

The Nashville Chapter  
of  
The Association of Information  
Technology Professionals

February 2011  
Chapter Newsletter

## IT at Tennessee Pride

Our February program is about the Information Technologies at a Nashville area company. The company is Odom's Tennessee Pride Sausage, Inc. and our speaker is Michael L. Hader, Director of Information Technologies. Mike has been with Tennessee Pride for over ten years and is responsible for corporate and plant information and automation technologies.

Odom's Tennessee Pride was started by Douglas Odom, Sr. in 1943 and is now run by the third generation, Larry D. Odom, President. The company has over 700 associates with a key production facility in Little Rock, AR, and corporate offices in Madison, TN. Tennessee Pride is proud to be a good corporate citizen. They have received Pollution Prevention Awards from the City of Little Rock, made food safety a top priority, use only 100% recycled corrugated packaging, and provide community service.

Mike Hader will discuss how technology is used at Tennessee Pride, both IT and plant automation. He will discuss the steps taken to achieve the present automation, the problems he encountered, and what is planned for the future.

Mike has over 30 years experience in IT automation and integration. He has authored and co-authored seven published IT books. He has written 31 various courseware books used in conducting technical seminars ranging from advanced programming techniques

to computer basics for managers.

Prior to Tennessee Pride Mike spent six years as an Independent IT Contractor in the Hendersonville, TN area. Mike was the owner and President of the Atrium Learning Center and Hader & Associates for 12 years. They operated out of Tustin, CA, and Hendersonville, TN. He was the General Manager and Chief Financial Officer of the Electronic Contract Services Corporation of Tustin, CA, for three years. Mike started his IT career as a District Manager for Burroughs Corp. (now Unisys).

Mike has an MBA degree from Pepperdine University, a BBA degree in Finance from the California State University – Fullerton, and an AA degree in Business Administration from Cypress College in California.



Mike and his wife Judy live in the Madison, TN area. They have five adult children. Mike and Judy enjoy traveling and say that the Fiji Islands stand out as a "best" vacation trip. Mike also enjoys photography and reading. When Mike and Judy decided to relocate from Southern California, they analytically researched places to live and came down to Austin, TX and Nashville. The Nashville area won.

This should be an interesting discussion of technology used in a small manufacturing company. Mike Hader is a good speaker, so bring your friends. I am not sure that Mike will bring samples of his company's products.

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## AITP Nashville Roster

<b>President:</b>	<b>JP White</b> jpwhite3@bellsouth.net 615/417-7543
<b>Vice President:</b>	<b>Walker Morrow</b> Laser One Inc. Nashville, TN 37210 wmarrow@laserone.com
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Ella McGill</b> American General 615/749-1346 fax: 615/749-2840 Ella.McGill@agla.com
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Beverly Gibson</b> beverlygibson04@comcast.net 615/424-0135
<b>Chapter Liaison:</b>	<b>Dr. Gerald Marquis</b> Tennessee State University 615/ 963-7096 gpmarquis@yahoo.com
<b>Membership Director:</b>	<b>Joan Julius</b> InfoWorks JMJulius@bellsouth.net
<b>Director of Programs:</b>	<b>Paul Saunders, CCP</b> Saunders Systems Corp. 615/367-1717 paul@saunderssystems.com
<b>Student Chapter Coordinator:</b>	<b>Marshall Messamore</b> Vanderbilt University Medical Center 615/322-3647 fax: 615/343-1214 marshall.messamore@vanderbilt.edu
<b>Newsletter Director:</b>	<b>Robert Wright</b> Vanderbilt University 615/936-6847 r.n.right@gmail.com
<b>Director of Meeting Arrangements:</b>	<b>Mary Simpson</b> Genesco Inc. 615/367-8083 fax: 615/367-7775 msimpson@genesco.com
<b>Website Coordinator:</b>	<b>Mike Eischen</b> Genesco Inc. 615/367-7068 meischen@genesco.com
<b>Director of Publicity</b>	<b>Walker Morrow</b> Laser One Inc. Nashville, TN 37210 wmarrow@laserone.com
<b>Past President:</b>	<b>Tom Clark</b> Star Physical Therapy (615) 591-6590 clarktw2001@hotmail.com
<b>Internet Information —</b>	<b>Web Sites</b>
Chapter:	<a href="http://www.aitpnashville.org">http://www.aitpnashville.org</a>
Headquarters:	<a href="http://www.aitp.org">http://www.aitp.org</a>
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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](mailto:msimpson@genesco.com).

### February Chapter Meeting

**Holiday Inn Vanderbilt**  
**2613 West End Ave.**  
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Quarter Page	(4" x 5")	\$150 for 12 issues
Business Card	(2" x 4")	\$ 50 for 12 issues

Contact Mike Eischen for more information! 367-7068

## President's Message



In our January meeting we were delighted to receive an informative and engaging presentation from Chris Curtis of Nissan North America. Here are a couple of pieces of trivia you didn't know before but were afraid to ask.

One Vehicle comes off the assembly line at the Smyrna plant every 30 seconds.



It takes between 16-18 hours for a vehicle to be manufactured.

If the Smyrna plant is forced to shutdown for just 1 minute, it costs Nissan \$1150 or maybe more. That equates to \$1.6 Million per day.

The Smyrna plant sits on 778 Acres or 33 Million Square Feet.

It takes about 5 months from the dealership ordering a vehicle to it being delivered.

