



AITP Pittsburgh Highlights

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Special points of interest:

- December speaker is Michael Hines, who will speak on "A Primer for Better Presentations"
- Come celebrate with a Y2K Party – lots of prizes and fun
- AITP Pittsburgh's Web Page is continuing to expand
- Have a Safe and Happy holiday. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!
- Set aside January 18, 2000 for the first meeting of the new Millennium

Presentation Effectiveness – A Primer For Better Presentations by Michael Hines, CNGT

"With Presentation slides, you have the power to control your audience members' eyes, impact their emotions and even quicken their heart beats". (Presentations Magazine, May 1998)



December's featured dinner speaker will be Michael Hines, Organizational Development Consultant for CNG Transmission Corporation, a subsidiary of Consolidated Natural Gas Company, based in Clarksburg, WV. Mr. Hines has been employed by CNG for seven years. He is also an adjunct professor of computer science and business for Glenville State College in

Glenville, WV. Prior to joining CNG, he worked as a freelance business and systems consultant. Earlier, he served as a computer systems manager for two years at a construction firm. All in all, he's been associated with systems and IT people for twelve years.

One of his favorite job duties over his career has been writing speeches and presentations for CNG ex-

ecutives. He has had the opportunity to do this many times during his six years in the Financial and Strategic Planning section at CNG. He learned much about how a message can be correctly (or incorrectly) perceived by a listener based upon a presentation's appearance and structure. He has taken a lot of what he has learned and read and boiled it down to "Presentation Effective-

Y2K Workshop

Come celebrate the Millennium with us in December. Prior to the Dinner meeting, come pick up some Y2K articles and information in order to survive January 1, 2000.

We will also run a video

called "CNG and the Year 2000" that shows how a local utility has prepared for the Y2K millennium.

If your company has a short video which shows how they prepared for Y2K, bring it to the meet-

ing. We would love to see it!!!



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December's Dinner Meeting

Parkway Center Mall, Terrace Room
 Tuesday December 14, 1999

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM	Networking and Y2K Workshop
6:00 PM - 7:15 PM	Dinner
7:15 PM - 8:15 PM	Featured Speaker and Y2K Party

Price	Prepaid	At Door
Members	\$ 22.00	\$ 27.00
Guests	\$ 25.00	\$ 30.00
Students	\$ 18.00	\$ 18.00

******* Make checks payable to *******
 AITP, Pittsburgh Chapter

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*******Email Registration*******
 You may register via email by sending your confirmation to:
aitp@excaliburdata.com
 Please be sure to include the number of attendees, names,
 company names, phone numbers and email addresses.

Please note: *When registering via email, we treat it as a confirmed registration. As such, if you do not cancel your reservation by December 9, 1999, you will be billed for the meeting.*

SPECIAL NOTE: SPEAKERS AND TOPICS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

Directions:

From North, South or West: Follow I-279 to Exit #4 (Greentree, Mt. Lebanon). At top of exit go left onto Greentree Road through 3 lights and make right onto Parkway Center Drive. Hotel is on the left.

From East and Downtown Pittsburgh: Follow I-279 South/Airport signs across Fort Pitt Bridge through tunnel exit on #5 (Parkway Center Drive) Hotel is on the end of the ramp on the right.

Registration Form for Tuesday, December 14, 1999
 Deadline is Thursday, December 9, 1999

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip Code _____
 Phone Number _____
 Email _____

January Meeting Topic is NT Management with NetIQ

Dennis Coglianesse has confirmed as January speaker. The Topic will be "NT Management with NetIQ" and it will

be presented by Tim Smith and Dave Alpers of NetIQ. Keep your eyes out for the January newsletter and the

website for the list of topics that will be presented at next year's dinner meetings.

A REAL Y2K Glitch for Windows

If you're running Windows, this is a fix for a small Y2K problem that most people -- even those supposedly Y2K ready -- don't know about...

After running this quick little test, much to his surprise, an on-line colleague discovered that his computer would have failed on 01-01-2000 due to a computer clock glitch. Fortunately, a quick fix is provided, should your computer fail the test.

TEST

Double click on "My Computer". Double click on "Control Panel". Double click on "Regional Settings" icon. Click on the "Date" tab at the top of the page. Where it says, "Short Date Sample", look and see if it shows a "two digit" year. Of course it does. That's the default setting for Windows 95, Windows 98 and NT. This date **RIGHT HERE** is the date that feeds application software and **WILL NOT** rollover in

the year 2000. It will roll over to 00.

FIX

Click on the button across from "Short Date Style" and select the option that shows, mm/dd/yyyy. (Be sure your selection has four Y's showing, not two) Then click on "Apply" and then click on "OK" at the bottom.

