



Chicago in the Fall

Welcome...

# BRPA - In The Loop

Vol. 4, No. 5, October, 2011

## Cynthia Berry (DeVry Inc)

Greetings everyone and welcome to another edition of **BRPA – In The Loop!** Autumn is here and it has cooled off considerably since our last edition of the newsletter. Whatever your favorite autumn activity, watching the leaves change colors or raking them up, hopefully you are enjoying the season.

In this edition of **BRPA – In The Loop**, **John Mantsch**, BRPA President, emphasizes the importance of our board and also how important your feedback is to making BRPA a successful organization. John invites BRPA members to consider becoming active participants on the board. BRPA Vice-President **Dan Johnson** informs us about Smart911 and how the public can subscribe to this great program. **Andy DeNovo**, our **guest columnist** outlines some tips for ensuring our vendors are in alignment with our DR/BC strategies.

**Check out the events calendar for what's going on with BRPA for the remainder of this year and the new 2012 events calendar overview.** **Alane Watkins** highlights what's to come in the November event. Our September event was hosted at the City of Chicago - Office of Emergency Management and Communication (OEMC). For those of you who were unable to attend, the BRPA event last month, the OEMC provides a great overview of how they liaise with other entities to assist residents and organizations prepare for emergencies. Be sure to check that out!

**Alina Rubin** provides a detailed listing of great events for all BRPA members to attend for training and networking. **Chris Sarcletti** thanks members and sponsors for their support while **Maria Vergara** gives a sneak preview of the BRPA Leadership Program for the November 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.

As always we love to hear from you. We are looking for guest columnists so if you are interested in writing an article, please contact us by emailing [newsletter@brpa-chicago.org](mailto:newsletter@brpa-chicago.org). On behalf of the BRPA board, we truly hope that you will enjoy this edition of **BRPA – In The Loop**.

[\[Return to Top\]](#)

## A Word From our President

### John Mantsch (R J O'Brien) – BRPA President

The BRPA board continues to hit home runs for our members in regards to our meetings and events but we need the support of our members and sponsors to continue to do so. We are always asking our members to give us feedback on our program so that we know how to improve the event experience or to have our members express an interest in learning more about a new

topic. This not only helps our members in finding out more about a specific topic but it also lets the board know where our members' interest lies. So to make it easy for our members to submit their input, we have sent out electronic questionnaires and provided hardcopies at the meetings. Our board members are always available and willing to talk to our members whenever we're at a BRPA event.

If you have any suggestions for improving our meetings, training classes, network events, etc., then please contact us directly or through email to let us know what you would like changed or added to our offerings. We are always open to discussing any suggestion that you may have. Again, this is your organization and if you think that we could do something better to improve the experience, please let us know what it is and we'll try to meet that objective.

One final pitch, the yearly elections are coming up in December so we'll be looking for anyone who wants to volunteer for a regular board position or anyone who would like to work on a committee in 2012. If you would like to be part of the BRPA Board in 2012 or working on a committee, then please contact Dan Johnson, BRPA Vice President at: 815.534.5325 or [dan.johnson@bankofamerica.com](mailto:dan.johnson@bankofamerica.com) to let him know your interest. More information will come out on this in November but you might want to talk to a board member now to see if this is something that you would like to do in 2012.

Remember, all board positions have a 1 year term with elections being held in December and the new board being seated in January. This is your association so please take some time to let the board know how we can make it even better.

[\[Return to Top\]](#)

## Information YOU Can Use

### Dan Johnson (Bank of America) – BRPA Vice President

#### Smart911



Members of the public can now have all the critical personal information that they care to give listed in a Smart911 system database. The data, which can be easily updated including photos, medical information, allergies, pets and even caregiver contact information, is made available to any 911 system in the nation that utilizes the same program, when a person listed calls 911 in a participating area.

Joining the program is free! Whole families can be listed in the database. In an emergency, their information will come up on the screen for the 911 operators to pass on to police, fire or ambulance crews. Some squad cars are already equipped to have immediate access to the online information when a 911 call comes in from a victim.

The additional data provided is far more extensive than what is typically available to 911 dispatchers, and helps to improve results when rendering aid to 911 callers.

Smart911 is a free service that gives 9-1-1 the tools to keep you and your family safe. It is 100% private, secure and used by 9-1-1 centers across the country. It only took me about 15 minutes to register. This is just one more way all of us can be more prepared for any unexpected event that may occur in our homes. Remember, failing to prepare is preparing to fail!

