



ASTD NEBRASKA - June Newsletter

**June
2012**

What's In This Issue?

[June Program:
Standing Room Only!](#)

[ICE, ICE Baby!](#)

[Habitat For
Humanity](#)

[CPLP Study
Groups 2012-2013](#)

[Save the Date:
July Social](#)

[Take your ASTD
Membership to New
Heights!](#)

Dear Melissa,



Summertime is getting off to a full swing. Based on our weather in Nebraska as of late, I have found myself confused on the actual month. At times, I could have sworn we moved straight to August! But it is clearly June, and we have an upcoming ASTD summer full of fun and education!

This summer there are several exciting opportunities to discover right in our local ASTD Nebraska Chapter! Make sure you mark your calendars for our June program, "Standing Room Only." If you want to change up the way you present-and gain a standing ovation-you won't want to miss what this dynamic duo from Ashford University has to offer!

Don't forget to bring the family to the July 13 Storm Chasers game! Let the kids have a blast at the beautiful grounds of the Werner Park Stadium while you network with your fellow ASTD friends.

We also have the honor to welcome Jim "Mr. Energy" Smith, Jr. on July 26 for a fabulous program and book signing.

So...who says summer is just for kids? Take time for your own personal retreat and enjoy the adventures and learning experiences ASTD Nebraska has to offer!

Sincerely,
Jill Idelman
directorcommunications@astdnebraska.org

[The Power of 2:
An Interview with
Wendy Leedy](#)

[June Sponsors](#)

[New and
Renewing Members](#)

[Calendar of
Events](#)

June Program: Standing Room Only! Presented by Ashford University

Submitted by: Jill Banaszak

The greatest presenters are those who unleash their story in order to connect with their audience through unforgettable presentations. At this event, you will learn how to develop a captivating message with brilliant transitions that will keep your audience in the palm of your hands. Evaluate your own threshold for terror while discovering new strategies to calm the nerves and allow you to present with impact!

This program will give you everything you need to create a standing ovation.

The program will be held at Scott Conference Center, 6450 Pine Street, Omaha, NE.



Guest speakers are Melissa Goodwin and Tamara Carrillo, both Directors of Professional Development at Ashford University.

Join us from 7:30-8:00 a.m. for networking and breakfast.

Cost to attend the morning program is \$20 for ASTD members through Thursday June 7 and then \$25 until June 12. The cost is \$35 the day of the event.

Non-members are always welcome at \$35 per person.

In order to ensure enough seating and food, we ask that any cancellations be

made 72 hours in advance. "No shows" will be charged so we can cover our costs and continue to ensure quality programming at a minimal charge to our members.

[REGISTER TODAY!](#)

ICE, ICE BABY!

Submitted by: Melissa Turner



Over the past few months, there was a lot of talk about ASTD ICE. Perhaps you heard fellow members discussing ICE at a recent event. Or maybe you saw it mentioned on the website. To be perfectly honest, I was not terribly familiar with this event until earlier this year when an opportunity fell into my lap. Somehow I was able to get the stars to align (and my boss to approve the trip) and, just like that, I was on my way to my first ICE event!

Volunteer Opportunity

ICE stands for International Conference and Expo. This year, ASTD ICE was held in Denver...practically in our own backyard, and it felt like a crime to not at least TRY to make it. I was informed by fellow Board member Chris Hitchcock about an opportunity to offset costs for the event by becoming a volunteer. After all, an event of this magnitude requires an army of people to make sure the event goes smoothly. I learned that volunteers could earn a "free day" to attend the conference in exchange for each day that they volunteered. So I took advantage of this great deal by volunteering for two days and getting two days free!

Workplace Development Opportunity

Next it came time to talk to my boss and share with him what a phenomenal opportunity this was going to be and to prove how this was going to add value to my role in the company. From a professional standpoint, the value was all about networking with learning professionals from around the world. From a personal development standpoint, I was looking forward to having the

opportunity to expand my knowledge on topics ranging from evaluating ROI to finding out what others have to share regarding eLearning development techniques. After talking with my boss and sharing my enthusiasm for this event, he gave me his blessing and I was on to the next step...travel logistics.

Denver or BUST!

With Denver being a hop, skip, and a jump through scenic Western Nebraska (scenic? Well...perhaps that's not the right word...), a group of us piled into a vehicle fully loaded with snacks and caffeinated beverages and hit the road. We cut costs by sharing fuel expenses and had a unique opportunity to get to know one another on a more personal level. There were lots of laughs and the drive went by quickly. Having the opportunity to forge deeper friendships with fellow ASTD Nebraska members was a wonderful benefit in itself. But the trip had only just begun!

The Main Event

My experience with ASTD ICE began with Chapter Leaders Day. Chapter leaders from around the world gathered to share ideas and discuss the challenges of running a successful chapter. We brainstormed solutions, shared successes, and made new professional contacts. It was a great way to kick off ASTD ICE.

The conference itself had so many amazing topics and speakers it was difficult to decide which sessions to attend. It was like a knowledge buffet for learning professionals! For those who needed a break from sessions to give their mind a rest, there was the Expo hall with a wealth of vendors and awesome give aways. The networking event at Mile High Stadium provided a great way for everyone to let loose and have some fun.

