



The Nashville Chapter
Of
The Association Of Information
Technology Professionals

AITP The Printout

March 2005
Chapter Newsletter

FIELD TRIP - TENNESSEE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Our March program is a trip to the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation. The TBI is the state's primary criminal investigative agency, responsible for assisting local law enforcement and launching its own investigations into crimes involving illegal drugs, fugitives, public corruption, official misconduct, organized crime, domestic terrorism, Medicaid fraud and patient abuse. The Bureau manages the state's three forensic crime labs and employs more than 400 people, assigned to one of five divisions.

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AITP Nashville Roster

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Internet Information —	Web Sites
Chapter:	http://www.aitpnashville.org
Headquarters:	http://www.aitp.org
Region 7:	http://members.tripod.com/aitprejon7
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 \$15.00 for Members, \$20.00 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:
Tennessee Bureau of Investigation
901 R.S. Gass Blvd.
Nashville, Tennessee 37214

A map and directions to TBI are on page 10 of this newsletter.

TRAINING:

- **SYSTEMS ANALYSIS**
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INTERVIEWING, SPEAKING, WRITING
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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Our February speaker was Larry McCoy, CIO of Caterpillar Financial Services who spoke about IT career development. He pointed out that people are not managed well and that he learned more from the bad managers about how not to be one. He learned that people with issues cause havoc in an organization and that interpersonal skills are important. Those skills will help others get "unstuck" and make the individual the "go-to" guy for problem-solving. Two important job-related characteristics are accountability and initiative. The individual makes things different in a good way.

To advance in a career the big secret is to do a great job in one's current job. And get a diverse career, be a T-shaped person, having experiences across disciplines rather than a specialist in one thing. Don't just punch tickets in those jobs.

Encouraging feedback is very important. Make it possible for superiors to freely give negative and instantaneous feedback. This will tell you how you are seen by others, rightly or wrongly. Giving negative feedback allows for goal formulation.

Other topics:

Mentoring - organic is better. Structured is not so effective.

Off shoring—other countries have better educated people and over time salaries even out.

People who can solve problems will always be in demand.

In summation: "Soft" skills are important. Invest in doing the best job in your present job. Get feedback. Strive for diversity in your jobs. Have a fun career.

It's that time of year we've always looked forward to: the week of the timeshare holiday vacation. Things are different this time, though. Mardi Gras came early. No parades in all the small towns and big cities. And the usual attractions have been attenuated. For the timeshare is in Gulf Shores, where Hurricane Ivan came ashore last year.

Pictures on the Web show that condominiums on the beach that had swimming pools on the Gulf side no longer have pools. Gone. Disappeared. While many of the high-rises are still standing, their foundations are sometimes exposed and roof segments blown off. Our timeshare had a nice wooden gazebo at the end of a walkway to the beach. It is said to be gone along with the walkway. The units were described in the newsletter to have been in pretty good shape, considering. Some expected water damage and roof damage. Their design used a two-story over parking architecture which helped survive the storm surge. But extensive repairs are necessary. The outdoor pool was destroyed. Instead of rebuilding the units the way they were, the association members have voted to replace them with a high-rise. More owners to share the expenses. Open-air parking. Not quite the cozy charm of the original. But still on the beach.

Sincerely,

Robert Wright
President, AITP Nashville Chapter
www.aitpnashville.org
(615)322-0004

P. S. We will be having our regular monthly chapter meetings in a new location beginning in April. The Board voted to move to the Holiday Inn Select Hotel on West End Ave. in Nashville. So, we will have the field trip in March and then begin meetings at the Holiday Inn Select in April.

AITP Board Meeting

AITP BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

February 17, 2005

Prepared by Ella McGill

This meeting was held at the Holiday Inn Select.

Attendees: Paul Saunders, Robert Wright, Gerald Marquis, Bob Claxton, Frank Reagor, Joan Julius, Mike Eischen, Mary Simpson, Charlie Apigian and Ella McGill.

