

# Association of Contingency Planners South Texas Chapter

# NEWSWIRE

News about and for the South Texas Chapter Members

In This Issue: Membership Expanding Rapidly!!

## Message from the Information Manager **by Jon Pulling, CBCP**

It was really great to see everyone at the meeting last month. Along with a number of members we haven't seen in several months, there were also some old visitors and some new visitors in the crowd. There was such a large crowd that we had to move to a larger conference room next door.

I sincerely hope that this pattern of increased attendance continues. Our chapter can only be as good as the membership will allow. That means a diversified, active body of folks who are willing to join in and participate. Some of you newer folks may be old timers to the business continuity arena, or maybe you are just getting your feet wet in this field. In either case, the South Texas ACP chapter is a good place to sit for a spell and network with other like-minded individuals.

For all the old timers we haven't seen in a while, please drop in. We have some really interesting programs lined up for this year plus you will get to network with all the rest of us. Certainly that should be enough excitement in itself to bring you out.

I hope to see everyone at the March meeting.

## President's Report **by John Link, CBCP**

First off I would like to thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Chapter President for 1999. I have always believed in the ACP and what it stands for.

I hope to see our chapter membership increase this year through relationships with other professional organizations,

radio/TV public service spots, and by establishing a presence with the Houston Business Journal. But, I would also like to call on each of you to start "selling" our chapter and ACP in general to your peers, management, friends, or whom ever you can reach. There are still individuals out there that have never heard of the ACP and I'm sure would like to become a part of a dynamic growing organization.

The weekend of February 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> I attended the ACP Board and President's meeting in Dallas. The meeting on Saturday was very informative and beneficial. Sunday's meeting was less structured as some of the people had to leave early. Saturday the board held elections with the following results:

CEO	Brenda Jones
Secretary/BAO	Mike Herrera
Treasurer	Mary Carrido
Dir. Information	Curt Edfast
Dir. Membership	Tracy McDonough
	Randy Passey
Dir. Pub Relations	Rick Roller
Dir. Chapter Services	Beth Dewar
Dir. Education	

Major events and accomplishments in 1998:

## **1998 Symposium in Breckenridge, CO**

The Colorado Chapter and Curt Edfast are to be congratulated on a tremendous Symposium. Not only was it enlightening, but it also was a tremendous financial success returning \$13,000 to National and over \$600 to each of the Chapters.

## **Officers and Directors Training Course**

Randy Passey moved ahead with setting up this valuable course for helping newly elected Officers and

Directors transition into their positions with ease.

## **IBHS/SNDR PPP2000 Forum**

ACP hosted a very successful Forum in June driving home the importance of working together to create disaster resistant communities.

## **Partnerships**

American Red Cross, NEMA, EPRI, IBHS, Association for Flood Plain Managers (AFPG), Nation Institute for Urban Search and Rescue (NI/USR)

## **Disaster Recovery Business Alliances (DRBA)**

SW Indiana, Seattle, Memphis, Rhode Island, Rye (New York)

Desert Hot Springs has passed an initiative to develop and sponsor a DRBA State of Oregon

## **Member Services – Jeri Edlund**

During 1998, our association increased by more than 100 members over the previous year. We are experiencing a reasonable growth trend that should open up opportunities for new projects, partnerships and alliances.

## **Chapter Services – Rick Roller**

Wilmington, DE; Atlanta, GA; Evansville, IN; New Orleans, LA; Las Vegas, NV and Portland, OR are in various stages of getting their applications completed.

## **Information – Curt Edfast**

*The Sentinel* was published on time in all four quarters and has been very well received. All chapters are set up on the Web Site. Some chapters have taken the opportunity to enhance their sites and the overall effect is quite

**The South Texas Chapter of the Association of Contingency Planners** meets regularly on the Second Tuesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. in RM 1501 of the IBM Building at Two Riverway, Houston, TX.

professional.

Report of February Meeting  
 February speaker was Adam Sundel for the Public Utility Commission of Texas, Office of Regulatory Affairs. His topic was Y2K activities in the electric power and telecommunication industries and how the PUC is interacting with private industry to monitor those activities.

The external goals of the Texas PUC are to communicate with utilities, trade associations and the public, to provide education about the industry, to monitor issues and report on the progress of the industry, and to facilitate and implement programs that will benefit all level of customers throughout the state.

Concerning Y2K, he mentioned several organizations that are assisting with compliance efforts. One was the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, or NARUC. They have established a Y2K subcommittee whose purpose is to enhance the effectiveness of the regulation of public utilities in light of the challenges created by the Y2K millennium bug. Within their Website are links to various utility resources such as telephone, electric, oil and gas, and water and waste water. A related association is the National Regulatory Research Institute. or NRRI.

For additional information refer to the following websites:

- www.naruc.org
- www.puc.texas.gov
- www.nrri.ohio-state.edu
- www.epri.com

March Meeting

**Next Meeting**

Tuesday, March 9, 1999

**Topic**

Subject: Houston Light & Power Y2K Status  
 Speaker: Y2K Coordinator  
**(Note New Room Number)**  
**Place:** IBM,  
 2 Riverway, **Room 1501**  
**11:30 – 12:00**  
 Lunch and networking  
**12:00 - 12:30**  
 Presentation

***Upcoming Conferences***

**March 21-24, 1999**

**DRJ Disaster Symposium and Exhibition**

**San Diego, CA**

For Info: (314) 894-0276

**March 21 -24, 1999**

**IBM SUMMIT '99**

**Walt Disney World Dolphin Hotel, Orlando, FL**

**New Orleans, LA**

For Info: (908) 788-0343 ext. 135

**June 14-16, 1999**

**ACP International Symposium Los Angeles, CA**

For Info: (949) 222-1202

*If you know of any conferences or meetings , national or local, that should be included, please let me know by the end of each month. I will be happy to include them in the list.*

**Upcoming Program Schedule**

Mar 9	HLP Y2K Status
Apr 13	"Weather Wakeup Call"
May 11	Y2K Individual Preparedness
Jun 8	FEMA Project Impact

**Contingency Planning Training**

Our sister chapter in Austin is sponsoring a 6-part program geared toward developing basis business continuity planning skills. The first class, Management Buy-in, was the topic of the January session. Sessions are presented every other month. The next session, Elements of Planning, will be given the third Wednesday in March. (I think that's the 17<sup>th</sup>). All sessions are in Austin and there is no charge for participation. If you are interested in participating or would like more

***1999 Chapter Officers***

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Fax</b>	<b>E-mail</b>
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