Car Manufacture is customized to the sales region, for instance some vehicles need a specially modified engine to meet California emission standards.

Chris is an IS Manager for Nissan's supply chain management division. Nissan's supply chain management operation focuses parts supplies and vehicle manufacture & distribution. Just as AITP practices Just-In-Time food at our regular meetings each month, Nissan inventory is managed in a Just-In-Time program with their suppliers. The three main constraints they have to deal with are Manpower, Manufacturing capacity and suppliers ability to deliver.

Prior to 1990, Nissan's software systems were all 'home grown'. However since then Nissan has made increasing use of 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Systems. The major driver for this shift is that it has become increasingly complex to write the software systems necessary to manage Nissans commercial activities. Nissan have utilized the expertise at the University of Tennessee to build an algorithm using Linear programming to minimize transportation costs while at the same time maximizing production. Nissan have also seem a move away from MRP push based systems based on forecasted demand to a Just-in-Time pull based system based on real-time activity.

The Smyrna plant will manufacture batteries for the new all electric Nissan Leaf. While on the face of it this sounds like a routine activity their manufacturing systems should easily handle, Nissan are having to deal with shelf life of components and finished goods for the first time, so their system require tweaking to adjust to the ever changing line of products they are making.

We hope to be able to hold a field trip to the Smyrna manufacturing plant in the not too distant future. Keep your eye out for an announcement regarding this potential field trip. It will be a lunchtime event.

**I look forward to seeing you all at our February meeting.**

**JP White**  
**President, AITP Nashville Chapter**  
<http://www.aitpnashville.org>

## **Jesse Wrenn**



**Our member profile this month is about Jesse Wrenn who is a new AITP Professional member but was a student member for several years. Jesse served as President of the AITP Student Chapter at ITT Technical Institute, Nashville.**

**Jesse is presently the Systems Administrator at the Adventure Science Center, a children's science museum here in Nashville. He started at the Science Center in early 2008 as an Intern, joined the regular IT staff later that year as IT coordinator, and now is the Systems Administrator. Jesse has streamlined much of the IT functions at the Science Center and implemented many new systems. This included a custom SQL Server 2005 database driven Web application using Java Server Faces, Java Persistence Architecture, and Enterprise Java Beans to enable guest registration in various public events.**

**Jesse also assisted in the installation and integration of new systems and ongoing support of all of the Center's computerized exhibits. He is now responsible for all IT operations at the Center.**

**Prior to working at the Science Center, Jesse was self-employed as a Network/PC Technician with Wrenn Consulting for four years. He handled short-term technical jobs for various companies and individuals. Jesse built, repaired, and upgraded servers, work-stations, and RAID arrays to increase capacity and reliability.**

**Jesse started his IT career in Erick, Oklahoma, as the General Partner and PC Technician for Buzz Computers and Electronics. He upgraded, repaired, built, and resold PC's and components/equipment. Jesse also repaired home electronics and appliances.**

**Jesse holds a BAS degree in Data Communications Systems Technology from ITT Technical Institute, Nashville, Tennessee. He graduated as the Valedictorian and was awarded Highest Honors for maintaining a greater than 3.8 GPA. Jesse has extensive technical skills in hardware, software, and communication systems.**

**Jesse is married to Rachael who teaches Latin in an area high school. They have a 3½ year-old daughter and live in the Murfreesboro area. Jesse says his biggest hobby is family time, but he enjoys cooking and dabbling in art and photography. Rachael says they are typical nerds.**

**Say hello to Jesse at our next AITP meeting. I think he would be a good person to know if you had problems with your PC or home electronics.**

# Calendar of Upcoming Events 2011

## AITP Calendar of Upcoming Events - 2011

Date	Event	Location	Information
February 10	Chapter Meeting	Holiday Inn Vanderbilt	IT at Tennessee Pride, Mike Hader, Director IT
February 14	Valentine's Day	Your Place	Bring Flowers
February 24	Folding Party	Saunders House	Come Network with other AITP'ers
March 10	Field Trip	Nissan Auto Plant Smyrna	Lunch and Tour to be confirmed
March 17	St. Patrick's Day	The World	Wear Green.

### 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](mailto:Paul@SaundersSystems.com).



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## **AITP New Members**

Jeffrey Stede  
stedejv@yahoo.com

**Jessie Wrenn  
System Administrator  
Adventure Science Center  
Jessie.l.wrenn@gmail.com**

**Welcome to our new members!**

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**AITP Unemployed Discount on Membership Dues Extended through May, 2011.**

**In response to the successful initiative, AITP Membership Services is pleased to announce the extension of membership pricing for unemployed persons through May, 2011.**

**AITP is offering a reduction to those persons who are unemployed; national dues will be reduced from \$105 to \$35. This equates to savings of \$70 for a total cost of \$65 (\$135 is regular annual membership) for one year membership.**

**To enroll as an Unemployed Member, please either email  
memberservices@aitp.org**

**or call AITP Headquarters at 800-224-9371 to verify eligibility and receive instructions for enrolling. Note: This Program is open to all new or renewing members, but no refunds will be granted for existing members. It is an independent program that is not to be combined with any other AITP promotion or special incentives.**



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## AITP Nashville is located on



You can find us in the Group Directory. If you have a question, please contact Walker Morrow at [wmorrow@laserone.com](mailto:wmorrow@laserone.com)

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