Why I Will Be Attending Next Year

I can't express how valuable this trip was on so many levels. I met learning professionals from all over the U.S and around the world: Brazil, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and The Netherlands to name a few. I connected with other learning professionals who share the same interests as I do and who I can reach out to if I need a hand. And they know they can reach out to me as well. I gained valuable knowledge on a wide range of topics that I had not previously had the time to delve into on my own. And I got to know my fellow ASTD Nebraska and ASTD-Lincoln members better.

Next year's ASTD ICE event will be held in Dallas, TX on May 19-22, 2013. Mark it down on your calendar and begin talking to your boss about it now. It is an event that you won't want to miss!

**Habitats...Habitat...Habitual
Kindness**

Submitted by: April Kassen

ASTD Nebraska is joining forces with Habitat for Humanity!

Join us on August 4 for a chapter build. No construction experience is required!

I'm sure we have all heard it takes 21 days to break a habit.



Well, why not take **one** day to help the Habitat for Humanity program? That's much easier than 21 days of trying to break one. During this one-day build, you will have the opportunity to network with other chapter members, participate in a unique team-building environment, learn a new skill, and play a huge role in helping a local Omaha family enjoy their new home.

Help us practice habitual kindness. For more details and to register, [click here](#).

CPLP and Membership Privileges!

Submitted by: Erick Dragsten

Earning your Certified Professional in Learning and Performance (CPLP) credential requires passing a 150-item knowledge exam and successfully completing a work product in one of five areas of expertise from the ASTD Competency Model. This is a challenging, but worthwhile, endeavor that typically requires six months or more of your time. Not only is there a significant time investment, the study materials needed for the knowledge exam and fee to enroll as a CPLP candidate can cost more than \$1,200.

Fortunately, one of the benefits of being a member of ASTD Nebraska is that you have access to study materials and the option to participate in a study group at no cost.

In addition, you can apply for up to \$400 to help pay for your CPLP candidate enrollment through the Julie Durmaskin Professional Education Scholarship.

The CPLP is a great way to demonstrate your expertise in the field of workplace learning and performance. ASTD Nebraska is here to make it easier for you to earn this credential.

Please contact Erick Dragsten

at directorofcertification@astdnebraska.org

for more information about CPLP study materials or joining a study group. Visit the ASTD Nebraska website for more information about the Julie Durmaskin Professional Education Scholarship.



Hitting a Home Run with Your ASTD NE Chapter

Submitted by: Jill Banaszak



The ASTD Nebraska Summer Social coming up on July 13 at Werner Ball Park is not just a time to enjoy great Storm

Chaser baseball and concessions, but have a double play by also getting to know the starting line up within the Chapter.

Feel left in the outfield because you are too busy getting back to work after a program to stay and chat with the president or Board members? Not sure who is who? Don't strike out---use this great networking opportunity to ask some questions about what is going on in the Chapter and how you can be a part of it!

Got a burning question about the chapter? Fire off a curve ball to the president!

Want to know about how to be a part of next year's programming planning? Touch base with the Programming Team!

Have a question about Chapter operations? Get a low down on the dugout rules from any Board member.

Interested in expanding your marketing experience? Stretch your skills during the 7th inning stretch with the marketing folks!

Remember, like baseball, practice makes perfect and you get what you

put in it. So flex your networking muscles at the July Social and get to know the great team you are a part of.

[Register Here!](#)

Coming Soon! Your Opportunity to Take Your Membership to New Heights!

Submitted by: Christine Hitchcock

ASTD Nebraska's strategic planning for 2013 has already started! Our Chapter has a very rich legacy of talented and dedicated leaders. In fact, our efforts are being noticed nationally and even internationally. At the International Exposition and Conference in May, ASTD Nebraska was asked to share a few of their "secrets to success" with other leaders from across the country and the globe. Maintaining this tradition and reputation requires strong leaders. We need to ensure a solid pipeline of such leaders well into our future. More specifically, we need YOU to help us keep this legacy strong!

In mid-June through the month of July, ASTD Nebraska will be accepting applications for the 2013 Board of Directors. The benefit to the Chapter is inherent in your service on the Board, but don't forget your personal benefit. Board members tend to build not only a strong network of colleagues, but a circle of lasting friendships. Opportunities to showcase your talents are

nearly unlimited on the Board, whether your gifts are technical, theoretical, organizational, or creative. We have a way for you to shine. The professional development opportunities you have as a member are rich and varied, but as a Board member your opportunities and resources grow exponentially. Don't forget the power of a "Board member" title on your resume.

Applications will be made available in mid-June on the ASTD Nebraska website and by request. Please seriously consider the contribution you can make to our Chapter and to your own professional development.



If you are already interested in applying for a position on the Board, contact Chris Hitchcock, President Elect, at [402-657-3396](tel:402-657-3396) or presidentelect@astdnebraska.org

The Power of 2: An Interview with Wendy Leedy, ASTD National Chapter Relations Manager Western Area

Submitted by: Jill Idelman

What is your role with the National ASTD Chapter/Organization?

