



# PhilaSUG newsletter



## Spring 2002 Meeting Announcement

### PhilaSUG Spring 2002 Meeting Tuesday, June 18, 2002

The Philadelphia Area SAS Users Group Spring Meeting will be on Tuesday, June 18, 2002 at 1:00 PM, and will be hosted by Merck & Co., Inc., by the Clinical Development (CDP) group at their USHH Upper Gwynedd Office Complex, 351 North Sumneytown Pike, North Wales, PA. A map, detailed driving and parking instructions are available later in the newsletter. Note, in order to gain access to the parking garage and building, you must complete the security sign-in form by June 14<sup>th</sup> (see the PLEASE READ THIS box found on this page).

Registration will begin at 12:15 PM and the meeting will commence at 1 PM. Please try to arrive early to register. A guard will be available at the garage until 1:15. After that, you should park in the Visitors parking lot and proceed to the Lobby. Dues for the year are \$20. There are no other fees for attending PhilaSUG meetings. We will accept cash, but a check is preferred. If you are a student and present a current matriculation card, fees will be waived. Registration can be made a lot easier if you attach a business card to a check or \$20 bill as there is less writing to do and it is more legible. Please do not mail in your registration fee before hand as this creates unnecessary paper work. Receipts will be available at registration time.

#### PLEASE READ THIS

In order to gain access every attendee must complete the **SECURITY SIGN-IN FORM** before June 14<sup>th</sup>. This form can be found online at [http://www.philasug.org/security\\_form.htm](http://www.philasug.org/security_form.htm). If you do not have web access, send an email message **TO: registrar@PhilaSUG.org** with the **SUBJECT: Security**, with your name and company affiliation.



#### Agenda

- |        |      |  |
|--------|------|--|
| 12:15  | 1:00 | Registration   |
| 1:00 - | 1:10 | President's opening remarks  |
| 1:10 - | 2:00 | Prerequisites to Effective Validation<br><i>David Izard, GlaxoSmithKline</i>     |
| 2:00 - | 2:20 | Break, Posters and refreshments  |
| 2:20 - | 3:10 | Using SAS Strategically<br><i>Tim Brown, Quaker Chemical Corp.</i>               |
| 3:10 - | 3:30 | Break, Posters and refreshments  |
| 3:30 - | 3:45 | Open Forum   |
| 3:45 - | 4:35 | SAS Statements Used Anywhere<br><i>Karin LaPann, Main Line Contract Services</i> |
| 4:35 - | 4:40 | Meeting adjourns & Dinner!!!!  |

Light refreshments will be served during breaks.

Abstracts and bios are found later in this newsletter.

The presenters and the PhilaSUG Executive Committee will adjourn for dinner at a nearby restaurant when the meeting concludes. You are invited to join us. The location will be announced at the meeting.

## Directions to Host Site

Merck & Co., Inc.  
USHH Upper Gwynedd Office Complex  
351 North Sumneytown Pike  
North Wales, PA 19454

(See overview map on the web site)



### Via the PA Turnpike heading East:

From the Northeast Extension of the PA Turnpike (Route 476), take Exit 31 (Lansdale/Kulpville). Turn left onto Sumneytown Pike East after paying toll.

Travel approximately 4 miles. Pass Merck West Point, at light cross over West Point Pike (Church Rd).

Make a left at site entrance on Sumneytown Pike & Parkside Place, USHH Office Complex is straight ahead.

(Note: Important parking instructions below)

### Via the PA Turnpike heading West:

Take PA Turnpike to Exit 26 (Fort Washington) to Route 309 North. Follow 309 North past Montgomery Mall to North Wales Rd. (Denny's, Perkin's on left) and make left onto North Wales Rd. Cross 63, then Hancock Rd., at WaWa bear right onto Beaver Street.

At stop sign make right onto Sumneytown Pike.

At the next light (Sumneytown & Parkside) make a right, USHH Office Complex is straight ahead.

(Note: Important parking instructions below)

### Via Route 309 heading North:

Follow 309 North past Montgomery Mall to North Wales Rd. (Denny's, Perkin's on left) and make left onto North Wales Rd. Cross 63, then Hancock Rd., at WaWa bear right onto Beaver Street.

