



## July 2016 Newsletter

We have some exciting news. [SQLSentry](#) has signed on to be a sponsor of our chapter. This means that we will have gift cards to give away during webinars and other assistance from them to help our chapter. For several years, SQLSentry has sponsored the PASS Summit WIT Lunch, so this is a nice extension of their support. Thank you to SQLSentry!



Evelyn Maxwell is the 13 year old daughter of PASS member and 2015 Speaker Idol winner, David Maxwell. She has presented a session at two SQL Saturdays this year about PowerPoint skills. Evelyn had a lot of great tips and received rave reviews. We are happy that she will [present](#) for us on August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Due to some family and technical issues, we are rescheduling our two July webinars. Kathi's [SSRS 2016](#) will be held on August 7<sup>th</sup>. Shabnam Watson's session, A SQL Developer's Guide to MDX Basics, will be held later in the year.

Rie and Kathi

### Blind Auditions

Last month, I mentioned that women represent about 12% of the recently chosen PASS Summit speakers. I recently heard from Allen White, the current Director of PASS Programs, that women made up 11.4% of the speakers who submitted sessions. I think that is great news. Women are chosen for Summit at about the same rate as they submit. Now, we just need to encourage more women to submit sessions!

If you have ever seen the television show, [The Voice](#), you know that the judges listen to the singer without seeing him or her. This blind audition ensures that the judge's decision to include the singer in the competition is based only on the singing, not on how the person looks. Orchestras began using blind auditions in the 70s and 80s. Due to this, women are now more likely to win positions in major orchestras.

The PASS Summit selection process is partially blind. One group of reviewers rate the abstracts without knowing anything about the speaker. Another group of reviewers rate the speakers. At the end of the process, the results are somehow combined to come up with the Summit program. Not

only are the genders hidden from the abstract reviewers, but, in this case, they can't tell if the speaker is a high profile MVP or a first time speaker.

Blind auditions help us overcome unconscious bias, or shortcuts our brains use to help us make quick decisions about people. We hosted a webinar on this topic back in March. You can watch the [recording](#) if you would like to learn more.

Kathi

## Great Links

We are always looking for input from our members. Please drop us a line at [witvc@sqlpass.org](mailto: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.

[Insights into the PASS Summit Speaker Selection Process](#)

[Orchestrating Impartiality: The Impact on "Blind" Audition on Female Musicians](#)

[Test Yourself for Hidden Bias](#)

## Webinar Schedule

Date	Webinar	Presenter
August 2, 2016	<a href="#">Improving Your PowerPoint Skills</a>	Evelyn Maxwell
August 9, 2016	<a href="#">SQL Server 2016 Reporting Services</a>	Kathi Kellenberger
October 12, 2016	<a href="#">Introduction to Microsoft Analytics – Turning Data into Intelligent Action</a>	Melody Zacharias

## SQL Saturdays

Event	Location	Date	Session Title	Speaker
SQL Saturday #513	Albany	7/30/2016	<a href="#">Data Quality</a>	Vijaya Kokkili
SQL Saturday #513	Albany	7/30/2016	<a href="#">Fun in Gerrit Code Review/Git integration with CI</a>	Emiko Hori
SQL Saturday #513	Albany	7/30/2016	<a href="#">Power BI Performance Tips</a>	Rachael Martino
SQL Saturday #515	Baton Rouge	8/6/2016	<a href="#">SharePoint 101 for Beginners</a>	Theresa Eller

Event	Location	Date	Session Title	Speaker
SQL Saturday #515	Baton Rouge	8/6/2016	<a href="#">User Experience: Empathy for our Users (and Teammates)</a>	Lynsey Gwyn
SQL Saturday #515	Baton Rouge	8/6/2016	<a href="#">Hi, my name is Powershell, let's be friends! An Intro to PoSH</a>	Amy Herold
SQL Saturday #515	Baton Rouge	8/6/2016	<a href="#">Ad Hoc Quality Assurance: A Practical Guide</a>	Lizzie Broussard
SQL Saturday #515	Baton Rouge	8/6/2016	<a href="#">Actively Proactive – Straightforward Ways to Manage and Diagnose SQL</a>	Lori Brown
SQL Saturday #515	Baton Rouge	8/6/2016	<a href="#">Secrets for a Better SharePoint Experience</a>	Theresa Eller
SQL Saturday #515	Baton Rouge	8/6/2016	<a href="#">Beginning Automation with Powershell</a>	Amy Herold
SQL Saturday #515	Baton Rouge	8/6/2016	<a href="#">Unraveling Tangled Code:A Spellbinding Tale of Victory Over Chaos</a>	Jennifer McCown
SQL Saturday #515	Baton Rouge	8/6/2016	<a href="#">Whip Away Stress at Home &amp; Work to Create a Better You</a>	Karlynn LeBlanc
SQL Saturday #515	Baton Rouge	8/6/2016	<a href="#">Strategic Decision Making and Problem Solving</a>	Mechelle Roberthon
SQL Saturday #515	Baton Rouge	8/6/2016	<a href="#">Get addicted to MEF and use it in your architecture</a>	Andrea Saizan
SQL Saturday #531	Louisville	8/6/2016	<a href="#">Improving Your PowerPoint Skills</a>	Evelyn Maxwell
SQL Saturday #531	Louisville	8/6/2016	<a href="#">I'm It – Survival Techniques for the Lone DBA</a>	Monica Rathbun
SQL Saturday #531	Louisville	8/6/2016	<a href="#">Women In Technology: Identifying, Understanding, and Combating Gender Bias</a>	Rie Irish
SQL Saturday #531	Louisville	8/6/2016	<a href="#">Query Store Primer</a>	Tracy Boggiano