ACP
ASSOCIATION OF CONTINUITY PROFESSIONALS
North Texas Chapter

Everything we do professionally and as an organization is dedicated to protecting lives, safeguarding businesses, and fostering community resiliency

President's Comments – August 2018

Distinguished North Texas ACP Chapter Members.

I am in exercise season, hosting 3 different functional exercises over the next two months. Participants' experience with my IT recovery exercises ranges from 8 years to their first time. I love first timers as they take planning seriously, although sometimes a little too seriously.

To refresh your memory, I work with engineers. These folks want to plan the entire recovery design in excruciating detail before the exercise. Some even want to test their designs before the exercise. A test before a test? My best starting technique is to simply outline the steps they would take to perform their recovery. I then recommend they fill-in details from what they learned during the recovery simulation. Practicing IT disaster recovery is iterative. You learn something every time you practice along with the opportunity to add more detail from what is learned.

While I freely admit the best plan is one detailed enough that a fairly competent person can follow the steps to perform the recovery, how often do we actually get to that point? A few key steps are often better than an overly detailed plan when it comes to IT talent. What I do know is very few people follow their own recovery plan during a recovery simulation. I see the "written plan" as something that should keep a fairly knowledgeable person out of trouble during the restoration process. If a plan is too detailed, a talented person will most likely toss it anyway.

The cornerstone of IT recovery is really the data. If you have the data, you can eventually put Humpty-Dumpty back together again. If not, poor ol' Humpty will have holes and not likely serve the business as well or even at all. I'll write about "the data" in a future President's Column.

It's not about the plan but the *act of planning* by thinking through all necessary inputs that make the tool, application, or IT service minimally functional. The more practice, the better the muscle memory and likely the recovery. I fully expect my first timers to learn a lot. That is what functional recovery exercises are all about….to uncover the things we don't know!

Keep your fingers crossed that my teams can get through forming, storming, norming and performing at break neck speed.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at our next meeting on Tuesday, August 7. Lunch will be provided on behalf of your chapter board. More importantly, you will get to network with other members and hear a great presentation by Jeff Murray who is with the Department of Homeland Security.

May your August go smoothly.

At your service,

Wendy

Programs Update From Chet Bojarski:

As we all start to wrap up the year, I recommend that you take a moment and review your 2018 objectives to see how you are doing. And, if you happen to need another stand out moment this year to both impress your leadership and add onto your end of year review, you don't want to miss our next monthly meeting which is scheduled for Tuesday August 7th, 2018 at the Boy Scouts of America in Irving. We are lucky to have speaking Mr. Jeffrey Murray from the *Department of Homeland Security - Office of Infrastructure Protection*. Jeff will be presenting the "DHS Tools and Resources" available to many businesses. So, remember that impressing your leadership reference earlier? Well these tools and resources are available at no cost (which reads really great on a job performance deliverable if you can bring in services for $0 while also identifying potential gaps in your security posture. Add on top of that being able to say to customers or leadership that you worked with the DHS on your threat landscape=impressive!). We encourage you to take the time to confirm your attendance at our next monthly meeting when the meeting invite comes out to ensure your spot is reserved. Your ACP-NT Board of Directors is proud to bring industry information and key contacts directly to our membership. This is just one of the many benefits to your ACP-NT membership, and how your companies (or your) small annual investment with our chapter has such a large payback!

For those of you that did not have summer vacation planned during our July monthly meeting, you benefited from a Cyber focused and very informative session that provided just a small sampling of what services are available to businesses nationwide (you will hear about different infrastructure offerings in August). At the July meeting Chad Adams from the *Department of Homeland Security* was our

featured speaker. Chad is with the DHS as a *Cyber Security Advisor Region VI* and he shared with us many of the Cyber services offered by DHS across the country. Offerings such as Cyber Resilience Reviews, Design Architecture Reviews, Network Risk and Vulnerability Assessments were just a few of the services that were available. These are not just a "ill out a form type of reviews", but working with DHS teams remotely or onsite assessing your environment. After the presentation we heard and saw many of our members reaching out to Chad to begin the discussions. Thanks to all who attended, and we look forward to seeing and networking with as many of our members and guests at our August monthly meeting.

Meetings are generally 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. If you have a topic you would like discussed or presented, please contact any of our board members in the table above.

