

The Nashville Chapter
of
The Association of Information
Technology Professionals

October 2009
Chapter Newsletter

A Day in the Life of a CIO

Many in the Information Technology world aspire to be a company's Chief Information Officer. Our October speaker will tell us what it is like to be a CIO, including the day-to-day events as well as long-term problems.

Our speaker is James J. Gray who is a Senior Advisor with Compass Executives here in Nashville. Jim has over 30 years experience at the top IT Management Level.

Jim will tell us what a typical day is like in the life of a CIO. He will discuss what the background of a CIO should include and ways to achieve the desired experience. Jim will talk about his career steps in becoming a CIO. He will mention relocating to other areas of the country and the effect on one's career and personal life.

Jim will discuss the advantages and disadvantages of having a specific industry background in addition to IT knowledge. He will also discuss the personal life of a CIO and the focus or drive that it requires to become a successful CIO.

Jim Gray's resume reads like a classic textbook for an IT professional. He started out in Kansas City as a Systems Engineer for the NCR Corp. After four years he moved to Dolgin's Inc. as Data Processing Manager, then became Director of Information Services for Modern Merchandising in Minneapolis. Jim spent ten years as Vice President, Information Services for Carr Gottstein Foods in Anchorage, AK.

He then moved to Nashville for two years as Vice President Information Services of Service Merchandise.

Jim stayed in Nashville and became Chief Information Officer for O'Charley's, Inc. He was with O'Charley's for 12 years.

Jim has been with Compass Executives the past two years. Compass Executives L.L.C. was founded in 2006 and is affiliated with NMG Advisors, Inc. They provide management mentoring and management advisory services to businesses. Each member of Compass Executives has previously been a C



-Level executive in a public or private company.

Jim and his wife Phyllis live in the Brentwood area. Jim earned his BS degree from the University of Missouri, Kansas City, where he met Phyllis. They have two grown daughters, one living in Chicago and the other in Memphis with a grandchild. While they were in Minnesota, they had a sailboat, which they used for both pleasure and competitive sailing. They like to see the world and have traveled extensively. Jim enjoys playing golf several times a week and also is a member of the Vanderbilt Bridge Club.

Jim has made a number of presentations about information technology, including to classes at Vanderbilt's Owen School of Business. This should be an interesting talk about the life of a CIO.

IN THIS ISSUE:

Message from the President	_____	Pg 3
Member Profile	_____	Pg 4
Calendar of Upcoming Events	_____	Pg 5
AITP Business Information	_____	Pg 6

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Chapter:	http://www.aitpnashville.org
Headquarters:	http://www.aitp.org
Region 7:	http://members.tripod.com/aitpregion7
AITP P. O. Box 22038 Nashville TN 37202	

Dinner Reservation and Cancellation Policy

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.

October Chapter Meeting:

Holiday Inn Vanderbilt
2613 West End Ave.
Nashville, TN 37203
615-327-4707



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

AITP Nashville – Trends in the IT World

What trends are you seeing in your IT world? AITP has had the benefit of hearing from industry experts during our recent meetings.

One recent meeting dealt with the topic of virtualization. For everyone in IT, reducing expenses while moving projects forward is always a challenge. With virtualization, there are opportunities to reduce expenses, remove hardware expenditures and implement new servers in a virtual environment. It is amazing to see how quickly companies are implanting virtualization technologies.

Another trend is the increasingly sophisticated role of internet technologies and web pages. We have seen a major increase in the users of social networking sites like LinkedIn and Facebook. This has put pressure on bandwidth and has challenged businesses to consider appropriate use policies. AITP recently had the president of Digital Dog speak candidly about the many business applications and tools being used in websites and internet commerce.

How secure is your data and what are you doing to protect it? What does your disaster recovery plan look like? Being prepared is a business imperative and compliance issue. AITP Nashville has had a first hand look at what companies are doing in this arena and what options are available.

How do these trends affect the job market? What is happening for those pursuing an IT Career? During our most recent meeting, we had a great discussion about the options and strategic practices for success.

What is the common thread for these trends in the IT world? You will hear about them up front and personal by being a part of our next AITP Monthly Meeting here in Nashville. Stay ahead of the game, put your best foot forward and have some fun doing it. I expect to see you at our next meeting, you will be glad you came!

Tom Clark

President, AITP Nashville Chapter

www.aitpnashville.org

Marshall Messamore



Our member profile this month is about Marshall B. Messamore who is a Quality Assurance Specialist III for the Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Marshall is also very active in our AITP Nashville Chapter, serving on the Board for several years. He currently is the Immediate Past President of the Chapter and also serves as the Student Chapter Coordinator.

