The Robert M. Ball Award 2010

FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS IN SOCIAL INSURANCE

Honoring

John C. Rother

Tuesday, June 22, 2010
5:30pm – 8:00pm

National Press Club Washington, DC
Welcome

This evening, we celebrate and honor the legacy of NASI’s founder, Robert M. Ball, Commissioner of Social Security (1962-1973), by recognizing the significant contributions John Rother has made to strengthening social insurance for Americans. Like Bob Ball, John has dedicated his entire career, so far spanning over thirty years, to improving the Social Security and Medicare programs. As we all know, health care reform has not been easy, and John has played a major role in the ongoing reform efforts for many years – often providing a crucial voice of civility to bridge political gaps and reach the next critical step in the policymaking process. John continues to work tirelessly on behalf of the boomer generation and is dedicated to developing the next generation of social insurance policy leaders.

On behalf of the NASI Board of Directors and the staff, we would like to thank NASI members Tricia Neuman and Steve McConnell, Co-Chairs of the 2010 Robert M. Ball Award Event Committee, for their leadership and enthusiasm. Thanks to Tricia, Steve, and the rest of the Event Committee, the funds we have raised through this event significantly contribute to NASI’s ability to achieve its overall mission of promoting greater understanding of social insurance. Your support provides NASI with the necessary resources to harness the expertise of Academy members in order to develop smarter policies that benefit all Americans – and to cultivate future leaders who will help us navigate the challenges ahead.

Finally, we would like to thank John Rother for his dedication and commitment to NASI. John is a Founding Member of the Academy. Since we were founded in 1986, John has provided NASI with invaluable advice and fresh insights and actively supported our research and student internship programs.

Janice Gregory, President, National Academy of Social Insurance
and
Kenneth S. Apfel, Chair, National Academy of Social Insurance
The 2010 Robert M. Ball Award Honoring John C. Rother

Cocktails and Hors d’oeuvres

Welcome
Janice Gregory, President, National Academy of Social Insurance

Tribute Video
Introduced by
Tom Nelson, Chief Operating Officer, AARP

Reflections on the Honoree
Led by
Tricia Neuman, Vice President and Director
Medicare Policy Project, Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation
and
Stephen McConnell, Aging Policy and Advocacy Director, The Atlantic Philanthropies

Presentation of the Award
Kenneth S. Apfel, Chair, National Academy of Social Insurance

Remarks from the Honoree
John C. Rother

Celebratory Toast
Jennie Chin Hansen, Chief Executive Officer, American Geriatrics Society
and
Larry Minnix, President & CEO, American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging

Musical Performance by The Fabulettes
We invite all guests to enjoy the dance floor!
Honorary Co-Chairs

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
U.S. Senate

Teresa Heinz
Chairman, Heinz Family Philanthropies and
The Heinz Endowments

Mark B. McClellan
Director, Engelberg Center for Health Care Reform,
The Brookings Institution

The Honorable Harry Reid
U.S. Senate

The Honorable John D. Rockefeller IV
U.S. Senate

Event Committee

Stephen McConnell, Co-Chair
Aging Policy and Advocacy Executive
The Atlantic Philanthropies

Tricia Neuman, Co-Chair
Vice President and Director
Medicare Policy Project, Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation

Kenneth S. Apfel
Director
Management, Finance and Leadership Program,
University of Maryland

Larry Atkins
Executive Director
Public Policy & Reimbursement,
Merck & Co., Inc.

M. Kenneth Bowler
Executive Vice President
Dow Lohnes Government Strategies, LLC

Christine K. Cassel
President
American Board of Internal Medicine

Susan Dentzer
Editor-in-Chief
Health Affairs

Jennie Chin Hansen
Chief Executive Officer
American Geriatrics Society

Edward F. Howard
Executive Vice President
Alliance for Health Reform

Charles “Chip” Kahn, III
President
Federation of American Hospitals

Chris Jennings
Principal and Founder
Jennings Policy Strategies, Inc.

