



ASTD Baton Rouge Chapter

February 2008 eZine

In this issue:

- [President's Message](#)
- [GBRSHRM Workshop – March 12](#)
- [ASTDBR Webinar – March 27](#)
- [2008 Best Award](#)
- [ASTDBR Financial Report](#)
- [ASTDBR Membership Report](#)
- [SIG: CPLP Study Group](#)
- [SIG: Choosing an LMS](#)
- [SIG: Book Club](#)
- [SIG: eLearning](#)
- [Volunteers Needed ...](#)
- [Volunteers Appreciated !](#)
- [Mark Your Calendar!](#)
- [ASTDBR Website](#)

President's Message



Melissa Argrave

Wow! So many of you attended our 2008 kick-off membership meeting and program on January 31st. Thanks for joining us!

Crystal Picou, SHAW Group, Inc., provided excellent information and engaged us in some great Q & A. We learned techniques to help us *stop living in our in-boxes*.

Members, if you would like to see photographs from this meeting or other recent meetings, log in to www.br.astd.org as a member; click on **Resources**, then **Meeting Sites**. If you have any trouble with your membership sign-in or with your listing in our membership directory, please contact ASTD Customer Care at 1-800-628-2783.

That's also the telephone number we use to renew our local and/or national memberships! We continually provide ASTDBR professional development and networking opportunities and are expanding with Special Interest and Geographic Interest Groups, discounted rates for professional development workshops, and the job bank on the ASTDBR website (log in as a member: www.br.astd.org, click on **Connect** and check out the left and right menu bars). These are just a few of the outstanding benefits offered by our nationally recognized chapter. Our membership rates are some of the most reasonable around. Renew! Invite a friend to join!

As we *Build on Success* in 2008, many hands are needed for continued growth and prosperity. I would like to thank and congratulate the professionals who are volunteering their services. First, our [ASTDBR Board of Directors](#) (read more about our ASTDBR leadership team here) **Beth Adams, Doug Bordelon, Julie Gaudin, Kimberly Kochurka, Sandy Michelet, Carrie Miller, Diane Mohler, Kimberly Seeger, Leah Tate, Melissa Terrell, Aimee Terito (Chapter Administrator), and Patsy Wilkerson.**

Second, as of this print deadline, we are excited to welcome the member volunteers have jumped on board to help promote our chapter and our WLP (Workplace Learning & Performance) industry. See the [Volunteers Appreciated!](#) section in this ezine for a listing. Thank you for your commitment to ASTDBR!

And thanks to each of you for your support. I look forward to seeing you at our February program!

Melissa B. Argrave

GBRSHRM Workshop Scheduled for MARCH 12th



Wednesday, March 12

8:30am-11:30am

Drusilla Catering

Baton Rouge, LA

Register Early!

Cost is \$20/person

Seating is limited.

[LINK to Workshop Info](#)

On March 12, 2008, the Greater Baton Rouge Society for Human Resource Management (GBRSHRM), in partnership with the Louisiana Business Leadership Network (LBLN), is very excited to bring national experts on disability employment issues to our area. Speakers from the Institute for Community Inclusion, which is at the University of Massachusetts in Boston, will be here to provide valuable information related to improving disability workplace practices and advancing disability employment.

Topics to be covered include :

- Hidden Abilities and Non Apparent Disabilities in the Workplace
- Maximizing Worker Performance, Business Efficiency and Inclusion in the Workplace Through Accommodations
- HR Savvy: Real-world Applications of the ADA in Employment Situations
- Benefits of HR/Disability Service Provider Partnerships.

All attendees will receive a workshop manual (40+ pages) to use as a reference.

Registration begins at 8:00am, Wednesday, March 12. A full breakfast buffet will be available.

ASTDBR Monthly Program for March

Webinar

"The Future of the Profession Formerly Known as Training"

Thursday
March 27, 2008
12 noon – 1:00pm



Pat Galagan

Please click here and [RSVP](#) by Tuesday, March 25. Upon receipt of your RSVP, we will send the web address and logon information to the email address you provided. The only equipment you will need is internet access and a telephone.

Want to know more about the latest trends in your profession? Do you have concerns about providing qualified, skilled employees to your company or clients? In this interactive webinar you'll hear from one of our industry's experts. Pat Galagan, Executive Editor of ASTD, will speak about her findings on the state of the industry, how organizations can assess and manage skills gaps, and her experience from interviewing top CEOs over the last two years.

Learning Objectives:

- To promote awareness among learning professionals about trends in the industry.
- To help learning professionals understand the ways in which our profession is growing more relevant.
- To assist learning professionals in understanding, assessing and managing skills gaps.
- To increase awareness among learning professionals about organizations who are using best practices.

Facilitator:

Pat Galagan is Executive Editor at the American Society for Training & Development (ASTD). As a member of the Executive Management Team, she helps link ASTD's content agenda to the strategic goal of being the leading source of information for the profession. She also oversees the publication of ASTD's print and electronic magazines and newsletters.