At stop sign make right onto Sumneytown Pike.

At the next light (Sumneytown & Parkside) make a right, USHH Office Complex is straight ahead.

(Note: Important parking instructions below)

### Via Route 202 heading South:

Take Route 202 South to Sumneytown Pike (William Penn Inn on far right corner). Make right onto Sumneytown Pike. Continue through Gwynedd and North Wales on Sumneytown Pike (Main Street). Pass through light at North Wales Road (Walnut St.), continue on Sumneytown Pike.

At the next light (Sumneytown & Parkside) make a right, USHH Office Complex is straight ahead.

(Note: Important parking instructions below)

## **Important Parking Instructions:**

Do **not** park in the VISITORS lot in front of the Upper Gwynedd building. Turn Left at the stop sign and follow the ring road around the building to the parking garage B. You will have to have completed the security sign-in form (see bullet on page 1) to gain access.

Once parked in Garage B. Exit Garage B on the 1st floor and proceed across the walkway to the BC section of the building. Walk around the building and enter through the Lobby. Follow [blue signs](#) for directions from Garage B to the Lobby.

## **About Our Host**

Merck & Company is a leading research-driven pharmaceutical products and services company. Merck discovers, develops, manufactures, and markets a broad range of innovative products to improve human and animal health. The Merck-Medco Managed Care Division manages pharmacy benefits for more than 40 million Americans, encouraging the appropriate use of medicines, and providing disease management programs.

The mission of Merck is to provide society with superior products and services -- innovations and solutions that improve the quality of life and satisfy customer needs -- to provide employees with meaningful work and advancement opportunities, and investors with a superior rate of return.

This meeting is being hosted by Merck's Clinical Development group (CDP) Operations group. This group consists of about 500 personnel of which about 80 are SAS programmers and Bio-Statisticians, The Mission of CDP is "...To contribute to Merck through clinical studies that expand the knowledge base on products that are currently marketed or new products for which a New Drug Application has recently been filed..."

PhilaSUG would like to thank Ted Heimbach, Jim Karanias and the many CDP volunteers for making the meeting possible. In addition we wish to thank Caryn Reape and Jessica Lam of the PhilaSUG Executive Committee for their efforts to coordinate this meeting.

## **Host Sites Wanted**

We continuously seek host sites for future PhilaSUG meetings. There is not a lot of work involved, and it is a great way to put your company on the local SAS map. We need your help with this. If your company would like to host a meeting, within reasonable geographic proximity to Philadelphia, PhilaSUG would be grateful if you would contact Barry Cohen (610) 649-8701 or E-mail [President@PhilaSUG.org](mailto:President@PhilaSUG.org)

## **Presenters Wanted**

You are invited to be a Presenter - PhilaSUG constantly seeks individuals who wish to participate actively in our meetings by presenting various SAS topics in the form of delivered papers or posters. This is a great way to share your knowledge with others, to brush up your presentation prior to delivery at NESUG or SUGI or some other major conference, and to gain confidence as a speaker. If this is of interest to you, please use the online abstract submission form found on our web site. Presentations can be from a few minutes to 50 minutes. If you wish to participate in the PhilaSUG Fall 2002 Meeting, please submit an abstract and bio by August 23, 2002. Your abstract must include the desired length of presentation and specification of audio/visual needs.

## **E-mail Announcements**

PhilaSUG-L is a low volume, announcement-only e-mail notification service provided free of charge to all members who wish to subscribe. In order to sign up for this service, you need only send a blank e-mail message to: [PhilaSUG-L-subscribe@onelist.com](mailto:PhilaSUG-L-subscribe@onelist.com). Note that you can subscribe as many times with as many different e-mail addresses as you wish to have the e-mail sent to; e.g., home and office.

## **Future Meetings and Events**

[PhilaSUG Fall Meeting 2002, Nov. 13, Fleet](#) Financial in Horsham

NESUG 15, Sept. 29 – Oct. 2, Adam's Mark, Buffalo, NY

[PhilaSUG Winter Meeting 2003, March 6, WYETH](#) Pharmaceuticals in Collegeville

## President's Message

### PhilaSUG Winter '02 Meeting

Greetings to all members of the SAS community in the Philadelphia area. It's time for our Spring 2002 meeting, and once again Merck and Company generously extends their facilities to us. This time we will meet at their new Upper Gwynedd campus, just down the road from their West Point campus. All the details are elsewhere in the newsletter, but I do call your attention to the need to fill out the Security Form on our web site as soon as possible so you can gain access to the parking garage and building at the Merck site.



