

Upcoming Events

ASTD Nebraska
Luncheon Meetings
Westside Community
Center
3434 South 108th Street
11:00 am – 1:00 pm

July 9

How to Build Stars

August 12
**Live and Learn...
or Die Stupid!**
A joint ASTD-HRAM
meeting *and* tech
session!

2008 Trainer's Institute
October 13-17
Omaha Home for Boys
Training Center
4343 North. 52nd Street

For information on these
and other upcoming
events, visit
www.astdnebraska.org

Other Area Training

Simon T. Bailey:
"Release Your
Brilliance"

presented by the Human
Resource Association
of the Midlands

July 8, 2008
Scott Conference Center
6450 Pine Street

Find Your Strengths

The ASTD Book Club will present a two-part series of discussions featuring books based on Gallup's StrengthsFinder assessment. Join us as we discuss *StrengthsFinder 2.0* by Tom Rath.

Tuesday, July 22
3:30 pm—5:00 pm

The Bookworm in Countryside Village
87th & Pacific
Meeting room in the lower level

"In StrengthsFinder 2.0, Gallup unveils the new and improved version of its popular assessment, language of 34 themes, and much more. Loaded with hundreds of strategies for applying your strengths, this new book and accompanying website will change the way you look at yourself - and the world around you - forever." (Gallup Management Journal)

Discussion leader Jamie Kelly will dive into a discussion of talents, strengths and the positive psychology behind the "strengths movement".

If you plan to join our FREE session for members, purchase the book and take the online assessment ahead of time, as the discussion of individual results will be part of the session. RSVP by emailing Jamie at jamie.kelly@hdrinc.com.

Save the date for our second ASTD Book Club on September 23, when we'll discuss the book *Go Put Your Strengths To Work* by Marcus Buckingham!



The Bookworm is
offering **20% off** this
book to ASTD
Nebraska members!



Congratulations to ASTD Nebraska for achieving 100 percent CORE in 2007!

ASTD Chapter Operating Requirements (CORE) are a set of performance guidelines designed to help chapters deliver consistent benefits to members. The CORE elements of administration, financial, membership, professional development, and communication assist chapters in attaining the greatest level of success possible.

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CPLP 2008 Testing Schedule			
Testing Window	Registration Deadline Date	Knowledge Exam	Work Product*
March 2008	Feb 14, 2008	March 21 – April 11 2008	June 14 – Sept 1 2008
May 2008	April 3, 2008	May 23 – June 13 2008	
Sept 2008	August 8, 2008	Sept 20 –Oct 11 2008	Dec 14, 2008
Nov 2008	Nov 3, 2008	Nov 17 –Dec 13 2008	
*Work product score turnaround is 8-12 weeks.			

For more information visit www.astd.org/content/ASTDcertification

Lee Anne Brownfield - New Career Resources Director

Lee Anne Brownfield is the new ASTD Nebraska Director of Career Resources. The Career Center is one of many benefits of ASTD Nebraska Membership. The mission of the Career Center is to enhance members' ability to successfully advance professionally within the Training and Development career field.

Even before accepting this position, Lee Anne spent a considerable amount of time helping others with resume design, interviewing skills, presentation skills, and business writing in addition to working at Union Pacific.

The Career Resources Committee provides training and development career opportunities, such as partnerships with Omaha metro area and out-of-area employers to advertise job opportunities.

The Resume Critique Service is a personalized resume critique based upon the latest trends in hiring and the Training and Development career field. You will receive insight and edits that will allow you to polish your resume and increase your ability to compete with other candidates in the job market.

The Mentoring Program is a structured, yet informal, voluntary program for members to partner with a senior or junior member, supported and guided through the mentor relationship by qualified program coordinators.

Employer Services are available to employers looking for a training & development professional. ASTD Nebraska offers free space on our website and in our newsletter to post job listings. This advertisement will reach over 350 of Omaha's best.

For more information on career resources, contact Lee Anne Brownfield at DirectorCareerResources@astdnebraska.org.



What is a Wiki?

The ASTD Nebraska wiki is a place to share information and expertise, ask questions, and find answers!

A WikiWeb is an "open-editing" system where the emphasis is on the authoring and collaboration of documents rather than the simple browsing or viewing of them. The basic concept of a WikiWikiWeb (or "wiki") is that (almost) anyone can edit any page.

While at first this sounds like a recipe for complete anarchy, the truth is that sites using this system have developed surprisingly complex and rich communities for online collaboration and communication. The point of the system is to simply make it as quick, easy and rewarding as possible to create or edit online content.

The name "wiki" is based on the Hawaiian term "wiki wiki", meaning "quick" or "super-fast".

Using any standard Web browser, you can edit (almost) any page on the system using relatively simple text formatting rules or create a link to a new or existing page. The process of creating a link creates a new page, if it doesn't already exist.

Members can log onto the ASTDNebraska.org website, sign in to display the *members only* content on the left menu bar, click the Members Wiki link, and enter the password.

Go National!

If you are reading this newsletter, you are a member of one of the greatest ASTD chapters in the nation! ASTD Nebraska has created an innovative and trail-blazing national reputation. We didn't do it by ourselves though. Through ASTD National's encouragement, we've made it to the top. Isn't it about time to see what an ASTD national membership, in addition to your ASTD Nebraska membership, can do for you?



National members receive exclusive publications, research, networking opportunities, and discounts on ASTD products, publications, and events.

