



**PRESIDENT'S
MESSAGE**



**CONNIE CHENG,
CISA, CPA, CFE, CISSP
PRESIDENT**

GOOD MEMORIES IN 2008 AND WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2009!

The second part of 2008 turned out to be one of the most difficult years that some of us have experienced in our life time. The severe economic downturn has significantly impacted most industries. IT audit is unfortunately not immune from the economic downturn. Some of our members were personally impacted. During this difficult time, ISACA continued to develop and evolve. A new CGEIT certification was introduced. Seventeen of our members were awarded CGEIT via the grandfather application and a number of other members took the first CGEIT exam in December. New Chapter by-laws, which were updated to reflect the new environment, were approved by the membership in the October Special Membership meeting.

To support our mission to provide the best value to our members and to assist our members in getting through the difficult time, our chapter continued our holiday tradition and offered a complimentary holiday party to our members when most for-profit companies cut down their expenses. The holiday party served as an important networking opportunity for our members as well as a relaxing event for our members to recharge and get ready for the new 2009.

2009 has marked an important year in history. In January, the first African American President took the oath of office in our country, and our chapter hosted a well-received forensics panel discussion. In February, the total number of San Francisco chapter members exceeded 1000. We welcome all the new members and trust that you will find ISACA being one of the most beneficial professional memberships that add value to your career and profession. For our old members, we very much appreciate all of your continued support of our chapter activities and have every expectation to exceed them this coming year.

2009 also marks ISACA's 40th anniversary and our chapter's 34th anniversary. To celebrate this important milestone, ISACA International has introduced a new name and updated look for the Journal. Locally, we are currently planning a number of important events and activities in addition to the regular monthly educational events and the semi-annual certification review courses.

First, we will soon launch the Best Paper Contest for both professionals and students. The Best Paper Contest provides an important local opportunity for our members to share their knowledge, expertise and experiences in the IT audit community via written articles of their own on IT auditing topics. Second, in the April timeframe, we will conduct our second electronic membership survey, which allows our members to provide the board feedback on how the board is doing and how the board may better serve the members in the future. Third, the board is brainstorming the best format to assist our members in preparing for the CGEIT exam. Fourth, our fall conference committee has started the planning process with 30 volunteers and we expect another year's excellence and success. Fifth, we will soon start our 2009/2010 nomination and budgeting process.

I hope that you will take the opportunity to participate in these events and better yet, to volunteer your time by helping out the various committees. Should you have any suggestions, feedback, comments or questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at president@sfisaca.org. Looking forward to hearing from you!

Conny Cheng, CISA, CPA, CFE, CISSP
PRESIDENT

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GOAL SETTING A LIFE DEVELOPMENT TOOL

Goal Setting as an Integral Career/Life Development Tool!

By Todd Weinman, CES

As we near the end of Q1 2009, we can be certain of one thing: most of our New Years' resolutions have been left in the rearview mirror. The truth is New Year's resolutions rarely have a shelf life of more than a week or two. Most of the time they are given little thought and even less real intention of being adhered to. So instead of talking about that time-honored but less-than-successful tradition, maybe it is time for us to talk about those two dirty little words: GOAL SETTING! There, I said it.

Let's be honest. Goal setting is *not* a sexy topic. You've heard about it ad nauseam; you use it in business on a regular basis. I'm right with you. Personally, I used to loath the very concept – which incidentally makes me the perfect person to write this article.

As someone with 15 years of experience in executive recruiting, a field that requires a great deal of self-motivation, I had read the articles, listened to the tapes, seen the DVDs, and attended the seminars by motivational speakers ... blah blah blah blah. I really had no interest--I wasn't "that guy." I fell into goal setting completely by accident. I didn't even label it as "goal setting" at first—I just started writing down some random thoughts during the holiday season one year. Then a funny thing happened. I magically started achieving more and more of the things I wrote down.

I'm now a convert. I now understand that applying goal setting to various areas of your life can have a big impact. You can naturally start to overcome some of the inertia and resulting frustration that can so easily keep us from achieving all that we would like in our lives, big or small.

Overcoming your reluctance:

Perhaps the biggest challenge to buying into goal setting is to get over one's reluctance. First, you have to get over the stigma that goal setting is just something for those super-square motivational speakers.