Marshall has been with Vanderbilt Medical Center since 2006. His job is to coordinate and manage integration testing of vendor software and to define and improve quality assurance processes. Marshall also mentors and trains newer QA specialists. Prior to working for the Vanderbilt Medical Center, Marshall was a Program Manager for AIM Healthcare Services here in Nashville, which processed healthcare overpayments.

The majority of Marshall's career has been with the U.S. Air Force where he retired with over 20 years of active service. His final AF assignment was with the AFROTC Department at Tennessee State University as an Assistant Professor of Aerospace Studies. Prior to working at TSU, Marshall spent four years at the U.S. Strategic Command Offutt AFB in Nebraska as Chief, Quality Assurance and Test Section and Chief, Support Software Team. This work involved the development and testing of support software for the intelligence staff and the DOD Intelligence Information System.

Marshall spent four years at the Air Force Communications Agency at Scott AFB in Illinois as the Chief, Process Improvement Team. This assignment involved leading teams assessing Air Force information technology.

Marshall has an M.S. degree in Computer Systems from the Air Force Institute of Technology in Dayton, Ohio, and a B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering from the Arizona State University. Marshall is also a Certified Software Quality Analyst (CSQA). In addition to AITP membership, Marshall serves as the Post Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Brentwood Post.

Marshall and his family live in the southern area of Nashville. Marshall is a single parent, raising three children. His older son is graduating from Belmont University, his younger son is just starting college, and his daughter is starting high school. Marshall now spends a fair amount of time as a "Band Dad" since his daughter plays the flute in the high school band.

Marshall is an avid sports fan; he especially enjoys college basketball and college football. He supports the Sun Devils of his alma mater and his beloved Kentucky Wildcats. However, this month Marshall will take a break from sports to head with his daughter to Walt Disney World for their first ever visit.

Calendar of Upcoming Events 2009

Date	Event	Location	Information
October 8	Chapter Meeting	Holiday Inn Vanderbilt	A Day in the Life of a CIO Jim Gray, Compass Executives
November 12	Chapter Meeting	Holiday Inn Vanderbilt	IT at O'Charley's Brian Ball, Ball Consulting
December 10	Chapter Meeting (guest night)	Holiday Inn Vanderbilt	Nashville Weather Lisa Spencer, WSMV-TV Channel 4

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 NEW MEMBER

**Amy Hennington
Professor
Middle Tennessee State University
Campus Box 45
Murfreesboro, TN 37132**

Welcome to our new member!

Region 7 Conference

REGISTRATION IS CONTINUING FOR THE UPCOMING REGION 7 PROFESSIONAL & STUDENT CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN BEAUTIFUL CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE OCTOBER 2-4, 2009.

WE HAVE TERRIFIC AND FUN COMPETITIONS PLANNED FOR STUDENTS & THE EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE WILL BE PACKED WITH INFORMATION. OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKER IS FANTASTIC, TALK ABOUT RECOGNIZING OPPORTUNITY WHEN IT KNOCKS, AND OF COURSE WE'LL ALL BE LOOKING FORWARD TO THE BASKET AUCTION!

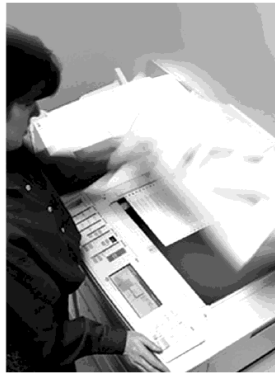
WE HAVE A NEW WEBSITE FILLED WITH INFORMATION. WHEN YOU REGISTER YOU WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PAY WITH A CREDIT CARD, IF THAT IS WHAT YOU PREFER.

THERE IS A LINK ON THE SITE TO THE FULL AGENDA AND THE HOTEL INFORMATION WHERE YOU CAN MAKE YOUR OWN ROOM RESERVATIONS. ALL PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS AND ALL STUDENT MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND. WE ARE HOPING TO SEE GREAT PARTICIPATION FROM ALL OVER THE REGION.

BELOW IS THE WEBSITE LINK WITH ALL THE DETAILS, BUT SHOULD YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT KATHY DREW AT kathy.drew@ci-trusworld.com or 1-800-835-0506 x3639.

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Contact Mike Eischen for more information! 367-7068

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October 2009



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