



Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 4

January 2005

Presidents Message

As the year begins, our APICS year draws near. For this new year we are really focusing on Education and Marketing. Throughout February and early March, there are 3 workshops that we are putting on. These workshops have had some great turnouts in other locations, so please check them out. Having people attend will be an asset to your company!

This brings me to Marketing and Membership. Our contact list continues to grow but we still need more participation. We clearly plan to growing the chapter, but we need your help to do it!

With our chapter now approaching its second anniversary, we will be losing some board members and the chapter needs new members to fill in the vacant positions. Based on our bylaws, we must have at least 4 positions filled: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer and on top of that we have several Director positions open(see Page 6 for more). If you are interested in becoming a board member, please contact one of us and/or come out to a meeting and see what goes on!

Thank you for your support

Warren Hurlen
President, APICS Fraser Valley Chapter

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News Summary

A New Look for APICS...and the FV

Many of you may have noticed that APICS has changed their logo and their name. APICS is now referred to as;

"APICS The Association for Operations Management"

We hope you like our new look Newsletter incorporating the new APICS logo. Well, OK the name still could use some work.... Have any ideas, let us know. See **Page 2** for more details about the changes at APICS.

Fraser Valley Fast Track Courses Result in Certifications

We all love to see our colleagues succeed. At least two recent participants in the Fast Track CPIM workshops held in Langley at the end of November have certainly done that. Shortly after tuning up their knowledge at the challenging Fast Track sessions over the space of a weekend they wrote their exams and are now achieving certification!! For more details and some insight from two of the participants see **Page 5**.

Call For Board Nominations

As APICS in the Fraser Valley progresses through our second year, several of our board members will not be seeking re-election this upcoming term. As a result we will be actively looking for new nominations to the board in order to continue providing service to the Fraser Valley. For more information about nominations please refer to **Page 6**.

Inventory Mgmt Workshops Start Feb 4

If you are reading this on or before Feb 2, you can still sign up for the economically priced 3 part Inventory Workshop Series. See Education Updated on **next page**.

APICS Becomes The Association for Operations Management



On January 1, 2004, APICS—The Educational Society for Resource Management changed its name to APICS The Association for Operations Management and use the new tag line—Advancing Productivity, Innovation, and Competitive Success. The APICS Board of Directors unanimously approved the name change at its October 9, 2004, meeting, and APICS unveiled the new name publicly at the 2004 APICS International Conference and Exposition in San Diego, California, on October 12.

“APICS has evolved to meet the needs of the community it serves, but the name no longer fully recognized the value proposition the association delivers,” said APICS President Arnold E. Kennedy, CFPIM, CIRM, Jonah. “The new name will honor our rich history in production and inventory control, better define the broad application of the APICS body of knowledge, and position us for the future.”

APICS was founded in 1957 as the American Production and Inventory Control Society, Inc. In the early 1990s, it adopted the name APICS—The Educational Society for Resource Management to acknowledge its growing international presence and expanded scope.

Today, APICS represents a diverse community of professionals from virtually every manufacturing and service industry. The APICS body of knowledge spans all aspects of operations management, which includes production, inventory, supply chain, materials purchasing, and logistics. By changing its name, APICS The Association for Operations Management clearly defines its body of knowledge in terms that are universally understood. The new name asserts the association’s leadership position of delivering superior training, internationally recognized certifications, and comprehensive resources, while representing a worldwide network of accomplished industry professionals.

In conjunction with the new name, APICS has adopted the tag line,

Advancing Productivity, Innovation, and Competitive Success.

“APICS is the resource that individuals and companies rely on for operations management education and validation of one’s knowledge through obtaining the Certified in Production and Inventory Management and Certified in Integrated Resource Management designations,” said Jeffrey W. Raynes, CAE, executive director and chief operating officer. “Our new tag line communicates the value that APICS delivers to an individual’s career advancement, as well as an employer’s bottom line.”

Education Update

Fraser Valley Chapter Introducing Inventory Management Workshop Series

APICS Fraser Valley Chapter is pleased to announce the Inventory Management Workshop series: Basics of Inventory Management; Cycle Counting; Distribution Management Inventory; Materials Requirements Planning and Bills of Materials; and Physical Inventory.

