JANUARY LUNCH MEETING

Please join us for lunch and an informative presentation, and earn 1 CPE.

Topic: Data Visualization
Speaker: Michael Scofield, MBA
Date: Thursday, January 22, 2015
Time: 11:15 am registration; 11:45 am lunch and introductions; 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm speaker

Cost: IIA members: $35 (non-members $40, retirees $30; students & unemployed active members free). The Chapter encourages members to bring guests. If you bring a non-member to our meeting, we will pay for their 1st lunch.

RSVP & Info: Please RSVP by January 20, 2015 with your meal preference (Beef, Chicken, Fish or Vegetarian) to Kathryn Andrus at kandrus@ducommun.com or (310) 513-7254. Additional information – Please contact Sher Shah at sshah@portla.org or (310) 732-3019.

Meals are ordered based on your RSVP. No RSVP = no meal. No-show RSVP’s without notice will be responsible for meal cost reserved.

Location: Holiday Inn Harbor Gateway
19800 South Vermont Ave.
Torrance, CA 90502
(310) 781-9100

Driving Directions: Our meeting place is near the intersection of I-405 and I-110. Parking is free at the Holiday Inn.
- If you are coming north on I-405, take the Main St exit, then go south (left) to Del Amo Blvd and west (right) to Vermont Ave. At Vermont, turn north (right) to the hotel, about one block.
- If you are coming south on I-110 take the 190th St./405 exit and go west (right) to Vermont, then south (left) about 2 blocks to the hotel.
- If you are coming south on I-405, take the Vermont Ave. exit and go south on Vermont about 2 blocks to the hotel.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Hello everyone!

Hope you had a pleasant holiday season and are anxiously waiting to attend our seminars.

We have a very interesting speaker scheduled for January 22, 2015 at the Holiday Inn Gateway hotel in Torrance. Professor Michael Scofield, assistant professor in Health Informatics at Loma Linda University in Southern California will speak on Data Visualization. This topic includes the basics of converting raw data into decision-able information. It also includes a “rogue’s gallery” of really bad charts which Professor Scofield will discuss and offer solutions as to how to correct them. He will highlight advanced charting techniques, including step functions, and expressing other abstractions in visual forms.

Please note that the seminar will be held in Gateway 1 on the 2nd Floor of the hotel. We have a change in timings for this event only due to rooms being in great demand at this time of the year. Registration will begin at 11:15 AM. Lunch and introductions will commence at 11:45 AM. The speaker will commence at 12 Noon and the seminar ends at 1:00 PM.

The speaker details are available on the chapter website and in this month’s newsletter.

We have the position of “Programs Coordinator” open at this point through the end of the fiscal year ending on May 31, 2015 and are actively looking for a member to step up and volunteer for this important position within the Chapter leadership positions. This position arranges for speakers to speak at our monthly meetings and also arranges and coordinates for speakers to speak.
at our all-day professional seminar and other meetings, such as breakfast meetings that are held by the chapter. We would like you to contact me if you are interested in the position and want to help and contribute towards arranging for speakers to present topics of interest to our membership at large.

We are hard at work preparing for the March Professional All-Day Seminar to be held on March 19, 2015 and the Student Night planned for April 16, 2015. We hope you will attend both these events and contribute in making them a success.

Thanks.

Sher Shah, President, IIA-Beach Cities Chapter

**JANUARY LUNCH SPEAKER’S BIOGRAPHY AND TOPIC**

*Michael Scofield* is an Assistant Professor of Health Information Management at Loma Linda University. He is a popular speaker, writer, and consultant in the fields of data management, data quality assessment, and data visualization.

His career has included education and private industry in areas of data quality, decision-support systems, data warehousing, and data management. His articles appear in DM Review, the B-Eye Newsletter, InformationWeek magazine, the Northern California Oracle User Group Journal, the IBI Systems Journal, and other professional journals. He has spoken to over 240 professional audiences in these disciplines all over the U.S., in London, and Australia. He also has a variety of topics for general audiences. These topics include satellite imagery, the succession to the British monarchy, and various travel topics. He also has humor published in the L.A. Times and other journals.

**Data Visualization –**

Decision-makers often ask for “data”, but what they really want is information which will help them understand a problem or a condition around the decisions they need to make. Yet they often do not know what data is available, what it is called, and how they might want that data or derived information expressed.

This presentation focuses upon converting large volumes of data into useful information, using graphic means, which is understandable to the human eye-brain combination.

