



## Finalists Government



**Brian Kelley, Portage County**

Brian D. Kelley is the chief information officer for Portage County, Ohio, a position he has held since 1991. Mr. Kelley is also an adjunct instructor in the Political Science Department at Kent State University where he teaches public sector information technology management.

He is currently serving his second term as president of the Ohio County/City Information Technology Association.

Mr. Kelley earned his B.A. in criminal justice and sociology and an M.P.A. from Kent State University. He recently completed the Certified Government Chief Information Officer (CGCIO) Program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Mr. Kelley was the recipient of the Government Management Information Science's 2006 Professional Award for Outstanding Professionalism, Dedication, and Performance. Under his leadership, Portage County has received both national and state recognition for enterprise-wide information technology projects.

My greatest accomplishment is that as CIO of Portage County, I have consistently failed to recognize traditional political and bureaucratic fiefdoms, and silos as barriers to implementing technology in Portage County. I have successfully built long-term business relationships with ALL eighteen elected officials, department managers, and end-users in Portage County. I have built bridges of coordination, cooperation communication, consolidation, and integration between all offices. These bridges have enabled our organization to achieve successes: network/high-speed internet connectivity between all offices; consolidated IT services delivery, integrated and decentralized financial, payroll and HR systems and other successes.

## Anne Fritz, City of Westlake

Anne A. Fritz is currently the Director of Finance for the City of Westlake, with prior responsibility for the City's information technology operations. She has nineteen years of experience as a Finance Director, and has helped her city receive the GFOA's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting each year, as well as receiving the Distinguished Budget Award and the Award for Popular Financial Reporting from GFOA.

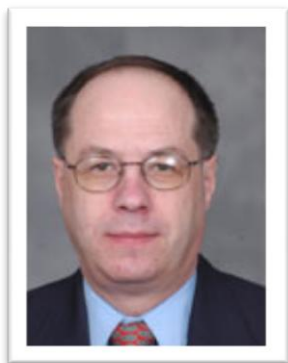
She received her BA from Heidelberg College, her MPA from the Levin College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University, and has successfully completed her PhD (Urban Affairs and Public Policy) coursework and comprehensive examination and is currently writing her dissertation in Public Finance.

Anne is also one of the first class of GFOA's Certified Public Finance Officer (CPFO), and has been actively involved with Ohio GFOA's Board of Trustees and Education Committee, and the GFOA National Committee on Accounting, Auditing, and Financial Reporting. She is also an Adjunct Professor at Cleveland State University's Levin College of Urban Affairs' Master's of Public Administration Program, where she instructs in public finance/economics and public administration.



Finalists

Non Profit Organization



Michael Petro, The Ohio Lottery Commission

Michael Petro began his IT career at the Lottery in the late seventies. In the mid-eighties Petro left the Lottery and spent many years in the private sector developing software, first with Curtis Industries and later with Ecotran Corporation and Trapeze Software. In 2002 he returned to the Lottery as the I.T. Director and has been there since that time.

Born and raised in Cleveland, Petro and currently resides in Mentor. Petro has earned both a Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degree in Mathematics from Cleveland State University as well as a Master of Computer and Information Science degree from CSU. Petro has been a member of the part time faculty at Lakeland Community College, primarily teaching programming classes, since 1990.

The Ohio Lottery recently completed the largest vendor-to-vendor gaming system conversion in U.S. lottery history. This was a huge project that included a new telecommunications system for our retailer network,

deploying new point of sale terminals to over 9,000 locations throughout the state, converting both the online and instant gaming systems and implementing a new instant ticket distribution system. All features had to be operational by July 1st 2009 to avoid any revenue loss. I am proud to report that the new system went live at 6:00 AM on July 1st 2009 and we have been selling successfully ever since.



## Jim Sage, The University of Akron

Jim Sage is an Information Technology (IT) and Operations professional with over 30 years of progressive experience in the manufacturing, distribution, retail, higher education and medical services industries.

Currently, Jim is serving as the Vice President for Information Technology Services and Chief Information Officer at The University of Akron. In this position he is responsible for all of the university's IT functions including the departments of application services, hardware and operating systems, networking services, and instructional technology and services.

Prior to joining the university, Jim was Executive Vice President of Operations and Technology for a medical services company, American Teleradiology Management Group. Jim has also served as Executive Vice President and CIO at Agilysys (formerly Pioneer-Standard Electronics), an electronics and computer systems distributor in Cleveland. His career includes serving as Vice President of Information Systems at OfficeMax in Cleveland, and Vice President of Management Information Systems at Camelot Music, Inc. in Canton.