Our news services include great reads like **T+D Magazine** with regular features and practical views on industry trends, best practices, career development, product reviews and more; it includes access to online archive. There is also **T+D Webcasts** where industry experts discuss the hottest topic and trends. Webcasts are archived for viewing at your convenience. We also have **The Buzz**, our weekly quick-read email that summarizes the latest training news from esteemed periodicals, journals, and magazines. **ASTD Links** is our monthly email that highlights ASTD's latest research, public policy initiatives, chapter and member news. We certainly can't leave out **execuBooks**; the crisp, concise weekly email summaries of must-read business literature.

A national ASTD membership also gives you access to the most recent industry research! The annual **ASTD State of the Industry Report** provides the most comprehensive set of data available on workplace learning and performance investments and practices in the U.S. - a great tool to benchmark and leverage your training. Our new **Workplace Learning and Performance Scorecard** (WLP) collects your data and benchmarks your experiences against hundreds of organizations. Plan, budget, and project outcomes better than ever before! You can try out the **Trainlit Literature Database** too! It's a searchable database of over 20,000 training books and articles from 1983 to the present. There is also the **HR White Papers** which is an internet database featuring useful "how to" reports that cover functional areas of human resources as well as **Hot Topics**, a reading list of important training literature; often features links to full-text articles, tools, job aids, and web resources.

Perhaps ASTD National's most attractive benefit is their networking, career, and professional development. With ASTD Connect, you can create a profile of professional and personal interests and connect virtually with

**Sign up to receive our
online newsletter ~
Connections. Visit
www.astdnebraska.org**

ASTD members with similar interests. Safely exchange email, share files, find mentors, and much more! You will also have access to the **ASTD Member Directory** which is searchable by name, company, title, and location. Check out the **ASTD Career Center** that includes the **ASTD Job Bank**, career development resources, job hunting tips, career coaches, and resume experts—all free! The **Area of Expertise Webcasts** series introduces you to the ASTD Learning System's nine area-of-

expertise modules and gives you a sense of the scope and depth of each and of the system as a whole. These webcasts are ideal for enhancing your personal knowledge as well as studying for the CPLP™ knowledge-based exam.

With all these great FREE benefits, you should be asking yourself "what's taken you so long!?" Become a national member today! ASTD Nebraska will gladly help you so you only have to write one check for both great organizations!

Training Excellence

By Jeanette M. Nixon, Training Supervisor, Omni Hotels Reservation Center

Congratulations to Carrie Bates, Training Coordinator for Omni Hotels Customer Contact Center, on earning the Staff Excellence Award for the International Associate of Reservation Executives (IARE)!

The IARE Excellence Awards are presented each year to those who have exceeded expectations in the areas of job performance, team development, customer service, and community service. Award winners have often been represented by the individual who always rises to the occasion when needed, placing their personal time second to the needs of the call center. However, they have also been the ones who work quietly behind the scenes to ensure a successful operation and without whom the enterprise would suffer.

Carrie began her career in the travel industry more than 19 years ago and has been with Omni Hotels for five years. She has been instrumental in developing and carrying out training for the entire central reservations team.

Some of the comments made about Carrie during the nomination process reflect how much she is respected by her colleagues.

“Carrie is an organized and creative thinker,” says Training Supervisor Jeanette Nixon. “This allows her to easily put together complex projects in a short amount of time.”

Omni Hotels Vice President of Sales and Distribution, Tom Faust, echoed the praise when he congratulated Carrie via letter.

“Your professionalism and expertise within the organization, coupled with juggling your work and personal schedule to accommodate the needs of the center, is phenomenal.”

Thank you, Carrie, for setting an example to others in the industry as well as your peers.



Advertise with ASTD Nebraska
Contact
DirectorSales@ASTDNebraska.org
or
VPMarketing@ASTDNebraska.org

ASTD Nebraska would like members to submit articles for publication in our ASTD Connections newsletter. Contact the VP of Marketing and Communications, Michael Militier at mtstraining@cox.net.

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Don't Miss the ASTD Monthly Programs

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How To Build Stars

Wednesday, July 09, 2008

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Westside Community Center

3434 South 108 Street ~ Omaha

Dr. Hoogeveen views staff development as central to the creation and maintenance of a successful company, yet he believes many take a much too narrow view of the staff development process. He advocates a program designed to make staff more successful at work and in life, and using training processed to establish and help uphold a standard of excellence while always building a sense of pride in employees. As the CEO of the company three times recognized as the #1 Best Place to Work in Omaha, Kim will share his view of how staff training activities can be structured to assure a reciprocal contribution to the success of the individual employee and the company. Register by July 7, 2008. Lunch is included in the registration.

Live and Learn...or Die Stupid!

Tuesday, August 12, 2008*

11:30:AM - 1:00 PM (lunch)

1.30 PM 4:00pm (tech session)

Scott Conference Center

6450 Pine Street ~ Omaha

ASTD-HRAM[†] joint meeting! Take a break from the heat and cool your mind with the laughter of learning. Join ASTD Nebraska in August along with our community partners from Human Resources Association of the Midlands (HRAM) to explore characteristics of happy, successful people. Our presenter, Dave Mitchell, will help us discover what it takes to achieve self-contentment in learning through a funny, thought-provoking and inspiring session. Register by July 7, 2008.

This ASTD-HRAM joint meeting includes both a luncheon and an afternoon tech session. Members, \$40; Non-members, \$45.

*New date and time

[†]Human Resource Association of the Midlands

Register at www.astdnebraska.org. When registering online, members MUST Log In to receive Member pricing!