Next Meeting

Date------------August 7, 2018

Time------------12:00 pm

Location: Boy Scouts of America
1325 West Walnut Hill Lane
Irving, TX 75015
Map

Lunch-----------Sponsored by ACP N. Texas Chapter Board

Meeting Agenda	
Topic	**Speaker**
Welcome………………………………………………………………………………….…………………Wendy Nelson	
Upcoming Events………………………………………………………………………….……………….Wendy Nelson	
ACP Officer Reports…………………………………………………………………….………………………ACP Board	
Featured Speaker……………………………………………………………………………………..Jeffrey Murray	
Program: **Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Tools and Resources**	

2018 Meeting Schedule and Locations
Schedule and location are subject to change!
August 7……………………………………………………………………………………………………….Boy Scouts of America
September 11………………………………………………………………………………………………..Quest Diagnostics
October 2………………………………………………………………………………………………….Boy Scouts of America
November 6…………………………………………………………………………………………………….Quest Diagnostics
December 4…………………………….Holiday Luncheon-North Texas ACP Members and invited guests ONLY-RSVP Required
Check here for current topic, speaker, and meeting location
Please contact a board member if there is a topic that you would like discussed, if interested in presenting, or know of others who would be willing to present an upcoming meeting.

The Benefits of ACP Membership

Submitted by: Carol DeLatte, MBCI, CBCP and Secretary for the North TX Chapter of ACP

Why should you join or renew your ACP membership? We polled several active members of the North Texas Chapter, here's what they had to say:

- ... information provided ... which helps me stay relevant in the industry.

- ... network, which often includes sponsored lunches (free to ACP members)

- ... BC learning/improvement and support group

- ... the friends I have made (i.e. networking)

- ... learning new ways of doing things

- ... behind-the-scenes field trips which are interesting, relevant, educational and fun

- ... personal development – Over and above the professional side, by being a member and working with peers across multiple companies, industries and disciplines, I have a better appreciation of areas that I may not have exposure to within my own company. As such, I can use that information about my industry to advance myself personally and professionally.

- ... deep-dive discussions on relevant and timely topics

... networking. Meet the best people within the DFW area that have similar job duties.

What's your "WHY"?

What does ACP National list as top benefits of membership? Here's their top ten list:

10. Online Resources – news, information etc. www.acp-international.com

9. Recognition – peer support and industry acknowledgement of accomplishments

8. Industry Presence – recognized as authoritative voice for the profession

7. Local Chapter Presence – 30+ chapters across US

6. Speaker's Bureau – locally and nationwide

5. Sharing Accomplishments – share your news, we will broadcast it!

4. Member Discounts – group insurance, conferences, trade publications

3. Social Media – LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook – to name a few

2. Education – local presentations, monthly national webinars, annual conference

1. Networking – often with food/drinks involved!

If you haven't renewed for 2018, now is the time to reconsider.

Phone 800-445-4227

Training Opportunities

Upcoming Conferences (training courses often available pre- and post-conference)

- DRJ Fall 2018
  - September 23-26, 2018 – Phoenix, AZ
  - http://www.drj.com/fall2018/

- ASIS 2016 Seminar and Exhibits
  - September 23-27, 2018 – Las Vegas, NV
  - https://www.gsx.org/

- BCI World
  - November 6-7, 2018 – London, UK
  - https://www.thebci.org/event-detail/event-calendar/bci-world-conference---exhibition-2018.html#about

Ongoing Webinars:

- Federal Government
  - https://www.fema.gov/continuity-webinar-series
    - The Continuity Webinar Series is held on the **1st Wednesday of every month at 1 P.M. Central Time.**

- ACP **International**
  - https://www.acp-international.com/professional-development/webinars
    - Held monthly. Check website for details.

- Firestorm
  - https://www.firestorm.com/
    - Held at least once a month. Check website for details, scroll down and look under Events

- Bright Talk
  - BC webinars and recordings, by date
    - Random scheduling.

Courses beyond conferences/webinars:

- Business Continuity Institute
  - www.thebci.org

- Disaster Recovery Institute International
  - www.drii.org

- ISO Based Training
  - https://pecb.com/training

Member Badges

Updated member badges have now been mailed out. If you did not receive yours or are a new member and would like to request a badge, please contact Carol DeLatte at carol.6323@gmail.com. Ensure your membership information is up-to-date.

Mentorship Program

The Mentorship Program is a chance to form a relationship with new and future ACP members and develop your personal and professional skills! Don't miss this chance to further your development within the ACP industry! We are looking for volunteers. If you would like to be a Mentor or Mentee or know someone that may be interested, please contact George Philpott at George.Philpott@EmployBridge.com

**Association of Continuity Professionals
North Texas Chapter**
https://northtx.acp-international.com

There are a number of ways to find out what we have planned:
- Our web site: http://northtx.acp-international.com
- Join our LinkedIn Group for the latest updates and job opportunities: https://www.linkedin.com/groups/2670621
- Our monthly newsletter
- Follow us on Twitter: @Northtxacp