



HARTFORD AREA SAS® USERS GROUP

Volume 18 Issue 4

Fourth Quarter, November 2006

Table of Contents

Notes from the Chairman	2
Highlights of Third Quarter 2006 Meeting	2
Announcement of Fourth Quarter 2006 Meeting	3-4
Calendar of Events	4
Continuing with Education	4-5
NESUG 2006 Highlights	5
HASUG Email Distribution List	6
HASUG Recruiting Policy	6
HASUG Sponsorship Policy	6
HASUG Steering Committee	7
Map and Directions to CIGNA, Bloomfield	8-9

The HASUG Flash is available for reading on the World Wide Web at
<http://www.hasug.org>

SAS is a registered trademark of SAS Institute Inc. Cary, North Carolina

Editor: Janet Stuelpner
Layout: Mahinda Yapa
Member Lists: Charles Patridge
Web master: Rob Krajcik

Contributors: Rob Krajcik
Karol Katz
Barbara Moss
Peter Prause
Janet Stuelpner

Chairman's Notes

(Robert Krajcik , Bristol-Myers Squibb)

I was pleased to see a good turnout of about 40 people at our August 10th meeting at Central Connecticut State University in New Britain. Thanks to James Blaha for hosting the event, and to Dwight Fowler of the Glastonbury SAS office for his presentation on the SAS9 Stored Process.

Our next meeting will be hosted by Barbara Moss at CIGNA Corp. in Bloomfield, CT, on Thursday, November 9th. We are very excited to have Vince DelGobbo of the SAS Institute as our invited speaker. He will present Moving Data and Analytical Results between SAS® and Microsoft Office. Tim Muir from Boeinger-Ingleheim will also present an introduction to SAS® Enterprise Guide. We expect to have a great turnout to see our speakers and learn about these special features of SAS.

I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting. Please use our online registration form to register. HASUG will confirm your registration via email as soon as possible to be sure you know you have a seat to attend.

August Meeting Highlights

(By Barbara Moss, Cigna)

The HASUG 3rd quarter meeting was held on August 10th at Central Connecticut State University. Thank you to James Blaha for hosting our debut meeting at CCSU. The Campus Center facility was bright, welcoming and well suited for a HASUG meeting. Connecticut's investment in the state universities shows well at Central. If you haven't been there in the last say,

twenty years, it is an all-new, expansive, impressive look.

The opening presentation was, "SAS 9 Topics, Part 1: The Stored Process " given by Dwight Fowler of SAS Institute. This presentation was the first in a series. Dwight shared the capabilities and features of SAS 9 from a functional and technical perspective, out and away from the marketing umbrella. My personal thanks go to Dwight for noting the minimal software configuration required to take advantage of new SAS features. Including and beyond the basics, Dwight explained and demonstrated how the use of Stored Procedures makes code more reusable and available throughout the SAS environment and product suite.

The second presentation was, "Advances in Building Custom Excel Spreadsheets" given by Rob Krajcik of Bristol-Myers Squibb. Taking SAS data and transferring it to Excel has never been easier and takes a minimal number of statements. But is it really what is expected? Rob has shown where, particularly in dates, numbers and formatting, conversion has a great deal of room for improvement. From formats to tagsets to environmental intricacies, he has converted and automated the process from SAS to Excel. With amazingly thorough steps, in many technical directions, Rob produced exactly what the user wanted, with all the flourishes of Excel.

Thanks to our speakers, Dwight and Rob. Thanks to Dwight for contributing a variety of raffle prizes, especially the favored courseware books. Thanks to Jim and CCSU for hosting and providing wonderful refreshments.

NEXT HASUG MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Our next meeting is Thursday Nov 9th,
2006 at CIGNA Insurance
900 Cottage Grove Rd
Bloomfield, CT 06002
from 9:00 am to noon

There will be following
presentations:

Moving Data and Analytical Results between SAS and Microsoft Office (By Vince DelGobbo, SAS Institute):

When SAS software developer Vince DelGobbo wrote this paper, he knew it would help users successfully integrate their SAS output with Excel and Word. However, he did not anticipate the intense interest the paper has generated, which led to presentations to SAS users groups nationwide.

