MISAC Members Join Mutual Recovery Effort in California Wildfires

With the Thomas Fire contained just weeks ago, this year's catastrophic wildfire season has set new records for data points ranging from damage expenses to acreage burned. As local and regional fire departments have joined forces to contain wildfires throughout California, many MISAC members—and the agencies for which they work—have been called on to contribute to both response and recovery efforts.

“The City of Santa Rosa has been heavily involved in response and recovery efforts for the communities affected by the tragic fires,” says Kristie Bartlett, City of Santa Rosa IT Operations Section Manager. “Every department has been working tirelessly across the board to help every step of the way.”

Click here to continue reading about the City's recovery efforts.

Internal Consulting Skills Create IT Leaders

In today's dynamic workplace, internal consulting and other soft skills have gained importance, especially in information technology.

“IT staff are trustworthy advisors on all technological fronts, but we don’t always see ourselves that way. Because our work affects everyone in the organization, it demands that we effectively communicate with customers when problems arise—what’s the when having soft skills can be of great value,” says Tim Ranstrom, Chief Information Officer for the El Dorado Irrigation District. "When we can approach our customers with thoughtful consideration, we empower everyone to reach a new height of success."

Recognizing the need for member development resources in this important area, MuniTech Academy presented its first course in Internal Consulting Skills, November 28 through December 7, 2017.

Click here to continue reading why internal consulting skills are key.

The City of Long Beach Technology and Innovation Department: At the Forefront of Government Technology

While the City of Long Beach arguably is more well-known for its bustling seaport, a gateway to the Pacific Rim through which $140 billion in trade moves annually, recent innovations have put the City on the map for its commitment to leveraging new technology to improve community services.

“Technology that helps us remove boundaries and facilitate the seamless movement of information not only increases productivity and speed, but also encourages collaboration and innovation. Every City department, from animal care
services to police, is using new technology to simplify and enhance services to our community," said the City of Long Beach City Manager Patrick West.

Click here to read the full article.

MISAC Launches Speakers Bureau

The Municipal Information Systems Association of California (MISAC) has launched a new speakers bureau through which organizations can request MISAC experts to participate in events and conferences.

“Building on a long tradition of fielding speaker requests,” says Tim Williamsen, President of MISAC and Information Technology Manager for the City of Petaluma, “we are proud to announce the MISAC Speakers Bureau.”

Click here to learn more about the Speakers Bureau.

Save the Date:
MISAC Annual Conference 2018, “IT’s Up to You”

Please mark your calendars for September 30-October 3: MISAC’s 2018 Annual Conference in Rancho Mirage at the Westin Mission Hills Golf Resort & Spa.

Helen Hall, IT Manager for the City of Fullerton and Conference Chair, who has selected “IT’s Up to You” for this year’s theme, promises education and fun for all attendees.

“We are well under way in our planning for this year’s conference,” Hall recently told MISAC Matters. “I have some great committee members who are working with me to offer superior learning opportunities. We have identified the following course tracks and will soon be seeking presenters to fill each one: security, water districts, public safety, collaboration and smart cities.

“I also anticipate a number of breakouts designed to help attendees on personal development,” she added.

MISAC Member Highlight: Greg Duecker

To view member highlights, log into the MISAC website and visit the blog section under Member Resources or click here to find the Member Highlight blog. We use this to feature MISAC members on a quarterly basis.

MuniTech Academy

MuniTech Academy wants to hear from you! We want to ensure we are offering educational and professional development opportunities of interest to MISAC members and partners. Please take a couple minutes to let us know which training opportunities interest you: Take our quick survey! Your input helps shape our Course Schedule.

Mark your Calendars! Upcoming MuniTech Academy Classes:


For more information about upcoming training from MuniTech Academy, please visit www.munitechacademy.org/courses/ and keep an eye out for our emails.

The quarterly newsletter is provided as a benefit for members. If you have received this email, but are not a member, please consider joining. Membership information can be found on the website.