I thought I would use this opportunity to share a few thoughts about SUGI27 last month. Last year, I shared a few post-SUGI thoughts in this column and said that it seemed significant that SAS had a strong focus at the conference on its new "Solutions Packages". These are systems that SAS has developed to address business needs found in many companies, with a focus on providing "Business Intelligence" as they call it. This focus was continued at SUGI this year. I continue to think this is significant because SAS has a history of providing us with excellent tools that we then use to build solutions to business problems in our own companies. But now, in addition to continuing the provision of these great tools for us, they are now also providing pre-built solutions.

You might want to learn about these solution packages to see what they can do for your companies. They are powerful systems that effectively leverage the information stored in your companies various databases. Historically, SAS has described its software as tools we can use to turn data into information for decision making. And now, SAS describes its new solution packages as products to turn corporate information into business intelligence for more effective decision making. I also think this new SAS initiative is significant because for some of us, it might change the way we work in the future. For example, we may be less involved in program development and more involved in system implementation and support. Or, our role may change from one of system builder to one of system user, where our main job is to most effectively work with these packages. It is of course impossible to make any definitive statement about this today, but I think it is certainly something you might want to keep your eye on.

I find all this very interesting and I encourage you to ex-

plore it. SUGI was a great opportunity to start the exploration, and you can also find good information about these packages on the SAS web site. And we have a paper on this very topic at our Spring meeting. Specifically, Quaker Chemical Corporation has been an early implementer of several SAS Solution Packages, and Tim Brown of Quaker is going to speak about how Quaker is using these packages strategically. I think this is a great opportunity for all of us to learn more about this new SAS direction.

Space limits me from discussing our other presentations at any length, but I know (because I saw it before) that David Izard has an excellent presentation about software validation. And, at a much more nuts and bolts level, Karin LaPann will speak about "SAS Statements Used Anywhere". This is a great topic. We all know about DATA steps and PROCs, but who knows the ins and outs of those "other" SAS statements used in open code? Karin does, and she will be sharing her knowledge with us. And take a few minutes to see the two poster presentations. Diane Foose is presenting a reporting macro that addresses a common problem we all face with changing number of columns across reports of the same style, or even across pages within one report. And John Cohen is presenting from among some of his nifty Coder's Corner tips.

I hope you can attend this PhilaSUG meeting, Both for the excellent information to be presented, as well as for the information that surfaces more informally at the breaks and at dinner afterwards. As usual, any PhilaSUG member is welcome to join the presenters and Executive Committee members at dinner nearby after the meeting. Try it some time. It is a great way to integrate yourself further into the local SAS community. I hope to see you and speak with you at the meeting.

Barry R. Cohen  
President, PhilaSUG

If you have questions about PhilaSUG, desire to become active on the Executive Committee, or wish to submit any articles, abstracts, etc. please E-mail us at <mailto:Executive.Committee@PhilaSUG.org>

## PhilaSUG Web Site

Our site on the World Wide Web always contains the latest information concerning upcoming meetings, SAS training and seminars, links to SAS related hot topics, and local SAS job opportunities.



Visit us regularly at: <http://www.PhilaSUG.org>

### PhilaSUG Executive Committee

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The PhilaSUG Executive Committee meets on an occasional basis, about six times per year. We invite you to become a member. It's a fun and effective way to broaden your SAS horizons.

## Paper Abstracts

### **Prerequisites to Effective Validation: Evaluating Your Software Development Environment Using SEI's Capability Maturity Model for Software**

David Izard, GlaxoSmithKline

In order to perform effective validation of a computer system you need to incorporate a well-defined software development process into your business model. The development process cannot stand on it own; certain organizational processes and structures must be in place to support the development of validated software. The Software

Engineering Institute's Capability Maturity Model for Software offers guidance on incremental steps a software development organization can take to evolve as an entity capable of producing high quality products that meet or exceed the FDA's requirement for the use of validated computer systems in the analysis and reporting of clinical trial results.

