



AITP The Printout

The Nashville Chapter
Of
The Association Of Information
Technology Professionals

March 2008
Chapter Newsletter

IT at the Louisiana Pacific Corporation

Our March program is about the IT function at the Louisiana Pacific Corporation. The LP name is more apt to be recognized when you say “LP Field” for the former Adelphia Coliseum where the Tennessee Titans play football.

The Louisiana Pacific Corporation is headquartered in Nashville, Tennessee, having moved its headquarters from the Portland, Oregon area in mid-2004. They are a leading manufacturer and distributor of building products with about 5600 employees and operate 29 facilities in the U.S. and Canada, and one facility in Chile. The LP Corp.’s focus is on delivering innovative, high-quality commodity and specialty building products to retail, wholesale, home building, and industrial customers.

Our speaker is Jeff Duncan, VP CIO, and Director of Technology. He is responsible for managing LP’s computing infrastructure, as well as ensuring the consistent quality of LP products and services. LP has about 100 IT employees, most of whom are located in the Portland, Oregon, area Data Center. There is a co-data center located in Nashville, which is a lights out facility. They have an innovative, in-house developed, Order Management, inventory, and transportation system. Jeff will discuss the IT situation at LP Corp. and also the problems of moving the headquarters to Nashville.

Jeff Duncan joined LP in 1996 after 19 years with E.I. DuPont de Nemours where he had a variety of

roles in manufacturing, technical, sales and marketing, new business development, and IT management. A graduate of Ohio State University with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering, Jeff continued his education at Virginia Commonwealth University and the University of Richmond. Here in Nashville, he serves as Vice President of the LP Foundation, is on the board



of the YMCA’s Y-Build Program, and is on the executive board of Nashville’s Habitat for Humanity as Treasurer. He is also an active member of the Nashville CIO Council, Nashville Technology Council, and the Belmont Peer Learning network.

Jeff lives in Brentwood, Tennessee, with his wife Susan and daughters Emily and Laura. He says he doesn’t have much time for fun, but enjoys keeping up with his daughters’ horse activities and boating and water skiing.

This should be an interesting presentation about one of our new corporations in Nashville. Please come join us.

***** Reminder *****

We now meet at:
Holiday Inn Brentwood
760 Old Hickory Blvd (at I-65)
Brentwood, TN 37027 615-373-2600

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Dinner Reservation and Cancellation Policy

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Internet Information —	Web Sites
Chapter:	http://www.aitpnashville.org
Headquarters:	http://www.aitp.org
Region 7:	http://members.tripod.com/aitpreion7

AITP
P. O. Box 22038
Nashville TN 37202

AITP members will be notified by electronic mail one week prior to the Chapter meeting. Reservations can be made by responding to the electronic notice or by calling **Mary Simpson at 615/367-8083 fax: 615/367-7775** Dinner reservations can be canceled up to 24-hours prior to the meeting without cost.

Since the Chapter pays for reserved meals, No Shows will be billed at the reservation price of \$20.00 for Members, and \$30.00 for Guests.

Members are responsible for their guests' reservations. *If you are a member and have not been receiving this notification, please contact Mary Simpson at:*

615/367-8083 fax: 615/367-7775
msimpson@genesco.com.

March Chapter Meeting:

Holiday Inn Brentwood
760 Old Hickory Blvd (at I-65)
Brentwood, TN 37027
615-373-2600



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

George Benard Shaw once said, “The single biggest problem in communication is the illusion that it has taken place.” We can probably all identify with that remark. We all have knowledge and information to share and especially in the business world we give and receive countless presentations. How many of these presentations have the illusion of communication? When we give a presentation, how effective are we at actually communicating to others and how can we be sure? How can we be better at communicating? To help answer these questions and others, AITP invited Dr. Ralph Hillman, Professional Speaker and Communication Consultant to speak at our February meeting.