But sometimes there is an even deeper reluctance. In my case –and I have a suspicion I am not completely alone here—I have issues with control. In short, I recoil at the notion of being controlled. One day I finally made the connection: I had such a knee-jerk reaction to being controlled; I didn't even want to be accountable to myself. Making that connection was a big step in overcoming my reluctance to goal setting.

Creating a System:

You don't necessarily have to jump into a complex program all at once (although that will lead to faster results.) That said, building a framework (and we all know how Auditors love a good framework) allows you to make and monitor progress in more areas of your life.

There are many different ways you can do this. My

homegrown system involves breaking my life down into component parts. The categories I use (your categories will vary) are as follows:

Professional goals are the first and most developed area of my process – in part because it is a driver for so many other aspects of my life. If I'm not successful in this area, I'm likely not going to be able to attain some of the other goals that are important to me. I typically break this down in to several pages of sub-goals.

Financial goals: This includes things like, how much money do I intend to contribute to my retirement plan, savings, or other investment vehicles this year, and what do I need to accomplish that. Do I need to cut back spending? Or, do I need to change my investment/allocation strategy? In some years, I've had the goal of reading some books and attending seminars on how to better manage my finances.

Health and Fitness goals encompass things like diet, exercise or weight-loss, as well as any health-related activities I can anticipate (dental and medical check-ups), or that Lasik surgery I keep thinking about.

Home or Household goals include any projects that I want or need to get done on your home -- anything from getting the house painted to organizing the garage. Or it could be a significant household purchase...like replacing that old rabbit-ear analog antenna for your television.

Personal goals could encompass any areas for personal growth-- my interactions with other people, volunteer work or spirituality. This category could also include personal enrichment goals like, "I wish to read x number of non-fiction books this year, learn a new language, or improve my cooking skills." Personal goals could also encompass **family** or **relationship** goals (for example, I've been actively working on keeping in closer touch my cousins the past few years), or those might merit a separate category.

Music/Trombone goals: I'm betting that most of you won't have this one, but since music is a big part of my life, have a separate category for trombone/musical goals. If you have a strong interest or hobby, it might merit its own category.

Travel goals: Since I love to travel, I actually map out travel goals for the year.

Other goals: This is a catch-all for things that don't neatly fit into other categories.

Again, your categories will be unique to you. You may have a category for adventure goals, or bucket-list goals. Foodies might have a goal of working their way through SFs top restaurants. Some people might have a "new

GOAL SETTING A LIFE DEVELOPMENT TOOL - CONT'D

things to try" goal—5 things you have never done before. It all depends on what is important to you.

Why Goal Setting Can be Particularly Important for Audit Professionals:

Whereas some fields (sales, Olympic swimming) naturally lend themselves to goal setting as they have easily quantifiable metrics, the Audit field can be a bit more nebulous. Moreover, most people working in the Audit field work for companies (either in industry or consulting) and thus don't have control of the projects or audits to which they are assigned. As a result, without having a careful eye to one's own career development (career goals), it can be easy to get stuck on a steady stream of audits that don't really contribute to your growth or longer-term career objectives.

Goal setting will help you to:

- ✦ Stay on track
- ✦ Lobby for projects that will grow or enhance your skills
- ✦ Attain your long-term career objectives.

Goal setting in this area can also help you recognize when a change of scenery (either within or outside your company) might be required to sustain your growth, learning, and to avoid becoming stale.

Example of a Break-down of Audit Skill Goals:

A quick sample breakdown of professional goals for someone in the Audit field might include:

- **Communication skills** both verbal and written
- **Relationship** and or **Networking Skills**
- **Technical Skills** or other areas of **Subject Matter Expertise**
- **Business Knowledge** goals
- **Education/Certification** or other **Credential** goals
- **Supervisory** or **Leadership** goals

The key is to break each area down into real, ideally measurable, metrics that you can monitor as the year goes on.

