



Hudson Valley Chapter March/April 2005 Newsletter

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President's Message

Hey, guess what? Remember that special luncheon I told you about? You know – the one to recognize the hard-earned achievements of our newly certified CISAs and CISM's? Well, it's finally here! We're all set for April 27th, for more details, see below under April Luncheon.

Are you interested in taking the CISA exam?

Our chapter is currently offering a discount on study materials for the exam. If you are interested, maybe these materials are right for you. If you're not taking the exam... why not?! See CISA and CISM below for more details.

Once again, **The Conference That Counts** was a complete success. This year's event marked the 10th anniversary and many of the best presenters were asked back to do what they do so well. As a member of the Steering Committee, I saw the outstanding effort displayed to put this annual event together. Our Chapter members on the committee included Nadine Morrell, Walter Irving, and Kathy Whitsett. This event manages to get bigger and better every year and you all make it look so easy. Thank you so much for all of your efforts!

Of course, now that this year's conference has come and gone, it's already time to start planning for the next one. For TCTC 2006, it's ISACA's turn to head the Steering Committee. If you'd like to help, let our incoming Chapter President Mike Farrar know.

Bernie McHugh

Chapter President

April Luncheon

Our awards [luncheon](#) is scheduled for April 27, 2005. We will be acknowledging new certifications of our members. Five of our members earned the CISM designation and 14 of our members earned the CISA designation. We will also be welcoming 16 new members.

This is a wonderful opportunity for us to get together, learn more about our Chapter and enjoy a FREE LUNCH! Yes, this event is free for all members. So, please join us in this celebration!

Joseph Maloney Scholarship

By Kathleen Whitsett, Director of Awards

The Hudson Valley Chapter of the Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA) announces the availability of a \$500 scholarship to support a student in Information Systems related studies during the academic year 2005-2006.

To be eligible, applicants must:

- Be an ISACA member or a relative of an ISACA member.
- Have received or will receive a high school or GED diploma.
- Be enrolled in an Information Systems, Accounting or IS Auditing certificate or degree program at an accredited college or university during 2005.

To apply send a completed application to Kathleen Whitsett by e-mail at Kwhitsett@osc.state.ny.us or mail to Hudson Valley ISACA, P.O. Box 1458, Albany, NY 12201 by May 15, 2005. The scholarship award will be presented at the June 2005 luncheon meeting.

[Scholarship application](#)

Member Survey

As a way to better serve the needs and interests of our members, the Chapter's Board will be using the monthly newsletter to solicit feedback on a variety of topics. To accomplish this, each month we will have a survey question and request each of you to submit a reply to the question. To help encourage feedback, a random response will be selected each month, and that individual will receive a free admission to one of this year's monthly luncheons.

Please join us in congratulating Kathy Whitsett as the winning selection from the February survey. Kathy will be entitled to a free attendance at the next monthly luncheon. Also, a thank you to everyone that submitted their preference regarding locations for training format. There were mixed sentiments regarding preferences for our traditional luncheons and a move to half-day training sessions.

This feedback will be considered by the board in discussing alternatives. Thank you to everyone who provided their feedback.

There is no member survey planned for the next few months, but additional topics may be presented again in the future. Please keep an eye out for these surveys to be posted on our web site.

CISA and CISM[®]

A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR ANYONE INTERESTED IN THE CISA EXAM:

The Hudson Valley Chapter of ISACA is offering Micromash CISA Review software at a substantial discount. This software is a great tool that makes sure you study what you need to know in order to pass the CISA exam. Our chapter will provide it to our members for only \$150 and to non-members who work within the Hudson Valley region for \$300. Micromash normally sells the software for \$595.

We have a limited number of copies of the software, so this offer is being made on a first-come, first-serve basis through March 30, 2005. If interested, please contact Pam Matthews at 486-5865 (pmatthews@osc.state.ny.us).

For more information on Micromash: <http://www.passmatrix.com/cisa/index.php>

2005 CISA and CISM Exam Registration

Please submit your exam registration forms quickly. You can save \$35 by registering online. The final registration deadline for the 2005 exams is March 30, 2005.

[Register online today](#) and save \$35.

2003 CISA® Audit

The audit of documentation for 2003 continuing professional education (CPE) activities began recently. A randomly selected group of CISAs have been sent an audit letter by ISACA International requesting written support documentation for 2003 CPE hours. Please direct your questions about the 2003 audit to the ISACA certification department at certification@isaca.org or (847)253-1545, ext. 471, 403 or 474.

ISACA International News

A Road Map of Information Security Standards

Rolling Meadows, IL, USA (March 10, 2005)—Information security standards—COBIT, ITIL, NIST and SSE-CMM, to name a few—may sound like alphabet soup, but a new book published by the IT Governance Institute provides a road map to the standards, clarifying their use and benefits. Based on a global survey of 5,000 Certified Information Security Managers (CISMs), Information Security Harmonisation—Classification of Global Guidance examines 17 internationally accepted security guidance based on 12 criteria.

“This in-depth evaluation helps business and information security managers identify the security guidance that is most appropriate for their organizations or most helpful for improving their own skills and knowledge,” said Leslie Macartney, CISA, CISM, the book’s author and chair of the CISM Certification Board of the Information Systems Audit and Control Association® (ISACA®).

The criteria used to evaluate the security guidance include circulation, goal, and drivers for implementing the guidance, risks of noncompliance, timeliness, certification opportunities, completeness, availability, reputation and alignment with CISM domains.

“The role of information security managers has shifted from being narrowly focused on IT, to one where business acuity takes equal priority,” said Macartney. “Information security is a key component of sound management. Organizations can be harmed, even with robust security in place, so executives must be aware of the risks involved and commit to the level of risk they are willing to accept.”

Information Security Harmonisation is available in print and electronic form for US \$40 at www.isaca.org/bookstore. It will be updated periodically to reflect additional guidance, changes to guidance and advice on how the guidance can be used, based on best practice surveys.

Coming Soon— Online Career Center

ISACA will unveil an online career center for organizations seeking to hire and IT professionals searching for a job. ISACA members will have the added advantage of being eligible to receive e-mail notification when new job opportunities are posted. Please visit www.isaca.org/jobs for the latest details on this new offering.