"Our users really need to be able to get SAS output into Excel and Word. They need something reliable and relatively easy that doesn't require them to learn a lot of new technology," DelGobbo says.

Specifically, DelGobbo's paper explains how to use the HTML and XML support in SAS to incorporate most SAS output into Microsoft Word and Excel documents and, also, how to import Excel workbooks into SAS tables. DelGobbo's techniques are applicable no matter which platform SAS is installed on, whether mainframe, OpenVMS VAX, Windows, or other.

Vince DelGobbo is a Senior Systems Developer in the Web Tools group at SAS. This group is responsible for

developing the SAS/IntrNet Application Dispatcher and SAS Stored Processes. He is the developer for the HTML Formatting Tools and the SAS Design-Time Controls, and is developing other new Web- and server-based technologies, as well as integrating SAS output with Microsoft Office. Vince has been a SAS Software user since 1982, and joined SAS in 1992.

Introduction to Enterprise Guide (By Tim Muir):

The SAS programming language provides a powerful set of procedures and functions to generate anything from a simple report to a sophisticated mixed model analysis.

The possibilities may seem endless if you can understand and apply SAS programming methodology to support your main tasks. However, if your expertise does not include any programming skills, but SAS is available, you may face the daunting task of either writing SAS code, using MS Excel, or looking for some turnkey solution that can process your data. Fortunately, SAS has attempted to address this with Enterprise Guide (EG). Now in its 4th version, Enterprise Guide provides a point-and-click interface to the SAS System that allows for simple and more complex analyses to be generated without writing any SAS code. This presentation will introduce the audience to EG, demonstrating the key features needed to get started with this environment.

(continued on page 4 ...)

(continued from page 3 ...)

Tim Muir has been a SAS user for 13 years, supporting statistical analyses and research, primarily in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries. At HP/Compaq, he worked to analyze customer behavior and trends for computer technology purchase and development. Tim is a member of the HASUG steering committee, and currently works in IT at Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals in Ridgefield, where he provides application design, development, and site support for R&D and Medical departments.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Future General Meetings and Conferences:

November 9, 2006
Cigna, Bloomfield, CT

February 15, 2007
Venue TBD

April 16-19
SAS Global Forum, Orlando, FL

HASUG Steering Committee Meetings:

November 9, 2006
Immediately after HASUG meeting
December 7, 2006
conference call, 11:30-12:30
February, 15, 2007
Immediately after HASUG meeting

Continuing With Education... Peter Prause, The Hartford

The SAS Institute Regional Training Center in Glastonbury, CT is offering the following courses. Course information for these courses and many other non-local courses is available on the Internet at the support.sas.com web site. To register for a course or to get more information, phone SAS Institute at 1-800-333-7660.

SAS Macro Language
Nov 1 – 2
SAS Macro Programming: Advanced Topics
Nov 3
SAS Programming I: Essentials
Nov 15 - 17
SAS Programming II: Manipulating Data with the DATA Step
Nov 29 – Dec 1
Querying and Reporting Using SAS Enterprise Guide
Dec 7 - 8
SQL Processing with SAS
Dec 14 – 15
SAS Programming I: Essentials
Jan 24 – 26
Overview of SAS Business Intelligence and Data Integration Applications
Feb 8 – 9
SAS Programming II: Manipulating Data with the DATA Step
Feb 26 – 28
SAS Programming I: Essentials
Mar 28 – 30
Creating Detail and Summary Reports
Apr 3 – 5
SAS Programming III: Advanced Techniques
Apr 18 – 20

(continued on page 5 ...)

(continued from page 4 ...)

SAS Macro Language
May 2 – 3
SAS Macro Programming: Advanced
Topics
May 4

When time and distance are an issue for you, SAS Institute does offers Live Web classes and self-paced e-learning to help you get the training you need while accommodating your busy schedule. Call for more details.

Destiny Corporation is offering the following public courses at their training facility located at 2075 Silas Deane Highway, Rocky Hill, CT. You can reach Destiny at 1-800-787-2464 or at 860-721-1684, or send email to info@destinycorp.com. You can visit their web site at www.destinycorp.com.