Key Success Factors:

1. **Set goals that challenge you but that are also realistic.** The idea of goal setting is to push yourself to achieve things that are important to you but that you otherwise might not attain while cruising on auto-pilot. But if you are so hard on yourself that it becomes an odious task, you likely won't continue with the exercise.
2. **Follow up and review is key!** If you merely write

down your goals at the beginning of the year and never look at them again, you may still achieve some of them (as you may have committed these goals to your subconscious). But for the process to really have consistent value, you must have regular review. I recommend reviewing your goals at a minimum once a quarter, and even better, once a month. This schedule should be built into your calendar. I typically link my goal setting to the time I am paying bills each month; it's amazing how the process of paying bills can add some clarity to some of your professional and financial goals.

3. **Look at your goals holistically, and then prioritize.** Sometimes it won't be possible to attain all of the goals you set for yourself. After all, there are only so many hours in the day. So you may have to "backburner" some goals for the year in order to emphasize others. For example, I love to travel, but since I am in the process of launching my own business this year, which is a very time intensive process, my travel goals for the year are modest. You may find that you can't do everything you set out to do, but there are some obvious tradeoffs.
4. **Sometimes you just have to punt.** There are going to be times/years where things just don't go according to plan (perhaps not surprisingly, losing a large chunk of my 401K was not one of my investment goals for 2008). Changes in the market, economy, or personal life can significantly alter the goals you set for yourself at the beginning of the year. Sometimes you have to look at the circumstances part way through the year and devise a plan B.

As one who once equated goal setting to the equivalent of a root canal, I am here to say that if you give goal setting a chance, it can have a powerful impact on your life. I am proof of that. My top goal for 2008 was to figure out where I wanted to be professionally for the next 5-10 years. If not for goal setting, I can guarantee that I would not be sitting here writing this article as the owner of my own company.

Todd Weinman is the President and Founder of **The Weinman Group LLC**, an executive search firm serving the Audit and Corporate Governance niche. Now in his 15th of recruiting, Todd has become a trusted advisor to the region's top companies in their search for outstanding talent, and to Audit and Corporate Governance professionals looking to accelerate their careers. Todd can be reached at: todd@weinmangroup.com, at 510-835-3053, or on LinkedIn.

Mark your calendars for Fall Conference 2009

The dates for the 2009 SF ISACA Fall Conference are now set, so mark your calendar now for September 21, 22 and 23, once again at the beautiful Hotel Nikko in San Francisco. Four tracks over three days will represent the best opportunity to earn up to 21 CPE credits, learn about IT Audit and Security basics or advanced techniques, keep in sync with emerging technologies and evolving tools. We plan to keep the cost of the conference low to allow as many members as possible to attend, making it the best networking event of the year in our region. Registration will open in the April timeframe.

If you would like to help plan and execute the conference, the all-volunteer team is now forming. If you would like to be included in the speaker candidate pool, or if you know of a good speaker on a relevant topic that you believe your peers would benefit from hearing, now is the time to raise your hand. Contact conference09@sfisaca.org for more information or to get involved.

CHAPTER EDUCATION EVENTS

Chapter Education Events Packed with Excitement in 2009

On the Education front, the chapter has had an explosive calendar year to date, with record attendance and attendee feedback over previous years.

January's event, The Forensics Panel, was the largest luncheon seminar session the chapter has seen to date, with record attendance. The speakers were very well received and were able to cover many aspects of Computer Forensics, such as fieldwork, management, government, corporate concerns/considerations and litigation. The Q&A style of the session allowed members to get their serious questions answered by experienced professionals with a broad range of expertise. Future similar sessions may have to be a bit longer, as audience participation was at peak levels all the way through to the end of the session.

If you missed our previous events so far, here is a quick re-cap:

Month	Topic	Speaker(s)
October	Business Continuity Management Standard BS25999: The BIG Picture	Lee Milligan - Sr. Project Manager, SunGard Availability Services
November	Avoiding HIPAA Pitfalls: An Auditor's Guide to the Regulation of Healthcare IT	Bill Pankey - Partner, Tunitas Group
December	Member Appreciation Event	N/A
January	Computer Forensics Panel	Juan Rivera - Information Systems Security Officer (ISSO), U.S. Coast Guard / D.H.S. Brian Robson - Information Security Professional, U.S. Coast Guard Intelligence Division John Steensen - President, Spatial Dynamics Corporation Albert Lihalakha - Manager, Forensics Practice - KPMG LLP
February	IS Policies and Procedures: Relevance, Best-Practices, and Compliance Considerations ('Core Competency' session)	Harshul Joshi - Director of IT, CBIZ MHM, LLC

