



# IBM Mid-Range Computer Users Group



President: Max Thomas - 264-2501 Vice President: Steve Walker - 264-1442  
Secretary: Alan Judson - 763-6650 Treasurer: Dan True - 565-2483

## MAY MEETING

Our May Election meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 12th, at 11:30am. at the Peppercorn Steakhouse. The Peppercorn is located at: 343 East 500 South.

At this meeting we will elect new officers for the coming year. Thus far we have the following nominations: Steve Walker from Abbott Critical Care, Kirk Nacey from CONNECTronix, Michaelle Erickson from Union Pacific Railroad Employees' Health Systems and Alan Judson from Bank of American Fork. We will accept additional nominations at the beginning of the meeting.

Our featured speaker at our May meeting will be Mary Nickles from the KUTV News Department. Mary joined KUTV News in April of 1991 as a reporter/anchor. She came to the Salt Lake market after

beginning her broadcast career in 1985 at television station KNDO in Yakima, Washington. During her five and a half years there she worked as an anchor, reporter, producer, editor and photographer.

A 1985 graduate from Lewis and Clark State College in Lewiston, Idaho, Mary has a Bachelors degree in English. She attended college on a Volleyball Scholarship. Mary and her husband Kent live in Salt Lake City.

Bring your nominations and your appetite and join us at the Peppercorn. This luncheon is not covered by your membership fee so you will be responsible for the cost of your meal.

## APRIL MEETING

Charlie Fox, Disaster Planning Coordinator for First Security Bank, shared some general ideas on disaster/recovery planning at our April

meeting. The highlights were:

1. It should be a 'Business Recovery' plan, rather than just an MIS plan. Senior Management must be involved.
2. The plan should include all departments, each responsible for their own portion of the plan.
3. The plan SHOULD BE PRACTICAL - NO OVERKILL. Remember that it will not be 'Business as usual' in the event of a disaster. You may have to maintain minimal services.
4. Types of potential disasters in our area include: Natural - earthquakes, weather, flood, fire, etc.; Man-made - aging buildings, loss of electricity, fire, water, hazardous materials, loss of key people, disgruntled employees, construction accidents, airplane crashes, etc.;
- Political - Strikes (couriers, critical vendors, security), riots and terrorists.
5. Determine which



records should be kept, and how long.  
6. Decide on the priorities for each computer application. Which ones really need to be up right away? For some, that may depend on the time of month or year, ie, monthend, yearend, etc.

7. Don't forget to include PC and LAN based applications in your plan.

8. Determine how long your company could be 'down'. Many companies would be totally out of business in three days. Consider outage of varying durations. Short: less than 24 hours, Medium: 1 to 5 days, Long: more than 5 days.

9. The details of the plan are proprietary, but the fact that a plan exists may be made public to assure customers, clients, etc., that your business is safe and prepared.

10. Keep a copy of the plan in at least one off-site location.

11. Consider who you should send to the backup site in the event of a disaster. Some people may be hard pressed to leave home, family or maybe even their Corvette.

12. Be sure to take backups off-site.

Keeping a backup copy next to the computer will not be much good if the computer area is destroyed.

13. Use auditors to 'nudge' management in an effort to get support for the plan. They can be a big asset.

14. Have a company spokesman. Don't let employees start jabbering to the press in the event of a disaster.

15. The plan should be 'exercised' at least 1 to 4 times a year, depending on your situation.

A free subscription to "Disaster Recovery Journal" is available to anyone in the U.S. and Canada involved in managing, preparing or supervising contingency planning. Just send a signed request to:  
Circulation  
Department, Disaster Recovery Journal,  
2712 Meramar Drive,  
St. Louis, MO 63129  
or Fax it to: (314) 846-1023.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

The April MPA meeting will be held Wed. the 21st, at 6:00pm. sharp, at COMPHEALTH, Woodlands Plaza, Suite 300, 4021 South 700 East, Salt Lake City.

#### AS/400 MINI COURSES

5/18/93, EM499, AS/400 Query Introduction/Workshop, 1 day, \$300/student.

5/19/93, EM358, PC Support/400 for Implementer/User, 1 day, \$350/student.

5/25/93, EM329, AS/400 Performance and Tuning, 1 day, \$275/student.

The above classes will be held at 9:00am., at the IBM building, 420 E South Temple.

To enroll call: 1-800-426-8322.

For questions, call Lisa Fujikawa at (801) 328-6834.