Easy enough to fix. However, every single installation of Windows worldwide is defaulted to fail Y2K rollover.



"Easy enough to fix. However, every single installation of Windows worldwide is defaulted to fail Y2K rollover."

Y2K WORRIED??

Worried about power, natural gas and other outages; bank problems or their possible disruptions related to the 'Y2K' computer problem? Read this:

The Lord is my programmer, I shall not crash. He installed His software on the hard

memory disk of my heart. All of His commands are user friendly. His directory guides me to the right choices for His name's sake. Even though I scroll through the problems of life, I will fear no bugs, for He is my backup. His password pro-

TECTS me. He prepares a menu before me in the presence of my enemies. His help is only a keystroke away. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life. And my file will be merged with His and saved forever.

FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Newsletter is the official publication of the AITP Pittsburgh Chapter. It is published ten times a year at Pittsburgh, PA as a benefit of membership, to announce the monthly General Meeting, and to provide information of local interest to our members. It is circulated free-of-charge

to our AITP members.

We welcome contributions by members and non-members. Unless otherwise requested, articles are subject to editing. Send your documents to Denise Patrizio FAX 412-690-7602, Internet Denise_A._patrizio@corp.cng.com or anthdeepatri-

zio@prodigy.net Our address is Pittsburgh Chapter-AITP, P.O. Box 2004, Pittsburgh, PA 15230.

The submission deadline for articles to be published is the Friday after each Dinner Meeting. Board meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month.

A Y2K Christmas (In the style of "Twas the Night Before Christmas")

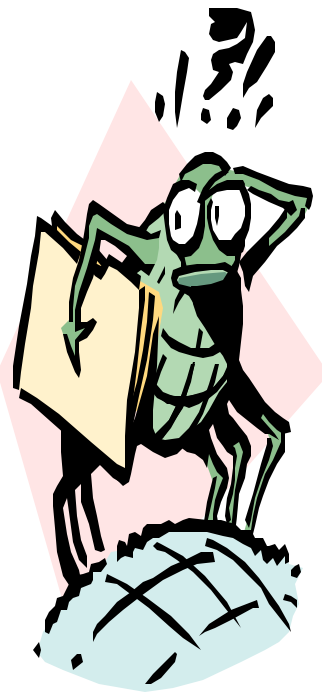
'Twas a week after Christmas, when all through the house
Not a computer was workin', not even a mouse.
All stockings were washed, by hand with great care,
'Cause all washing machines quit workin', on the first day of the year.

The citizens were restless, quite a few packin' lead,
Having visions of vandals, and winding up dead;
Wear a bullet proof vest, or you may end up capped,
Best keep one eye opened, while takin' a nap.
And down in the streets, there arose such a clatter,
People rioting and stealing, like nothin' else mattered;
Keep away from the windows, when you see a big flash,
'Cause it's probably gunfire, someone protectin' their stash.
You walk to the store, your food's running low,
Got a nice new car, but you find it won't go;
So many ignore the warnings, said there's nothin' to fear,
"Oh that year 2000's, just another year.

With little chips designed, so tiny and quick,
Made our jobs much easier, 'till they decided to quit.
More rapid over the years,

the programs became,
Made by high tech companies, we all know the name.

Now Microsoft! Now Motorola! Now AMD and Intel!
There's TI and Apple, Samsung and Dell!
Stocks rose to the top, seemed never to fall!
Now the cash is all gone, there's no cash at all!



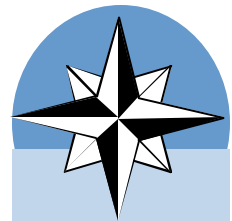
The planes are all grounded, not a one can fly,
'Cause on the first day of the year, they all fell from the sky;
While on the desktops, where

cursors once flew;
No work can be done, no work can be viewed.
The pixels don't twinkle, the computer's aloof;
Y2K has arrived...there's plenty of proof;
For all those who believed not, just look around,
Civilization has fallen, like a stone to the ground.

Put on the fur coat, cover from your head to your feet,
The furnaces don't work, no way to get heat.
The clocks aren't turning, none of them chime,
Twelve midnight they all read, it's a question of time.

Since all time has stopped, for at least the next year,
How will we tell when next Christmas draws near!
No presents to be bought, no lights to be hung,
No turkey to be cooked, no carols to be sung,
But as bleak as it gets, there still is some light,
As long as we keep our friends, everything will be alright;
So as this year ends, there's but one thing to say,

"HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL, AND TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT"



"With little chips designed, so tiny and quick,
Made our jobs much easier, 'till they decided to quit."