These workshops are 4 hours in duration and will occur through February and March (see below for details). Perfect for individuals looking for quick but effective training or as a brief introduction to the proven concepts contained in the APICS Body of Knowledge.

The cost of these workshops is \$99 members; \$150 non-members per workshop (Payment by cheque or cash) OR you can save more by attending all 3 current workshops for a total of \$249 members or \$349 non-members.

THE FIRST OF THESE WORKSHOPS BEGIN FEB 4, SIGN UP BY FEB 2 IN ORDER TO SECURE A SPACE!!!

To register send email to education@apics-fraservalley.org

There is much more information on these workshops on our website at www.apics-fraservalley.org

Summary of Jan 19 Dinner Meeting on Post 9/11 Logistics

PDM writeup graciously provided by APICS Fraser Valley Member Max Arthur

David Pentland, National Marketing Director of Carson International, made a presentation to 25 professionals of the Fraser Valley APICS PDM, on Wednesday January 19th at the Newlands Golf Club. His topic introduced the emergence of the US led initiative, to ensure containers are free of weapons and other harmful substances when entering the USA.



Mr Pentland started with a short slide presentation. A quiet & attentive crowd viewed the photographs that were taken, of the US Customs office that had been destroyed, during the World Trade Centre terrorist attack, on September 11, 2001. The message clearly revealed the intensity at which the Department of Homeland Security were working, to assure no further assaults on America's soil.

To support their goal, they launched a program referred to as CSI (Container Security Initiative). This program went before the WTO (World Trade Organization) to make a claim that all container traffic into the USA would have to meet certain qualifications, or their progress through the border would

be considerably slowed.

The process to become CSI approved is through the C-TPAT, (Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism). This "voluntary" program is for all companies that have trading privileges into the USA. Mr. Pentland expressed that the eventual goal is to have these measures included in all WTO shipments. He was clear that the process, although bureaucratic, is not necessarily difficult. Some security measures are required, but none too time consuming (i.e.: visitors wearing nametags and having a secured building at night). Mr. Pentland does envision some difficulties with some of the American legislation not being enforceable in Canada, specifically in regards to the Charter of Rights.

In short summary, Mr. Pentland claims that he has not seen a line-up at the truck crossing border lane, for C_TPAT approved transport.

This program will eventually be accepted world wide, and companies wanting to secure their competitive advantage, will ensure these standards are met

More information is available at the Carson International Website: <http://www.carson.ca/index.html>

Taking the Mess Out of Metrics – February Dinner Meeting

Joni White, CFPIM, CIRM, QI

Introduction--During the past six years, our Chapter has taught APICS modules in over 50 organizations. None of them are satisfied with their performance measurement system. We hear, "Annual reviews are too subjective;" or, "ERP doesn't collect the data we really need;" or, "If our people are exceeding requirements, how come we're not the market leader?"

Very few executive teams know how to design an effective performance metric system. It's hard work; and like customer satisfaction and database accuracy, it takes constant discipline and maintenance. How relevant are your own Measures of Performance (MoPs) at this moment? Since people perform to how they are measured, this presentation will address the strategic importance of cleaning up the mess we've made of our metrics.

Major Topics Covered:

- Typical Metrics System Model
- Metrics: As Dynamic As Your Business
- Metrics System Cleanup Tool: Balanced Scorecard (BSC)
- Metrics System Cleanup Tool: Cross-Functional, not Departmental
- Metrics System Cleanup Tool: Information Technology
- Metrics System Cleanup Tool: Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
- Summary—"That which gets measured, gets done,"

