


*presents*

# GIANTS 2025

GMIS ILLINOIS ANNUAL NETWORKING • TRAINING SYMPOSIUM

# APRIL 13

<p><b>1:00- 4:00 PM</b></p>	<p><b>WORKSHOP: Be the Hacker Training</b> Presented by Fortinet</p> <p><i>Limited Spots Available!</i></p> <p>A hands on, team based interactive activity, the anatomy of an attack, the tools and techniques threat actors use to breach an organization, and the security defense tools used to break the kill chain and defend against these threats.</p>
<p><b>2:00- 5:00 PM</b></p>	<p><b>Corporate Member Registration &amp; Set Up</b> Main Ballroom</p>
<p><b>3:00- 5:00 PM</b></p>	<p><b>Government Member Registration</b> Beaufort</p>
<p><b>6:00- 9:00 PM</b></p>	<p><b>Welcome Reception at Medici</b></p> <p>120 W North St Normal, IL 61761</p> <p>Join us for the Welcome Reception to greet old friends and meet new ones! Medici is located across the street from the Marriott and is within walking distance. Don't forget your appetite and your name tag!</p>
	
<p><b>9:00- 11:00 PM</b></p>	<p><b>Hospitality Suite</b> Marriott - 2nd Floor</p> <p>Want to continue the conversations? Join us in the hospitality suite. Just take the stairs in the lobby up to the second floor. The rooms will be ahead on your left!</p>

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# APRIL 14

<b>7-8 AM</b>	<b>Breakfast &amp; Registration</b>	
<b>8:00-9:00 AM</b>	<b>President's Welcome &amp; Corporate Member Introductions</b> Tom Gilbert, GMIS Illinois President Help us kick off the 2025 Conference with a warm welcome for our new president, Tom Gilbert! This will roll right into corporate member introductions to learn more about how they can all help you!	
<b>9:00-10:00 AM</b>	<b>Session 1: The Power Of Social Engineering Attacks: Creating A Security Culture</b> Mishaal Khan, Keynote Speaker More than just a lecture, it's an interactive playbook filled with practical strategies and insights to help you anticipate, recognize, and neutralize these evolving cyber threats all enhanced by AI Technology.	
<i>Corporate Member Networking Break 10-10:45 am</i>		
<b>10:45-11:30 AM</b>	<b>Session 2A: Panel - Password Managers</b> Ted Gruenloh, Mishaal Khan, Tom Gilbert We will be doing a deep dive into the importance & challenges of password management.	<b>Session 2B: The Evolution of Lithium Batteries</b> Al Lainio (Digital RED) and the EPA Lithium batteries are everywhere...where do they go?
<b>11:30-1 PM</b>	<b>Lunch &amp; Corporate Member Networking Break</b>	
<b>1:00-1:45 PM</b>	<b>Session 3: "We are from the government, and we are here to help."</b> Tony Collings (CISA) & Jason Bowen (State of Illinois) Learn about "prepaid" services from the state and federal government that your organization can leverage as part of your cybersecurity program. The State of Illinois' Statewide Chief Information Security Officer and CISA's Cybersecurity State Coordinator will share key cybersecurity resources available to local governments.	
<i>Corporate Member Networking Break 1:45-2:15 pm</i>		
<b>2:15-3:15 PM</b>	<b>Session 4: CIS, CJIS, NIST - Where do I start?</b> Oai Huynh, Pace Systems We will be simplifying the process of becoming compliant by showing municipalities step by step how they can start down the path and improve their security posture. This presentation is meant to break down the steps needed to begin the process of becoming compliant set forth in all of the 3 frameworks above. (ie doing assessments to track vulnerability, etc)	
<i>Corporate Member Networking Break 3:15-4 pm</i>		
<b>4:00-4:45 PM</b>	<b>Session 5: Learn How to 'Sell' IT Like a Pro</b> Sean Trudeau, ITPartners+ To help "techies" to adopt a more "salesy" mindset when dealing with councils and commissions to secure the necessary budget, solutions, and staff.	<b>Session 5 &amp; 6: Build A GIS Solution: Start to Finish</b> Ralph Nikischer, Municipal GIS Partners In this session, we will stand-up a GIS solution from start to finish, providing best practices and key considerations along the way. The solution will be tailored specifically to the needs and challenges of local government and will integrate with other common platforms.
<b>4:45-5:30 PM</b>	<b>Session 6: Effectiveness of Resourcing</b> Greg Wheeler, CDW It is crucial to ensure that IT resources are applied to the activities that provide the greatest benefit to the business to help leaders succeed. Let's take a deep dive!	