For the remainder of the year, we are committed to putting member feedback into action, and are looking into hosting an event in the East Bay (BART accessible, of course), as well as hosting a joint event with another professional organization, such as itSMF (<http://sfb.itsmfusa.org>). Two of this year's remaining events are slated to be Full-Day events, and we are hoping to offer members an excellent way to earn CPEs at bargain prices. Here is a sneak-peak at the events we are tentatively planning for the remainder of the year:

Month	Topic
March	Protection of Consumer Information (Full-Day Event)
April	IT Governance Topic (possible joint event with itSMF)
May	DB Change Management ('Core Competency' session)
June	Soft Skills and Employability Seminar (Full-Day Event)

As events and dates become finalized, we'll be sure to keep you informed every step of the way.

We hope you join us at our next event!

CGEIT Exam Preparation Course

This course will prepare candidates for success on the June 13, 2009, CGEIT exam. CGEIT is a new certificate granted by ISACA. While the first exam took place in December 2008, ISACA has not yet published preparation course materials or guides but has identified the task and knowledge statements for the various CGEIT domains and a suggested reading list.

The course will be presented in weekly two-hour teleconferences and three in-person Saturday sessions.

Each teleconference will address specific topics within the CGEIT practice area. The format for the telephone conferences/webinars will be approximately one hour of lecture addressing various CGEIT knowledge statements followed by an hour of discussion. The lecture will be based on material in the CGEIT references – the discussion will be centered on scenarios constructed to illustrate various governance issues.

Saturday sessions will review the material presented in the teleconferences, followed by a practice examination and discussion of answers.

Course Schedule:

Topic	Dates (tentative)
IT Governance Framework	Mar 23, Mar 30, Apr 6, Apr 13
Strategic Alignment	Apr 20
Value Delivery	Apr 27
Risk Management	May 4, May 11
Resource Management	May 18
Performance Measurement	May 25

Saturday Reviews: Apr 18, May 16, June 6

Faculty:

Bill Pankey, CISA, CISSP, of Tunitas Group, will be the primary presenter. Individual participants in the course will be asked to give short presentations in their areas of particular expertise.

Registration:

Contact Bill Pankey by email (bpankey@tunitas.com) or voice (209-256-0690) to indicate interest and obtain dial-in information and detailed course syllabus.

There is no participation fee for this course.

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP CONTINUES TO GROW

Despite the economic downturn, or perhaps because of it, the size of our chapter continued to grow in 2008. IT Audit and Security professionals in the Bay Area know that there is no better way to build the both depth and breadth of your awareness and practical understanding of the various tools and techniques that serve as the foundation of our capability. And maintaining your membership in ISACA and active association with the San Francisco chapter is the best professional networking opportunity in the region. For those reasons and more, our chapter has reached the 1000 member point! We are one of the largest chapters in the world and continue to actively engage with ISACA International and with our sister organizations in the Bay Area.

To get the most out of your membership, look for ways you can leverage the wide variety of interactions you can have with your professional peers in the region. Read (or better yet, submit articles for) the quarterly chapter newsletter. Check the chapter web site often to stay abreast of events and educational opportunities both with the San Francisco chapter and with ISACA International and other regional organizations. The chapter offers the best, most cost effective way to stay current with the Continuing Professional Education (CPE) requirements to maintain your valuable certifications. Look for email messages from the chapter's communication committee (they go to the address you have on file with ISACA International at <http://isaca.org>). We use this communication channel sparingly (no spam, we promise) so when you see a message come in from sfisaca.org, you can bet it's to announce an important educational or networking opportunity that you should consider attending, or to announce chapter general meetings, member appreciation events, or to get your vote on our chapter leadership.

As always, if you have any questions about your membership, contact the Membership Committee chairs, Steve Owyong or Mike Nelson at membership@sfisaca.org.