Despite the absence of a PowerPoint presentation or any technology at all, Dr. Hillman was extremely effective and received rave reviews...but he cheated. He showed up early and met each attendee personally, asking about our jobs and our interests. He strongly encouraged each person to write questions on index cards and submit them for the presentation, and then actually answered each question. Of course everyone liked the presentation...they contributed to it! And of course, I am being facetious about Dr. Hillman cheating. He did, however, stack the deck in his favor to help ensure a successful presentation, meaning there was effective communication.

Dr Hillman ensured effective communication by putting the focus on his audience not himself. By getting to know each one of us as well as he could beforehand, he ensured we viewed him as a person and fellow professional, not just a slick presenter brought in to impart his wisdom upon us. The focus of most of his presentation was our questions, ensuring he was exactly on target with his presentation. He addressed our interests and kept us attentive since our questions gave us a stake in the presentation. Moreover, Dr Hillman used the human touch. He did not use PowerPoint so we would stay focused on him and his message rather than fancy sound effects or what was being projected. He seldom, if ever, uses PowerPoint because he feels it is a hindrance to real communication.

Dr Hillman discussed these and other topics, including the differences in presentations based on the size of the audience from one-on-one to large groups. One-on-one communication is interpersonal; there is much more direct interaction between presenter and audience. It can go at a pace comfortable to both parties, usually a lot faster than one-to-many presentations. The small group presentation can be especially challenging since the audience often expects interpersonal communication while the presenter must attend to the entire group and make certain each member keeps up. Finally, large groups present different difficulties such as gathering meaningful feedback and controlling audience participation.

Dr Hillman’s presentation wasn’t an illusion of communication. It provided me and all who attended with practical methods for effective communication in our workplace, at home, or in our communities. Once again, AITP offered a solid program to help build our professional skills and the opportunity to network with quality people. *AITP is where IT professionals meet.*

Marshall B. Messamore

AITP President

marshall.messamore@vanderbilt.edu

New Member Profile

Josh Brown



Our New Member Profile this month is about Joshua H. Brown. Josh is the Director of Career Services at the ITT Technical Institute here in Nashville. The function of Career Services is to assist ITT graduates in finding employment in their fields of training. The Director of Career Services maintains a wide as possible network of contacts with Nashville area employers, both public and private, as well as local and state government agencies. He also attempts to locate intern positions as well as employment opportunities. In addition to potential employer contact, Josh works with students to improve their interviewing and other job search skills.

Josh has been at the Nashville ITT Technical Institute campus about one year. Before coming to Nashville, he was at the ITT Technical Institute in Greenville, SC, as a Career Services Specialist. Prior to joining ITT Technical Institute, Josh was employed as a Recruiter and Staffing Specialist with several companies in Augusta, GA, and Easley and Greenville, SC.

The ITT Technical Institute in Nashville is one of the largest of over 90 ITT campuses nationwide. They offer both Associate and Bachelor degrees in several business areas. They have Schools of Technology, Electronics Technology, Drafting and Design, Business, and Criminal Justice. There are 16 specialties within these five different Schools.

Josh graduated with a B.S. degree in HR Management from Anderson College in Anderson, SC. For fun, Josh says bass fishing on a lake is the greatest, but he likes everything outdoors, especially snow skiing. Josh and his fiancée Courtney have recently purchased a house in the Lebanon area of Nashville and plan a Fall wedding.

Please welcome Josh when you see him at our next meeting. Josh can be contacted at his office (615-889-8700, ext. 696) or jhbrown@itt-tech.edu.

Calendar of Upcoming Events 2008

Date	Event	Location	Information
March 13	Chapter Meeting	Holiday Inn Brentwood	IT at L.P. Corporation Jeff Duncan, VP & CIO
April 10	Chapter Meeting	Holiday Inn Brentwood	TBA

SPEAKERS

We are always interested in good speakers to make presentations at our AITP Chapter Meetings. If you know someone who is interested in making a presentation on a topic, on their company, or company's products, please contact Paul Saunders at (615) 367-1717 or Paul@SaundersSystems.com.