Optimization Tips and Techniques
Oct 23 – 24
SQL Processing in SAS Software
Nov 6 – 7
SAS Version 9 Changes and
Enhancements
Nov 9 – 10
Programming II: Data Manipulation
Using the Data Step Dec 4 – 6
Programming III: Advanced Techniques
Dec 14 - 15

In addition to Destiny's public course offerings, many of Destiny's courses are offered in a Virtual Learning Environment. Experience the quality and benefits of "Instructor Led" training from the comfort of your own pc. These courses cover the same basic content as traditional classroom training with the benefit of yearlong access and instructor

support. Call or visit www.vdestiny.com for more details.

NESUG Highlights

(by Karol Katz)

The 19th annual Northeast SAS Users Group (NESUG) was held in Philadelphia, PA from September 17-20. More than 600 SAS users from the Northeastern US and Canada attended the conference. Concurrent presentations were offered in Administration and Support, Analysis, Applications, Coder's Corner, Data Manipulation and Hands on Workshops. At times it was difficult to choose which of two competing talks to attend. Fortunately, the Proceedings CD that I received at registration had all of the papers that were presented.

There was always a lot of activity in the SAS demo room. There, I had an opportunity to talk one-on-one with the SAS developers. Short Super Demos were offered highlighting the newer features of SAS9.1 and a preview of what will be available in SAS9.2. The Code Clinic was busy helping people who came with SAS programming problems. Posters were displayed in the Demo room and attendees had an opportunity to vote for the best poster.

Philadelphia offered wonderful weather, lots of attractions, and great food. There was something for everyone from the Liberty Bell to the Philly Cheesesteak. I look forward to November '07 when the 20th NESUG will be held in Baltimore, MD.

HASUG2-L DISTRIBUTION LIST

This service is provided free of charge to all who wish to subscribe to the email notification process. In order to sign up for this service, you need only point your browser to the HASUG web site, <http://www.hasug.org>, and click the hyperlink, Or go directly to <http://listserv.pace.edu/archives/hasug2-1.html> then click on Join or leave the list (or change settings).

Your name and email address are not displayed nor given out to any party, including members of the HASUG steering committee. Only the list administrators have access to subscription information. If you should change your email address under which you subscribed, you will need to unsubscribe with your old email address, and then re-subscribe using your new email address.

Typically, a notice is sent approximately 3 weeks before meetings, as well as a couple of days beforehand to remind people of the date, time, location and topics to be presented. Only List administrators will be able to send out email messages to the HASUG2-L members. After entering your name and e-mail address, there are a number of options available under "Subscription Type". If you know and understand the various options, feel free to alter them as desired. However, HASUG suggests you leave them "as is".

THE HASUG RECRUITING POLICY

HASUG's primary mission is to provide a forum for SAS professionals to meet and share experiences. HASUG also

recognizes that searching for new employment opportunities is a normal activity when professionals meet. Since we depend on our respective employers to support HASUG by providing time for members to attend, prepare presentations, and provide meeting facilities, we do not wish to jeopardize those relationships we have all nurtured.

Therefore, when attending any of our quarterly meetings, we request that all parties engaged in recruiting activities be "professional and discreet", and suggest that such activities be carried outside and after our meetings. Those seeking or offering positions may display materials at a location designated by HASUG at each quarterly meeting. The materials may include resumes, job openings, contract opportunities, business cards, etc. None of the materials may include salary information. All such materials left after the meeting will be discarded. Violators of this policy may be asked to leave the meeting.

THE HASUG SPONSORSHIP POLICY

All parties are encouraged and welcome to attend our quarterly HASUG meetings scheduled during the months of February, May, August, and November of each year. Usually these meetings are scheduled the 3rd Thursday from 9:00 am to noon at various locations throughout Connecticut. Past locations have included Hartford, Meriden, Middletown, Norwalk, Glastonbury, Stamford and New Haven. We are always looking for new hosts within the state of Connecticut. If you feel your organization can host a meeting of up to 70 or so people, please contact one of the Steering committee members.

