

# Bay Area SAS® Users Group

BASAS Newsletter May 2017

Newsletter for SAS® Programmers in the San Francisco Bay Area



## Bay Area SAS® Meeting Announcement

Dear BASAS User Group Member,

The next meeting of the Bay Area SAS Users Group will be held on **May 16th, 2017**. Your Bay Area SAS peers, colleagues and friends will come together to exchange ideas, job/contract opportunities, and for networking.

This meeting will jointly hosted by BASAS and Predictive Analytic World ([PAW](#)). PAW is kindly providing us with the meeting facility and reception for the evening. In addition, PAW also provided 15% off Conference Passes to the event by using the following Discount code **BASAS15**.

We have three featured speakers, roundtable discussion, and open time where you can share concepts, ideas and a great networking opportunities.

Please bring along your business cards, not only for networking, but to facilitate our registration process.

There will be a bulletin board where job and/or contract opportunities, related events, and other announcements can be affixed. Hiring managers and consultants seeking contracts should bring their requirements on hardcopy for distribution as well as to post on the board.

### **RSVP Method:**

Please click [R.S.V.P.](#) and fill in your information. Your timely reply will help us in ensuring adequate seating and refreshments.

### Details of the Meeting

Date: Tuesday, May 16th, 2017

Time: 5:00 PM (Registration)  
5:30 – 7:00 PM (Reception)  
7:00 – 10:00 PM (Meeting)

Location: Marriott Marquis Hotel  
780 Mission Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
Salon 8 Meeting Room

### Meeting Contacts

Facility Host: Laura Vitaro (646) 397-3957  
[lvitaro@risingmedia.com](mailto:lvitaro@risingmedia.com)

Event Host: Thomas Leung (415) 956-3611  
[tleung@tmcsoftware.com](mailto:tleung@tmcsoftware.com)

Map of Marriott Marquis Hotel



### **DIRECTIONS FROM SOUTH BAY:**

- Take US-101 North /San Francisco and merge onto US-101 N.
- Use the right 2 lanes to take exit 430 A toward Downtown SF.
- Merge onto I-280 N.
- Take 3<sup>rd</sup> St to Mission St.
- Turn right onto 5<sup>th</sup> St.
- Turn left onto Berry St.
- Use any lane to turn left onto 3<sup>rd</sup> St.
- Turn left onto Mission St.
- Destination will be on the right.

### **DIRECTIONS FROM EAST BAY:**

- Merge onto I-580 W.
- Use the left 3 lanes to take exit 19A to merge onto I-80 W toward San Francisco.
- Use the right 2 lanes to take exit 2C to merge onto Fremont St.
- Drive to Mission St.
- Merge onto Fremont St.
- Turn left onto Mission St.
- Destination will be on the right.

## Bay Area SAS® Meeting Agenda

### Keeping Passwords, AES Encryption Keys, and Other Sensitive Parameters Out of Source Code and Logs

Thomas E. Billings, MUFG Union Bank, N.A., San Francisco, California

### SAS/Twilight Zone

Kevin Graham, Montura

### The LUCID Principles in Spec-Writing

Albert Mo, Independent Consultant

## [More about the meeting:](#)

### Keeping Passwords, AES Encryption Keys, and Other Sensitive Parameters Out of Source Code and Logs

Thomas E. Billings, MUFG Union Bank, N.A., San Francisco, California

#### **Abstract:**

The use of metadata-bound, encrypted libraries (with meta-LIBNAMEs) is one way to keep SAS® data set passwords and encryption keys out of source code and logs. However, that approach is constrained to the client-server metadata environment and data set/LIBNAME access, and at most sites requires SAS Admin support.

This paper builds on previous work (Billings (2017A)) and presents a simple, easy, very secure, non-metadata method for keeping passwords, encryption keys and other sensitive/confidential single-string/token parameters out of the code and log. The approach was originally developed to supply (and protect) AES encryption keys and SAS-proprietary passwords for SAS data sets.

However - and fortunately - this method can also be used to protect/conceal passwords & other sensitive parameters in a wide range of SAS statements (e.g., LIBNAME, FILENAME, ODS pdf passwords, parameters in PROC SQL CONNECT TO syntax, and Excel passwords in SAS code).

#### **About the speaker:**

Thomas Billings has used the SAS system intermittently since the mid-1970's, in a variety of different industries and application areas. He is currently working in Banking, using SAS Enterprise Guide and other tools to build and analyze databases.

### SAS/Twilight Zone

Kevin Graham, Montura

#### **Abstract:**

For this presentation you are working for a former navy officer who just woke up from a 200 year coma. He has a black bead and goes by the name "Teach" and has zero tolerance for any kind of fuzzy logic.

The entire IT staff will be working aboard his yacht named "Queen Ann's Revenge" for the duration of this one year project and all programming will be done with The SAS System. The Captain thinks about half the project managers and coders are British spies. Your job is to evaluate them with 100% objective measures.

Meetings will be held each week. If there is any failure you are "first up" as responsible because you setup the review criteria. Your job is to prove one of the PM failed to perform. Coders are exempt from failure penalty but you will select one to replace the PM if there is a failure. Any big failure equals swimming with the fishes.

If two or more PM present fuzzy logic as reasons for failure then you will in turn apply your 100% objective review criteria

or you will swim with the fishes. You have 30 minutes to search the web for "Best Practices" and download apps from the iStore. The ship is leaving now and WIFI at the pier has limited range.

#### **About the speaker:**

I am a software engineer with specialty developing interactive apps used by SAS modelers and complex server apps like SAS/Supply Chain that are subject to user applied rules and user written SAS modeling routines.

### The LUCID Principles in Spec-Writing

Albert Mo, Independent Consultant

#### **Abstract:**

As SAS programming professionals, we often need to read or write specifications (specs). These specs can be SDTM, ADaM, TLF, ... Programming specs. Some specs are easy to read and understand; some are confusing, ambiguous, and lead to different interpretations from their readers.

The author was once told by his manager that specs must be crystally clear so every reader can understand. He tries to define the adjective of "Crystally Clear" by proposing the principles of LUCID. He also tries to devise a method to determine whether a spec is a good spec or not.

#### **About the speaker:**

Albert Mo is a Biostatistical Programming consultant working in the Bay Area. He has been using SAS for over 25 years in developing applications and systems for pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. He has extensive experience in Statistical Programming in Biostatistics and Clinical Data Management.

### [Join BASAS Newsletter Mailing List](#)

To be added to the mailing list for the Bay Area SAS Users Group Newsletter, please write or e-mail to the following address, with your name, mailing address (US Mail), business phone, and e-mail address to:

Thomas Leung  
Bay Area SAS Users Group  
155 Sansome Street Suite 650, San Francisco, CA 94104

[tleung@tmcsoftware.com](mailto:tleung@tmcsoftware.com)