



Web site address [www.DAMAIndiana.org](http://www.DAMAIndiana.org)  
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## Welcome to DAMA Indiana News!

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Welcome to the Fall edition of the DAMA Indiana newsletter. In this issue, we focus on the upcoming DAMA Indiana Board elections, membership, and bylaws for our organization.

The strength of a chapter is dependent on its members. In the President's column, Sue Peoni explores what it means to be a passive or active member.

Wondering about the differences between DAMA Indiana and DAMA International? Dan Heffern, our Vice President of Administration, provides us with overview of the bylaws for each organization.

Ever wonder what the board responsibilities are? Or what people find most interesting about serving? Each of the current board members has provided an overview of his or her position.

Do you have a question for the board or fellow members? Are you wondering about future events? Have an idea for a newsletter article? The top of the newsletter contains the web site and social media contact information for the chapter. In addition, the contact information for the Board is on the last page. We would love to hear from you!

## From the President's Pen...

*By Sue Peoni*

The hot weather is no longer an everyday thing, so it must be time for DAMA elections! DAMA-Indiana has been blessed with talented, active, and enthusiastic board members that have given generously of their time and talent over the last few years, and we have every reason to believe that this year's slate of candidates will continue that tradition. But since it is that time of year, I thought it would be worth devoting my paragraphs to what it means to be a member of DAMA-Indiana - both the passive and active approaches.

First, the passive version:

For a meager donation (and some of you don't even have to do that, since your company covers

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*President's Pen* from page 1

you), you get to hear some great speakers, often with a free lunch thrown in. You gain access to all the goodies on the DAMA-International website (soon to be much improved, I hear), along with a discount on your [Enterprise Data World](#) (EDW) registration. You expand your network of people who actually understand what you do for a living - a critical item in this crazy economy. You get to add DAMA membership to your resume, and you get easy access to the CDMP certification exams, saving you a trip to some other city to gain all of this credibility.

The active approach:

For NO extra money, you can use that expanded network to help you solve all of your thorniest data-related problems - bring your issue to a meeting or contact a few people and meet for lunch. Since most of us are facing similar issues on a daily basis, you'll be amazed at all the free help you can get! Is there someone you are dying to hear speak, but your company won't spring for the conference fee? Call the board member in charge of our meeting agendas and make a suggestion - we can often get a speaker to stop in Indy on their way to somewhere else at little extra cost to us, so we are willing to ask anyone. Looking to expand or contract your list of vendors? I find that asking people at the DAMA meeting for their personal experience with vendors gives me far more relevant information than any internet search. And of course, spread the word about how much you get out of being a DAMA-Indiana member. The more diversity we have in our membership, the more valuable the organization is to all of us.

The point is that like everything else in life, you get out of DAMA-Indiana what you put into it. We are happy to see everyone at each of our meetings, but it is even more fun when everyone is actively participating. Get active!

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**Save the Date!**



The next DAMA Indiana meeting date is:

**Friday, October 14th**

*Note: We are switching from Thursday to Friday for the October meeting.*

### CDMP Testing

Please let us know if you are interested in taking CDMP tests. If there is enough interest, we may schedule a testing session this Fall.

## A Day in the Life

By The 2011 DAMA Board Members

Ever wonder what responsibilities are given to board members? Or what people enjoy the most about their positions? The current DAMA Indiana board members are excited to share their experiences.

### **President: Sue Peoni**

As you all know I'm sure, the President's job in any organization is always the EASIEST one - just make sure you have GREAT board members and then stay out of their way!!! That has absolutely been my experience with the DAMA-Indiana board. Very few leadership roles could have been easier - thanks to all of our board members!

Seriously, the President does have a few actual responsibilities. The President is the general contact to DAMA-International. You have the opportunity to attend the President's Meeting with all of the chapter Presidents from around the world, if you happen to be attending [EDW](#). They are just beginning to schedule the occasional conference call to share best practices, which should be interesting. The President is also the keeper of the official paperwork for the chapter, and there are a couple of things that require annual updates. And of course you write a "column" for the newsletter, and speak at the beginning of each meeting. Not too tough!

And there are plenty of opportunities to participate in interesting discussions with smart people - how can we make DAMA-Indiana a better chapter, who are the great speakers we'd like to bring in, how can we get more people involved, where can we find more money??

It's a great job and I highly recommend it (except for the pay, of course)!

**Vice President Administration: Dan Heffern**  
As VP Administration I primarily interact with people interested in joining DAMA Indiana. I typically answer questions regarding our different types of memberships. I maintain the master list of chapter members, and work annually with our Treasurer on member dues. I am also responsible for ensuring the annual election of chapter board members is held.

My favorite thing about the position is interacting with all of the new members joining the chapter and seeing their enthusiasm.

### **Vice President Programs: Michael Irick**

The Vice President of Programs is responsible for the content of chapter meetings. This includes setting up an agenda, securing speakers, and working with vendors to obtain sponsorship. This is obviously a crucial role within the organization.

What is exciting about being the VP of Programs is that you get to communicate directly with industry experts and leaders in the data management field. It's a great way to build your professional network!

### **Vice President Communications: Tom Morris**

The VP Communications helps direct inquiries that people might have to the proper person, such as: How do I become a member? How can I suggest a topic? They also share communications with nearby DAMA chapters, as well as DAMA Indiana members and maintain distribution lists. This position also facilitates any chapter bylaw changes.

We all help in the various 'running of the meeting' tasks: Facilitate member surveys, meeting slides, facilities/food, name badges, etc.