*Enjoy a dinner out with your favorite corporate member!*

**6-8 PM**

*Then come back for...*

**Casino NIGHT**

**8-11 PM**

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# GIANTS 2025

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# APRIL 15

7:30-8:30 AM

**Breakfast & Registration**

8:30-8:45 AM

**Welcome & Overview for the Day!**

8:45-9:45 AM

**Session 6: Enhancing Cybersecurity: The Value of Implementing a Framework**

Nolan Griffin & Adam Blake, ThinkGard

Through real-world examples and case studies, this presentation demonstrates how a cybersecurity framework can help organizations better protect their assets and maintain trust with stakeholders. You will gain valuable insights into selecting, implementing, and optimizing a cybersecurity framework tailored to your unique needs.

*Corporate Member Networking Break 9:45-10:45 am*

10:45-11:30 AM

**Session 7A: Panel - Public Safety**

Jason Snow, Mark Gottlieb, Terance Henry

We will be doing a deep dive into the importance & challenges of public safety considerations.

**Session 7B: Discussion - Focus on TOPS**

Scot Berkey, DivIHN Integration, Inc.

The TOPS CAT-3 contract is your single source for all Cybersecurity, Data and Service Management consulting resources across the state of Illinois through 2033.

11:30-1 PM

**Lunch, Awards, & Corporate Member Networking**

1:00-2:00 PM

**Session 8: The Art of Championship**

Barry Condrey, Public Technology Institute

Leadership development for building champions in your organization. An important, but largely unspoken, job of senior leaders should be nurturing the professional success of the standout employees around them. It's typically not in anybody's job description—but it should be by taking a personal hands-on interest in another's success!

*Corporate Member Networking Break 2-3 pm*

3:00-3:45 PM

**Session 9A: Generative AI - Where to Start**

Jason Cummings, Google

Generative AI poses an amazing opportunity for innovation. This session will explore some considerations before you add these cutting edge tools to your workplace.

**Session 9B: Purple Teaming**

Anthony Mini, Pearl Technology

What is it? The purple team works in close coordination, sharing insights to address acute weaknesses and improve the organization's overall security approach.

*Corporate Member Networking Break 3:45-4:30 pm*

4:30-5:15 PM

**Session 10: Panel - Records Retention**

Sanford Hess, Anthony Ardolino, Jillian Clifton, Joshua Hackel

We will be doing a deep dive into the importance & challenges of records retention - both physically and digitally.

*Corporate Member Networking Break 5:15-5:30 pm*

5:30-6:00 PM

**GMIS Illinois Annual Meeting & Elections**

Positions up for re-election include VP - Meetings, VP - Membership, and Treasurer.

*Enjoy a dinner out with your favorite corporate member!*

*6:30-8:30 pm*



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## APRIL 16

**8:45-  
9:30 PM**

**Breakfast & Welcome to the last day!**

**9:30-  
10:15 AM**

### Session 11: Utilizing SharePoint for the Budgeting Process

Anthony Ardolino, Village of Tinley Park

It may seem like Finance and IT are born adversaries, but oddly enough the languages we speak aren't that different. This session will demonstrate how the Village of Tinley Park IT department, finance team, and some outside vendors all collaborated to create a budgeting SharePoint site. Operating, capital, revenue, and year-end estimating processes simplified through Power Automate, PowerBI, online office files, and custom data orchestration. Hear about what the organization loved, wished they had, and what missed the mark when Tinley Park did budgeting in SharePoint while also moving between ERP systems.

*Break 10:15-10:30 am*

**10:30-  
11:30 AM**

### Session 12: Panel - Physical Security

Glenn Luckman, Chris Westgor, Craig McBeath, Mike Vissering

We will be doing a deep dive into the importance & challenges of physical security in all facets of the workplace.

**11:30-  
12:00 PM**

### Session 13: Slack Live!

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND! Join us for an interactive session where your questions and topics become the presentation. Have you not gotten answers on Slack or wanted to ask something? Now is your chance in our room full of experts!

# 2025 Executive Board



**President**  
Tom Gilbert  
Village of Oak Brook



**VP - Management**  
Waseem Khan  
City of Rolling Meadows



**VP - Marketing**  
James Kastrantas  
Village of Plainfield



**VP - Meetings**  
Jessica McKean  
City of Peoria



**VP - Membership**  
Rhonda Malcolm  
Village of Palatine



**Treasurer**  
Glen Liljeberg  
Village of Westmont



**Past President**  
Chris Westgor  
Village of Schaumburg



*Emily Bell*  
**Executive Director**