This paper will focus on the aspects of the Capability Maturity Model for Software leading up to and surrounding the effective implementation and use of a software development life cycle.

*David C. Izard is a Principal Programmer / Analyst in Biostatistics and Data Sciences at GlaxoSmithKline. A past presenter at PharmaSUG and NESUG, he has 9 +/- years SAS experience split evenly between the pharmaceutical (GlaxoSmithKline, Bristol-Myers Squibb) and credit card industries (First USA/BancOne, Advanta/Fleet). When not managing a programming team working on an New Drug Application (NDA) submission slated for this year or presenting at conferences, he is constantly searching out new and better ways to eliminate nonessential or non value adding activities in the programmer domain. Other areas of interest and involvement include pharmaceutical industry-wide technology initiatives and software validation efforts in the clinical analysis and reporting domain.*

### **Using SAS Strategically**

Tim Brown, Quaker Chemical Corp.

Quaker Chemical Corp is a leader in the application of SAS products to meet global, strategic business goals.

This paper will discuss at a high level how Quaker applies a wide-range of SAS software including Strategic Performance Management, Total Financial Management, HR Vision, AppDev Studio, Warehouse Manager, and Enterprise Guide.

The timeframe for this review will include past and current efforts, as well Quaker's plans for the future.

*In more than 20 years in business systems development, Tim has lead projects through the full project life cycle to implement a wide variety of applications on many platforms. He also has an extensive background in the selection and implementation of packaged solutions, and has more than 5 years in SAS. At Quaker Chemical Corp., his primary responsibility is for the accounting and financial systems including SAS Total Financial Management. Tim has a M.B.A. from Ohio State University.*

Whenever programmers are introduced to SAS, they are taught that there are two kinds of statements; the PROC step and the DATA step. However, there is a third group of statements, which are not procedures, but are essential in the operation of any SAS code. These are global statements, or as I call them, statements used anywhere.

Global statements perform the following functions:

- Data access
- Log control
- Output control
- Program control

Understanding and using these global statements correctly greatly enhances the control over the programming session, and also of the various SAS outputs. In this paper I will describe these global statements and provide examples for their use.

*Karin has been a SAS programmer for 16 years. She has done programming and data management for academic studies, first with the University of Pennsylvania, CCEB then at Temple University's CRADA. Both efforts culminated with published papers in medical journals. She has an MSIS from Drexel University, College of Information Science and Technology. Karin entered the Pharmaceuticals industry as a SAS contract programmer in January of 2001, first at Sanofi-Synthelabo and is now at AstraZeneca.*

**Report Macro - A Tool to Generate Flexible Summary**

Diane Foose, GlaxoSmithKline

When creating output, you can not always anticipate the number of columns needed in your summary tabulation or that each page of the report may vary on the number of columns used. This may cause you to program many variations of the same style of report for each slightly different output.

This paper will present the concept of using a SAS macro as an easy-to-use solution to this problem. Considerations for how to use this strategy for reporting your data will be discussed. An implementation of this concept, with examples, will also be presented.

*Diane E. Foose is a Senior Programmer/Analyst, Biomedical Data Sciences at GlaxoSmithKline. Diane has 12 years experience as a SAS programmer with 19 years experience in the pharmaceutical industry. She has a BBA in Computer Science from Ursinus College.*

**Nifty Coder's Corner: Tips and Techniques**

John Cohen, AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals

We sometimes suspect that we could write much more elegant programs if only given sufficient time for design, development, and testing. Unfortunately, unrelenting deadline pressures, a burgeoning customer base, and management relentlessly focused on finishing projects "in time/under budget" generally preclude us from expressing our more creative sides. A way around this is to gather a collection of tips gleaned from your work and that of others as part of a toolkit of successful techniques. Already designed and debugged, these are ready to be applied to new problems. We will present here a handful of solutions in date math, the SAS® macro language, and arrays.

*John is a Senior Systems Designer/Developer providing data processing, quantitative, and business analytical support to the Marketing and Sales Departments at AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals. He started using SAS back when the name stood for something and is active in SAS user groups at a number of levels.*





# PhilaSUG

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