IIA-LA~ISACA Holiday Event

This time of the season is for us to give back with a sense of gratitude to those who have contributed to the success of the Los Angeles Chapter IIA. This year I want to personally extend a special invitation to all of you, our members, guests and sponsors who have contributed and continue to support the IIA LA Chapter to our joint Holiday Event Scheduled for Wednesday, December 9, 2015 at 6pm at the Los Angeles Athletic Club.

You will earn 2 CPE hours and enjoy a delicious four course dinner with free drinks and entertainment for $35.00 and $45.00 contribution for members and non-members respectively.

This event is our way of saying thank you for your continuous support to the IIA LA Chapter so please join us and let us honor you and say thank you to you in person. Next year we will continue with our monthly meetings with our first event for the year scheduled for Wednesday, January 13, 2016 with a full day of data analytics and data security.

We are looking forward in seeing you. On behalf of the Board of Governors and Officers we wish you a Merry Christmas and bright and successful 2016.

- Arnold J Blanshard, CPA, MBA,CRMA
IIA LA Chapter President

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If you were at the last LA-IIA Fraud chapter meeting, you witnessed a room full of energy, discussion and applause worthy comments sparking continuous thought. The top notch speaker panel packed a house full of participants with dialogue and case studies that touched on conflicts of interest, bribery, coercion and a host of white collar crimes to be mindful of. Other topics included the tackling and understanding the associated high risk and impact the sustainability audits. The evening ended with a luxurious Athletics Club privately hosted cocktail networking event. We thank our speakers and guests for making our event a true and warming success!
The Institute of Internal Auditors
Los Angeles Chapter

DECEMBER’S KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Lance Larson is the Cyber Program Advisor for the Orange County Intelligence Assessment Center (OCIAC), a Department of Homeland Security-funded fusion center. Lance has been a reserve police officer with the Laguna Beach Police Department for thirteen years. During his tenure with the department, he has served multiple assignments including a role as the technical leader for the first online crimes against children sting in California, patrol, special investigations, and his current role helping to protect the cyber security infrastructure within Orange County at OCIAC.

Dr. Larson holds a Ph.D. in Applied Management and Decision Sciences – Information Systems management, is a Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), a Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH), has authored two books, and teaches both undergraduate and graduate information systems and homeland security courses for the California State University System in San Diego.

JOINT THE LA CHAPTER

If you would like to join The IIA, please click [here], and then, click on "join or renew" and complete the application. Enter "Los Angeles" in the optional field that says chapter affiliation.

Are you already a member of the IIA, but a different chapter? Or, don't know to which chapter you belong? In order to officially join the Los Angeles chapter, you must update your chapter affiliation.

To update a chapter affiliation, call the IIA HQ at (407) 937-1100 or, you can update your IIA profile by clicking [here], and then, clicking on "Update Your Profile".

VOLUNTEER

The IIA Los Angeles Chapter is seeking enthusiastic volunteers who are committed to make a difference and advancing the profession.

If you want the opportunity to interface with a vast diversity of internal audit professionals, individuals interested are encouraged to contact [vp-membership@theiia-la.org]

EMPLOYMENT

For a list of employment opportunities [click here] or to post a job email [webmaster@theiia-la.org]

Upcoming Events For The 2016 Year

Be on the lookout for more information regarding the exciting events below:

- **1/13/16** – Data Mining, Analytics & Security; Full Day; 9.5 CPEs
  
  – CAE Meeting

- **2/10/16** – Governmental Auditing; Lunch & PM; 5.5 CPEs

- **3/9/16** – Risk Conference & Emerging Risks; Full Day; 9.5 CPEs

- **4/6/16** – Fraud Conference; Full Day; 9.5 CPEs
  
  – CAE Meeting

- **5/4/16** – Excel and Visio Training; Full Day; 9.5 CPEs

The LA Athletic Club in Downtown LA will be the location for all of the above events.
IIA Leadership Team Highlight: Cindya Williams, IIA LA Chapter

We love to think of you as the epitome brains and beauty…can you share with us your professional elevator speech and IIA–LA affiliation? As of the VP of Professional Development, volunteering with the LA Chapter of the IIA has been very beneficial and valuable to me. It allows me to network with an array of internal auditors, speakers and consultants across different industries (entertainment, banking, accounting, government, etc.) and years of experience (ranging from 2 to 20+ years). It allows me to keep abreast of industry changes and exposes me to different elements of what it takes to excel our profession and our local chapter (by looking for topics that are relevant and really matter).

If you had to choose between “continuous audit monitoring” or “duplicate detection” (with both being a top surveyed auditor choice) which one would you choose and why? Based on my data analytics answer above I would chose continuous audit monitoring if there were no limitations. I prefer to foresee than be unexpectedly surprised by disappointments.

Our next event “Data Analytics” joins us with ISACA who understands risks from the information security standpoint. With the endless possibilities of data analytics…tell us one of your favorite tests and why? Performing basic data analytics on the procure-to-pay process is command and probably my favorite, especially on payment history files-duplicate payment testing, Travel and Entertainment, etc. but these are easy wins. I’m currently looking for ways to make data analytics a core skill in our recruitment process while looking for ways to make data analytics a continuous process in the IA activity. If in internal audit, we develop something that validates our conclusion, why wouldn’t management use it to transform the first line of defense which is how they management their operations? We are looking to build something that the business will want to ultimately leverage. This is value that Internal Audit can bring to the table.

see next page for Cindya’s additional interview
IIA Leadership Team Highlight: *continued*

With balance being the key to success and happiness, I think it’s safe to consider you as a successful “road warrior.” So, with lots of traveling can you give us some tips on juggling work along with family, fitness and fun? Definitely a challenge for sure so I have to remind myself daily to “balance”. I have difficulty in saying no to projects because I like the challenge and I like change. It’s probably why unexpectedly I’ve been in this profession for the last 8 years. Nevertheless, I’ve had to commit when I get home that “I’m home” and not in work mode and the best way for me to do that is go for a hike with my Rhodesian Ridgeback who’s only interest is eating, playing/hiking with me or his dog pack and sleeping (I know tough life 😊). He helps give me a different perspective.

Every year it seems professionals put more and more on their plate. How do you stay on top of knowing the cutting edge tools to assist with data mining and how do you ensure you’re not missing anything? Being a part of the IIA LA Chapter helps me keep abreast of the latest and greatest tools in the profession. Not only do I get exposed to different providers but we hear from experts who actually use it different tools and “how” they use and leverage it.

Lastly, please share with our readers any advice on personality necessary for being an auditor in the entertainment industry and your final thoughts? *I can talk about this one for a while but I will summarize by saying, you have to be personable, flexible, resourceful, a quick thinker and think outside of the box because there will always be challenges and you will often meet someone telling you that what you’re looking for (controls, policies, etc.) or trying to assess is not applicable in their business. Businesses are unique but risks are risks so how do you mitigate it?*

*Thank you*