



ASTD NEBRASKA - December Newsletter

December
2011

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Dear Melissa,

For those of us who make a career as performance professionals and support workplace learning to its fullest, we understand the linkage between learning and performance to individual and organizational results.

However, it is important to remind ourselves and those in our workplace of the importance and commitment to employee learning and the connection between a highly skilled workforce and positive organizational results.

During the week of December 5-9, we can help reinforce those beliefs.

The American Society for Training & Development (ASTD) created **Employee Learning Week** as an opportunity for organizations and chapters to demonstrate their commitment to learning in the workplace.

If you would like to improve your own learning, consider becoming a mentor to a colleague in or outside the office, attend a course or program that will help you enhance your skills, or learn about training opportunities in your industry and community. It doesn't need to be costly or complicated to help your organization reflect on **Employee Learning Week**. Consider these options:

- Highlight existing learning programs in your organization.
- Remind employees about tuition reimbursement benefits.
- Hold an education fair or "lunch and learn" to remind employees about training opportunities.
- Start an employee learning awards program in your organization.
- Send an email to employees each day of the week with a new learning tip.
- Involve the CEO or senior executives in recognizing the value learning brings to the organization.

You can be a CHAMPION of learning at any level within your organization. If you would like more information or to share your plans for **ASTD Employee Learning Week 2011**, your company could be recognized by ASTD! Follow the link below for more information.

All of us at ASTD Nebraska wish you and yours the happiest of holidays!

Jill Idelman
Director of Communications
directorofcommunications@astdnebraska.org

[Employee Learning Week Fact Sheet](#)



New Options for Membership Dues!

Submitted by Christine Hitchcock

For over a decade, ASTD Nebraska has maintained the same cost and options for dues. At the eve of 2012, it is time for an overhaul of the dues structure. We are so excited to announce that, beginning January 1, 2012, you will have some new options and increased value for your membership dollar. Memberships are non-refundable and non-transferable.

The new dues structure for ASTD Nebraska starting January 1, 2012 is as follows:

ASTD Nebraska Memberships

Renewal

If you were an ASTD Nebraska member in 2011, you will be able to renew at the 2011 rate of \$50 in 2012 on your renewal date.

New Member

Those who join ASTD Nebraska as a new member in 2012, the membership will be \$60.

Corporate Membership

For every four employees from the same company who join at the ASTD Nebraska New Member rate (\$60), the 5th employee from the same company is free.

Student Membership

With a valid student ID, members who are enrolled as full-time students (12 credit hours per semester) may enjoy membership at \$25 per year.

Transition Membership

Members who are currently looking for work may still network and enjoy the benefits of membership at a reduced rate during their transition for up to 12 months. The Transition Membership is available by request for \$5 a month in ASTD Nebraska membership dues and \$10 to attend a monthly Professional Development and Networking event. Once the member becomes employed or has enjoyed this membership for 12 months (whichever comes first), membership rates will return to normal.

Power of 2 Memberships

As a service to our ASTD Nebraska members, we will take care of the paperwork and offer a discount to our members who would also like to be members of ASTD at the National level.

Power of 2 Renewal

If you were an ASTD Nebraska member in 2011, you can renew with ASTD Nebraska AND ASTD National with the \$10 Nebraska renewal discount and the \$30 Power of 2 discount for \$229 total (\$179 National + \$50 Nebraska.) You need only to have been a Nebraska member in 2011 to take advantage of this tremendous discount.

Power of 2 New Member

New Members in 2012 can join with the Power of 2 discount for \$239 (\$179 National + \$60 Nebraska.)

Add-ons

We have a few enhancements available to increase the value and convenience of your membership. These can be added on to ANY of the memberships above with the exception of the Transition Membership:

Plus 3

For an additional \$60, you can enjoy the convenience of paying for three monthly employee development and networking events.

Plus 6

For an additional \$120, you can enjoy the convenience of paying for six monthly employee development and networking events.

Plus 9

For an additional \$180, you can enjoy the convenience of paying for nine monthly employee development and networking events.

2-Year Membership

Pay your membership for 2 years and enjoy a 10% discount. Discount does not apply to "Plus" or "Power of 2" options.

We know you will find great value and added ease in these new options for 2012! Please note: Memberships are non-refundable and non-transferable. None of these options affect pricing on Big Events or workshops.

Membership by the Numbers

Submitted by Ralph Wojcinski

Numbers At-A-Glance:

The ASTD Nebraska membership count on November 1, 2011 was exactly the same as on October 1. We have 307 members, with 95 also being members of the ASTD National organization. This equates to 31% dual membership.

Because we are sustaining our membership above 300 members, our Chapter will officially be considered a large ASTD organization, as of

January 1, 2012.

The size categories are:

- Small** - Chapters consisting of 100 or fewer active members on January 1.
- Medium** - Chapters consisting of 101-300 active members on January 1.
- Large** - Chapters consisting of 301 or more active members on January 1.

