



North Texas

**THE ASSOCIATION OF CONTINGENCY PLANNERS
MISSION**

To provide a powerful network for the advancement of the industry and the development of our business continuity professionals.

ACP

Volume 4, Issue 1

January, 2013



President's Comments

Welcome to 2013!

It is hard to believe that January is almost over and spring will be here soon. We kicked off 2013 with the program "Who Are My Public Safety Partners and How Do I Work with Them?" given by our very own Director of Public Relations, Luis Tapia.

For the February program we will build on the theme of public and private sector partners by having a presentation on the Private Points of Dispensing (POD). The POD is a joint project with Dallas County Health and Human Services to learn how your company can partner with your local County Health Department to make sure your employees are protected during a bioterrorism incident. This is a free program offered to organizations (companies, churches, etc.) with 1,200 members or more, where the County will provide life-saving medicine free of charge during a bioterrorism incident. We have arranged for additional seating at the Boy Scouts, so invite your boss and HR managers to the meeting.

Your Leadership team is busy planning the calendar out for programs, round tables and field trips. So, what we need to know from each of you is...

- What can I personally contribute to my ACP chapter?
- Can I give an overview of my industry and how BC/DR works?
- What programs would I want to hear about?
- What round tables would I like to see?
- What round tables would I like to be on the panel or moderate?
- Where would I like to go behind the scenes to see how risk is managed?

- Where would I like to go behind the scenes to see how crisis are managed?

We will also be covering each of the professional practices at a more detailed level. Would you like to see the detailed information or is this too much? Would you like to take a

practice and coordinate the panel to discuss?

We have many different industries, talents and SMEs represented in our chapter. Let's see how we can incorporate them for 2013.

I hope to see all of you at our February meeting (2/5/13). Feel free to contact me before then if you have any additional ideas or comments.

Susan

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NORTH TEXAS ACP CHAPTER MEETINGS

Meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month from 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm. The location varies, so check the Chapter Newsletter or Web Site for location information.

Next Meeting

Date ----- Tuesday, February 5, 2013

Time ----- 12:00 Noon

Location ---- Boy Scouts of America
1325 W. Walnut Hill Lane
Irving, 75015

[Link to Map](#)

Food ----- Is available onsite for purchase

Agenda	
Topic	Speaker
Welcome	Susan Guinn
Upcoming Events	Grace Wright
Protecting Dallas County from a Bioterrorism Event	Harlan Dolgin
UNT Internship Program	Luis Tapia

Meeting Schedule and Locations for 2013

Schedule and location are subject to change!

February 5	Boy Scouts of America
March 5.....	Boy Scouts of America
April 9	H5 CoLo
May 7	Boy Scouts of America
June 4.....	H5 CoLo
July 2	Boy Scouts of America
August 6	H5 CoLo
September 10	Boy Scouts of America
October 1	H5 CoLo
November 5	Boy Scouts of America
December 3	Holiday Luncheon

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Chapter Recognitions

**Join us in offering a big Texas
welcome to our new chapter
members:**

Mike Adams

Jake Randolph

Freddie Sebren



**Be sure to offer your
congratulations to our chapter
members who recently earned a
certification**

*Dana McGowan received her
CBCP*



January 8, 2013 Meeting Recap

Welcome

Mark Weidner, Chapter Treasurer, opened the meeting since our President, Susan Guinn, is out of the country. Nineteen people (out of 114 active members) attended the meeting, two of them were visitors.

Dianne Stephens, Secretary, introduced the 2013 Chapter Board of Directors. Each board member spoke briefly about their plans for the year and all of them requested ideas and feedback from the membership.

Chapter Business

Mark discussed the need to conduct an audit of the chapter's 2012 financial records. He asked for one board member and two non-board members to volunteer for the Audit Committee. All members give a big shout out to Carol Bearden, Brandon Mohon and Dianne Stephens for volunteering to participate on the Audit Committee.

Presentations



Joe Kieszowski, from Ameripath / Quest Diagnostics, gave a Spotlight presentation of the BC/DR program for this Fortune 500 organization.

Jesse Davis, our Director of Education who works for American Airlines Credit Union, talked about BCP Certification Programs, Degree and Certificate Programs, upcoming conferences, and training classes available in the next few months. Our LinkedIn page has been updated to include this information as well.



Luis Tapia, our Director of Public Relations who works for CoreLogic, gave an excellent presentation entitled *Who Are My Public Safety Partners and How Do I Work with Them?* In his presentation he offered several suggestions for identifying partners and how to capitalize on opportunities for collaboration.



There were great questions and discussion during all the presentations. We especially want to extend a big thank you to Joe, Jesse and Luis for their thoughtful and insightful presentations. Their efforts are truly appreciated!

* * * * *

Welcome To Career Corner

How many of you have become discouraged in your job search? Today's article, *How to Revive a Stalled Job Search*, by Rich Hein might be just what you are looking for.

Speaking of looking for a job... we have started receiving many new job leads, go out to our LinkedIn page and peruse the openings. As always, if you know of any job opening please send the information to Luis Tapia and myself to be included on LinkedIn.

We have an opening on the leadership board as an appointment. We are looking for a member in good standing to run the Career Corner. Responsibilities include finding articles of interest relating to employee development, writing a monthly column and helping to coordinate HR speakers at our meetings. If interested, please drop me an email.

Good luck in your job search!

Susan

Career Corner

This column is devoted to our members from the perspective of the employee. We focus on:

- Your job classification:
 - Unemployed / in Pre-Employment
 - Under employed
 - Miserably employed
 - Gainfully and happily employed
- Jobs, which companies are hiring and how you can land the opportunity of a lifetime
- Career Development/ Empowerment
- Do's and Don'ts of Social Networking in a job search
- How broad you can go in your search to obtain an opportunity
- What internal HR is looking for
- How to effectively use head hunters
- How to assist the community and be recognized as a leader

Please send any ideas or suggestions for topics to be included in the Career Corner to Susan Guinn.