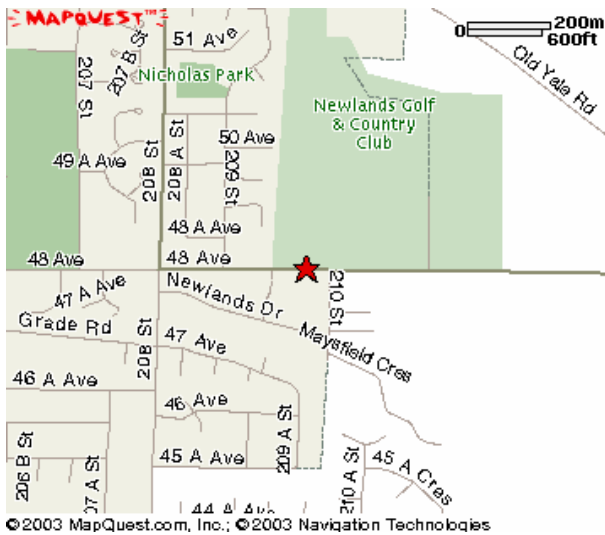
February Dinner Meeting and Workshop Guest Presenter - Joni White CFPIM, CIRM, QI

Joni White is a full time APICS Instructor with 25+ years of planning, inventory control, value engineering, and manufacturing experience. She is an advocate of hands-on exercises to engage all four adult learning styles. Joni serves as VP Education for the DC Metro Chapter and is a frequent speaker at APICS events. She can be reached at jwhitewadc@aol.com.

Upcoming PDM / Events

[Please see the website](#) for the latest events calendar. The current version is also copied below.

Date	Event	Presentation	Speaker
Wed, Feb 16, 2005	Dinner Meeting	Performance Measurement	Joni Holeman White, CFPIM
Fri, Feb 18, 2005	Workshop	Performance Measurement	Joni Holeman White, CFPIM
Wed, March 16, 2005	Plant Tour	To be confirmed	
Wed, April 20, 2005	Dinner Meeting	Lean	TBD
Fri, April 22, 2005	Workshop	Lean	TBD
Thurs. Jun 16, 2005	Special Event	AES (Vancouver) 25th anniversary	TBA



Feb 2005 PDM Information

The meeting will be held in our usual room at Newlands. It will be held in the Fairmont Room upstairs. There will be signs posted.

- Date:** Wed Feb 16, 2005
- Time:** Registration/ Cash Bar 5:30 PM
Dinner 6:30 PM
Speaker 7:30 PM
- Place:** Newlands Golf and Country Club
21025 48th Avenue, Langley, B.C.
- Cost:** Members \$30
Non Members \$40
Students \$20

Register:

You can register online on our website for this event or contact our Director of Programs, Warren Hurlen (contact info on the website).

Fast Track to Success

Two students and new CPIM's share their thoughts on recent Fast Track CPIM Workshop

Recently we were very pleased to hear that 2 recent Fast Track Workshop Attendees achieved their CPIM certification after challenging the exams.

In light of the fact that we may offer similar workshops in the future we wanted to provide a selection of comments from them.

Dave Simpson, Solution Sales, IBM's Global Toyota Team wrote...

"I've been working in and around manufacturing for 25 years, and had passed the Basics of Supply Chain exam two years ago. I hadn't gone any further, as the amount of reading required seemed too high for the perceived reward at the time. Now, with the level of reward raised, I wanted to go back and complete the CPIM, but didn't really want to read 16 books. When I heard about the Fast Track session, I immediately signed up.

It gave me the kick start I needed. The overview of the material is fast paced. Examples from the other students also helped. But, most importantly for me, you get an excellent set of Study Guides and a recent copy of the APICS Dictionary. Using just these documents for preparation, I was able to pass the final four tests within 6 weeks of the Fast Track. Each test required between 30 and 50 hours of reading and preparation.

Would I recommend the Fast Track? Yes, if you already have a strong base of knowledge, the Fast Track is a great way to make sure that your knowledge is at acceptable levels across the entire domain of each test."

And BCIT Operations Management Grad Dennis Marchant wrote...

"Given that often the 'ends justify the means,' and considering I did get my CPIM, the course was great!

But to be more specific, the course was marketed as being for someone with experience and knowledge in supply-chain and APICS concepts, and with a good working knowledge of a lot of the terminology in use in today's operations field (kanban, lean, etc.) I graduated from BCIT's Operations Management diploma program in May 2004, and it was amazing how much of the CPIM course

content was also part of the BCIT program. That background knowledge was absolutely essential to my attainment of the designation, and I couldn't imagine trying to keep up with the course, much less pass the exams, without having some strong background knowledge going in.