I work as an employee of the National ASTD Office as support for resources and as a liaison to chapter leaders west of the Mississippi.



How long have you been a member of ASTD and what other roles have you had within the organization?

I am a relatively new member of just over 1 year. Prior to my current role, I worked in the Chapter Services Division.

For those that are new members to ASTD, what exactly is the Power of 2?

The Power of 2 allows members to take advantage of important opportunities in your local chapters and power up to opportunities at a national level, with resources and networking of over 40,000 members.

You also receive the monthly magazine publication known as *T&D*, eNews letters, access to webcast training seminars, book summaries, and periodicals via the on-line library. In addition, you are offered discounts for CPLP Certification, ASTD conferences, and career opportunities.

How can the Power of 2 enhance an ASTD member's professional development?

One of the great things that ASTD Power of 2 can provide is relevance of its offerings to members based on their location. At ASTD National we recognize that individuals, chapters, and communities are different across the world. Power of 2 members can take advantage of webcasts or course offerings that can be tailored to fit those specific needs.

What is the best way for a local chapter member to enroll and become a National ASTD member in order to have the Power of 2?

It is recommended that a member interested in obtaining the Power of 2 Membership go to the [ASTD Store](#). In order to receive your discount, you will enter your chapter's ChIP code to receive the discounted rate.

It is important to use your local code. Each new membership yields \$20 in ChIP revenue for your chapter. The ASTD Nebraska Chapter ChIP code is CH6004. Anytime you purchase or enter the ChIP code for your chapter, they receive revenue to the local organization.

What advice do you have to offer those that are new to the Professional Coaching and Training Industry?

Get involved with professional organizations relevant to your organization's industry. In addition, get involved and network as much as possible through your local ASTD Chapter. Attend local meetings and volunteer. When you are ready and there are open availabilities, consider being a member of your ASTD Board of Directors. Those activities will allow you to broaden your professional network.

In your career what is the greatest benefit you have received from being a Power of 2 Member?

I have the best opportunities in my position to work with over 40,000 members and 125 local chapters. I invite you to also take advantage of the many excellent pieces of information to download for free from our national website, www.astd.org. These are instant resources that provide members the ability to be part of a larger community that is thriving and growing in the world of learning and development.

If you would like to reach out to the ASTD National Chapter for additional resources, you may contact ASTD Customer Care at [800-628-2782](tel:800-628-2782) for more information.

Thank you, Wendy, for a wealth of information and providing an awareness to the benefits we all have with the Power of 2!

In addition, here are some tips from our local Nebraska Chapter and Membership Team as to how you can work with us as a one-stop shop for both national and local chapter membership:

Get the most out of your ASTD Nebraska membership with the Power of 2. The Power of 2 combines your ASTD Nebraska membership with an ASTD National membership for the most complete access to

exclusive member benefits including industry publications, research, networking opportunities, and ASTD product discounts. We'll take care of all the paperwork for you. [Sign up today and experience the Power of 2.](#)



Thank You to Our June Sponsors!



inscape publishing
authorized distributors



*We're proud to be representing Inscape Publishing
National ASTD Partners*

New and Renewing Members!

Jeanne Baer - Creative Training Solutions
Lisa Barth - Fremont Area Medical Center
David Bohlken - Gordmans
Lisa Crase - West Business Solutions

Christina Davis - Dardis Communications
Erick Dragsten - Applied Underwriters
Shayna Flatowicz-Farmer - Pacific Life Insurance Co.
Malcolm Gilreath - Great West Casualty Company
Amber Hutchinson - Mutual of Omaha
Sandi Knowski - Mutual of Omaha
Patricia Meglich - University of Nebraska at Omaha
Barry Rue - Creighton Medical Associates
Scott Schreiter - Gordmans
Sabrina Smith - Gordmans
Debbie Sponberg - Bellevue University
Lacy Stodola - Applied Underwriters
Beth Swinney - Gordmans

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Standing Room Only

Day: **Wednesday, June 13**

Time: 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

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

Desirable Qualities of Highly Effective Corporate Trainers

Presented by ASTD-Lincoln

Date: **Thursday, June 21**

Time: 11:15 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Location: Southeast Community College Continuing Education Center
301 S. 68th St. Pl., Lincoln, NE

ASTD National Coaching Certificate Program

Day: **Tuesday, June 26 - Wednesday, June 27**

Time: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Location: Southeast Community College Continuing Education Center
301 S. 68th St. Pl., Lincoln, NE

Family Social: A Night at the Ballpark

Date: **Friday, July 13**

Time: 7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Location: Werner Park, 12356 Ballpark Way, Papillion, NE

Special Event and Book Signing with Jim "Mr. Energy" Smith, Jr.

Day: **Thursday, July 26**

Time: 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

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

Habitat for Humanity Volunteer Opportunity

Day: **Saturday, August 4**

Time: 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Location: 2204 Ames Avenue (Habitat Main Campus), Omaha, NE



ASTD Nebraska
P.O. Box 85793
Lincoln, Nebraska 68501

[\(402\) 850-6710](tel:4028506710)