



# **TSM Voice**

Volume 13, Issue I

September 2005

## **Planning for Professional Growth in an iSeries Environment**

Whether we are managers, analysts or programmers, we need to stay on top of our game. As TSMUG members, we have the iSeries platform in common: but what's our plan for staying current and retaining our investment in our IT talent? That's the topic for our next meeting, which will cover professional growth from both the employee and employer viewpoints. Our speaker, Jena Roytman, comes from a recruiting and consulting firm that has years of experience working with iSeries professionals. She will bring us an insider's perspective on what's going on with the people side of the iSeries world. So bring your staff, bring your manager, bring the whole department for this session. We will leave time for discussion and questions as well.

Since 1995 Roytman Information Services, Inc. has been recognized as a solid and reputable provider of quality-oriented and highly customized IT consulting and recruiting services. Specializing in iSeries development and solutions, Roytman is headquartered in Dayton, Ohio. Jena Roytman, a senior partner and Director of Business Development, manages the company's customer relation efforts. She offers years of strategic development and client management expertise, and a thorough

### **September Meeting Information**

**Date:** Thursday, September 22, 2005

**Time:** 5:30 – 6:30 Networking  
6:30 – 7:30 Dinner  
7:30 – 9:00 Meeting

**Place:** Best Western Kenwood Inn  
& Conference Center  
8020 Montgomery Road  
Montgomery, OH 45242  
513.793.4300

**Topic:** Planning for Professional  
Growth in an iSeries  
Environment

**Speaker:** Jena Roytman

**Cost:** (includes coffee, tea, milk)  
\$ 27.50 Members  
\$ 40.00 Non-members  
\$ 5.00 Meeting only

**Reservations required, before noon, Monday,  
September 19, 2005 by calling 513-357-6173 or  
send an email with your company name, phone  
number and each attendee's name to  
tsmug@tsmug.org.**

**No cancellation after above date and time.**

**See our web page for directions via MapQuest,  
[www.tsmug.org/meetings.html](http://www.tsmug.org/meetings.html)**

knowledge of the IT industry. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Wright State University. Jena is responsible for identifying and maintaining commercial opportunities through company's new and existing business lines. A recent graduate of the Leadership Dayton program, Jena is also heavily involved in local business, community and professional organizations. Volunteering her time and effort, she serves in leadership roles in the Greater Dayton IT Alliance and Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce.

### **May 2005 Meeting Recap** **Kim Anderson**

At our last meeting on May 10, 2005, we were pleased to have Matt Graybiel from NetIQ give us some practical advice about security on the iSeries. NetIQ has expertise with Performance & Availability Management, Security Management, Configuration & Vulnerability Management and Operational Change Control. Matt concentrated his remarks on his experience with iSeries security.

Matt told us that it makes sense to start a security review with the basics: most companies have gaps in areas that are fundamental but easy to overlook. Are you satisfied that your tape storage is adequate? Where is the system key, in the lock? Taped to the side of the unit? Do you have adequate password requirements? What is the inactivity sign-out setting? At the least, says Matt, you should have a rationale that you can defend for all of the system value settings on the iSeries that relate to security. Chances are good that your auditor will want to know if the security features of your iSeries are appropriate to your business.

Matt suggested that if you are not at Security Level 40 on your system, that you consider making this change. Level 50 is very rare, however, and Level 20 is too low. Also, Matt thinks it makes sense to limit the use of the QSECOFR user name. Aside from limiting the set of persons who know the QSECOFR password, you may want to also require every use of the QSECOFR to be "logged", whether this is on paper or electronically. You should not have anyone using this user name for routine iSeries work.

On the subject of security compliance with your auditors, Matt has seen good results from a proactive approach: educate the auditors on the merits of iSeries security, and enlist their help in setting a Security Baseline. This baseline should be documented, so you can show your company is making a good faith effort to balance ease-of-use with sensible security.

Finally, Matt pointed out that NetIQ and other companies have 3rd party add-on software to beef up and/or simplify security for companies that need a better handle on their security. Details are available at [www.netiq.com](http://www.netiq.com).

Our thanks to Matt Graybiel and all of the people at NetIQ for a most informative session.

## Any Suggestions?

Kim Sweet

In my thoughts of what I was going to write, a few ideas did come to mind which only made me struggle on the direction I would eventually go. The one thing I knew I wanted most from this was to share ideas because I just love to share new things I learned with fellow iSeries programmers, whether they wanted to hear it or not. I finally picked a direction and now I will see how it will go. My thoughts strayed a lot towards the amount of money I have spent on technical books that were more a waste than wonderment. I thought I would share some of these experiences with you and hope that you, in return, will respond, whether good or not, your thoughts. Or even share some books that you thought were well worth their cost or books to save your money instead.

The book I would like to share with you in this TSMUG News Letter will be the APIs atwork, by Doug Pence and Ron Hawkins. This book is a very good reference guide to hundreds of new APIs that are available to the iSeries and AS/400. It is easy to pick up and locate the section you may need for solving business problems. There are so many examples like writing Web pages to the Internet from your iSeries, working with user spaces, enable your AS/400 to communicate with PCs, and so much more. I really like this book and it will be a very good reference guide in my Technical Library.