New members in 2009

Datta Anuradha
Srijaya Bearely
Alex Begun
Rebeca Gipson
Melvin Gomez
Alan Grabenstein
Alyson Ho
Jody L. Kitazono
Karanbir Singh Kochar
Linda Li
Li-Ying Yee Meris
Charles David Nielson
Bhadrakumar Patel
Kevin Patrick Rice
Chetana J. Sankhye
Max Schrank
Maria J. Shaw
Denise Sumikawa
Yingjing Wang

Transfers to SF Chapter in 2009

Heather Marie Acheson
Deanna V. Aquino
Lisa De Orian
Jon Edwards
Emily Jane Fremming
Jonas Hagman
Alvin K.F. Hau
Sylvester Johnny
Manu Mankad
Sean Muranjan
Julie Ann Raines
Patrick J. Roberts
Sarah Elizabeth Thompson
Yvonne Boyer Wilborn
Simon Yap

SF ISACA wishes you all the best in the New Year 2009

"I'm always surprised to see the international crowd that shows up for these events. It's so cool to share ideas and stories with such a diverse group of professionals."

"All good deeds require effort and this organization has many good deeds within its quiver."

- PW Carey

"It was fun!"

- David McKenzie

"A great networking event."

"The SF ISACA holiday event is always the event to be each year."

"For a Christmas party it had networking, shop talk, good food, and a jovial ambiance."

"Food was excellent and the camaraderie was even better. Great Holiday occasion."

- James Stevensen

"Great to see a lot of new faces this year!"

"Great venue for connecting IT Security Professionals with Auditors."

- Mark Freund

"Any organization is only as good as its members who are willing to donate their time, talent, and professional turpitude to its existence."

"Fantastic food and spirited spirits. Meeting friends old and new."

"The ISACA holiday party afforded us not only the view of the wonderful San Francisco skyscrapers - but also the opportunity to reconnect with old colleagues in the Security and Audit professions."

- Sunjali R. Afanacio

"It was great to see some old friends and it was fun taking photos!"

- Rebecca

"ISACA consistently brings the best professionals in the Bay Area together. It is a great resource for everyone."

- Peter Hu



CHAPTER DIRECTORS TODD WEINMAN, FAR LEFT, AND DEBRA MALLETTE, FAR RIGHT, MINGLE WITH MEMBERS AT THE DECEMBER EVENT.



PAST CHAPTER PRESIDENT DOUG FEIL, SECOND FROM LEFT, WITH CHAPTER DIRECTOR MARY LEE TO THE RIGHT, ARE THE CENTER OF THE PARTY AT THE DECEMBER EVENT.



CHAPTER TREASURER AND 2009 FALL CONFERENCE CO-CHAIR TIM STAPLETON, LEFT, AND DIRECTOR DEBRA MALLETTE RECEIVE THEIR CGEIT CERTIFICATES.



ONE LAST GROUP PHOTO OF CHAPTER MEMBERS AND LEADERS BEFORE CALLING THE DECEMBER EVENT A NIGHT.

***Photos courtesy of Rebecca Stapleton**

L.A. Chapter Spring Conference

Around the Corner

ISACA Los Angeles

would like to extend an invitation to the members of

ISACA San Francisco

to attend the **36th Annual Spring Conference** which celebrates its 40th Anniversary! The Los Angeles chapter started the ISACA organization in 1969. With such a wonderful history and excellent service to IT Governance Professionals we know you will be excited to see the great line up of presenters and subjects for this year's conference.

Celebrating Forty Years of Excellence!

Mark **March 21st - 25th, 2009** on your calendar and join us at the 2009 Spring Conference, the leading information systems audit event for the Southern California area.

The ISACA Los Angeles Chapter provides affordable quality training on fundamental information systems auditing concepts and emerging technology risks, and an opportunity to network with other auditing and security professionals.

2009 Spring Conference Overview :

- **Pre-Conference Workshop**- Preceding the conference, "Implementing IT Governance" will be offered as a pre-conference two-day workshop. In addition, we will be offering an one-day workshop series that offers both technical materials and hands-on exercises.
- **Core Competencies** - Designed for the operational/financial auditor or anyone new to the information systems auditing profession who want to learn various IS auditing basics.
- **Information Security** - The latest security topics to enhance the skills of IT audit and security professionals.
- **IT Governance** - Includes sessions covering governance topics that supports the enterprise's IT ability to sustain and extend the organization's strategies and objectives.
- **Tools and Techniques** - Sessions that will enable participants to take away ideas and techniques to enhance their professional development and work.

Registration and additional details are now available at www.isacala.org/conference !