The Present

Everyone is so busy nowadays it is hard to take on one more responsibility. This is evident even in our group as the nominating committee has been unable to fill all the positions on the board of directors. Hopefully the following will cause you to stop and reevaluate your priorities.

This was written by the CEO of Coca-Cola, Brian G. Dyson. It was used as Georgia Tech's Commencement Address:

Imagine life as a game in which you are juggling some five balls in the air. You name them - Work - Family - Health - Friends - Spirit, and you're keeping all of these in the air. You will soon understand that work is a rubber ball. If you drop it, it will bounce back. But the other four balls - family, health, friends and spirit are made of glass. If you drop one of these, they will be irrevocably scuffed, marked, nicked, damaged or even shattered. They will never be the same. You must understand that and strive for balance in your life. How?

1. Don't undermine your worth by comparing yourself with others. It is because we are different that each of us is

special.

2. Don't set your goals by what other people deem important. Only you know what is best for you.

3. Don't take for granted the things closest to your heart. Cling to them as you would



your life, for without them, life is meaningless.

4. Don't let your life slip through your fingers by living in the past or for the future. By living your life one day at a time, you live ALL the days of your life.

5. Don't give up when you still have something to give. Nothing is really over until the moment you stop trying.

6. Don't be afraid to admit that you are less than perfect. It is this fragile thread that binds us together.

7. Don't be afraid to encounter risks. It is by taking

chances that we learn how to be brave.

8. Don't shut love out of your life by saying it's impossible to find. The quickest way to receive love is to give; the fastest way to lose love is to hold it too tightly; and the best way to keep love is to give it wings.

9. Don't run through life so fast that you forget not only where you've been, but also where you are going.

10. Don't forget that a person's greatest emotional need is to

feel appreciated.

11. Don't be afraid to learn. Knowledge is weightless, a treasure you can always carry easily.

12. Don't use time or words carelessly. Neither can be retrieved.

Life is not a race, but a journey to be savored each step of the way.

Yesterday is History, Tomorrow is a Mystery, and Today is a gift: that's why we call it - The Present.



“Imagine life as a game in which you are juggling some five balls in the air. You name them - Work - Family - Health - Friends - Spirit, and you're keeping all of these in the air. “

Association News by Larry Schmitz, AITP President

Since many of you didn't have the opportunity to attend the Annual Meeting in Chicago, I thought I would repeat my interim report to the members in this column.

When you elected me as your president, I told you I was setting four goals for 1999 "The Year of Opportunity." Those goals were:

1. *Actively Market the Interim Member Program* – We have made a number of efforts to publicize this program to professional and student chapters, but have fallen far short of my expectations. Hopefully, professional chapters will seize the opportunity this fall so that we convert a significant number of December/January graduates from student members to professional members. For this to happen, professional chapters need to have a LOT more contact with, and offer a lot more support to, their student chapters and the faculty advisors.

2. *Reactivate Existing Members/Chapters* – We initiated the Chapter Revitalization Committee under Russ Finney to share ideas and success stories with chapter leaders throughout the organization. This is one area I would pronounce a big success. I have received positive feedback from any number of chapters throughout the organization that have implemented some of these ideas with huge success. My hope is that these gains will encourage other chapters to adopt a positive attitude and proactively implement these ideas as well.

3. *Save the CCP Certification*

Program - We have been working closely all year with ICCP in terms of helping them try to cut their administrative expenses and promote their exams to AITP members through special pricing in conjunction with AITP events and marketing campaigns. We have actively encouraged ICCP to become more proactive in having their certification recognized by state governments as professional licensing criteria.

We are in continuing negotiations with ICCP to move their operations into our headquarters facilities to facilitate some cost sharing measures that would be beneficial to both organizations.

We are also negotiating the potential of AITP taking back the CCP program should CCP dissolve or otherwise cease operation. However, our main goal is to help them succeed.

4. *Improve Chapter/Region Services* – This year we really focused on this area and produced the following results: Implemented a monetary region award system to provide some funding to regions that were doing their job

- Implemented the Professional Chapter Standards (PCS 2000) program where chapters that did the basic things a chapter should do could earn up to \$500 in awards.

- Formed the Region President's Council to provide a forum where region presidents can share ideas and provide input to the National Board of Directors.

- As a part of the Marketing Plan, we are delivering the

Chip Head Brochure, Power Point presentation, and the AITP Information Kit. These are all designed to help chapters market themselves and the Association.

- Significantly enhanced the AITP Web page and provided online membership applications.

- Through the combined efforts of the Windy City chapter, Region V, the Education Foundation, and Headquarters, provided the first full-blown National Conference in many years.

