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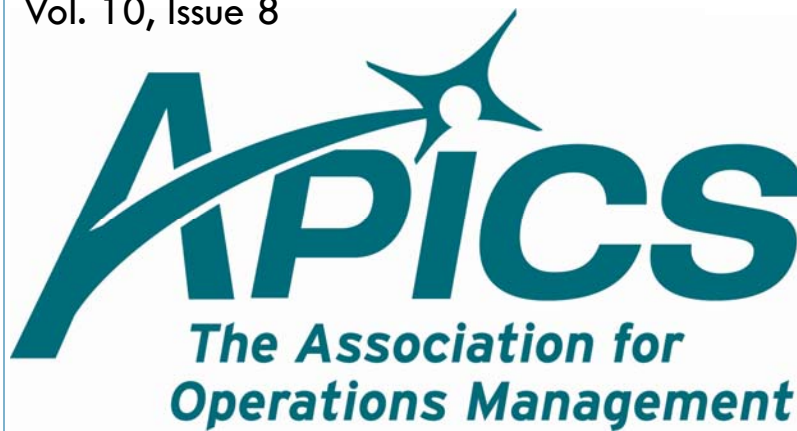
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Vol. 10, Issue 8

April—May, 2010



St. Louis Chapter

May PDM

Top Management and Chapter Awards Night



and will featuring a comedic presentation by **Lori Bond**.

The St. Louis APICS chapter is bringing you another first at the May 2010 **Top Management/Awards Night**. Lori Bond will be presenting a comedic look at a variety of current business topics. She will provide her own unique brand of instruction on the topics below allowing us to laugh at her experiences as well as our own.

Areas of comedic instruction will include:

- ☺ Intro to Business – The Real World Order
- ☺ Information Services
- ☺ Giving Credit Where Credit is Due – unless it belongs to your good friend, Jose Cuervo
- ☺ Calling in Sick – A How to Guide
- ☺ Can Someone Please Nail Down my Desk, it Seems to be Spinning?

Nothing is so contagious as enthusiasm....It is the genius of sincerity and truth accomplishes no victories without it.

Edward Bulwer-Lytton

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St. Louis Chapter
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May 2010 PDM Mentoring Your Way Out of Recession
Call for Nominations Welcome New Members
Chapter Message Collaboration in Global Supply Chains

May PDM, continued . . .



Lori Bond

Lori Bond is a complete and utter geek, which is a complete reversal of fortune, so to speak from what she was like during her childhood. When she was growing up, she was a complete and utter nerd. It was during this time of change from Nerdhood to Geekdom that her sense of humor blossomed into what it is today ~ a pseudo-semi-sometimes job.

From the sweet to the sarcastic, Lori draws her humor from personal experience, family, current events, work, and so, so, so much more. Sometimes, jokes just find her ~ sometimes, jokes try to buy her a drink and take her home with them. Somehow, it doesn't really work; it just

ends up as a punch line.

Lori signed up for a normal life, she really did! Every morning when she wakes up, she thinks that her day will end up just like everyone else's. Instead, a part of it ends up making someone somewhere laugh!

Date:

Tuesday, May 11, 2010

Schedule:

5:45—6:15 p.m. Registration

6:15—7:00 p.m. Dinner

7:00—8:00 p.m. Program

Cost:

\$25 (Members)

\$30 (Non-members)

Location:

Sheraton – Westport
Lakeside Chalet

Reservations:

e-mail:

reservations@apics-stlouis.com

or call Karen at 636-343-8877

Reservations due by 5:00 pm on Thursday, May 6, 2010.

Reservations and cancellations will not be accepted after the deadline. Reservations not cancelled will be billed.

APICS
THE ASSOCIATION FOR OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT

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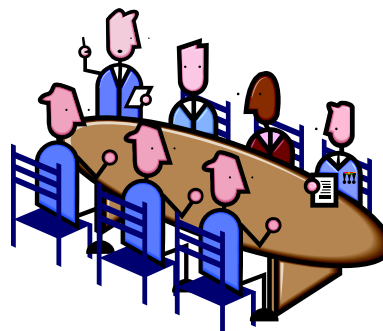
St. Louis Chapter

**2010 – 2011
Slate of Officers &
Directors**

Call for Nominations

Interested in joining
the 2010—2011
Officers & Board of
Directors?

Contact:
president@apics-stlouis.com



St. Louis Chapter

Chapter Message

By: Bob Bielecki, CPIM, CSCP, CPM President

Well, after a month lay-off from the newsletter we are back. Back with a new website, www.apics-stlouis.com, the 13th largest APICS LinkedIn site and a great Spring Seminar.