1. The board held discussion on the February chapter meeting's speaker. We all agreed Mr. McCoy did an excellent job. There were some problems with the volume level in the back of the room due to a loud vent.
2. Mike believes he has found a solution to getting our newsletter printed. Frank will take care of this task for February and Mike will begin in March. Gerald will be responsible for keeping the mailing labels up-to-date and printed. At some point in the future the board will consider the ramifications of automatically putting address on the newsletter.
3. Bob brought attention to the fact that our chapter will need to file a tax return with the IRS this year. We have the document that needs to be prepared, but many questions still need to be answered. After a discussion, the decision was that Bob should contact our national office and ask for assistance with this form and also confirm what type yearly audit should be done. Bob will notify the board of the results by e-mail.
4. Frank is the Region 7 treasurer. He notified the board that there is an upcoming teleconference of the Region 7 board and asked if there were any questions or comments he could pass along. Also, there is a membership contest this year that could be financially beneficial to our chapter if we all work hard to recruit new members. There will be more details on this in the future.
5. In a board meeting toward the end of last year, the subject of having a one-day student conference was discussed. Charlie asked if any plans had been made. Nothing has been planned as of now.
6. Charlie brought up the possibility of the chapter contributing money toward student chapters who plan to compete in the national student conference. This subject was discussed last year. The board did vote to set aside \$200 for each student chapter who requests money and is sending at least 2 students to compete during 2005. This decision was to be reviewed by the board when preparing the 2005 budget, and may be subject to change. The decision was made at our November 18, 2004 board meeting.
7. Our chapter is planning a tour of the TBI facility in Nashville for our March chapter meeting. There has been a limit of 40 people set for this tour. Member reservations will be given priority. This tour is not open to students. In the newsletter and the meeting announcement it will indicate that the tour is for professional members only.
8. Charlie suggested that we should try to find a publicity chairperson. Anyone interested should contact Charlie or any other board member. This will be announced at meetings.
9. Mike would like to get a copy of Microsoft Publisher to be owned by the chapter. Charlie and Mike will look into the cost of this. The board voted to give them authority to purchase this software if the purchase price is \$250.00 or less.
10. The board meeting was held at the Holiday Inn Select on West End Avenue so the board could see the facility and make a determination if it would be a suitable meeting place for our chapter. We had a tour and dinner. After much discussion, the board voted to move our chapter meetings to this location beginning in April of 2005 if we can work out some changes to the proposed contract. This decision will be reevaluated at the end of the year. Ella will discuss the proposed contract changes with the catering manager at the Holiday Inn Select, and then communicate with all board members by e-mail so a final determination can be made.

AITP

The Association of Information
Technology Professionals

Monthly Meeting of the Nashville Chapter

Date: Thursday, March 10, 2005

Place: Tennessee Bureau of Investigation
901 R.S. Gass Blvd. Nashville TN (There is a map & directions to TBI on pg. 10)

Meeting Schedule

5:30 -6:00 Arrival
6:00 Box Lunch followed by tour of TBI facility
contact Mary Simpson for reservations at 615-367-8083 or msimpson@genesco.com

Cost: Members = 20.00
Guests = \$20.00

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Calendar of Upcoming Events 2005

Date	Event	Location	Information
March 10	Field Trip	Tennessee Bureau of Investigation	Brad Truitt - IT Director
April 14	Chapter Meeting	Holiday Inn Select - Vanderbilt	Personal Networking - Carol Smock, Strategic Business Network
May 12	Chapter Meeting	Holiday Inn Select - Vanderbilt	Personal Privacy - Ned Ramage, Micro Tech Journey Team

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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New AITP members this month.

Charity Hill
ITT Technical Institute
1255 S Lynnfield Rd
Hendersonville, TN 37075
chedhill@yahoo.com

Valorie Thompson-German
ITT Technical Institute
3304 S Woodlake Cir #3
Memphis, TN 38118
vdgerman@itt-tech.edu

Welcome to AITP!

Please send any changes to: Joan Julius, Membership
Joan.Julius@cgi.com
CGI Information Systems & Management Consulting, Inc.
615.232.8200 x3584