Larry Minnix
President & CEO
American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging

Thomas Nelson
Chief Operating Officer
AARP

Wendell Primus
Senior Policy Advisor
Office of the House Majority Leader
U.S. Congress

Jill Quadagno
Mildred and Claude Pepper Eminent Scholar
Florida State University

Dallas Salisbury
President & CEO
Employee Benefit Research Institute

Janet Shikles
Consultant
Geisinger Health System

Bruce Vladeck
Senior Advisor
Nexera Incorporated

Gail Wilensky
Senior Fellow
Project Hope
About the 2010 Recipient of the Robert M. Ball Award

John C. Rother

A prominent leader in the field of social insurance and a Founding Member of NASI, John continues to work tirelessly to promote greater understanding of social insurance among key audiences and the general public using an array of innovative communication strategies. He is committed to cultivating the next generation of leaders in social insurance and is actively involved in NASI’s leadership development programs. As a personal friend of Bob Ball’s, John carries the same unwavering commitment to strengthening and improving Social Security and Medicare.

John’s work has made a considerable impact on our overall social insurance system in a number of ways. Responsible for formulating AARP’s policies that guide advocacy at both the national and state-level, he has been an active voice for seniors in the recent health care reform process. Beyond AARP, he provides leadership across many coalitions and organizations, including the Leadership Council of Aging Organizations, the National Quality Forum, the American Board of Internal Medicine, Generations United, and others. He is a leading voice on the challenges posed by an aging population in health and long-term care, Social Security, pensions, workforce issues, and generational solidarity.

Nominating Committee

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jill Quadagno, Chair</th>
<th>Edward F. Howard</th>
<th>Alicia Munnell</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mildred and Claude Pepper Eminent Scholar, Florida State University</td>
<td>Executive Vice President, Alliance for Health Reform</td>
<td>2009 Recipient of the Robert M. Ball Award Director, Center for Retirement Research at Boston College</td>
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<td>G. William Hoagland</td>
<td>Stephen McConnell</td>
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<td>VP Public Policy &amp; Government Relations, CIGNA</td>
<td>Aging Policy and Advocacy Executive</td>
<td>The Atlantic Philanthropies</td>
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About the Robert M. Ball Award for Outstanding Achievements in Social Insurance

Each year, the National Academy of Social Insurance presents the Robert M. Ball Award to an individual whose recent work has made a significant impact on the U.S. social insurance system.

Robert M. Ball (1914-2008) dedicated his life to advancing American social insurance programs. Bob Ball was Social Security’s most influential and articulate advocate, architect, and philosopher, and he led the Social Security Administration for more than 20 years. He also played a crucial role in the origin of Medicare in 1965, and then successfully oversaw the ambitious task of implementing the program. One of Bob Ball’s many gifts was his ability to persuade policymakers to put aside partisanship for the sake of posterity. He sought a balance between political determination and pragmatism in order to preserve the critical role and benefits of social insurance programs for American society. Bob Ball founded NASI in 1986 to preserve a nonpartisan forum on social insurance. Today, NASI is comprised of over 800 of the nation’s leading experts on social insurance.

Past Recipients of the Robert M. Ball Award

2009 Alicia H. Munnell, Director, Center for Retirement Research at Boston College
2008 Peter A. Diamond, Institute Professor and Professor of Economics, MIT
2007 Henry Aaron, Senior Fellow, The Brookings Institution
2006 Monroe Berkowitz, Professor of Economics, Rutgers University
2005 Bruce C. Vladeck, then Principal, Ernst & Young
2004 Stephen C. Goss, Chief Actuary, Social Security Administration
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**Innovator**

AARP

**Leaders**

Employee Benefit Research Institute
Peter G. Peterson Foundation

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American Board of Internal Medicine Foundation
American Health Care Association
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*Health Affairs*
Kaiser Permanente
National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare
UnitedHealth Group

**Sustainers**

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Assisted Living Federation of America
ELM Income Group, Inc.
Kaiser Permanente Institute for Health Policy
Pharmaceutical Care Management Association
Public Sector Solutions for America’s Health Care Future
Teva Pharmaceuticals
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Women & Families
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Jill Quadagno
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Alice Rivlin
Jane L. Ross
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Judith Riggs
Diane Rowland
Anthony Sarmiento
SEIU
Janet Shikles
Kent Smetters
Katherine Swartz
Jeanette Takamura
Eric Toder
Jennifer Zeitzer
A Special Thanks

First, we wholeheartedly thank our colleagues and friends who volunteered their time and energy to serve on the 2010 Robert M. Ball Award Event Committee. Because of your efforts, tonight’s celebration is clearly an unqualified success.