Let me know what you think, or tell me about books you would recommend or books you would stay clear of. Just drop off a note to [Kim.Sweet@PCMSDatafit.com](mailto:Kim.Sweet@PCMSDatafit.com). Thanks for listening!

## Cincinnati State Community and Technical College

### Continuous Improvement

Clayton Lee

Cincinnati State has made some major investments in their new building on the Clifton campus; it may be the most "state of the art" facility in southwest Ohio for education. Also, over the last 5 terms Cincinnati State has completed their first set of JAVA classes (9 classes one night a week for four terms). They start with the basics of Java and moving into EJB development. At this time, nine students have successfully completed all four classes, each student has been offered numerous jobs in the marketplace. With the success of this new JAVA curriculum, Cincinnati State will have JAVA as a major part of the programming curriculum in the future.

In addition, Cincinnati State still offer classes in RPG IV, CL and advance facilities classes with hands on programming and training. In the fall of 2005, we will be getting a new 520 for our development courses such as RPG IV and more WebSphere classes. Also, for the facilities class, we have replaced old AS/400s (some of these were really old) with new model equipment able to run WebSphere and operating system 5.1 and higher. These new machines have been donated by companies listed below:

American Modern Insurance Group  
Seasongood and Mayer  
Connector Manufacturing

Cincinnati State would like to thank the companies from their donations. Contact Clark Stull @ (513) 569-1482 or myself at (513) 379-6949 for more information.

## Membership

### Steve Spooner

I am very excited to get back on the Board of Directors of TSMUG. Previously I was on the board in a variety of capacities, including President, during my years at IBM in the 1990's. It is easy to look back at the time when RISC models were introduced as one that was very exciting for the AS/400 community. However, today the i5 has even more going for it compared to the rest of the industry than was the case back in 1995.

I will be working to do all that I can to increase not only membership, but also participation, in that they feed upon one another. The more that current members show up for the meetings, the easier it will be to get them to pass the word on to their peers about why membership is worthwhile.

If there are any suggestions that you have to help increase membership or participation, please feel free to give me a call (513-792-8006), or send me an email [sspooner.msi@fuse.net](mailto:sspooner.msi@fuse.net).

Here are some trivia questions regarding the AS/400, iSeries, i5:

1. What did the AS in AS/400 originally stand for?
2. Prior to its announcement on June 21, 1988, the AS/400 was code-named Silverlake. That became so well known in the industry that IBM had a second code-name just prior to the announcement. What was the second code name?
3. One of the primary architectural reasons the migration from 48 bit to 64 bit computing was as seamless as it was for the AS/400 sounded like it could have been named after a character in a Lassie movie. What does that acronym stand for?
4. What was the D50-D80's infamous "Mandatory Optional Chargeable Feature"?

At the September meeting, I will purchase a beverage for the first person to answer each of those questions.

I am looking forward to having a great year!

Steve Spooner  
[sspooner.msi@fuse.net](mailto:sspooner.msi@fuse.net)

### **Member of the Year !!!**

At our November meeting, we will draw one (1) name from all applications accepted. One person will win free TSMUG dinner meetings for the year. That includes January, March, and September of 2006.

To be eligible, submit your application with payment prior to the November meeting.

## **President's Corner**

**Jeffrey A. Welsh**

It's hard to believe that summer is almost over. Its time once again to start thinking about the Tri-State Midrange User's Group and consider membership. Our first meeting will be coming up in September. For those of you that were members last year, you get member pricing for the first meeting this year.

One of the questions, you might be thinking is Why should I Join TSMUG? Well there are several reasons: You have the opportunity to network with other iSeries professionals. You can swap war stories or share tips and techniques. Joining helps us fund top quality speakers such as Bob Tipton.

Probably the most under used benefit is the ability to go to the COMMON user group meeting for member pricing. How does that work? By becoming a member of TSMUG, you are allowed to use our COMMON member number to register for COMMON

and receive member pricing. What a great deal, for both individuals and companies. Individual memberships will continue to be \$25.00 and corporate memberships will be \$125.00. My last COMMON membership bill was \$395.00, so you can easily show your boss some ROI.

As the iSeries reaches out to embrace other work loads such as Domino, Linux and AIX, we to will be looking at having speakers to talk about some of those non-traditional work loads. But, we need your input, so please give us some feedback of how your group can benefit you the most.

We are also continuing the practice of alternating the meetings between Tuesday and Thursday nights. We are also going to vary the location, so as many people as possible can participate. We would certainly welcome your suggestions to locations.

The board of directors and I are looking forward to a great year.

## **TriState Midrange Board of Directors**

President: Jeff Welsh, STAR BASE Consulting, [President@tsmug.org](mailto:President@tsmug.org)

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Treasurer: Kim Sweet, PCMS Datafit, Inc., [Treasurer@tsmug.org](mailto:Treasurer@tsmug.org)

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