Chapter Excellence Awards, based on results in a given calendar year, will be presented during Chapter Leader Day at the ASTD International Conference and Exposition annually. The ASTD National organization will award a \$1,000 cash prize for each award of excellence in each of three chapter size categories, for a total of nine awards. The awards of excellence are:

Excellence in Strategic Partnership

Chapters that make a significant impact on local businesses and communities.

Excellence in the Advancement of the Workplace Learning and Performance (WLP) Profession

Chapters that significantly foster workplace learning and performance in their community and professionalizing the industry through promoting the Certified Professional in Learning and Performance (CPLP™).

Excellence in Membership Growth

Chapters that demonstrate the highest overall growth rate of joint chapter and national members.

2012 ASTD Nebraska Membership Drive:

Our chapter is planning a membership drive for 2012. Activities and periodic communications are planned throughout the year. The Board of Directors appreciates your efforts of recommending our chapter to your friends and co-workers, and look forward to your continuing support during the membership drive. Look for more information about the membership drive at the ASTD Nebraska website soon!

Did You Know?

There are many personal benefits to becoming a member of the ASTD National organization. Among them:

Discounts on ASTD Products and Services. Members can purchase products from the [ASTD Online Store](#) at significant discounts. Members register for any and all ASTD [conferences, workshops, and certificate programs](#) at special member-only rates, as well as [CPLP™](#) application and testing fees. Discounts for job listings and resume searches on the [ASTD Job Bank](#) are also available for members.

GEICO Car Insurance Discount. ASTD's partnership with GEICO gives you the benefit of great rates on auto insurance. In addition to your membership discount-which could shave as much as 8% off GEICO's already low prices-you'll also receive 24-hour service online or by phone, and efficient and fair claim handling. GEICO can also help with homeowner's, renter's, motorcycle, ATV, RV, and boat insurance and much more. [Click here](#) or call 1-800-368-2734 for a free quote.

If you have any questions or comments about local or national membership, contact Ralph Wojcinski, Director of Membership, at 402-250-6764 or directormembership@astdnebraska.org.

AMAZING New Benefit for ASTD Nebraska Members!

Submitted by Christine Hitchcock

ASTD Nebraska has partnered with **Atomic Training** to offer our members 3 months of training for FREE! This offer is for all ASTD Nebraska members.

Atomic Training is an online solution for training with video tutorial courses on products such as Apple, Adobe, Microsoft Office, etc.

As a member, you will have access to training on over 140 different products for 3 full months. Access **Atomic Training** from home, work, or anywhere you have Internet access. Currently over 3 million people use the video tutorials annually.

In January we will post the link on our website. Just fill out a registration form, and you immediately receive your free 3 months of training. There is no requirement for purchase. This training has over 150 products including many that overlap with eLearning such as SharePoint, Captivate, and PowerPoint.

This is a \$70 value for each member but as Learning Professionals, we know that free quality training is worth much more.

ASTD Board Position Opening January 1, 2012

Director of Career Resources

Have you ever wanted to know the secrets of a really great resume or interview?

Do you want the inside track on Learning Professional jobs that are available right now?

Maybe you already know the secrets?

Either way, we need you on the Board as Director of Career Resources!

You will head a dynamic team of resume reviewers and mock interview professionals. You will also have the inside scoop on job offerings in the metro in your field.

Contact Christine Hitchcock, VP of Membership, today to take advantage of this rewarding opportunity: vpmembership@astdnebraska.org or 402-965-7531.

New and Renewing Members!

Angela Athy - Union Pacific Railroad

Kim Brammer - Boys Town

Ann Carney - Union Pacific Railroad

Jack Dillon - Infogroup

Cindy Gerst-Brigham - Team Financial Management Systems

Samantha Haggar - Mutual of Omaha

Cheryl Holloway - CSG Systems, Inc.

Jill Idelman - Infogroup
Cindy Kreager - CSG International
Jim McMenamy - Mutual of Omaha
Angela Montgomery - Goodwill Industries, Inc.
Tonya Moore-Paschall - University of Nebraska Medical Center
Terry Nigh - Children's Hospital & Medical Center
Dan Randle - CSGI
Rebecca Stratbucker - Children's Hospital & Medical Center
Vickie Strayer - Mutual of Omaha
Lindsey Wedel - Omaha State Bank
Jennifer Wichern - Infogroup
Doug Young - Designer Blinds

Calendar

[ASTD Nebraska Holiday Social](#)

Day: **Wednesday, December 7**

Time: 4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Location: General Crook House, 5730 N. 30th St #11B, Omaha, NE

[The Recipe for a Luminous Holiday Season](#)

Presented by ASTD-Lincoln

Day: **Thursday, December 8**

Time: 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Location: Hillcrest Country Club, 9401 E. O Street, Lincoln, NE

[Courageous Conversations](#)

Day: **Wednesday, January 11**

Time: 11:30 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Location: Scott Conference Center 6450 Pine Street, Omaha, NE



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