles T. (Charlie) Happel is chief investment officer of FBL Financial Group. He joined the company in 1984 as a Farm Bureau Financial Services agent, moving to the corporate office in 1986. Over the next 15 years, he held various positions in investments, as securities analyst and portfolio manager. Happel became securities vice president in 2001, vice president - investments in August 2008, and was named chief investment officer in September 2009. He is a graduate of the University of Northern Iowa and earned an MBA from Drake University. He is a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA), and holds a number of industry designations, including CFP, FLMI, ChFC, CLU, and CPCU. He is a member of the Iowa Society for Financial Analysts and the Association for Investment Management and Research (AIMR).



Thomas L. May

Vice President – EquiTrust

Thomas L. (Tom) May is vice president, EquiTrust, a subsidiary of FBL Financial Group. May joined FBL in 2002 as alliance marketing vice president. He served as vice president, sales and marketing of the EquiTrust Life Strategic Business Unit from its inception in 2003 until assuming his current position in September 2009. Prior to joining FBL, May held positions in actuarial, marketing and finance areas at Equitable Life of Iowa and Central Life Assurance Company. May was part of the management team of USG Annuity & Life, a start up annuity operation launched in 1989, eventually becoming executive vice president and chief marketing officer. May earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics from the University of Nebraska in Lincoln and a master's degree in actuarial science. He is a Fellow of the Society of Actuaries and a member of the American Academy of Actuaries.



David A. McNeill

Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary

David A. McNeill, vice president, general counsel and secretary of FBL Financial Group, joined FBL's legal department in 1989. He held various positions in the legal department before being named to his current position in 2009. Prior to joining FBL, McNeill was in private practice as an attorney in the Des Moines law firm of Davis, Hockenberry, Wine, Brown, Koehn & Shors (now Davis Brown) and an attorney with Miller & Sanford law firm (now Lathrop & Gage) in Springfield, Missouri. McNeill received his Juris Doctorate degree, with honors, from Drake University Law School in 1985 and his bachelor's degree from Simpson College in 1979. McNeill is the companies' representative to the Federation of Iowa Insurers, and serves as a director of the Kansas Life & Health Insurance Guaranty Association and the Colorado Life and Health Insurance Protection Association.



Kevin R. Slawin

Executive Vice President – Marketing & Distribution

Kevin R. Slawin, executive vice president – marketing & distribution, joined FBL Financial Group in October 2009. He is responsible for all aspects of the organization's marketing and distribution functions including business development, brand management, sales management and agent recruiting and retention. Slawin has more than 30 years of experience in the financial services industry. Over the past 14 years, he has held a number of senior management positions at Allstate Financial including CEO, Allstate Bank; senior vice president, operations and technology; and senior vice president, chief financial officer. Most recently, he served as president, distribution. Slawin holds a Masters of Management degree from the J. L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University and a BS degree in accounting from Indiana University. Slawin serves on the LIMRA Strategic Marketing Committee.



Russell J. Wiltgen

Chief Actuary

Russell J. (Russ) Wiltgen joined FBL Financial Group as chief actuary in February 2010. He is responsible for actuarial matters and enterprise risk management. Wiltgen comes to FBL Financial Group with 30 years of experience in financial services, with expertise in strategic business planning, risk management, product development and management, distribution expansion and field engagement. Prior to joining FBL, he was with the UNIFI Companies in Lincoln, and where he most recently served as vice president-individual annuity product management. He also worked for the Mutual of Omaha Companies for 17 years where he held various actuarial management positions including vice president and chief product actuary risk life. Wiltgen holds a bachelor's degree in actuarial science from the University of Iowa. He is a Fellow of the Society of Actuaries, a member of the American Academy of Actuaries and serves on the board of Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity.



Richard J. Kypta

Executive Vice President – Farm Bureau Life

Richard J. (Rich) Kypta is executive vice president – Farm Bureau Life. He joined the company in August 2007 and served as senior vice president and general counsel through March 2008. Kypta also served as the secretary of FBL Financial Group through April 2009. Prior to joining FBL, Kypta held a number of legal, finance, and operations positions within Aviva USA Corporation and Aegon Insurance Group. He started his career with the public accounting firm of PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Kypta holds a BS degree from Georgetown University, an MS degree from Johns Hopkins University and a J.D. degree from the University of Maryland's School of Law. He is a certified public accountant; a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, American Bar Association and Maryland State Bar Association; and a Fellow of the Life Management Institute. Kypta currently serves as a director of the Iowa and Wyoming Life and Health Guaranty Associations and as a trustee of the Hospice of Central Iowa Foundation.



Lori K. Strottman

Vice President – Human Resources

Lori Strottman joined the companies in 1986 and has served in a number of human resources capacities over the past 25 years. She was director of corporate recruitment and employment from 1995 until 2003, when she became employment services vice president. She was named to her current position in March 2010. Strottman graduated from the University of Northern Iowa with a bachelor's degree in management (human resources emphasis). She has earned numerous human resources and insurance industry designations including Senior Professional Human Resources (SPHR), Certified Employee Benefits Specialist (CEBS), Group Benefits Administrator (GBA), Certified Compensation Professional (CCP) and Fellow Life Management Institute (FLMI). She is past president of the Society for Human Resource Management's central Iowa chapter and recently served as State Conference Chair.



David T. Sebastian

Vice President – Strategy and Business Development

David T. Sebastian was named vice president - strategy and business development in June of 2008, having served as vice president in various sales and marketing capacities since joining FBL Financial Group in 2004. Sebastian was a consultant to the companies on sales, marketing and business matters beginning in 1995. Prior to joining FBL Sebastian was an independent consultant to clients in financial services, professional services, manufacturing, consumer products and education for more than 20 years.



Donald J. Seibel

Vice President – Finance

Donald J. (Don) Seibel, vice president – finance, joined FBL in 1996 to help lead accounting efforts necessary for FBL Financial Group's initial public offering. He became GAAP accounting vice president in 1998 and vice president – accounting in 2002 and was named to his current position in 2007. Prior to joining FBL, Seibel worked for 11 years at public accounting firm Ernst & Young. He is responsible for departments providing financial and tax reporting for FBL, investor relations, employee benefits and certain corporate services. Seibel holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from Iowa State University, is a certified public accountant, and holds the Fellow Life Office Management Institute (FLMI) certification. Seibel is a board member of the Iowa Society of CPAs and is active in civic organizations.