We will explore the data-to-information life cycle, and all the potential points of failure or misinterpretation along that path. We will also look at the analysis and graphic tools and techniques through which such information is expressed for human eye-brain consumption.

The role of context (historical, lateral, etc.) is important in giving information greater meaning. We shall survey graphical techniques and case studies which illustrate how important context is in understanding the true consequence of a data point.

For example, one common characteristic of most measures of business, society, and economic activity is constant growth. But the rate of growth, and a declining share of total activity may be masked by that raw growth. We will explore simple mathematical and graphic techniques for putting raw metrics into more meaningful context.

This presentation also features a “rogue’s gallery” of really bad charts which we will review, and discuss why they are misleading (or unreadable) and how they can be improved.

**STUDENT NIGHT 2015**

IIA-Beach Cities Chapter has organized a Student Night for several years. The purpose of Student Night is to provide a service to students in the South Bay region, to inform and educate them about the possibilities that exist for them should they choose to join the accounting and auditing profession. Additionally, it is hoped that the students get an opportunity to interact with recruiters from a myriad of companies and provide a win-win opportunity for both recruiters and students in providing employment opportunities that may exist in recruiting organizations for the most suitable candidates.

The Board is busy planning for this event and preliminary data leads us to believe that this Student Night is going to be bigger than previous events and we
are expecting more than 150 students from several universities/colleges to attend. As you know, the Chapter is a not-for-profit organization and we need your sponsorship dollars to pay for the meals being provided to students by the Chapter. As members of this Chapter, we are requesting that you make a direct contribution to sponsor a student meal at $30 per meal, and request that you ask your work organization to contribute towards the cost of providing a meal or meals as well.

Please make the checks payable to “IIA-Beach Cities Chapter” and mail the checks to:

IIA-Beach Cities Chapter
2415 West 233rd Street
Torrance, CA 90501

If you are interested in obtaining more information about the Student Night 2015, please contact Nadia Valencia at nxvalencia@gmail.com or by phone at (323) 252-6306 or Sher Shah at sshah@portla.org or by phone at (310) 732-3019.

This meeting will be held Thursday, April 16th at the Reef Restaurant, in Long Beach. Additional details to come.

**CERTIFIED INTERNAL AUDITOR (CIA) EXAM REVIEW COURSE**

Ronald LaPlante, CIA, CFSA, CPA, CMA, CFE, CFM has returned to the Los Angeles area and will be holding a live CIA review course. Dates and details are on page 7.

**POSITIONS AVAILABLE**

None at this time

**ELECTIONS**

Elections will be held during the All-Day Seminar at Toyota, Torrance Campus on March 19, 2015.

**CALENDAR CORNER**

**January 22, 2015**: Lunch meeting at Holiday Inn Harbor Gateway, Michael Scofield – “Data Visualization”

**February 19, 2015**: Lunch meeting at Holiday Inn Harbor Gateway –Debbie Ellis – “Topic (TBD)”

**March 9-11, 2015**: 2015 General Audit Management Conference in Las Vegas, NV

**March 19, 2015**: All-Day Seminar at Toyota, Torrance Campus- Laura Doud (Keynote Speaker) – “Topic (TBD)”

**April 16, 2015**: Student Night at the Reef Restaurant, Long Beach

**May 21, 2015**: Lunch meeting at Holiday Inn Harbor Gateway –Randy Light – “Topic (TBD)”

**July 6-9, 2015**: 2015 IIA International Conference in Vancouver, BC, Canada

**GLEIM REVIEW SYSTEM**

Beach Cities Chapter has partnered with Gleim Publications to ensure your success on the CIA exam! Working together, we will provide you the necessary study tools to prepare for this difficult exam.

Gleim has been preparing candidates for success with their extensive self-study course for the CIA exam for over 30 years! The Gleim Review System enables you to identify your weak areas so you know where to focus your efforts and GUARANTEES that you will pass each exam part the first time. Our goal is that you achieve success while minimizing your frustration, cost, and time.

As a member of the chapter, you are eligible for 20% off all Gleim's CIA Review materials, as well as Gleim CPE. To take advantage of the reduced prices, please contact our chapter representative, Melissa Leonard.

By phone: (800) 874-5346, Ext. 131
By email: melissa.leonard@gleim.com
By fax: (888) 375-6940, attn: Melissa Leonard

Visit gleim.com/cia for more information on the CIA Exam or how Gleim can help you pass.

