

President's Address



Much like many of you, we've been grappling with scorching triple-digit temperatures in the Texas and Oklahoma regions, all while juggling the tasks on our to-do lists. Given these circumstances, my wife and I found ourselves in need of some indoor relaxation one Sunday. Consequently, we settled onto the couch with the intention of watching a movie. As we perused our viewing options, I opted for "War Games."

Though I had seen it years ago, my wife was unfamiliar with the film. For those who might not be acquainted with the plot, the movie revolves around a high school student named David who, using rudimentary technology like dial-up and an acoustic phone coupler, establishes a remote connection with Joshua. What starts as a seemingly harmless invitation to play an online war game takes an unexpected turn as it's revealed that Joshua is, in fact, a computer at the Department of Defense.

In the story, David assumes he's engaged in a game solely with Joshua, oblivious to the fact that all their interactions are being relayed to the NORAD control center. Real-world events, including the movement of nuclear submarines towards US territories, the tracking of Russian jets, and the impending approach of nuclear missiles towards key US cities, are displayed across monitors. The NORAD team, acting based on this information, elevates the threat level, prompting a global threat escalation. The world teeters on the brink of World War III.

My intrigue lies in the fact that this film was released in 1983. While watching, I couldn't help but contemplate the extent of our reliance on technology and the rapid proliferation of AI today, four decades later. We tend to take Google's information at face value, trust our car's GPS to navigate the most efficient routes, communicate effortlessly through smartphones, and rely on timely notifications for our online orders.

A poignant line from the movie emerges just as the US prepares to launch a counterattack: "General, do you truly believe the enemy would strike without provocation, employing a barrage of missiles, bombers, and submarines, leaving us no recourse but complete annihilation? General, you're listening to a machine! Do everyone a favor and abstain from acting like one."

Now you might be wondering, how does this connect to the Summer Series on Leadership that I have been writing about? Leadership entails standing up for what's rational and known, occasionally trusting our instincts to make informed decisions. Unlike computers, we're not programmable entities, yet we can harness technology to augment our comprehension and identify potential solutions. However, as Resiliency Professionals, it's imperative to always assume the mantle of leadership and act as humans, not machines. So, grab some popcorn and immerse yourself in the movie. It is worth your time as who knows.

Chet Bojarski - ACP North Texas President

Events

This Month's Meeting

[UNT Panel Discussion](#)

Tuesday, September 12th

Noon - 1:30 PM

UNT Support and Services Building

Denton, Texas



(Click Image for Directions)

Other Events - Reserve Your Spot!

EXTRA MEMBER BENEFITS

Booth 216 & Free Access



(Facilities Expo Registration Link)

Booth & Free Open Pass Access with code ACPSWC1



(SecureWorld Dallas Registration Link)

[More Information on Events](#)

Resources

Employment Opportunities



Senior Manager Business Continuity

[Apply Now](#)

Seeking Employment?

Leverage the benefits of your membership and get the word out!! Be highlighted in this section of next month's newsletter. [Email your name and contact information](#) (LinkedIn profile) to the Information and Education Director.

Think Tank Thursdays — Q2

It's a wrap!! Another North Texas ACP Think Tank comes to a close. Congratulations to the 17 members who participated in our latest Think Tank Thursdays. Inspired by Regina Phelps' presentation about VOI, the Tank got together to consider how we, as resilience professionals, add value to our organizations. The discussions and outcomes were insightful and we are excited to share them with you!

[Check out the Outcomes and Insights!](#)

[More Information on Resources](#)

Membership

Welcome New Chapter Members

Farinde Tokunbo

David Morgan

Saba Waheed

Morgan Greenwood

ACP Members in Action!



Dianne Stephens was featured on BCI's Women in Resilience. She wrote an article titled Resilience, A Rapidly Evolving Profession. [Check it out!](#)

Speaking at a conference? Conducting an exercise? Managing a real interruption? Attending or teaching a training class? [Email](#) a couple of pictures and a brief explanation of what you're doing. Let us brag about your accomplishments and share your successes on the chapter social media.

Join the Chapter Board of Directors for 2024

Joining the 2024 North Texas Board is a great opportunity for you to help your chapter, the industry, and be able to add the experience of a board position to your career. If you are interested in running for a board position, please [send an email](#) or reach out directly to an existing board member or to our President with any questions. All current members are eligible to run for the board.

[More Information on Membership](#)

In Other News

Year End Celebration Planning



The annual chapter year end event planning is underway. If you are interested in being a part of the event planning committee, you can volunteer by using this [link to SignUpGenius](#). Also, as we have done in the past, we would like to have gifts that can be given away in a raffle during the luncheon. If you or your company are interested in donating an item or two as a raffle gifts, please [email Joel Navarro](#).

September is National Preparedness Month

September is [National Preparedness Month](#), an annual observance to remind all Americans how important it is for individuals, families and communities to be prepared for disasters and emergencies that can happen at any time.

This year's theme is **Prepare to Protect** and highlights how preparing for disaster is to protect everyone you love. This year, [Ready Campaign](#) shifted its focus in support of President Biden's Executive Order on Racial Equity and FEMA's new strategy for cultural competence that includes empowering historically underserved communities to prepare for a disaster.



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