HASUG Steering Committee.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>E-Mail</u>
Robert Krajcik (chairman)	Bristol-Myers Squibb	(203) 677-6125	robert_krajcik @yahoo.com
Jim Blaha	CCSU	(860) 832-1737	blahajam@ccsu.edu
Cindy Johnson	Bristol-Myers Squibb	(203)-677-6547	GjCjtwink@aol.com
Karol Katz	Yale University	(203) 785-7572	Karol.Katz@yale.edu
Rene Laurencot	Pfizer	(860) 686-1574	husky_123@yahoo.com.
Albert Lavoie	Independent	(860) 644-7632	alavoie1@cox.net
Barbara Moss	CIGNA	(860)226-1504	barbara.moss@Cigna.com
Tim Muir	Boehringer-Ingelheim	(203) 300-9500	tmuir@rdg.boehringerengelheim.com
Chuck Patridge	Full Capture Solutions, Inc	(860) 291-9517 x 106	charles_s_patridge@prodigy.net
Peter Prause	The Hartford	(860) 547-7484	Peter.Prause@thehartford.com
Kevin Smith	Oxford Health Plans	(203) 459-6145	KevSmith@oxhp.com
Janet Stuelpner	Left Hand Computing	(203) 966-7520	jstuelpner@usa.net
Mahinda Yapa	Pitney Bowes	(203) 922-4662	myapa@yahoo.com
Gerald Zuckier	Aetna	(860) 636-4053	GZuckier@alum.mit.edu

**Directions to:
CIGNA Corp., Bloomfield, CT**

FROM POINTS NORTH:

Follow I-91 South to Exit 35B (Route 281, Bloomfield/Windsor). Turn right at the end of the ramp and follow Route 218 West (Cottage Grove Road) for approximately 4 miles (13 lights). The main entrance to the CIGNA grounds is located on the left at the stoplight just past the intersection of Routes 189 (Bloomfield Ave.) and 218.

FROM POINTS SOUTH:

Follow I-91 North to Exit 35B (Route 281, Bloomfield/Windsor). Turn left at the end of the ramp and follow Route 218 West (Cottage Grove Road) for approximately 4 miles (14 lights). The main entrance to the CIGNA grounds is located on the left at the stoplight just past the intersection of Routes 189 (Bloomfield Ave.) and 218.

FROM POINTS EAST:

Follow I-84 West to Exit 61 (Route I-291 West). Remain on I-291 West to Exit 1 (Route 218). Turn left at the end of the ramp and follow Route 218 West (Cottage Grove Rd.) for approximately 4 miles (12 lights). The main entrance to the CIGNA grounds is located on the left at the stoplight just past the intersection of Routes 189 (Bloomfield Ave.) and 218.

CIGNA GROUNDS from points SOUTH and NORTH and EAST:

Follow the campus road past the blue, Wilde, building to the South building.

There is a small Visitor's lot at the entrance to this building. If this is full, go to Parking Lot "A". (Exit the South Building driveway turning left.) Take next left. Parking Lot "A" is on left. The South Building will be in front of you. Entrance is to the left (west) end of the South Building.

FROM POINTS WEST:

Follow I-84 East to Exit 41 (South Main St./Elmwood). Turn left at the end of the exit ramp and continue on Route 218 East (North/South Main St.) through West Hartford to Bloomfield. Turn right at the intersection with 185. Take your first left onto the CIGNA grounds.

FROM DOWNTOWN HARTFORD:

Take Asylum St. west (which becomes Asylum Ave.) to Scarborough Street. Turn right on Scarborough, then left at Albany Ave. (Route 44). Move immediately to the right lane and bear right onto Bloomfield Ave (Route 189). Turn left at the intersection of 189 and 185. The entrance to the CIGNA grounds is located in about a mile, on the right.

CIGNA GROUNDS from points WEST and Downtown HARTFORD:

Take first right, then next left into Parking Lot "A". The South Building will be in front of you. Entrance is to the left (west) end of the South Building. Or, there is a small parking that will fill early at your second right coming in from 185.

Area Map of CIGNA

900 Cottage Grove Rd
Bloomfield, CT 06002