How to Revive a Stalled Job Search

By Rich Hein

Rich Hein is a senior writer for CIO.com. He covers IT careers.



If you've been out of work and searching for a job for what feels like forever, it can be easy to fall into a rut. The only way out is to work your way through it.

Those who can adapt and grow will always have a better chance of getting hired. Easy to say, but what does that mean on a day-to-day basis?

If you're like many job searchers out there, you're getting tired and feel like you've tried everything. You've filled out countless employment applications and written many cover letters while not getting many callbacks.

According to [BLS stats](#), the median amount of time people are unemployed is 21.4 weeks or more than five months. And while it's easy to throw your hands in the air and give up, now is the time to regroup, reevaluate and persevere.

If you feel like you're at the end of your job search rope, here are some tips from industry professionals that can help you revive and breathe new life into your search.

Step Back and Reevaluate

Step 1, says Doug Schade, principal consultant with WinterWyman, is to step back and reevaluate. "What's the definition of insanity? Doing the same thing over and over and expecting different results," quotes Schade. If you aren't getting any call backs maybe you aren't applying for the right positions.

When Schade works with clients he asks them how they go about their search and many times he finds that they are too focused on one position. "It's time to reevaluate. Are you applying to the right type of position and how else can you be going about your search?" asks Schade.

Simply submitting dozens of online applications won't do when the IT market is so competitive. Identify

companies you'd like to work for and go after them. Make an in-person appearance. Connect with people from those companies on social networking sites.

You have to be able to step back with some objectivity to truly evaluate your skills and the jobs you are going after. Then build a plan to sharpen the areas in which you are lacking. Take a class, volunteer your time or do contract work that will allow you to grow professionally while also shoring up any talent gaps.

Get Out and Interact

It's difficult for people to get a feel for who you are when you are hidden behind a computer. Clubs and professional associations can be indispensable in your job search. Attending events like these get you out and learning. They also put you in a room with people who are interested in the same things you are and could potentially be hiring.

Pennell Locey is vice president of Keystone Associates, a career-management and transition services consulting firm. Locey recommends giving yourself a jolt by putting yourself outside your comfort zone. "Buddy up with another job searcher, go to an event from an organization you might not normally attend or call someone whose ideas have interested you and schedule a conversation that might take you in a new direction."

Tighten Up Your Resume

If you've been staying active, chances are you've added some skills to your toolbox. Add those new skills from any side projects or groups to your resume and online profiles. Make sure that your resume reflects the keywords that recruiters and employers are searching for.

Develop Your Online Brand

Take this opportunity to sharpen your personal brand. Make sure that your brand is geared towards the positions you are applying for. This can include LinkedIn pages, Facebook's BranchOut or personal websites.

Get Back In Touch With Your Network

Good old-fashioned networking is the next step. If it's been a few months since you reached out to your online and offline network, it's time to follow-up.

Let them know about any updates to your professional development, new skillsets, or any seminars or classes you've attended. "Let them know how your search is going. We as recruiters yearn for feedback as well. If we have an opportunity to learn something new about a prospective candidate, that's always good," says Schade.

Take a Disruptive Innovation Approach

In her [recent article](#), J.T. O'Donnell recommends relaunching your job searching using a technique known as [disruptive innovation](#). In order to use this technique you have to know what your strengths are and then market yourself to those strengths. Here are the basic points of the disruptive innovation approach:

1. Identify a problem or procedure within your niche that you are proficient at solving. It has to be something that an employer will appreciate and value.
2. Next, create a list of companies through social media, email or phone. The goal is to learn how the company is currently dealing with this problem. With any luck they are having a tough time.
3. Finally, find a way to stay in touch and let them know that you are available if they need a person to fill this need.

This technique is simply a change in perspective and, according to O'Donnell, "takes us from acting desperate to acting responsible. Moreover, it not only makes us feel better, it sends a more effective message, too."

Consider Contract Work

If you have experience in IT, chances are you could be contracting out your skills while you're searching for a full-time job. In fact, more IT workers than ever are going the [independent contractor route by choice](#).

Use LinkedIn, Indeed.com or any of the job boards and see if there is any contract work in your area. There are

also recruiters like WinterWyman, Randstad Technologies, Modis and a host of others looking for experienced IT workers to fill contracts.

Keep Moving Forward

When you've been out of work for a while everything feels daunting. You need to change your approach, but changing the way we do things doesn't come naturally to many of us. The U.S. Marine Corps has an unofficial motto that is applicable to your job search and perhaps other areas of life as well: "Improvise, adapt and overcome." If your current job search isn't working, don't be afraid to mix it up and try something different.

* * * * *

Did you know the CareerDFW.org website gives you the tools you need to land your next great opportunity? It is the one website to visit, for the unemployed or under employed, so you can find everything and anything to help you – the job seeker – with your career search that will result in employment. It offers resources, tips, job posting, and a great deal more. Check it out: www.careerdfw.org.

"Those who wish to sing, always find a song."
Swedish Proverb



Association of Contingency Planners
North Texas Chapter
<http://northtx.acp-international.com/>

2012 END OF YEAR AWARDS

Our (2012) holiday luncheon was held at Lawry's on December 7th. Several awards were presented to our chapter members. Congratulations to:

John Bowings, who has the longest tenure with our chapter.



Scott Bell, one of the five longest term members of the chapter.



Richard Dawson, who was (at the time) the newest chapter member.

Susan Guinn, the North Texas ACP MPV.



Thank you to every chapter member for your participation and willingness to help. Let's make 2013 a great year!