

The Nashville Chapter
of
The Association of Information
Technology Professionals

September 2011
Chapter Newsletter

MRA Technology

Our September program has two major topics. The first is how technology is used at Medical Reimbursements of America, LLC (MRA), and the second is how to maximize your earnings as an IT worker. Our speaker is Cliff Whitmore who is the CIO, EVP of Technology and Services of MRA, and who has over 30 years of IT experience.

Medical Reimbursements of America, LLC (MRA) has been an industry leader since 1999, collecting the most difficult, labor intensive, and time consuming reimbursements for their clients. Cliff Whitmore will discuss the computer apps that they have developed to help them resolve over 1 million complex claims. MRA has 350 people on staff with extensive backgrounds in the legal field, property and casualty insurance, workers' comp, government insurance, health insurance, and other key specialties. MRA currently provides assistance to over 300 hospitals. They are the preferred vendor for 27 major hospital systems in 38 states.

Cliff will also discuss how IT people can maximize their earnings in their careers. Cliff says that he pays some IT people \$30,000 a year and others \$150,000 a year. Cliff has specific ideas about how you can move to the higher earnings level. This is a "hot button" topic of Cliff's and has evolved over his many years of IT management in a half dozen companies. Cliff started his career with Texas Instruments, Inc. designing CAD software for chip production and became the Manager, Design Automation.

After nine years, Cliff moved to Interleaf, Inc. for five years as Director, Systems Integration Services. Cliff then spent three years with Deloitte & Touche Consulting Group/DRT Systems as a Regional Vice President. Cliff stayed in the management consulting industry as Vice President, Consulting Services for CGI. Cliff was with CGI for seven years, working out of Montreal, Canada. Cliff started his own company, CenterPoint Services, which focused on technology enablement in the ambulatory physician group practice segment of healthcare. Cliff then joined Webmedx as CIO. Webmedx is a premier supplier in the field of medical transcription outsourcing for hospitals and clinic nationally.



Cliff earned a BSEE from Texas A & M University, which he used to go into chip CAD work with Texas Instruments. He later earned an MBA at Southern Methodist University. While at A & M, Cliff was on the diving team and was a member of the Corp of Cadets.

Cliff and his wife and two daughters live in a historic house in Franklin. They have lived in the house for three years and have found that a house built in 1890 requires a great deal of upkeep. Cliff rides a bicycle for fun and exercise, logging several hundred miles a week. They have just returned from a multiple week vacation in Africa that included a photo safari.

This should be an interesting session, especially for the IT people who want to maximize their earnings.

IN THIS ISSUE:

Message from the President	_____	Pg 3
Articles and Members	_____	Pg 4
Calendar of Upcoming Events	_____	Pg 5
AITP Business Information	_____	Pg 6

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Region 7:	http://members.tripod.com/aitpregion7

AITP
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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.

September Chapter Meeting

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

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Business Card	(2" x 4")	\$ 50 for 12 issues

Contact Mike Eischen for more information! 367-7068

President's Message

Our Great programs:

If you haven't been to one of our monthly programs, you have really been missing out this year. Paul Sanders manages all aspects of vetting and lining up speakers and has out done himself recently in lining up some very good speakers with equally great topics.

Here is a recap of the programs we have had over the last year.

Jim Bartoo from the Nashville Zoo. Wow what a great speaker!! He provided us with both informative and entertaining stories. Nashville is rich culturally and we got to learn all about it in January this year.



Chris Curtis from Nissan. Chris gave us the latest news from Nissan and covered they just-in-time inventory systems and practices. We also took a field trip to tour the Nissan plant and see how modern day automobiles are assembled. Nissan continue to expand in Middle Tennessee with two new vehicle and battery manufacturing facilities for the LEAF vehicle scheduled to open next year which brings the latest in vehicle technology onto our backdoor steps, not to mention the extra jobs.



Katelyn McCarthy from Google talked about the cloud computing initiatives at



chrome

Google and also brought a Chrome Based laptop for us to touch and try. Google

Jason Moore of Health Datasource talked about developing Cloud Computing Applications.

