

APICS®

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Fraser Valley Chapter

Newsletter

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November 2003

## **Presidents Message**

The first weekend of November I will be in Montreal for the Region 8 Annual General Meeting. The weekend agenda includes the elections for Region 8 Board of Directors, joint Student Chapter / Parent Chapter meetings and team building lectures and activities. There will also be an awards and recognition ceremony for the student chapters. The meeting will provide an opportunity to share ideas with other chapter volunteers from across Canada. I look forward to sharing what I learn from the Region 8 AGM, with our members for continued growth of our chapter.

If you have any questions, contact information for members of the Board is provided on page 3.

**Don Baich**  
Chapter President

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## **“There is no substitute for profound knowledge” Marypat Cooper**



**Marypat Cooper led us through the Lean journey at Wiremold**

The presentation began with Marypat asking the members present about what questions they had about Lean manufacturing and a company going Lean. Our enthusiastic group had 12 good questions in 7 minutes. With answering these questions in mind, Marypat rocketed into the tale of Wiremold's journey through Lean.

Through the years Wiremold developed a code of conduct for approaching Lean. It is as follows:

- 5S
- Demming's PDCA
- Kaizen
- Hoshins
- Standard work

Wiremold spent years finding what worked best for them. Marypat said that the fundamentals of Lean Manufacturing could be achieved through 3 simple practices.

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## **“Good Forecasts gone Bad” presented by Curtis Roberts, CPIM**

Join us this month with Curtis Roberts, CPIM, as he discusses the back-to-basics details of forecasting from a practical operations viewpoint. Curtis has worked in many fields such as Warehouse Manager, Industrial Engineering Technologist, Master Scheduler, Materials Planning Manager, Materials Manager, Business Systems Implementer (ERP), Business Systems Analyst (ERP), and Business Systems Consultant, just to name a few. Curtis also instructs CPIM review courses for the Vancouver chapter of APICS at BCIT.

In virtually all of Curtis' manufacturing experience, he has had to struggle with forecasts, and the results of "creative" forecasting. He has spent a significant amount of time trying to convince people that buying fancy forecasting software will not magically make problems go away if you do not know what you are trying to forecast, and why.

"Good Forecasts Gone Bad: Practical Considerations and Cautionary Tales" will be a back-to-basics talk about forecasting from a practical, operations viewpoint. Sadly, there will be some real-world examples of what can go sideways when we try to apply less than realistic (or unneeded!) forecasts to production planning.

The November Professional development meeting will be held in a different room at Newlands. It will be held in the **Cypress Room**. There will be signs to direct you.

**Place:** Newlands Golf and Country Club  
21025 48<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Langley, B.C.  
*See map below*

**Date:** Wednesday, November 19, 2003

**Time:** Registration/ Cash Bar 5:30 PM  
Dinner 6:30 PM  
Keynote Speaker 7:30 PM

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They are:

- Know your Takt time,
- Work toward 1 piece flow and
- Have actual demand pull production through the production system as opposed to pushing the work through.

Marypat is a passionate believer of shop floor Kaizens. Wiremold's basic formula for a Kaizen is form a team of five to seven people. Provide them a clear objective. Allot them 1 week to achieve that objective. Give the team a blank cheque to achieve that objective. Success will follow. She told of a Kaizen where 70% of the cost of processing a supplied raw material was eliminated through a Kaizen. The waste was in the great lengths the supplier went to package the material for shipment.

A point of particular interest was how Marypat described the way in which the necessary skills were developed and the proper culture nourished on the shop floor at Wiremold.

Over a three-year period, in a unionized environment, a skill-based pay structure was created. Those who participated and remained teachable found the greatest reward. Those who did not participate were not penalized but after three years hit a pay "ceiling". What the skill-based pay structure did was reward those whom were motivated, learned and were positive while leaving those who were not behind. Through the whole process there were no layoffs and the company remained profitable.

The subject of skill-based pay was talked about a great deal after the presentation. The Board is considering bringing in a speaker on the subject. What do you the members think?