One of topics getting a lot of attention in the news lately is recessionary learners and certifications. The *Wall Street Journal* pointed out that certification programs are up close to 30% this year over last year as more employers are insisting on demonstrated knowledge. Readers of this newsletter are no strangers to that concept!

The *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* recently wrote a piece on the St. Louis workforce and its need to compete for talent. In the April 6 edition, David Nicklaus notes in his article “One Company Ca-

reers are Yesteryear. . . . Keep your skills sharp and seek out opportunities to learn new things. Network with fellow professionals so you have some idea of where to find your next gig.” He mentions people pursued training and certification opportunities that would help them advertise their skills to employers.

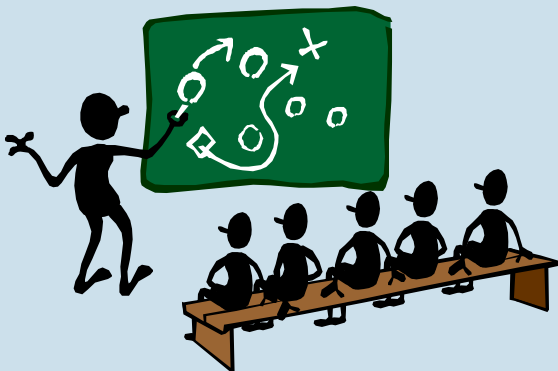
Finally, in the article *Mentoring Your Way Out of A Recession*, “Today's business world demands a combination of formal and informal learning with an emphasis on collaboration, knowledge sharing, social networking, coaching, and mentoring.”

This sounds like today's APICS — St. Louis Chapter, organization.

Mentoring Your Way Out of Recession

In the current climate it was almost bound to happen. Hard-pressed employers are taking an axe to their corporate training budgets, with spending declining at its fastest rate for a decade.

But, while this means there will be less formal training and development of workers being carried out, it can also be



seen as a valuable opportunity for managers to get more hands-on in the mentoring and coaching of their staff. Research by California consultancy Bersin & Associates has found that over the past year U.S. firms have been forced to cut back sharply on their spending on training spending. But this is not so say that training has disappeared completely. In its place there is now more coaching, informal and collaborative learning and increased reliance on using external trainers rather than maintaining expensive in-house training departments.

The U.S corporate training market shrunk from \$58.5billion in 2007 to \$56.2billion last year,

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Excellence in
the New Normal

2010 APICS
International
Conference & Expo

October 17-19, 2010
Nashville, Tennessee, USA

Best Practices for
Global Supply Chain
and Operations
Management

Registration opens in April.

APICS
The Association for
Operations Management

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St. Louis Chapter

Mentoring Your Way Out of Recession . . . continued

the research concluded the greatest decline in more than 10 years.

Average training expenditure per employee fell 11 percent in the same time period, from \$1,202 per learner in 2007 to \$1,075 per learner in 2008. At the same time, training departments have been purged. Last year large companies employed an average of 3.4 training staffers per 1,000 learners, down from 5.1 per 1,000 in 2007, the research found. Mid-sized companies employed 4.9 staffers per 1,000 learners in 2008, compared with seven staffers per 1,000 the year before, it added.

The difficulty for managers is that many recognize that in a downturn it can actually make more sense to spend more money on training, not less. Research in November by the well-respected UK business school Cranfield School of Management concluded just this point, arguing that organizations which invested in their staff were generally best placed to save money, improve staff motivation and increase employee retention. Yet at the same time, watching the numbers heading south, it is clear that something has to give, and more often than not it will be the (non-core) training budget.

But, as Bersin & Associates President Josh Bersin pointed out, simply stopping training and development altogether because of this should not be an option. "Today's business world demands a combination of formal and informal learning with an emphasis on collaboration, knowledge sharing, social networking, coaching, and mentoring," he stressed.

Those firms that failed to invest in the good times in non-traditional methods of training, or had failed to instill a proper training culture in their managers and workers, would probably suffer

most. "While formal, instructor-led training is not going away, it is becoming a smaller and smaller percentage of training budgets," said Bersin.

"Business, HR, and learning leaders must think differently about corporate training and focus on those informal and collaborative strategies that will save money and increase the breadth of organizational learning," he added. Another intriguing finding from the research was that the use of e-learning decreased in 2008 for the first time ever.

Companies also reduced their use of virtual classroom training, meaning that the total amount of online training dropped from just under a third of training hours in 2007 to just under a quarter last year. This shift, again, illustrated the steady move towards more informal learning and social networking.

Source:

<http://www.management-issues.com/2009/1/26/research/mentoring-your-way-out-of-recession.asp> organization.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**William Lloyd, CPM,
CPIM**

Anand Chellappa Kone

Cassandra Coey

Marcus Early

Kelly Gooding

Robert Meade

Dennis Schieffer

Rhonda Shurtleff



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