Thank you to the individuals and organizations that are supporting this event. As Academy members, we are grateful for your generous contributions, which strengthen NASI’s programs and overall ability to achieve strategic objectives.

We also want to thank the wonderful NASI staff who continue to help focus our collective vision on critical issues related to social insurance programs. We want to extend our appreciation for their work behind the scenes to honor the vision of Robert M. Ball on behalf of the NASI membership.

Finally, we would like to thank all of the guests who are celebrating with us here tonight. Your participation in tonight’s event reflects and honors John Rother’s hard work and dedication. We know how much your support means to him.

We are thrilled that our good friend, John Rother, has been selected as the recipient of the 2010 Robert M. Ball Award, and we are honored to co-chair this year’s Award Event Committee. Having known John for many years – since our days of working together at the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging – we cannot think of a better champion of Medicare, Social Security and the principles of social insurance. You can always count on John’s wise counsel and good humor to provide the necessary forward momentum to tackle the most challenging issues facing the diverse aging population in the U.S. Like Bob Ball, John has been a mentor, supporter, and “co-conspirator” of many of us here tonight. Thank you, John.

Tricia Neuman & Steve McConnell
Event Committee Co-Chairs
About the National Academy of Social Insurance (NASI)

The National Academy of Social Insurance is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization made up of the nation’s leading experts on social insurance.

Our mission is to promote understanding of how social insurance contributes to economic security and a vibrant economy. Through NASI’s work, social insurance will continue to play a critical role in achieving a civil and fair society by furthering economic justice for workers and families in America.

Social insurance encompasses broad-based systems for insuring workers and their families against economic insecurity caused by loss of income from work and the cost of health care. Despite the importance of social insurance in the United States, few people know the programs well. The Academy was established as an independent organization to promote informed discussion and debate on social insurance issues and to stimulate fresh thinking.

The Academy convenes steering committees and study panels that are charged with conducting research, issuing findings, and, in some cases, reaching recommendations based on their analysis. Members of these groups are selected for their recognized expertise and with due consideration for the balance of disciplines and perspectives appropriate to the project.
Recent and Forthcoming

*Administrative Solutions in Health Reform*
By the National Academy of Public Administration and the National Academy of Social Insurance
(July 2009)

*A New Deal for Young Adults: Social Security Benefits for Post-Secondary Students*
By Alexander Hertel-Fernandez
(May 2010)

*Economic Crisis Fuels Support for Social Security: Americans’ Views on Social Security*
By Virginia P. Reno and Joni Lavery
(August 2009)

*Fixing Social Security: Adequate Benefits, Adequate Financing*
By Virginia P. Reno and Joni Lavery
(October 2009)

*When to Take Social Security: Questions to Consider*
By Virginia P. Reno and Joni Lavery
(January 2010)

*Tough Times Require Strong Social Security Benefits: Views on Social Security among African Americans, Hispanic Americans, and White Americans*
By Maya Rockeymoore and Melissa Maitin-Shepard
(February 2010)

*Forthcoming:*

*Social Security Finances: Findings of the 2010 Trustees Report*
By Virginia P. Reno and Elizabeth Lamme

*Workers’ Compensation: Benefits, Coverage, and Costs, 2008*
By Virginia P. Reno and Ishita Sengupta

*Save the date:*

*July 22, 2010: Demystifying Social Security: Academy for Interns*

*January 27-28, 2011: NASI’s 23rd Annual Conference*

For more information about programs and events or to download publications, please visit the NASI website at [www.nasi.org](http://www.nasi.org).