**IIA’S CIA LEARNING SYSTEM**

See www.learn西亚.com/chapters for special member discount pricing.
**Place Your ADS for JOBS**

Ads are free to IIA members. Contact Jennifer Hannigan (Boyer) at (949) 874-3244 or JHannigan@AllianceResourceGroup.com or Damon Melfi at (562) 570-7005 or damon.melfi@longbeach.gov

**Notice to all Recipients:**

See our website at www.TheIIA.Org/BeachCities for additional newsletter details. Please advise Jim Olds at jolds@portla.org if your email address changes, or if you no longer would like to receive these newsletters.
2014-2015 OFFICERS & CHAIRS

President:
Sher Shah, Port of Los Angeles
(310) 732-3019 WK
Email address: sshah@portla.org

Vice President:
Jim Olds, Port of Los Angeles
(310) 378-8916 HM
E-mail address: jolds@portla.org

Treasurer:
Pious Poozhikala, Port of Los Angeles
(310) 221-4759 WK
E-mail address: ppoozhikala@portla.org

Secretary:
Kristen Clement, Office of the City Auditor, Long Beach
(562) 570-5873 WK
Email address: kristen.a.clement@gmail.com

Membership Chair:
Jim Olds, Port of Los Angeles
(310) 378-8916 HM
E-mail address: jolds@portla.org

CAP Chair:
Mike Palmer, Northrop Grumman
Email address: mike.palmer@ngc.com

CIA Review/ Certifications Chair:
Jim Olds, Port of Los Angeles
(310) 378-8916 HM
E-mail address: jolds@portla.org

Programs Coordinator:
OPEN

Seminar Chair:
Jim Olds, Port of Los Angeles
(310) 378-8916 HM
E-mail address: jolds@portla.org

Reservations/Monthly Meetings:
Kathryn Andrus, Ducommun, Inc.
(310) 513-7254 WK
Email address: kandrus@ducommun.com
Email/Newsletter Distribution:
Kari Carroll, Alliance Resource Group
(949) 428-0601 WK
E-mail address: KCarroll@AllianceResourcegroup.com

Newsletter Editor:
Damon Melfi, Office of the City Auditor, Long Beach
(562) 570-7005 WK
Email address: damon.melfi@longbeach.gov

Academic Chair:
Nadia Valencia, Ernst & Young
Email address: nxvalencia@gmail.com

Webmaster:
Mollie Carey, Toyota
(310) 468-6459 WK
Email address: mollie.carey@toyota.com

Auditor:
Mike Palmer, Northrop Grumman
Email address: mike.palmer@ngc.com

District Conference Chair:
Jean Miller
Email address: jean.c.miller@sbcglobal.net
Certified Internal Auditor Examination Review

Course presented by

Ronald LaPlante, CIA, CFSA, CPA, CFE, CMA, CFM

ronlaplante@sbcglobal.net      571-242-6737

www.aandacertifications.com

www.linkedin.com/in/ronlaplante

Syllabus – Torrance Area Class

Part 1 – Internal Audit Basics   Cost $75

Saturday Morning 8:30-noon        April 11, 2015
Exact location to be determined based upon attendance

Ethics, IIA Code of Conduct, Charters, IIA Standards Review, Control Frameworks, Fraud Awareness, Sampling, Obtaining and Analyzing Data, Work Documents and Evidence

Part 2 – Internal Audit Practice   Cost $75

Saturday Afternoon 1:30-5:00       April 11, 2015
Exact location to be determined based upon attendance

Internal Audit’s Unique Role in an Organization, Establishing Plans, Assurance and Compliance, Financial, Environmental and Consulting Engagements, Oversight of Engagements, Dissemination of Engagement Results and Follow-up, Fraud Tendencies and Controls

Part 3 – Internal Audit Knowledge Elements   Cost $350

5 Saturdays 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. April 18th and 25th, May 9th, 16th and 23rd, 2015
Exact location to be determined based upon attendance

Class 1 – Organizational Theory, Behavior, Governance and Risk Management, Communication, Strategic Management
Class 2 – Information Technology
Class 3 – Financial and Intermediate Accounting I
Class 4 – Intermediate Accounting II and Cost Accounting
Class 5 – Finance, Economics and Regulatory Topics

Cost for ALL THREE Parts – $500, includes all handouts and lectures

Cost for Parts 1 and 2 $150, Cost for Parts 1 and 3 or 2 and 3 $375

Cash or Checks Payable to Ronald LaPlante

The DEADLINE to register for Parts 1 and 2 is April 8, 2015

The DEADLINE to register for Part 3 is April 15, 2015