So, for me, the course really did act like a review, very concise and to the point. As can be expected, it really did focus in on the topics we needed to know for each exam, and that helps immensely when starting to study. Since we had PowerPoint hand-outs that showed up the key points for each exam, they really helped when trying to focus in on what material is essential to know for each exam, and what only needs a quick "once-over".

The course was held over three consecutive days and proved to be a bit physically draining by the third day. Even though we had a fair number of breaks and the content was interesting, it does get tough having to concentrate for that long. Students need to be prepared (for this hectic schedule).

One other key aspect of the course was the people who attended. I can't stress enough how much I was able to pick up from the other students in terms of real-life experiences, and that proved to be invaluable. Obviously, the next class will have a different make-up of students, but the small class size and open ability to communicate with everyone was simply amazing.

Lastly, the course acted as an impetus to actually get the exams done. I know of a lot of other people in the industry that take the APICS courses at BCIT, but just can't 'find the time' to go downtown and write the exams. For me, I knew I would start to forget all that I had re-learned, so I made sure I scheduled my first one as soon as possible, and once I had that one under my belt, I scheduled the following ones soon after. If I hadn't taken the course, I can guarantee that I would still be saying 'I'll start next week!'

Never give up on a dream just because of the time it will take to accomplish it. The time will pass anyway.

- Anonymous

Call For Nominations

As APICS in the Fraser Valley progresses through our second year, several of our board members will not be seeking re-election this upcoming term, after serving two years on the board. As a result we will be actively looking for new nominations to the board in order to continue providing service to the Fraser Valley.

According to our Bylaws, in order to carry on the basic functions of the board we require a minimum of;

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer



In addition to this we need to fill Portfolio Director positions in the following areas;

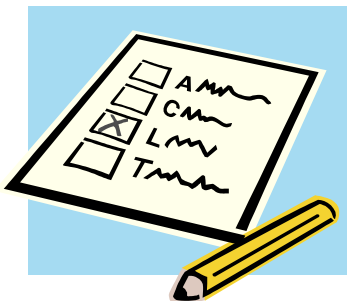
- Director of Education
- Director of Programs
- Director of Marketing and Membership
- Director of Communications

As always we are also looking to additionally strengthen the board through building an effective volunteer base who can help with projects and special activities as required in particular in the areas of Education and Marketing.

So what's involved with becoming a board member? Well, you need to attend the monthly board meetings, discuss upcoming events, proposed motions and report on the status of your area(s) of responsibility. You'll also need to get hands on in the activities your portfolio is responsible for and help out in other areas when necessary. Ask any current member of the board how many hats they've worn in the last year....

It's a great way to network, improve your organizational and leadership skills and maybe develop in new areas you might not have been involved with before. Just ask Tim McBride, our Treasurer of 2 years who came into the position with very little knowledge of running the finances for a not for profit enterprise. He's picked up some great skills which I dare say have already helped him along his career path. Or talk to our current President and Director of Programs, Warren Hurlen, who has challenged himself to be more comfortable in the area of public speaking and leadership. Whether he realizes it or not Warren has developed these skills in ways that he might not have had a chance to do otherwise.

All of us board members have jobs, family commitments and other demands for our time and we do our best to manage our volunteer activities with the Fraser Valley Board. That's all anyone can really ask for.



So after that frank and open assessment, hopefully I've convinced you to consider getting involved. How do you do it? Easy, just contact any of the current board members and let us know what areas you may be potentially interested in. Nominations will be put forward for a member vote at our next Annual General Meeting this coming April. Even if you're not sure about it, feel free to give any of us a call to discuss and ask questions.

We're telling you about this now to give you plenty of time to think about it and talk it over with family and colleagues before April.

As an all volunteer chapter we always need new people coming forward to inject new ideas, skills and energy to the team. I'll close this appeal with a slightly revised version of a famous quote....

Ask not what your board can do for you. Ask what you can do for your board....

On Behalf of the APICS Fraser Valley Board

Steve Smith
Executive VP and Director of Communications