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AITP Business

February 2008 Board Meeting Agenda

Present: Mary Simpson, Tom Clark, Bev Gibson, Paul Saunders, Jeffrey Stewart, Gerald Marquis, Mike Eischen, Joan Julius, Marshall Messamore

Board Member Reports and Discussion

Past president/Meeting Coordinator – Mary Simpson

Mary discussed the need to decide what to do after August when Holiday Inn Express has renovations done. Their price will go up and we may want to move. However, we may not be able to get much of a better price for what we get. They like us and give us a good deal. Other possibilities are: Maxwell House, Windham, Holiday Inn Brentwood

Vice President – Tom Clark

Expressed thanks for all the efforts from past years; looks forward to this year

Treasurer – Bev Gibson

The Treasurer's report was corrected from the last board meeting. There was an amount recorded wrong that caused the incorrect balances. Bev identified and corrected this.

Discussed what to do with the CD's. The last time we just let them roll over, but want to make an explicit decision. They are 9 month CD's.

Do we have to file taxes or at least an electronic notice based on our tax status? Based on our discussion and understanding, we will probably have to file an electronic notice.

Bev will explore more including talking to a tax professional. She will report back at next board meeting.

Signature cards need to be updated

Bev will pick up a signature card from the bank and have the appropriate people sign it at the meeting on 14 Feb.

Programs – Paul Saunders

Titans trip is out for this year; everything just could not be worked out

For March we will have the CIO of Louisiana Pacific

For April the Ashland City Water trip questionable

Brainstormed other ideas: Main Post Office, TEMA, Local News/Weather (Ella may have contact), Jeff Orton CIO-Genesco, Tennessean, NES, Comcast

Publicity – Jeffrey Stewart

Press release for new board members

Jeff to contact Tennessean and submit a press release

Continue with meeting advertisement in Tennessean and associated papers

Jeff to take over this task and see how we can put things in the Davidson and Williamson AM papers

Discussed other ideas for publicity

Nashville Business Journal
Craigslis
Public radio
Myspace

Jeff to explore some of these possibilities

Discussed the idea of sponsorship? Discussed the possibility of

the "vendor minute" to allow a vendor to give a plug and provide a door prize

Affiliate Groups – Gerald Marquis

No entries for the scholarship. Should we continue to try? Can we change it in some way?

Feb 09 Student Conference? If we want to do this, we should decide in the next few months and begin working on it.

Student chapters are in peril except at MTSU. Changes at other schools may also hurt.

Regional Liaison – Frank Reagor

Frank was not able to attend, but asked who will do 2007 COPA/PSC2000 spreadsheet?

Our new Vice President, Tom Clark, will take the responsibility for filling this out with help and guidance from Frank. Need deadline.

Website coordinator – Mike Eischen

Joan talked about the website for the national association

Mike to explore how to make updates so he can add our board members and list events; we may get a \$5 rebate on memberships if we have these in place

Mike to add Frank as Regional Liaison; review and correct email addresses

Newsletter Coordinator – Robert Wright

Robert was not able to attend, but had no old/new business

At the meeting, we discussed that may need advertisers; discuss with Robert. Possibly Jeff and Robert to work together on this with help from other board members

Membership – Joan Julius

Discussion of Sid Franklin as retired member pending the ruling by the National organization on the exact requirements

Motion by Marshall to accept Sid Franklin as retired member pending the ruling by the National organization on the exact requirements.

2nd by Gerald. Motion passed unanimously

Brochures – out; do we want more? Redesign? What are the costs? Maybe about \$400 for 500 shells. Do we need them? Motion by Gerald to design and print new local brochures. 2nd by Paul. Motion passed unanimously

All board members to review the brochure and offer ideas on what content to include or not include, as well as design ideas. Due by 22 Feb 08

New business brought to the floor by Marshall; we were running late, so we did not get a chance to discuss any of these in depth, but were offered for thought and ideas.

Increasing membership

We have about 60 members. We normally have about 20-25 attend. What should our attendance goal be? What should our membership growth goal be?

Board members to suggest membership and attendance goal by 22 Feb.

MBA in IT

Ty Tabernik from Trevecca asks if we think there's a need. Can we help identify, document that need?

Joint venture with Nashville Technology Council

Contact Andy Flatt and work something out.

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Contact Mike Eischen for more information! 367-7068

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March 2008



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