

"MISSION STATEMENT: To educate and promote professionalism to meet the Resource Management needs of Western New York Organizations."

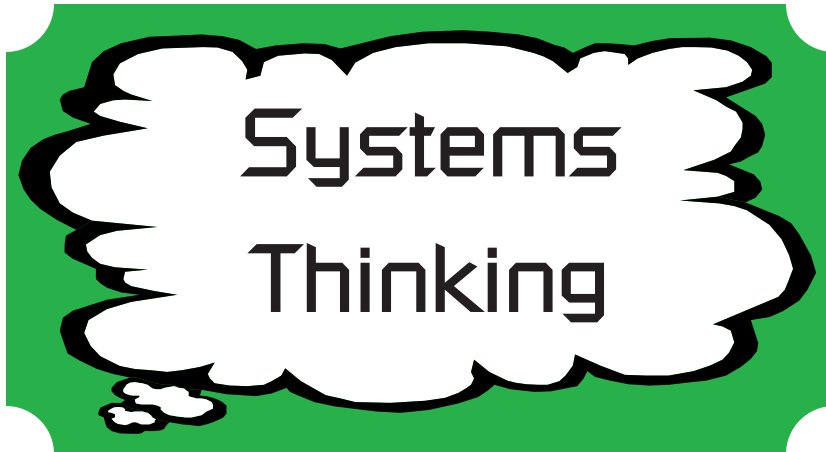
APICS



Educational Society for Resource Management

Monthly Newsletter • Buffalo Chapter No. 21

January 2004



"Systems Thinking" is an answer to the growing problem of complexity in managing organizations. It is a discipline of seeing wholes. Systems thinking concerns the nature of interactions and presents an alternative to analysis, which breaks up a system into parts and tries to understand the system by summing the understanding of its parts. Systems thinking is an alternative to Cartesian reductionism that has permeated our thinking about complexity for several centuries.

Speaker: Bill Weeks

The speaker for this joint meeting with ASQ is Bill Weeks, currently an assistant professor at Medaille College teaching in the MBA and BBA programs in Amherst.

Mr. Weeks previously worked for thirty years at the GM Powertrain Tonawanda Engine Plant where he taught classes in statistical methodology, organizational behavior and development, management and leadership, and quality engineering and the management of quality. He also acted as an internal consultant to several product teams.

As master facilitator for all of Dr. Deming's four-day seminars that were broadcast via satellite at the Powertrain facility, Mr. Weeks had the opportunity to meet Dr. Deming at several Powertrain statistical network meetings, hearing him speak and learning from him while he was a consultant with the GM Powertrain Division.

Adding to Mr. Weeks' credentials are his undergraduate degrees in Political Science and Statistics and a graduate degree in Management from the GMI Engineering & Management Institute.



Next PDM ...

Joint Meeting with ASQ

**Thursday,
January 15, 2004**

Salvatore's Italian Gardens

6461 Transit Road
at Genesee Street, Depew

**5:15 - 6:15 p.m. Social Hour
6:15 p.m. Dinner & Program**

Buffet Menu

- House Salad
- Pasta with Marinara Sauce & Meatballs
- Boneless Breast of Chicken
- Baked Virginia Ham
- Top Round of Beef
- Whipped Potatoes
- Mixed Vegetables
- Spanish Olive Salad
- Marinated Vegetable Salad
- Rolls & Butter
- Dessert
- Beverage

Cost

- \$25.00 Members
- \$30.00 Guests
- \$15.00 Students & Unemployed or Retired Members

For reservations,
log-on to www.apics-buffalo.com
or call APICS at
PPM Business Office,
648-0972 or fax 646-1599
by Tues. Jan 13th

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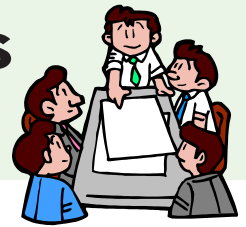
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President's Message



Hello Buffalo members and non-members,

I hope you will be able to attend January's PDM, a joint meeting with ASQ at Salvatore's. It should be a good program on Systems Thinking and an excellent networking opportunity. Joint PDM's with other professional societies may be the solution to the lower attendances most societies are experiencing. Other APICS chapters in our region are also exploring more joint meetings.