The website can be accessed from this link: <https://www.smart911.com/>

[\[Return to Top\]](#)

## BRPA Event Schedule

### Alane Watkins (Kraft) – BRPA Program Director

The next BRPA meeting will be held on November 15th at Allstate Insurance Company. The half-day session will focus on the topics of security and protecting your business. Our speakers are industry leaders and will be sharing a perspective on IT Security that is relevant to the recent breaches in government and private business, and how Security evolves in the era of Quantum Computing. We will also be looking at affordable solutions for recovering telecom, using the latest technologies in mobility. We recommend members invite their Telecom, IT, and IT Security leads to this session. There is no limit on the number of employees that may attend a BRPA meeting from a member company. Nonmember guests may attend BRPA meetings up to twice annually.

After the meeting, all BRPA members are invited to stay for the BRPA Leaders program. The theme of the program is **Personal Branding: The Art and Power of Your Personal Brand**. There is no additional cost for the workshop; however, it is reserved for members only. Lunch will be provided for those staying for the BRPA Leaders Program. Be sure to let us know if you are planning to attend both events when you register.

#### BRPA 2011 Program Calendar:

Date	Topic	Location	Time
Nov 15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>IT Security</b> <b>Special Leadership Session:</b> <b>Personal Branding: The Art and Power of Your Personal Brand</b>	<b>Allstate Insurance</b> Northbrook, IL	8:30 – Noon Noon- 2:30 p.m.
Dec 6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Annual Holiday Luncheon</b>	<b>Wildfire</b> Glenview, IL	11 – 2:00

The 2012 BRPA Calendar dates are defined and it includes a robust schedule of eight events that we think you'll enjoy! We welcome your thoughts, ideas, and input for any of the slated events. If you would like to host one of the events at your organization, or become a potential speaker, please contact Alane Watkins, BRPA Program Director at [alane.watkins@kraftfoods.com](mailto:alane.watkins@kraftfoods.com).

#### BRPA 2012 Program Calendar:

Date	Event	Location	Time
January 24 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Regular Meeting</b>	<b>Downtown</b>	8:30 - Noon (1/2 day)
March 13 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Technology Trends</b>	<b>Suburbs</b>	8:30 - Noon (Full-day)
May 15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Annual Training</b>	<b>Suburbs</b>	8:30a (Full-day)
July 17 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Regular Meeting</b>	<b>Downtown</b>	8:30-Noon (1/2 day)
August 14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Networking Event</b>	<b>Suburbs</b>	TBD
October 16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Member Appreciation Luncheon &amp; BRPA Leaders Program</b>	<b>Suburbs</b>	8:30 - Noon (1/2 day)

<b>November 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Regular/BRPA Leadership Meeting</b>	<b>Downtown</b>	8:30 - Noon (1/2 day)
<b>December 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Annual Holiday Luncheon</b>	<b>Suburbs</b>	11:00 - 2:00

*\*Dates and Schedule subject to change*

[\[Return to Top\]](#)

## Guest Column

### **Andy DeNovo - Security & Compliance Director - AHD Associates** **Third Party Review Programs**

Congratulations! You've just tested your DR/BC plans and came out with just a few minor findings. Your boss and everyone up to the top layers of management are pleased with the good news. However, your company may still be in danger of not being able to smoothly recover from a disaster and could incur a great deal of expense trying to get back to normal operations.

The disaster may not be yours but another firm in your supply chain. To diminish this risk, you need to develop a Third Party DRP/BCP review program. This program adds another layer of protection to your organization by requesting proof that your vendor is quickly able to recover a disaster. The review process should be a comprehensive program that is driven by the "Business Owner" in your firm who has the main contact with each vendor. As part of the vendor review process, you need to determine if your vendors have their own Third Party vendor review program in place, and whether they review their vendors' plans also.

Your rights to annually assess a vendor's DR/BC plans should be written into all your vendor contracts, to give you the ability to monitor their plans. This allows you to ask simple questions about the existence of a vendor's DRP/BCP and then dig deeper as necessary.

One method to increase the probability your vendors will implement a Third Party review program is to include language in your contract stating that your vendor must have the ability to assess their vendors' plans on an annual basis.

Some key elements of a Third Party review program include:

- Conduct a review of the DR and BC plans of their third party.
- Ensure their third parties comply with your vendor's policies and standards.
- Conduct a thorough review and validation of DRP/BCP controls implemented at their third party site prior to contract signing and on a periodic basis during the tenure of the contract.
- Reserve the right to audit your vendor's their third parties.
- Require third parties to notify your vendor of incidents.
- Require third parties to notify your vendor if major changes occur in their environment that could impact services.
- Define the objectives, scope, roles, responsibilities, process and methodology of a third party assessment.