- At Headquarters, we upgraded our staff, our membership system, and our financial system in order to provide better, more efficient services to chapters and members and to ensure Y2K compliance.

- The 1999 Collegiate Conference was another record-breaking success. This has helped foster the startup of a number of new student chapters and has raised our student membership to an all-time high.

Bottom Line

Thanks to the efforts of a whole lot of people, 1999, so far, has been a successful "Year of Opportunity." With a financial forecast that calls for AITP to finish in the black for the third straight year and our membership attrition rate dropping from 7.4% to 3% in one year, we are poised to begin the new millennium in the best shape we have been in for many years.

I want to close by saying a heartfelt "Thank You" to all of you who made this possible.



Thanks to the efforts of a whole lot of people, 1999, so far, has been a successful "Year of Opportunity."

President's Message

Exciting Times Ahead

By Mike Fuson—Pittsburgh Chapter President



I cannot believe that 1999 is almost over. Like many of you the end the Y2K nonsense will not come soon enough, but it certainly was interesting. I have enjoyed my tenure as President and look forward to be your Past-President and participating in the board activities.

I would like to thank the officers and board of directors for the fabulous job they did this year, and countless hours they spent in keeping the Pittsburgh Chapter running smoothly. I would like to extend a special "thank you," "wow you're wonderful" and "we couldn't have done it without you" to one very

special lady.... **Denise Patrizio**. Many of you know Denise as the quiet lady who sits at one of the tables in the back and always seems to have whatever anyone in AITP needs, and I mean anything! She is always on top of the goings on at region and association level, served as the region President and participated in countless committees. Denise truly is the backbone of the Pittsburgh Chapter and really is the glue that holds this baby together. So when you get to the dinner meeting in December, make sure you take a moment to give Denise a handshake/hug and tell her "thank you" she most definitely deserves it.

I sure do hope to see you at the December meeting; it will be

quite a blast. We are going to have a lot of fun with the Y2K worries of some of the masses. We are going to have a bunch of fun and useful gifts that we'll be raffling off, and most importantly, we are going to blow off some of the steam generated as the pressure builds toward 01/01/2000.

This year has been a blast, and I appreciated the opportunity to serve you. Pat McMurray will be taking the reins for the Year 2000. Please be sure to give her your support as the AITP Pittsburgh Chapter moves into the next Millennium.

YEAR 2000

SUPPORTING CONTRIBUTOR LISTING FOR ROSTER PUBLICATION

The Pittsburgh Chapter Roster once again is soliciting "Supporting Contributors" for the 2000 Roster.

To show your support for our Chapter Roster you may put either your name or your company name in one of the below categories for \$10.00.

Member Supporter - You can have one line listed with your name

Corporate Supporter - You may have one line listed with your Corporate name

As a member, you may select one or the other category above. If you would like your company name and your name to appear, the cost would be \$20.00.

Your request must be received by

January 4, 2000 to be included.

Make checks payable to:
AITP - Pittsburgh Chapter
c/o Denise Patrizio
36 Hollowhaven Drive
Pittsburgh PA 15236

Help support this great publication!!!

I would like to support the AITP's roster. Please include the following line in the roster for the cost of \$10 a line:

Name _____

(Or)

Company _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____

ADDRESS INFORMATION CORRECTION

The Membership Director is in the process of starting to assemble the 2000 Pittsburgh Chapter Membership Roster. To be sure we have the most current information for each member, we are asking you to review the information on the address label of this newsletter. It is located on the back page. If it is correct you need not do anything, this is

the information that will appear in the Roster.

However, if it's not right you must notify us by January 4, 2000 to insure that it will be correct in the roster. A form has been provided for this purpose. Please provide us with all the information requested on the form. This is the information that will appear in the 2000

roster.

Mail the corrected form to the Chapter at the return address located above your label.

A reminder, your dues must be current for your name to appear in the 2000 roster.

MEMBERSHIP NO:

NAME, LAST:

NAME, FIRST:

COMPANY:

TITLE:

ADDRESS:

CITY, STATE, ZIP:

PHONE:

FAX:

INTERNET ADDRESS:

OUR AITP MEMBERSHIP FILES REFLECT THE INFORMATION ON THE LABEL. IF THERE IS INCORRECT DATA YOU WANT CORRECTED, PLEASE MAKE THE CORRECTIONS ON THIS FORM AND RETURN IT TO AITP, P.O. BOX 2004, PITTSBURGH, PA 15230.

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Technology Professionals

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AITP — Pittsburgh
Chapter

FIRST CLASS MAIL – DATED MATERIAL

Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5



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Updated Website*

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