



May 2016 Newsletter

As technology moves forward, there are tech talent shortages in most technical areas and throughout the world. In some cases, people who don't have degrees or don't have experience are overlooked for job openings by HR departments. One tech entrepreneur, Jim McKelvey, the founder of [Square](#), decided to do something about the dearth of available programmers in St. Louis by starting a non-profit called [LaunchCode](#). LaunchCode matches qualified people with paid internships that often lead to full-time jobs at companies like MasterCard and Boeing. LaunchCode has since expanded to Miami, Kansas City, and Rhode Island.

Our [May webinar](#) speaker, LaShana Lewis, is one of LaunchCode's first success stories. Be sure to join us to hear how, with the help of LaunchCode and its and its women's meetup program [CoderGirl](#), she was able to transition from a service job to a career as a systems engineer at MasterCard.

In addition to our WIT focused webinars, we also partner with some of the other virtual chapters. Take a look at our entire schedule below. In June, Virginia Mushkatblat will present [Securing a SQL Server Checklist – Visit to the Dentist](#).

Don't forget to use the code VC15NKH5 when you register for PASS Summit to save \$150.

--Rie and Kathi

What Impact Do You Make?

Many people come up to me to talk after my presentations or in the hallways at SQL Server events. I am often gratified to hear that I have made a difference in their careers, and often hear that they have learned T-SQL from me. It's really nice to get this feedback, but most of the time, we never know how much what we do or say impacts others.

Just recently I saw a Facebook post from one of our members who remembered how encouraging some of the community were at her very first speaking event about six years ago. Those words literally changed her life. After that event, she went on to speak at many other events, including PASS Summit. In fact, she recently went to work for Microsoft. Those encouraging words led to greater things for this woman, and you can bet that she has inspired hundreds of others since that day.

If you would like to make a bigger impact in the SQL Server community, think about starting a blog. Right now, PASS is featuring a blog post each week that is targeted for beginners. To submit your entry, post the link on Twitter and feature the hashtags **#EntryLevel** and **#sqlpass**. You will make a difference for someone else and that blog could lead to bigger and better things for you as well.

--Kathi

Great Links

We are always looking for input from our members. Please drop us a line at witvc@sqlpass.org if you have something you would like to share, would like to write an article for the newsletter, or if you would like to present a webinar. We are looking for any topic that would be interesting to the WIT group and data platform topics presented by women. This is a great way to get experience as a speaker.

[Software Developer Shortage Transcends International Boundaries](#)
[The TechHire Initiative](#)

Webinar Schedule

Date	Webinar	Presenter
June 7, 2016	From Entry Level to Tech Guru	LaShana Lewis
June 7, 2016	Securing a SQL Server Checklist Visit to the Dentist	Virginia Mushkatblat
July 12, 2016	3 SKILLS EVERY JUNIOR DBA MUST KNOW	Kendra Little
July 12, 2016	A SQL Developer's Guide to MDX Basics	Shabnam Watson
August 2, 2016	Improving Your PowerPoint Skills	Evelyn Maxwell

SQL Saturdays

Event	Location	Date	Session Title	Organizer
SQL Saturday #491	Pensacola	6/4/2016	Whip Away Stress at Home & Work to Create a Better You	Karlyn LeBlanc
SQL Saturday #491	Pensacola	6/4/2016	I'm It - Survival Techniques for the Lone DBA	Monica Rathbun
SQL Saturday #571	Philadelphia	6/4/2016	Dealing With Difficult Coworkers	Gigi Bell
SQL Saturday #523	Iowa City	6/11/2016	Women in Technology Lunch: Energizing the Next Generation	Andrea Mascher
SQL Saturday #524	South Florida	6/18/2016	Whip Away Stress at Home & Work to Create a Better You	Karlyn LeBlanc