There are ways to approach Third Party reviews with limited resources. If your company already reviews your vendor's security programs, work with your security team to develop additional control questions to include in that process. By combining the reviews, your vendors will only participate in a single assessment by your company. Your Security Review team must notify you of any DRP/BCP issues.

You can also develop a questionnaire and contact each of your vendors asking about their plans and how they audit their vendor's plans. Keep the questionnaire simple and brief to avoid

resistance. Encourage your vendors to use your questionnaire to assess their vendors as well.

Each assessment provides another layer of resilience to your DR/BC plans, and ultimately improves the likelihood of achieving a smooth recovery following a disaster.

[\[Return to Top\]](#)

## Member Benefits

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### Chris Sarcletti (CME) – BRPA Membership Director

#### BRPA Members and Sponsors:

Thanks so much for your continued support during 2011. BRPA has been able to grow our membership base and put on world class events because of your support. Not only do your sponsorship dues help us bring in excellent speakers and put on top notch events, your additional support through sponsoring individual meetings is why we are able to continue to thrive as an organization.

Thanks again for your support and please contact me at [Christopher.Sarcletti@cmegroup.com](mailto:Christopher.Sarcletti@cmegroup.com) if you have any questions about membership.

[\[Return to Top\]](#)

## Other Announcements

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### Alina Rubin (Exelon) – BRPA Communications Director

#### Upcoming Events & Training from our Collaborative Partners

##### Upcoming CAMP IT Conferences:

A valued benefit of your BRPA membership is the free passes we give out each month to CAMP IT conferences. CAMP IT is a BRPA collaborative partner and provides a member benefit valued at \$219 for each pass. It includes a full day of high quality training and a complimentary lunch. This is a great way to complete your educational credits for certification. Many BRPA members are taking advantage of these great opportunities with CAMP IT. Be sure to check your inbox for the email that details the monthly conferences and how to request a pass.

##### October 19, 2011 Desktop Virtualization

Register <http://campconferences.com/events/2011/virtualization2.htm>

##### November 1, 2011 CIO: IT Leadership Strategies

Register <http://campconferences.com/events/2011/cio.htm>

##### November 9, 2011 IT Infrastructure & Operations Management

Register <http://campconferences.com/events/2011/iom.htm>

##### November 17, 2011 Disaster Recovery / Business Continuity / Data Protection Strategies

Register [http://campconferences.com/events/2011/disaster\\_data.htm](http://campconferences.com/events/2011/disaster_data.htm)

#### ContinuityLink:

Continuity Link offers public or in-house BCM training that goes far beyond theory; you get expert advice from a certified trainer, with stories from the trenches, and you get a softcopy of mature tools and real-life examples. **BRPA Members receive a 10% discount on all ContinuityLink courses.**

#### **BCM-FND - Business Continuity Management – Foundation Training**

- 24-26 Oct. 2011 ([Washington](#))
- 07-09 Nov. 2011 ([Dallas](#))
- 05-07 Dec. 2011 ([New York](#))

#### **BCM-BIA - Comprehensive BIA Process – Methodology**

- 16-17 Nov. 2011 ([New York](#))

## **BCM-AUD - Auditing a Business Continuity Management program**

- 18-19 Nov. 2011 ([New York](#))

For more information and our complete training calendar visit: <http://www.continuitylink.com/En/training.htm>

## **ICOR: World-Class Education eLearning Programs**

Learn from home or in class - advance your career options and grow professionally! ICOR offers elearning education programs in Business Continuity Management, Organizational Resilience, and Supply Chain Risk Management. **All BRPA members save 10% on the courses using code BRPA-09010.** For more information, visit [www.theicor.org/courselisting.html#](http://www.theicor.org/courselisting.html#) or contact Lynnda Nelson at 866-765-8321.

**Logical Management Systems** Geary W Sikich has over 28 years of experience in intelligence, crisis management consulting, business continuity planning, human resource development, infrastructure protection and special projects.

Geary will be speaking at a conference in Chicago on 19 October on Energy and Commodity Risk issues. Visit [www.idealmediaevents.com](http://www.idealmediaevents.com) for details and Forum's Program.