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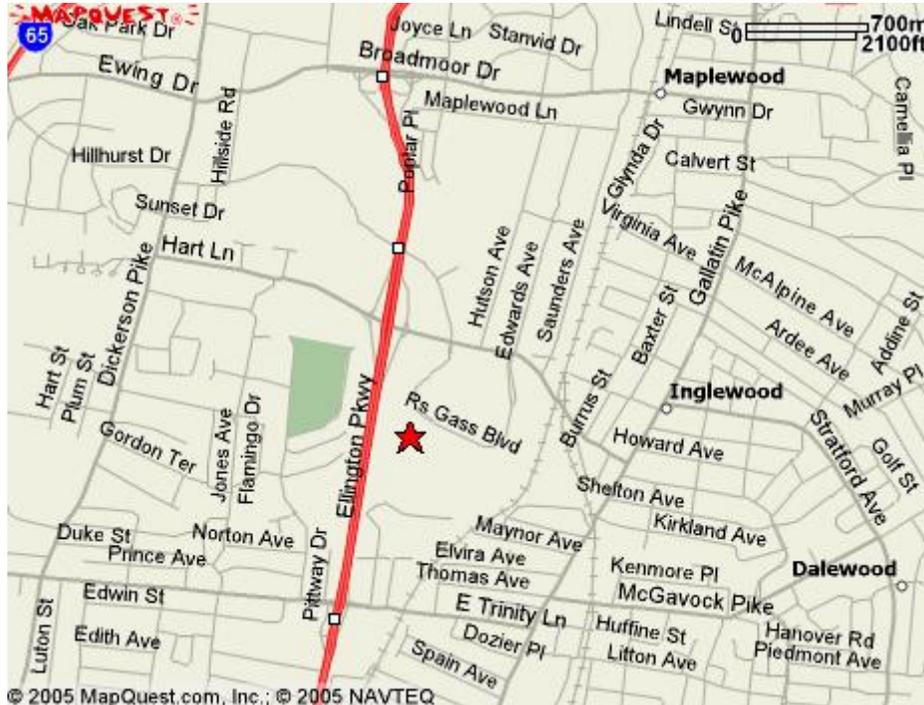
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AITP Chapter News

March Field Trip - Tennessee Bureau of Investigation

As mentioned elsewhere in the Newsletter, this month's AITP meeting will be a field trip to the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation. Below is a map to TBI.



Directions: Take Ellington Pkwy North, and exit right on Hart Lane. Take the first right which is R. S. Gass Blvd. The State of Tennessee Drivers License Bureau is on the left. TBI is about 3/4 of a mile past this on the right hand side. The address is 901 R. S. Gass Blvd.

Nashville AITP Website

This is just to remind all our readers that information about Nashville AITP and our upcoming events is available on our website at www.aitpnashville.org. Please take a minute to visit the web site and learn more about our organization!

Nashville AITP Student Chapter Scholarships

At February's AITP Chapter Meeting we continued our fund-raising for the Nashville AITP Student Chapter Scholarships. We had a good turnout for the meeting and through raffle ticket sales raised \$150.00 for the AITP Student Scholarship fund.

If you are interested in learning more about AITP Student Chapter Scholarships contact Dr. Apigian:

Charles H. Apigian, PhD.
Middle Tennessee State University
615-898-2375
capigian@mtsu.edu

AITP New Member Spotlight

New Member Spotlight

By James Lotochinski

A Systems Analyst at Matthew Walker Comprehensive Health Center (MWCHC), Geoffrey A. Mason is our New Member Spotlight this month. Founded in 1968, MWCHC is a non-profit community health center located in North Nashville with over 100 employees, and serving a diverse population of 21,700 patients per year. The services they offer include: Family and Internal Medicine, Dental, Family Planning, Laboratory Services, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Pharmacy, Radiology, Nephrology, Pediatrics, Podiatry, Social Services and Transportation.

A graduate of Tennessee State University with a B.S. degree in Health Care Administration and Planning, Geoffrey also has a M.S. degree from Middle Tennessee State University in Accounting and Information Systems.

Geoffrey is proficient at Network Management, System Implementation, Contract Negotiation and Telecommunications.

A business associate who owns an IT consulting business told Geoffrey about AITP. Unfortunately, he had classes on the same evenings as our monthly meetings. Since obtaining his M.S., he now has time to get involved with our organization. Geoffrey looks forward to hearing from our guest speakers and networking with other IT professionals in Nashville.

Married, Geoffrey enjoys time with his family and friends, designing websites, playing with gadgets, searching for new information on the Internet, playing PlayStation II, and attending football and basketball games.

Last October, MWCHC moved into a new state-of-the-art 40,000 square foot facility in North Nashville. Geoffrey was responsible for the planning, migration, and implementation of the network systems and infrastructure, telecommunications and audio/visual equipment. Although a most challenging project, Geoffrey feels this was the biggest accomplishment in his young IT career. He had just gotten married in June, and during this process was enrolled in the Information Systems practicum class--the last class taken before graduation.

Geoffrey plans to continue working in Information Technology in the Healthcare Industry. He intends to use his experience and formal training to accomplish this goal. He adds, "Ultimately, I plan to become a CIO in the healthcare industry." Welcome to AITP, Geoffrey! Remember your new pals when you become a CIO!

Each Month we would like to feature a new or recent member in our Newsletter. This gives current AITP members a chance to get to know our new members. If you are a new or recent member and would like to contribute to the AITP Newsletter, please contact me for a new member profile.

Mike Eischen, AITP Newsletter Director
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meischen@genesco.com



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March 2005

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