For many years Pat was Editor-in-Chief of *T+D* magazine, a 60-year-old publication covering the spectrum of workplace learning and performance. She is a founding editor of *Learning Circuits*, an ASTD Web magazine about e-learning. A writer and editor for more than 20 years, Pat has covered all aspects of the learning and performance industry and interviewed such business leaders as Peter Drucker and the CEOs of numerous Fortune 500 companies.

2008 ASTD BEST Awards



As a winner, your organization will be featured in the October issue of *T+D* magazine. In addition, you will be honored at the awards ceremony in Washington, D.C., meet your peers at the [Learn from the BEST](#) event, and have the privilege of using the BEST Award winner logo on your website and marketing materials.

The prestigious 2004–2007 [Winner's Circle](#) includes small and large private, public, and nonprofit organizations from around the world.

The deadline to enter is March 31, 2008.
For more information and to complete the online application, [click here](#).

We hope to see you in the 2008 Winner's Circle.

The [ASTD BEST Awards](#) recognize organizations that demonstrate enterprise-wide success as a result of employee learning and development. ASTD is looking for organizations that create, support, and champion learning opportunities for results and a learning culture. ASTDDBR encourages our membership -- small and large private, public, or nonprofit organizations -- to consider applying for this national honor. Applications and selection criteria are now posted and are due March 31, 2008.

Award winners will be featured in the October issue of *T+D* magazine; honored at a ceremony October 2 in Washington, D.C. at the Ronald Reagan Building & International Trade Center; meet their peers and share their award-winning practices at the annual Learn from the BEST event on October 3; and have the privilege of using the 2008 ASTD BEST Award Winner logo.

How exciting this would be for you, your organization, and our community at large ! For more information or for an application, see [ASTD BEST Awards](#).

Financial Report for ASTDDBR



As of January 31, 2008:

2008 Total Income	\$	845.00
2007 Total Expenses	\$	111.62
Total Chapter Assets	\$	23,232.23

ASTDBR Membership Report



As of calendar year ending December 31, 2007

114.....ASTDBR Chapter Members

43.....ASTD National Members

SIG: CPLP Study Group



Are you interested in obtaining your **CPLP?**

Certified Professional in Learning & Performance

Baton Rouge ASTD has created a Study Group to prepare us!

For more information, call or email Sandy Michelet

at 225/266-5016 or sandy.michelet@shawgrp.com

SIG: Choosing an LMS



Tanya Bird

LMS ... Learning Management System

As leader of Learning & Technology at Blue Cross, Tanya has walked the talk of the LMS selection process ... and she will graciously share her team's hard-earned lessons learned with an ASTD Special Interest Group formed to further explore this challenge.

- Is your organization currently researching an LMS ?
- Do you have questions regarding what functionality might best suit your company's learning structure
- Blue Cross and Tanya are offering to sponsor an ASTDBR **LMS SIG** (Section Information Group) to meet regularly and share information regarding this process.

If you are interested in joining this SIG ... please contact Tanya directly at: Tanya.Bird@bcbsla.com

SIG: Book Club



GO Put Your Strengths to Work

by Marcus Buckingham

Introduction, Steps 1-3

Friday, Feb. 22
11:30am
(bring your own lunch)

**Neighbors Federal
Credit Union**
12529 Perkins Rd.

For more information contact Carrie Miller
225-339-3892 • cmiller@lla.la.gov

**Please RSVP to Carrie by February 20th
if you plan to attend.**

SIG: eLearning



Melissa Terrell

17991 OLD PERKINS RD. EAST, SUITE
E · BATON ROUGE, LA 70809
VOICE: 225.752.8339 x314 · FAX:
225.751.6933
<http://www.flying-fish.net>

Are you interested in meeting fellow eLearning professionals in our community?

Join us for our first [eLearning SIG](#) meeting at noon on Wednesday, March 12th. The first meeting will be held at Flying Fish Creative Services, Inc. It will be co-facilitated by Melissa Terrell, Instructional Designer for Flying Fish Creative Services, Inc. and Tanya Bird, eLearning Training Practitioner for the Blue Cross Learning Institute.

This will be a brown bag meeting with a two-fold purpose:

- to meet fellow eLearning professionals in the community and
- to identify current eLearning needs/trends for future SIG topics.

Future meetings will be scheduled quarterly to accommodate the needs and availability of the members.

If you are interested in attending, contact me via email. Seating is limited, so register soon !

Volunteers Needed ...

Where would YOU like to volunteer? We have a number of and wide variety of opportunities ...both short- or long-term in nature. Your efforts will support your peers and ASTDBR while giving you the satisfaction of making a difference.

Feel free to contact me, Mel Argrave at margrave@lsu.edu and let's see if we can discover a fit that will utilize your skills, give you a fun and important volunteer experience, and expand your relationships with our other volunteers and members.

