



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



October 2018

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Comments	1
Chapter News	2
Upcoming Meetings	3
"The Benefits of ACP Membership"	4
Training Opportunities	5



President's Comments – October 2018

Hello Fellow North Texas Chapter Members.

Fall is here and I am grateful the weather is cooling. And with that cooling comes rain. We had over 12 inches of rain in 18 hours on September 22. Our entire back yard was underwater! It only took a day for the water to help fill up Lake Lavon, a ¼ mile away. I was shocked we didn't lose power during the deluge. Which brings me to my October topic of Personal Preparedness.

Each of us in continuity have an opportunity to walk the

talk. We want our teams to be prepared for anything. We as continuity professionals must show all of our team members and leadership how well we are personally prepared to ensure that we are available for the recovery needs of our companies.

Your personal continuity is your responsibility. For me, living in the country rather than a suburb comes with benefits and impediments for personal preparedness. My number one impediment is power. In the country, the electrical infrastructure is older than me and I'm up there in years. We are almost guaranteed to lose power with any kind of severe weather. Power is usually restored within about 6 hours or less however one time it did take 2 days when someone hit a power pole on the Farm to Market road we live off of.

The second impediment is network connectivity. There are few ways to acquire internet service where I live; only line-of-site and satellite providers. Since our property is wooded and the trees block the only line-of-site provider very close to us, we have a limited choice of a few satellite internet service providers.

Both power and network are the fundamental infrastructure for working remotely and supporting my company. To provide redundancy for power and network connectivity, here are some of the items I have. Power is kind of easy as I have a small UPS that will run all my equipment (PC, cordless phone, second screen, personal computer, etc). We also have a second UPS that runs our wireless network and some other office equipment. When a power outage occurs, I start

shedding power consumers such as my second screen and personal computer. Have you ever run your PC battery to the limit to find out just how long it will last? If you haven't, you should. If you are running windows, it lies. Do not count on the level shown as being accurate. Mine will run a whopping 6 hours before automatic shutdown. As another level of protection, I have many USB power sticks. One was provided by a person who frequents our meetings, Steve O'Neal with Rentsys, which I use to keep my cell phone powered.

For my network contingency, my only alternative to satellite is wireless. I have 3 different mobile devices with 3 different phone numbers for hot spot use. These may be used until the device power expires or I connect it to the UPS. That is great, however, all 3 are subject to cell tower failure. I have no alternative other than to go to the office or another wireless location.

From a grab-and-go perspective, I have a great store-bought grab-and-go bag with supplies for a family of 4 for 7 days. This means my husband and I should at least get a good week out of the contents. My automobile has a store-bought emergency kit for stranded vehicles. While I bought my grab-and-go bags (due to lack of time), I wanted to be sure I'm ready to go quickly no matter what disaster happens to come along. You can put both of these grab-and-go bag together rather inexpensively, especially if you use a left over backpack from a conference you attended

There is no better way to be prepared than to be an example to others!

What are your thoughts on this subject? I would love to hear your thoughts, ideas, solutions and sharing at wendy.a.nelson@raytheon.com. Are you an example to those you come in contact as "personally prepared"? What are your thoughts for power, network connectivity, and grab-and-go bags? Are you really ready for a long power outage or regional disaster?

I appreciated the email I received from **Scott Bell** after reading my September 2018 President's Comments on motivating continuity teams. While my article was focused on working with technical Information Technology SME's, it really applies to all areas of continuity. And so does Scott's thoughts on better, more accurate documentation and ownership of junior SME's:

1. I have found through past experience that senior SME's are some of the worst at documentation. Maybe they think it's beyond them or something.
2. In past exercises I've tried to have less senior SME's or junior staff follow along with the procedures as the Senior SME's goes through the recovery steps. They are to ask questions and then note any discrepancies.
3. The objective to the junior SME is to get the documentation correct, because the next exercise they will be following the recovery steps, with the Senior SME available for assistance.

Great process idea we can all consider! Keep those ideas coming, which make us all better to ensure continuity for the companies we work for!

At your service,

Wendy

Programs Update From Chet Bojarski:

At our September meeting we took time to recognize the life changing events of September 11th in what we feel was a special and unique way. We are so appreciative to the Department of Homeland Security and **Jeffery Murray** to have personally given our members the DHS Active Shooter Training. So often our ACP members are so focused on others, we thought it was appropriate to take that day and give back to own members. We hope that no one ever finds themselves in that situation, but if they do, our members are prepared! And remember, if you would like to have the DHS schedule training for your facility and staff, reach out to the DHS and begin your discussions.

Looking forward, our next meeting will be on Tuesday October 2nd at the Boy Scouts of America. Our guest speaker will be **Christopher Duffy**, from Strategic BCP. His presentation will be on "The Intersection of Business Continuity and Cybersecurity". So, if you did not attend the DRJ Conference this week, Chris joins us after his speaking engagement at the DRJ Fall 2018 conference. We are excited to have him fly in and present to our North Texas Members. In advance, we would also like to thank Strategic BCP for providing us lunch at the session.

Finally, as we start to work on 2019 speakers, if you have someone that you feel would be a good presenter and have a topic of interest to our members, please reach out to the Programs Director, Chet Bojarski. He can be reached at chet_bojarski@yahoo.com. Make sure in the subject line you put in "ACP SPEAKER" to that it will get the right priority.

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

Elections

Elections for the 2019 Chapter Officers is right around the corner. If you are interested in running for a position, please contact the Nominating Committee Lead Susan Guinn at susan.guinn@citi.com

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NORTH TEXAS ACP CHAPTER MEETINGS

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-----October 2, 2018

Time-----12:00 pm

Location: Boy Scouts of America
1325 West Walnut Hill Lane
Irving, TX 75015
[Map](#)

Lunch-----Sponsored by Strategic BCP

Meeting Agenda

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
Welcome.....	Wendy Nelson
Upcoming Events.....	Wendy Nelson
ACP Officer Reports.....	ACP Board
Featured Speaker.....	Christopher Duffy
<u>Program:</u> The Intersection of Business Continuity and Cybersecurity	

2018 Meeting Schedule and Locations

Schedule and location are subject to change!

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>

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



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