

AFFIRMation

Artful Presentation

At the January AFFIRM meeting, the organization honored **Art Chantker** with a "Lifetime Membership" Award. This is only the second time in AFFIRM's 18 year history that this award for outstanding contribution has been given.

The AFFIRM Lifetime Membership Award recognizes an individual for their dedication and commitment to the success of AFFIRM. A member since 1988, Art has actively promoted the organization and has played a key role in its success. He has served as Director for the last eight years and has twice been elected President. As president, Art focused AFFIRM on issues of Senior Management as related to information resources management. Art also dedicated his efforts to

strengthening partnerships between government and industry.

AFFIRM's President **Gloria Parker** had this to say about Art and his role in AFFIRM, "Art has provided outstanding service and dedication to AFFIRM as past President, Director and member over the past few years. He has served the government well. I am pleased to be able to present him with the Lifetime Membership Award. Congratulations to Art on his new endeavors. We are happy he will continue to work with us."

Art has recently retired from the U.S. Department of Education and has taken on a new role as Director of Strategic Programs at Federal Data Corporation. Good luck and congratulations, Art!

AFFIRM's 2nd Annual Top Ten Challenges Survey

by **Bob Golas**, ORACLE Government, Education and Health

The Association for Federal Information Resources Management has recently released its second annual Federal Chief Information Officer, Top Ten Challenges Survey. The survey, reflecting a consensus of the federal IRM community, continues to focus on the most critical challenges believed to be currently facing the CIOs as they carry out their duties. Additionally, the resource paper compares the current survey to the first one done 12 months ago, notes the changes, and comments as to why. The top ten challenge changes from last year to this year reflect an increasing importance being placed on implementation.

The following is the list of

top ten challenges in order of priority:

1. Formulating or implementing an agency IT architecture.
2. Implementing IT capital planning and investment management across the agency.
3. Ensuring Year 2000 operations.
4. Measuring IT contribution to mission performance.
5. Aligning IT and organizational mission goals.
6. Providing effective IT infrastructure and related services.
7. Using IT to improve service to customers/stakeholders/citizens.
8. Developing agency-wide IT accountability.
9. Obtaining adequate resources.
10. Championing business process reengineering as a precursor to IT decisions; and, Implementing cross-government IT projects (tied).

The survey also identified the top ten critical technologies considered important in performing the CIO functions:

1. Internet/intranet/web/network computing.
2. Security technology, including firewalls.
3. Data warehousing.
4. Client/server computing.
5. EC/EDI.
6. Mobile communications/ computing.
7. Workflow.
8. Distributed computing.
9. Imaging.
10. E-mail and JAVA/HTML (tied).

The complete version of *AFFIRM's Top Ten Challenges Survey* may be obtained by emailing < affirm.info@epamail.epa.gov >. An electronic version of the report will also be available at www.affirm.org.



President's Corner
Gloria Parker

Off to a Running Start

Happy New Year! I hope all of our AFFIRM members and friends had wonderful holidays. With the new year I find myself thinking about the short 24 months left until the change of the millennium. All CIO's and IT executives must have a concern about the extraordinary work necessary to prepare for the turn of the century and its impact on technology. I also think about the opportunities ahead for AFFIRM. Our new report, the Federal Chief Information Officer, Top Ten Challenges Survey, has just been published. (See the article on this page.) AFFIRM thanks **Bob Golas, Michael Lisagor, Marv Gordon, and Mark Day** for their excellent work on the paper.

At our December meeting, **Jim Flyzik**, Deputy Assistant Secretary for

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Association For
Federal Information Resources
Management

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AFFIRM, the Association for Federal Information Resources
Management, is a Washington, D.C. -based council of the
Federation of Government Information Processing Councils.

It is a nonprofit, volunteer organization whose goal is
to improve the management of information
within the federal government.

www.affirm.org

President's Corner

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Information Systems and Chief
Information Officer for the Department
of the Treasury gave an excellent presen-
tation about change. His comments were
thought-provoking concerning change we
all experience. Change is healthy and nec-
essary to make progress. We should think
of ways to make positive changes in the
way we achieve success at work. We
should think "outside the box" in ways to

*We should take
measured risks
to do what
makes good
business sense.*

to meeting missions and organizational
goals. Gone are the old ways of doing
business.

In 1998, we should all look for
improved ways of getting our jobs done
more efficiently and effectively. We
should take measured risks to do what
makes good business sense. We should
not be afraid of failure. As we start the
new year, let's energize ourselves and our
organizations for the next twelve months
and look at the opportunities ahead.

I wish all AFFIRM members and
friends a happy, healthy, and successful
new year!

Sincerely,
Gloria Parker, President



**Please join us for
AFFIRM's next Luncheon**

Date & Time:

February 19, 1998
Reception 11:30
Luncheon 12:00 noon
Program 12:15 p.m.



Speaker:

Dr. Lewis Bellardo
Deputy Archivist
National Archives and
Records Administration

Location:

George Washington University
University Club, 800 21st Street, NW
3rd Floor, Washington, DC
(2 blocks from Foggy Bottom Metro)

RSVP:

Please confirm your attendance by
February 16
Voicemail: 202-686-4602
E-mail: affirm.info@epamail.epa.gov

Cost:

Government Members: \$12
Government and Former Government
Non-Members: \$15
Industry Members: \$17
Industry Non-Members: \$20

**Advanced registration is strongly
recommended as space is limited!**