- You could be instrumental in organizing the Professional Development Conference soon to be locked in for September 2008 (contact Kimberly Kochurka at kimberly.kochurka@bcbsla.com).
- Join our Technology "Click Committee" for continuous website improvement (contact Melissa Terrell at mterrell@flyingfish.net).

Appreciated Volunteers !!!

Volunteer Commitment ...

Membership Activities

Membership: Happy Hour Networking !

Technology, chapter website

Publications, ezine

Communications, Photography

Professional Development, Fall Conference

Professional Development, President's Council

SIGs and GIGs

- Book Club SiG
- CPLP SiG
- eLearning SiG
- LMS - Learning Management Systems SiG
- Lafayette GiG

- Student SiG

Volunteer Members

Pammi Bains
Darryl Lewis
Debra Taylor
Debbie Templain
Dwuena Wyre

Justin Oberthier

Meg Bier
Elizabeth Taylor

Marina Brown
Mary McMillian

Harry Jenkins

Elizabeth Cane Cox
Joy Irwin
Robin Schooling
Alan Crnko

Carrie Miller
Michael Frederick
Melissa Terrell
Tanya Bird
Rick Hicks
Jill Meaux

Bonnie Williams

Professional Development Opportunities



ASTD Educational Programs

Through exceptional learning and performance, we create a world that works better.

ASTD offers key certificate and workshops programs to focus your professional development. [Click here](#) for complete information and schedule of ASTD's Certificate Programs.

Mark Your Calendars !

Click on the links below for more info:

Date	Location	Topic
Thursday, Feb 28, 2008 11:30am–1:00 pm	Univ of Phoenix 4 th Floor Baton Rouge, LA	ASTDBR Monthly Program: <i>Thinking about Money at Work?</i> Susan McCarter & Sue Tranchina, VP's from CHASE Bank
Tuesday - Thursday Feb 26-28, 2008	San Antonio, TX	ASTD TechKnowledge 2008 Conference & Expo
Wednesday, March 12, 2008 8:30am- 11:30am	Drusilla Catering Baton Rouge, LA	GBRSHRM / LBLN Workshop: <i>Focus on Abilities ...link to info</i>
Thursday, Mar 27, 2008 12 noon – 1:00pm	Webinar Viewed from your worksite	ASTDBR Monthly Program: <i>The Future of the Program Formerly Known as Training</i> Pat Galagan, Executive Editor ASTD National
Thursday, April 24, 2008 11:30am–1:00 pm	Univ of Phoenix 4 th Floor Baton Rouge, LA	ASTDBR Monthly Program: <i>Program Title forthcoming</i> Lee Pryor, CEO Flying Fish Creative Services, Inc
Thursday, May 29, 2008 11:30am–1:00 pm		ASTDBR Monthly Program: tbd
Sunday-Wednesday June 1-4, 2008	San Diego, CA	ASTD ICE 2008 International Conference & Expo
Thursday, June 26, 2008 11:30am–1:00 pm		ASTDBR Monthly Program: tbd
Tue - Thu July 15-17, 2008	tba New Orleans, LA	ASTDBR Monthly Program: <i>Joint meeting with ASTD-NO Workforce Innovations</i>
Thursday, August 28, 2008		ASTDBR Monthly Program: <i>Developing High Potential Leaders</i>

11:30am–1:00 pm

Jahleel Stewart, Albemarle Corporation

September, 2008

Under
Development

ASTDBR Annual Professional Development Event

Thursday,
October 23, 2008
11:30am–1:00 pm

ASTDBR Monthly Program:
tbd

Thursday,
Nov 20, 2008
11:30am–1:00 pm

tbd

Joint GBRSHRM-ASTDBR Monthly Program:

Title forthcoming

Rick Hicks, VP Operations
Randy Smith Training Solutions

Mon - Fri
Dec 1-5, 2008



Employee Learning Week <http://employeelearningweek.org/>

Thursday,
Dec 4, 2008
6:00– 8:00 pm

Holiday Networking

ASTDBR Annual Event
But UnSeriously Folks !

Christee Gabour Atwood

ASTDBR Website ... Member Benefit !

Just a reminder: Another benefit of ASTD membership is access to new job opportunities. Opportunities are posted in the membership section of the website. Highlighted jobs include:

- ***Experienced Instructional Systems Designers (ISDs) to work on a long-term contract for a major national client.***
- ***Global Industries Offshore, LLC is seeking a Training Specialist for our corporate office in Sulphur, LA to prepare our operations for the next phase of our strategic expansion.***
- ***[A New Leaf, LLC](#) (Metairie, LA) is seeking a part-time Executive Administrator. contact Ellen LaFleur at ellen@organizationalexperts.com***

For more information on these positions and to check out the last job listings go to: www.br.astd.org or www.astd.org*