2008 FALL TECHNICAL CONFERENCE IN REVIEW

A View From Above - The San Francisco ISACA Chapter's 2008 Fall Technical Conference By Douglas Feil CISA, CISM, CFE

On Monday September 22, 2008, I attended the San Francisco ISACA Chapter's 2008 Fall Technical conference in San Francisco. This was the eighth annual Fall Conference and is the premier education event for the chapter's membership and those interested in our profession. The solid conference team, well-versed speakers, and the Hotel Nikko location - all made this another tremendous event for our chapter in providing Northern California's best education value for IS Audit and Security professionals. There were four tracks offered: Core Competencies; Strategies & Techniques; Compliance & Governance; and In-Depth Technical. Each track had multiple topics which allowed one to custom plan the conference to their areas of interest. By the way, our Chapter is celebrating its 33rd year.

Opening Day registration went so smoothly that there were no lines, individual needs were met right away, and before I knew it, I was ready for the Welcome and Keynote Speaker in the ballroom. Again the attendance was excellent and went beyond last year's record turnout. Meanwhile in the background, the conference team was functioning like a well-honed machine processing all attendees without a skip to the beat. We (attendees) had everything we needed in our new 2008 conference bags - including our pre-designated schedule of sessions, name tag, conference CD, and detail map identifying the session locations, and a listing of our event sponsors. Conference organization was excellent and there was always someone available to field questions on any issue. This year's conference theme was: Elect to Advance; Career, Knowledge, Connections.

Needless to say, the Hotel Nikko in San Francisco (conference event site) has maintained their fine standards for another year, with all food offerings, service, and conference rooms rating four-star. Thus, I will keep the focus on how my conference expectations were met with the education sessions, and leave out the accommodation comments - it was all good.

A step back before I go on...I read my last article on the 2007 SF Fall Technical Conference and it was too long, and I do not know if it even attracts conference attendees? So this will be a synopsis of this education event, and you will just have to attend the ISACA 2009 Fall Technical Conference - same place, same month in 2009 - to be conference-experienced.

Our 2008-2009 Chapter President, Conny Cheng, was in good spirits and gave us a true welcoming speech. She recognized the Herculean efforts of our past president, Kevin Fried. She further stated Kevin has demonstrated tremendous commitment and dedication to this chapter

and is an inspiration to all of us - Kevin we "Thank You for your leadership that has continued the tradition of excellence for our Chapter." Conny went on to say, "Education and Outreach are the primary reasons this chapter exists. We are all volunteer and it is our way of giving back to the profession that has given so much to us. This event is one of the major ways we can accomplish our goal." I could not agree more with Conny's "Message from the President" - nice job.

Our Keynote Speaker was Dr. Moira Gunn. A very dynamic and believable speaker with credentials that won't quit. Dr. Gunn's recent book has been named to the "Best Science Books of 2007" by the Library Journal. Dr. Gunn is currently the Director of Information Systems and Security Programs at the University of San Francisco. My take on this lively and adventurous presentation can be summed up as follows: In the area of trust, Dr. Gunn's focus has primarily centered on the growing global landscape, the emergent issues surrounding DNA and other biological information, and the perceptions of the consumer. Thus, something biological and unique (such as DNA) may become our security token of the future. So we may need to future-think how we, as security professionals, protect DNA from nefarious parties. Good discussion in the networking break after this very thoughtful Keynote Speech.

For the sake of brevity, I will summarize my selected sessions and tracks for each day. My Monday sessions were in the Compliance & Governance Track. CG11 - Convergence of Security and Compliance, Stephen Spalding. Steve is a great speaker, and knew his subject well - based on his responses to the many audience questions. Steve has been a long-time chapter member and frequent speaker for our chapter programs. Everyone felt it was a fine session.

CG12 - Enterprise Risk Management, Scott Perry. Scott is a returning conference speaker with good advice on this a favorite topic for me. Too often the focus is just on IT operations risk and does not address all end-point risks, in our highly automated organizations. Can't wait for my next session, this is getting good.

CG13 - IT Governance, Steve Romero. Beyond Mandates: Getting to "Sustainable" IT Governance Best Practices. Without IT Governance, everything else falls apart based on my experience. This covered all the important areas needed for any enterprise. Good hand-out that covered the major governance issues all IT professionals need to know.