See [www.logicalmanagement.com](http://www.logicalmanagement.com) or contact Geary at [g.sikich@att.net](mailto:g.sikich@att.net) for more information.

[\[Return to Top\]](#)

## **Member Highlights**

**Richard J. Keyworth**, author of *Fires...Accidental or Arson?* will be conducting a reading and discussion on Tuesday, October 18 at 7:00 p.m. at the Carol Stream Fire Department - 365 Kuhn Road- Carol Stream, IL. <http://keyworthfireandsafety.com>

[\[Return to Top\]](#)

## **Special Feature**

### **Chicago Office of Emergency Management and Communication (OEMC)**

#### **The Chicago OEMC: A Resource Close to Home...**

The Chicago Office of Emergency Management and Communications (OEMC), is committed to closely partnering with regional, state, and federal partners to achieve seamless integration and complementary missions. The OEMC recognizes that in addition to its traditional responsibilities at the local level, its support of relevant Cook County and State of Illinois efforts will result in more safety and security for both City residents and City property.



An important part of the role of the OEMC is advocating for personal, family, and business preparedness. The OEMC encourages all residents, employees, and visitors to have an emergency supply kit, an emergency plan, and to be informed and aware of the emergencies that can occur here in Chicago. This ties in closely to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) preparedness message of: **"Get a kit. Make a plan. Be informed."**

One way that the OEMC educates residents about disaster preparedness, is through the Department of Homeland Security funded Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT). CERT volunteers assist with professional emergency services following a disaster and offer area residents an opportunity to learn basic hands-on disaster response techniques. Together, the OEMC and the Police Department have graduated over 350 members through the CERT Program since its inception in 2004.

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Excellent resources for personal preparedness are available via a number of sources.

- The City of Chicago encourages residents to sign up for the free NotifyChicago emergency-messaging system at <https://webapps.cityofchicago.org/NotifyChicago/>. NotifyChicago links residents to information on traffic disruptions, severe weather, and major incidents.
- The State of Illinois also hosts a very useful preparedness website at <http://www.state.il.us/iema/disaster/disaster.htm>. A number of links and state resources can be found at this location.
- On the federal level, [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) serves a similar purpose, providing a wide-range of preparedness information for individuals, businesses, and organizations.

With the recent 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the September 11th attacks, it is incumbent on all individuals to be sure that they, their families, their neighbors, and their employers are prepared for the next emergency – whatever it may be.

[\[Return to Top\]](#)

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## BRPA Leadership Program

### Maria Vergara (RBS) – BRPA Leadership Program

Your brand is your power! It holds who you are and who others think you are. **If you are interested in taking your brand, your career, and perhaps your life to the next level, this session is for YOU!**

Please join us on **November 15, 2011** from **noon to 2:30 p.m.** for lunch and the official launch of the BRPA Leadership Program (BLP). Our first session is **"Personal Branding: The Art and Power of YOUR Personal Brand."** This presentation—The Art and Power of Your Personal Brand led by Frank Short—will help you answer three questions about exploring the brand that is you. First, **how do I unearth and understand my unique promise of value?** Second, **how can I communicate my brand to my target audience, including my peers and my boss?** And third, **how do I manage my brand environment in the ever- evolving world of work?** Answers to these questions and others will help you identify, promote and develop your personal brand you as you pursue an adventure in self-discovery.

Mr. Frank Short has worked with countless professionals including managers and CEO's in the US and internationally. Having worked at Leo Burnett and DDB, Frank's career has allowed him to personally edit or write countless resumes, cover letters, executive bio's as well as personal branding materials. Frank holds a master's degree in English from the School for New Learning of DePaul University and a bachelor's degree in communication and writing earned at Northwestern University.

Guests interesting in attending should contact Chris Sarcletti, BRPA Membership Director, for details on how to become a BRPA member. [Christopher.Sarcletti@cmegroup.com](mailto:Christopher.Sarcletti@cmegroup.com)

Interested in joining or learning more about the BRPA Leadership Program - please reach out to [maria.vergara@rbs.com](mailto:maria.vergara@rbs.com)

[\[Return to Top\]](#)

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## Closing Thoughts

Thanks so much for reading the BRPA newsletter. Please enjoy the remainder of the Autumn season and stay warm! As a BRPA member, remember that resources are only a click away. We encourage you to browse the website and click on the links in this newsletter. Your feedback is always welcome as we continue to update this newsletter based on your needs and suggestions. As always, we are only an email away: [newsletter@brpa-chicago.org](mailto:newsletter@brpa-chicago.org)