*Continued on next page*

*A Day in the Life (continued from page 3)*

The roles only describe a bit of what we do, we all do a variety of things that are needed to keep our DAMA chapter going and growing, and that's what I like, being part of the team that does what it takes to make our chapter bring valuable meeting topics and a place for everyone to share their experiences.

**Vice President Communications: Christi Denney**

There are plenty of communications, both within the chapter and with external groups. I am very thankful to share the communications responsibilities with Tom! We both answer inquiries, including updates to members. We also play a role in planning the CDMP testing sessions.

My favorite things about this position are talking with members and invited speakers (both inside and outside of meetings) and creating the newsletter. I love pulling together the pieces and seeing each issue come together!

**Vice President Finance: Gene Boomer**

The VP of Finance handles all financial matters for the chapter, including dues collection, payments, and tax forms.

**Vice President On-line Content: Christina Knotts**

As VP of Online Content, I am responsible for the creation and maintenance of DAMA Indiana's website, [www.damaindiana.org](http://www.damaindiana.org). This includes making changes to the website for upcoming meetings, sharing presentation files, and maintaining accounts with the web hosting and domain registration services. I also help manage DAMA Indiana's social media presence on LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter.

My favorite part about being the VP of Online Content is connecting and staying in touch with members through the LinkedIn group for DAMA Indiana.

**How do they get elected?**

Every year, officers are slated by the board in preparation for the Fall (typically October) chapter meeting. Elections are held during the chapter meeting to approve the nominations.

**How long do board members serve?**

The commitment is a 1-year term. In the event that a board member has to leave his or her position early, the by-laws guide the process for filling the vacancy.

**Does anyone else guide the chapter?**

Yes! We have advisers who play a critical role in providing expertise and guidance to the chapter.

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## Know the Law: An Overview of the DAMA By-laws

By Dan Heffern

### By-laws Comparison

Both DAMA International and DAMA Indiana are governed by their by-laws. Here the differences and similarities are examined.

### DAMA International

The DAMA International by-laws address the way DAMA International and the DAMA Chapters are set-up and governed. The Mission, Vision, Purpose, and Goals of DAMA International are defined. The organizational structure is also defined. The duties of the Board of Directors and their terms of office are specified. Guidance for addressing special circumstances (mid-term vacancy of board positions, etc) is provided. Requirements for members to hold office and the process for election to the DAMA International Board of Directors are outlined. The by-laws also address membership rights and responsibilities, Chapter Officer responsibilities, benefits of memberships, and the dues/fees structure. Finally, a process to amend the by-laws is provided.

### DAMA Indiana

The DAMA Indiana by-laws address the way the chapter is set-up and governed. Like the International by-laws, the Mission, Vision, Purpose, and Goals of DAMA Indiana are defined. The offices and duties of the DAMA Indiana Board of Directors and their terms of office are specified. Guidance for addressing special circumstances (mid-term vacancy of board positions, etc) is provided. Membership requirements, classifications, voting rights, and fees are specified. The membership classifications are specific to DAMA Indiana. DAMA International gives the chapters the freedom to define member classifications and their associated fee structure. The by-laws also specify the number of chapter meetings to be held. A process to amend the by-laws is provided. Finally, Canons of Conduct for members are specified.

If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact Dan Heffern, VP Administration at [vpadministration@damaindiana.org](mailto:vpadministration@damaindiana.org).

## Around Town

Here are other area events that may be of interest to data professionals:

### IndyPASS (Professional Association for SqlServer)

Sept 21, 2011 SQL Server Codename Denali  
<http://indiana.sqlpass.org/>

Oct 29, 2011 Louisville SQL Saturday  
<http://www.sqlsaturday.com/87/register.aspx>

### INOUG (Indiana Oracle Users Group)

October 27<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting  
[www.inoug.org](http://www.inoug.org)

## Conference Central

Data Governance Winter Conference  
Fort Lauderdale, FL November 16-18  
<http://www.debtechint.com/dg2011winter/>

### Reminder

Attending conferences and professional meetings counts toward CBIP and CDMP recertification credits. Visit the ICCP site today: <http://www.iccp.org/cgi-bin/pdfom.php>

## Spotlight: A Tale of Two (Related) Organizations

This issue's Spotlight article examines the vision, mission, and objectives of DAMA International and describes the goals of our local chapter.

**DAMA International** is a non-profit, vendor-independent, global association of technical and business professionals dedicated to advancing the concepts and practices of information and data management. DAMA is organized into a number of chapters, found in many countries around the world.

### DAMA International's Vision

*DAMA International's vision is to be an essential resource to those who engage in information and data management.*

### DAMA International's Mission

*DAMA International's primary purpose is to promote the understanding, development and practice of managing information and data as a key enterprise asset worldwide.*

### DAMA International's Objectives

Data Resource Management (DRM) is organizing people, energy, practices and procedures into activities that properly manage the information needs of an enterprise. Therefore, DAMA International's objective is to help DRM/IRM practitioners become more knowledgeable and skilled in their profession by...

- Defining and clarifying the roles of information and data resource management
- Educating corporate management by demonstrating how information and data asset management affects corporate performance
- Co-sponsoring regional and international conferences and symposia where industry experts present state-of-art data practices and theories
- Providing a focal point for addressing issues relating to information and data resource practices

- Establishing academic and professional certification programs for the DRM/IRM professional

### DAMA Indiana

DAMA Indiana is a local chapter of data management professionals for:

- Networking
- Sharing Knowledge
- Furthering the Data Management Profession

DAMA Indiana holds at least 3 meetings per year (winter, spring and fall) which include presentations from industry thought leaders and fellow DAMA Indiana members.

[www.dama.org](http://www.dama.org)

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#### DAMA Indiana Board

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