Again, I would like to bring Top Management Night to your attention. The speaker, Carol Ptak, is a past president of APICS and an excellent presenter. This event will take place on March 17 at Harry's Harbour Place. There will also be prizes and some extras that will make this Top Management Night an event to remember for a long time.

The Buffalo Chapter will provide many educational opportunities in the new year. Open classes will once again be held at U.B. I hope you will enroll soon. Two APICS classes are scheduled to be offered at ECC starting in January. These are alternatives to certification review classes. Dedicated classes at local companies will also be starting in January. Does your company want to explore a class at their facility? Call Adele Waters for information. Finally, are there other opportunities that we can offer that will fill your needs? Let me know.

That's all for now,

Ed George, CFPIM



Calendar of Events

Thursday, January 15, 2004

Joint Meeting with ASQ

Place: Salvatore's Italian Gardens

Topic: "Systems Thinking" - Speaker: Bill Weeks

February PDM - TBD

Wednesday, March 17, 2004

TOP MANAGEMENT NIGHT

Speaker: Carol Ptak, CFPIM

This newsletter is published monthly by the APICS Organization, Buffalo Chapter 21, whose membership totals over 300 professionals, educators and students in the Western New York area involved in the Production and Inventory Management Field (P&IM) and resource management. APICS is over 50 years old and provides its members opportunities to attain job skills and knowledge that will set them apart from others through seminars, workshops, conferences, exhibitions and meetings. APICS and the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York have made it possible for you to earn college credit for passing APICS' CPIM and CIRM examinations.





December Speaker Evaluation

Speaker: Kim Smith
on "Supplier Diversity - Compliance"

The following feedback came from people in attendance. Your responses follow:

How effective was the speaker?:

0% poor, 0% fair, 0% average, 30% good, 70% excellent

How useful was the topic?:

0% poor, 0% fair, 0% average, 55% good, 45% excellent

Would you attend a future session on this topic?:

80% yes, 20% no

How much knowledge did you gain from this topic?:

Scale 1 to 5 from little to a great deal: #1 (0%), #2 (0%), #3 (10%), #4 (55%), #5 (35%)

What is your level of expertise in the topic area?:

Scale 1 to 5 from none to expert: #1 (20%), #2 (40%), #3 (15%), #4 (20%), #5 (5%)

Did you learn ideas/techniques to apply to the job?:

90% yes, 10% no

Was the program announcement accurate?:

100% yes, 0% no

Were the food & facilities satisfactory?:

100% yes, 0% no

Comments:

- Very professional and very effective speaker!
- Thank you Kim - excellent!
- Breakfast meeting was good idea.
- Well attended by NAPM members.

Mid Atlantic Supply Chain & Resource Management Symposium

brought to you by
Congress for Progress 29
and sponsored by the
Mid Atlantic Chapters of APICS

APRIL 14, 15, & 16, 2004
Hershey Lodge and Convention Center
Hershey, Pennsylvania



It's not magic, but you can make it happen. CP29 offers some of the best tricks of the trade and in 2004 you can see a sample of our new VENUE, new FORMAT, new ATTITUDE, new OPPORTUNITIES, this will be the time to sample our newest trick, the new and improved Congress for Progress. Don't be left out!

Register Today!
Just visit our web site at www.cp-apics.org
It's quick, simple and easy.

Spring 2004 at Erie Community College

ECC offers a variety of manufacturing related courses to meet the professional development need in today's workplace. Offered for the Spring '04 semester are:



- MN120 Materials and Processes
- MN125 Statistical Process Control
- MN240 Work Measurement
- MN245 Plant Layout/ Materials Handling
- MN250 Workplace Design
- MN255 Manufacturing Cost Analysis
- Inventory Control - APICS course (ECC credit)
- Lean Manufacturing/ JIT - APICS course (ECC credit)
- Occupational Ergonomics - new ECC course

For more information on these courses and other learning opportunities, contact Erie Community College, Manufacturing, Industrial Technology Dept.: phone 716-851-1508 or email pietraszewski@ecc.edu.

In addition, if your company would hold a dedicated class in one of the APICS' courses, the attendees may be eligible for ECC credit. Call 876-3837.