Jim earned a bachelor's degree in industrial management and management information systems from The University of Akron. He graduated from the CIO Academy at Emory University, and he holds Certified Computer Professional (CCP) and Project Management Professional (PMP) certifications.

There are university-wide projects that need leadership, I'm often asked to get involved. The projects I've led or been deeply involved in include: university council, space planning, Center for Career Management assessment, curriculum approval, emergency management, expanding online course offering, police radio interoperability, etc. I was asked by the President to represent him, the Provost and the VPs on a university-wide committee (including faculty) that was charged to create a new shared governance model for the entire campus. After three years of research, debate and negotiation we've defined a governance model that will be implemented later this year. I was also one of three (out of 14) public university CIOs selected to participate on the Chancellor's CIO Advisory Board. The Chancellor of the Board of Regents is a Governor's cabinet position that oversees all of higher education in Ohio. The Chancellor has acknowledged and endorsed The University of Akron's shared services initiative. This initiative was presented to members of all the Boards of Trustees from around the state at their annual Trustees Conference, held in September of this year. Approximately 250 Board members from all the community colleges and universities in the State attended the conference and the feedback about our shared services initiative was very positive.



## Finalists Small Company



Fred Franks, FIT Technologies

Fred Franks is Vice President of Information Technology for FIT Technologies, a nationwide firm operating in over 12 states and based in Cleveland. FIT provides organizations with consulting, outsourcing, technical support and installation services, and was recognized this year as NEOSA's "Best IT Services Company". Fred's responsibilities span operational, strategic and developmental activities for the organization.

Franks, a Northeast Ohio native, is an up-and-coming expert in professional IT services, who looks to provide businesses with a vision for the future that leverages technological advantages. He continues to provide insight to business executives, directors, IT professionals and students through presentations, seminars, and with his active CIO role. He was recognized last year as part of "Twenty in their Twenties" by Crain's Cleveland.

Franks holds a Bachelor's degree from The University of Akron, and is completing his MBA from Case Western Reserve University this spring. He currently serves as a member of the Northeast Ohio CIO Roundtable, and gives to local educational institutions through his service as a member of advisory committees for both The University of Akron as well as Cuyahoga Valley Career Center in Brecksville.

My greatest accomplishment is creating an environment for teams to succeed and individuals to blossom. Because of our success, growth and achievements, we have created and fostered an organization and philosophy that betters our individuals, customers, and community at large. Our IT department promotes diversity and inclusion of both mind and culture with men and women all residing in Northeast Ohio, but hailing from global origins: Africa, Asia, Europe and the United States. I am also proud to fight against the "brain drain" about which the local news outlets remark. I take great pride in the fact that we are hiring when the economy is down, and that we are adding value to Northeast Ohio in a tangible way.



## Jeremy Moorman, Aluminum Line Products

Early in his career, Jeremy Moorman embraced the concept of “Businessperson First, Technologist Second” in understanding how IT can add value to an organization.

He brings 10 years of global IT management and lean manufacturing/process improvement experience to his current role at Aluminum Line Products Company (ALPCO), including roles implementing ERP, BI and BPM solutions, integrating multiple legacy systems, training and development in multiple languages and streamlining internal IT operations.

Jeremy works as the IT Director for ALPCO, but also serves as a board member or technology adviser for a number of community organizations. In addition, he serves as the President of the national users group for Axiom, the ERP system that ALPCO currently utilizes.

He gained his B.A. in International Business from Mount Vernon Nazarene University and his MBA in Information Technology Management from the University of Houston.

“Over the past 18 months, we have moved ALPCO from a very traditional, reactive IT organization where 2-4 hours outages during working hours were common to 98% uptime so far this year, with appropriate end user issue management. We have also introduced 12 new applications to address shortcomings in CRM, BPM, IT asset management and knowledge management. During this time, we have also reduced our total technology spending by over 30%.”



## Finalists Large Company



Dave Drzewiecki, DentalOne Partners

David Drzewiecki is Vice President and Chief Information Officer at DentalOne Partners Inc, a privately held \$240 million dollar organization headquartered in Mayfield Heights, Ohio. DentalOne Partners is one of the largest and leading dental practice management companies nationally and provides management services to over 150 dental practices in 14 states. With the vision of enabling the business through highly focused, scalable, and reliable products and services, David is responsible for all facets of Information Technology including application development, operations, clinical technology and the project management office. He has accumulated more than 15 years of IT experience in a variety of industries, including healthcare, retail, finance, manufacturing and technology distribution. David is also active in local professional and community related organizations including Society for Information Management (SIM), Vistage International and the Center for Information Systems (CIS) at Kent State University where he earned both his BBA and MBA.