Well, the end of day one for me. Lots to think about and it went by so quickly. Anxious for the next day's sessions and the Exhibition Fair & Luncheon.

Another nice day in cosmopolitan San Francisco. Started this Tuesday with the Compliance & Governance Track and then moved on to the Strategies & Techniques Track. CG21- Overview and Current Trends with the Payment

2008 FALL TECHNICAL CONFERENCE IN REVIEW - CONT'D

Card Industry (PCI) Standard, Tia Llori. A lot of great information on payment systems security and the roles & responsibilities to ensure PCI compliance. Good insight on Visa's security strategy and cyber-security programs.

ST23 - Auditing & Detecting Fraud in IT Processes & Controls, David Eikel. Handout was an excellent reference on what should be done. I believe that every enterprise should have a Fraud Risk Response program in place - and test it. Based on current economic times and the prevalence of the fraud triggers, defalcation occurrence will likely be increasing, in my opinion.

ST24 - Wireless Network Security, Charles Soesanto. If this is what I remember - watch out. The demo was able to grab info from wireless devices all over the hotel - we saw it on the screen. The state of the software in password crackers has been dramatic.

The Exhibition Fair & Luncheon was another great hit for everyone and a chance to meet many of our sponsors and contributors. There was a great array of give-away presents at the booths and the opportunity to talk shop on a variety of products and services geared to our profession - my bag was full of valuable and current reference materials. I won a bottle of fine Chardonnay - compliments of Lander International. My friend at the table, Charles Cresson Wood, won two great prizes - he won an I-Pod at last year's conference.

Final day of the conference and mine was dedicated to the Strategies and Techniques Track.

ST-31 Top 5 Industry Audit Issues (Panel Discussion). Excellent selection of speakers from across the profession. Started a little slow and then picked up quickly with provoking questions from the moderator (Todd Weinman) and the audience. No script here, great points of view - I like panels for the diversity of approaches, and different industry perspectives on an issue.

ST-32 Windows Server 2008 / Windows Vista SP1. Some good technical offerings here from a well-versed speaker from the field. The topic is tough, but as presented by Don Hester, it was practical and important information for me, and anyone using this O/S for critical applications.

ST-33 Overview and Current Trends with ISO27000 Series Security Standard, Mike Villegas. If you have not been to a presentation by Mike - be sure to schedule one for 2009. His session was excellent, and for me it was a wrap-up of all my sessions the past few days. Mike's expansive technical knowledge, charming personality, comfortable style, kind nature of always giving, and overall smarts - he is to me, one of the best role models for our profession. Thanks Mike for your many contributions in making the San Francisco Chapter such a leader in our international professional association.

It was most excellent to see many of our past conference chairs - thank you for your much appreciated work, experience, and assuring another education success for our chapter. There are too many other committee members to

list, so we thank everyone for being great volunteers and providing for the future of our profession. The conference is a project with many hands needed, it is a great organization experience, and there are many fun times working with fellow professionals. I encourage all chapter members to seriously consider volunteering for next year's conference.

In closing, I ventured forth this conference with two great professionals (both chapter members) that shared their conference perspectives with me. I highly value their opinions and they have participated in previous SF chapter technical conferences. I think John Lawson put it best in this reflection:

The September conference organized by the San Francisco ISACA chapter was a tremendous success. The chapter was able to attract a formidable collection of speakers. The majority of the speakers are experts in their field and could effectively communicate the concept without being entrenched in their industry jargon. The Core competencies track is a strong collection of speakers that I encourage all new IT auditors to attend. I personally attended a combination of courses in the Strategies & Technologies and the Governance tracks that provided concepts that I have thoughtfully been considering and applying ever since. The most notable were Intro to Data Security and Privacy, IT Governance, Enterprise Risk Management, Civil procedures and discovery in addition to Auditing and detecting fraud and Wireless Network security. Although I generally attend the conference to fulfill my CPE obligation, I will particularly look forward to next year's conference as another learning experience.

Look forward to seeing you 'all at the SF ISACA Chapter's 2009 Fall Technical Conference. Also, ask what you can do for your chapter - include writing this article next year.

Many Alohas....

SAN FRANCISCO CHAPTER BOARD ROSTER 2008- 2009

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