See how we we have had two months dedicated to the latest technology!! Jason also provided us with great tips for staying more secure on the web while using our favorite aps such as Facebook.



So be sure that you check out the programs as we bring more to you month in, month out.

I look forward to seeing you all at our September meeting at the Holiday Inn Vanderbilt.

JP White

President, AITP Nashville Chapter

<http://www.aitpnashville.org>

AITP New Member

CHERIE DUMUCHEL



Our profile this month is on Sherie DuMouchel who is an IT Support Specialist for Star Physical Therapy. Sherie joined Star Physical Therapy in June of this year. She does Help Desk work, which means answering all the IT questions from every branch office and solving their IT problems. It also includes “other work as required.”

Prior to Star Physical Therapy, Sherie spent three and a half years working in Sales and Customer Service for Nashville Wraps. Nashville Wraps is a wholesale business-to-business distributor of decorative packaging products and retail packaging supplies.

Sherie has also worked for Systems integrated/Modeling & Simulation, Inc. and Convergys in the Customer Service area.

Sherie is actively pursuing an A.A.S. degree in Information Technology at Volunteer State Community College. Sherie says that of all the courses she has taken she enjoyed Visual Basic the most.

Sherie lives in the Hendersonville, TN area with her four-year-old son Kaiden. As a single mother who takes multiple college courses and works full-time, she is too busy for hobbies, but does enjoy going to the movies. Sherie has been to West Palm Beach on a past vacation and hopes to go back when Kaiden is older.

Say hello to Sherie at our next meeting and make her feel welcome.

Calendar of Upcoming Events 2011

AITP Calendar of Upcoming Events - 2011

Date	Event	Location	Information
September 5	Labor Day	U.S.A.	Holiday
September 8	Chapter Meeting	Holiday Inn Vanderbilt	MRA Technology, Cliff Whitmore, CIO and EVP of Technology and Services
September 29	Folding party	Saunders' House	Come network with other AITP folks
October 13	Chapter Meeting	Holiday Inn Vanderbilt	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 New Member

**Sherie DuMouchelIT
Support Specialist
Star Physical Therapy
sherie.dumouchel@starpt.com**

Welcome to our new member!

**AITP Unemployed Professional Membership Discount Renewed
By: AITP Membership Service Area**

On June 22nd, the Association Board of Directors unanimously approved renewal of the popular Unemployed Professional Discount to be effective for a full year - from 9/1/11 until 8/31/12. To qualify for this discount a person must have been previously employed in the IT profession and must now be unemployed.

Current AITP members may use the discount when their membership comes up for renewal anytime in the coming year, but new members are welcome at any time, provided they meet the qualifications above. The discount of \$50 reduces the Association dues to \$55. Chapter and Region dues (if applicable) must also be paid and are not discounted.

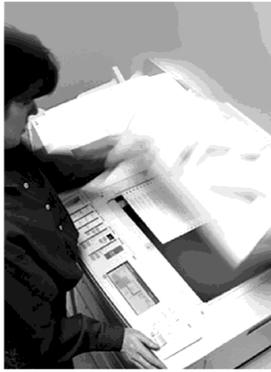
Last year, over 200 individuals took advantage of the program and extended or joined AITP. Naturally the association leadership wishes that all IT Professionals regain and retain full employment, but we also realize that there is currently a nationwide unemployment rate hovering around 10%, and the economy has been slow to recover.

What better way to network among your peers, than at a chapter, region or national event? Most chapters meet every month from September through June, and some meet throughout the entire calendar year. The opportunity to network and share your professional interests and talents could assist you in getting back on track to gain full time employment.

The association dues have been reduced to \$55; which is a savings of \$50 off of the normal amount. Local Chapter and Region dues if applicable must be paid and are not reduced. Members who previously took advantage of this Unemployed Membership Discount will be eligible for this promotion as long as they are able to validate that they are still unemployed. This membership discount will not be available online.

Be sure to take advantage of this limited offering. The total membership or renewal for the Nashville chapter will be \$85, compared to the regular \$135 membership fee.

For more information, email memberservices@aitp.org.



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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

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