I consider my greatest accomplishment in my position to be the development of the business knowledge of the IT Team. Without a technical team that is educated in the core business, IT cannot be truly effective. All team members are required to complete a Personal Development Plan (PDP) and perform practice visits by embedding themselves within a dental practice twice a year. This allows technical resources to gain a true appreciation of how our practices operate, interact with patients and staff, and use the technology that we expect the practice to use.

Our dental practices benefit in the short-term by having dedicated IT resources available to resolve unreported easily addressed issues, but, more importantly, in the long-term by the improvements made to the business systems over time. Organizations cannot innovate in a bubble. Technical resources out of the bubble lead to innovation.

The result of this initiative and culture is both the effectiveness of the IT team and respect for the IT team. I often receive compliments on IT team members, not only because of their technical ability, but due to their business interest and insight.



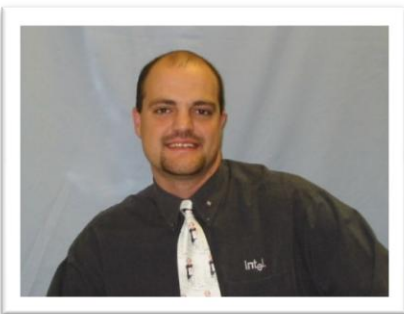
## Thomas Lucas, The Sherwin –Williams Company

Tom Lucas is Chief Information Officer for The Sherwin-Williams Company, a \$7.9 billion global leader in the paint and coatings industry. Tom has been with Sherwin-Williams since May 2000.

Prior to Sherwin-Williams Tom was Director of Corporate IT at Morris Material Handling in Milwaukee, WI. Tom began his career as a part-time Inventory Clerk at Marquip, Inc in Phillips, WI. He transitioned through multiple roles before reaching the Director of Corporate IT position.

Tom graduated in 1982 from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point with a degree in Business Administration and, most recently, received his MBA in May 2005 from Case Western Reserve's Weatherhead School of Management Executive MBA program. Tom is a member of the Society For Information Management (SIM), and the World Future Society. Tom currently serves on the Board of Directors for the IT Subcommittee for University Hospitals and on the Regional Information Technology Engagement Board, which promotes industry and educational collaboration in our region.

In the end our success or failure is a result of the proper application of the human capital we employ. There is nothing more valuable than talent. I am very proud of my, and my teams, accomplishments in the areas of talent development, highlighted by our Professional Apprenticeship program. When I arrived at Sherwin Williams in 2000 we had four IT Co-Ops doing pretty menial work. By 2007 it had grown to 40 plus Professional Apprentices in IT and 50 plus in other areas of the company (Accounting, Marketing, etc) that saw the value of this program. We have won several awards for our program. It lowers my cost per unit of work, brings new ideas into the team, and is the source of all of my entry level hires. The students get a good rate of pay and a meaningful work experience in their area of interest. A real win for everybody.



## John O'Neill Sr., Molded Fiber Glass Companies

John O'Neill Sr. is the Corporate Director of Information Technology for one of the largest composites manufacturing firms in the United States. Mr. O'Neill has 20 years' experience in the computer technology field with a decade in senior leadership positions. His proven leadership and technical expertise has spanned manufacturing operations throughout technologically and operationally diverse environments. He is a team-oriented executive viewed as a driven, focused, profit-minded agent of change with the abilities to deliver both soft- and hard-bottom line profits in challenging technological and economical environments.

Mr. O'Neill regularly writes newspaper columns on a variety of technology related topics and has recently co-authored "Maximizing Your Technology Efforts," a book in the Inside the Minds series from Aspatore Books. Over the years he has obtained certifications from respected industry giants including Intel, Microsoft, and CompTIA. Mr. O'Neill often participates and lectures at information technology conferences nationwide. Most recently he has spoken at the International Biometrics Conference.

My greatest accomplishment in my tenure as Corporate Director of IT is without a doubt the development of the department's team. I take great pride in the fact my teammates are more loyal, focused, committed, and dedicated since we have come together. I believe, and challenge my team to execute, that personal honor, loyalty to one another, and commitment to succeeding provide far more long term value than simple skill. Technique can be taught, ethics cannot. Every success I have been given credit for in my position does not belong to me solely. I am simply the leader of a phenomenal team.