**Meeting attendees listen to Marypat Cooper at the October PDM**

# Education Update

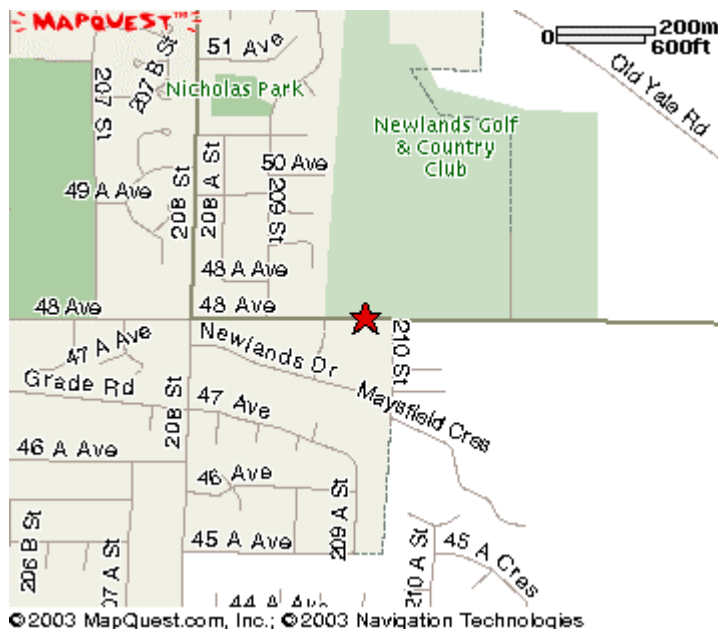
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**Cost:** Members \$28  
 Non Members \$37  
 Students \$18

**Register:**

You can register through our website at [www.apics-fraservalley.org/dinner.shtml](http://www.apics-fraservalley.org/dinner.shtml) or e-mail our Director of Programs, Warren Hurlen, at [whurlen@garaventa.ca](mailto:whurlen@garaventa.ca)  
 Warren can also be contacted via phone at 604-594-0422 during business hours. Deadline for registration is Friday Nov. 14. **People who register and do not attend will be invoiced.**

## Map to Newlands



## Contact Us

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You can also visit our website at [www.apics-fraservalley.org](http://www.apics-fraservalley.org)

## Winter 2004 course offerings

We are continuing discussions with UCFV about the delivery of our programming, considering that they have cancelled their continuing education offerings.

APICS programs have been transferred to the academic school of business so they may continue despite the closure of continuing education. We have met with the representatives of the school of business to negotiate arrangements for January courses.

UCFV will vote on going ahead with a partnership with APICS FV on November 21<sup>st</sup>.

In the mean time we are actively approaching and meeting with other institutions and corporate members in the Fraser Valley area in the event that UCFV is unable to offer their venue.

Registration for courses will begin just as soon the final venue selection has been made.

The APICS Fraser Valley Chapter will be offering the following CPIM courses in January of 2004. These courses are designed to prepare you for the CPIM exams. The CPIM exams are given separately at a test facility in Vancouver.

### Basics of Supply Chain Management

Explore the basic concepts in managing the complete flow of materials in a supply chain.

### Master Planning of Resources

Explore processes used to develop sales and operations plans, and learn to identify and assess internal and external demand and forecasting requirements.

More information about course content and achieving CPIM designation can be found on APICS online or by contacting our VP of Education Jason Young (Contact information below).

# Webinars offered by APICS Society

Webinars are online presentations on various topics. These topics have included but are not limited to:

- How Lean relates to ERP
- Cycle counting
- Six Sigma
- Supply Chain management
- E-solutions
- Kanbans

Each APICS Webinar lasts approximately 60 minutes and features educational discussions, case studies, and a Q&A period. All you need is an Internet connection and telephone to participate. As an added benefit, you will receive a CD-ROM of the presentation after the event.

Webinars are presented monthly and often bi-monthly. Past Webinars are archived at the APICS society home page.

To register for an upcoming Webinar or to view a past webinar go to [www.apics.org](http://www.apics.org), from there click on the Education link on the left of the screen and when on the education page click the Webinars tab at the top.

The two Webinars in November are:

“Sarbanes-Oxley and Supply Chain management”, a discussion of the impact of new accounting rules for public companies on their supply chains. Nov. 12

“Six Sigma for breakthrough performance” presented by A. Blanton Godfrey Ph.D. Nov. 19

The cost for participating in an APICS Webinar is \$99. (US) I have participated in 2 Webinars and found them to be a catalyst for discussion of new ideas and an excellent platform to introduce new concepts to non-operations groups in our organization.

Craig S,