



ASTD Baton Rouge Chapter

June/July 2008 ezine

In this issue:

- [President's Message](#)
- [10-Sep...ASTDBR presents: Crucial Conversations !](#)
- [LA Dept of Civil Service Receives National Award !](#)
- [ASTDBR Leadership Board Nominations for 2009](#)
- [15-July...Workforce Innovations – Success Decoded 2008](#)
- [28-August ... What's this thing called "Coaching" ?](#)
- [23-Oct...WEBINAR: Building Business Acumen for Trainers](#)
- [ASTDBR Financial Report](#)
- [SIG: CPLP Study Group](#)
- [SIG: elearning](#)
- [SIG: Book Club](#)
- [SIG: International Training](#)
- [Mark Your Calendar!](#)
- [ASTD Websites](#)

Message from your President



Melissa Argrave,
President



*Champions
of Learning*

ASTD Baton Rouge Chapter Recognized as "Champions of Learning"

Thanks to the ASTDBR Leadership Council and Membership for your support of "**Employee Learning Week**," a national initiative to communicate the importance of workplace learning throughout our industry and our communities. I am so happy to let you know that the ASTD Baton Rouge Chapter has been recognized by ASTD as a "Champion of Learning" 2007. We are one of only 48 chapters so recognized. Congratulations!

As we continue to build on the success of 2007, let's start thinking now about how we may promote workplace learning in our organizations and within our chapter during **Employee Learning Week 2008, to be held December 8th - 12th**. During Employee Learning Week 2007, ASTD member organizations across the United States hosted Learning Fairs, conducted Needs Assessments, distributed brochures to employees about their department goals or the upcoming year's calendar of learning events, and more. **Employee Learning Week** activities can be as simple or as complex as you wish it to be, with whatever project works best in your organization. It is our opportunity to spread the word about the importance of our profession.

As one of our 2008 goals, the ASTD Baton Rouge Chapter has committed to receive an **Employee Learning Week** Governmental Proclamation to promote our industry and emphasize the importance of workplace learning, expanding public awareness in our area.

At our June program meeting, we learned from Pam Creighton, Executive Director of Adult Literacy Advocates (ALA), that 100,000 people in Baton Rouge, 25% of our population, struggle with literacy issues. Consider **Employee Learning Week** as an opportunity to do a mass communications to your organization indicating your support of literacy and how the ALA can help. For more ideas how your workplace can help to identify and sensitively support employees with literacy issues, you may contact Pam at pam@adulthoodliteracyadvocates.org.

Chapter Member Kent Blumberg is organizing a Special Interest Group to help redesign the ALA's volunteer training programs to maximize their effectiveness. Our members are the perfect experts who can help. If you are interested, contact [Kent Blumberg](#).

*I encourage you to mark your calendars for **Employee Learning Week** and find a way, big or small, to let your workplace know where YOU and your department make a difference every day in individual and organizational success. To see just a few ideas of what other chapters and member organizations have done, visit the ASTD website at <http://www.employeelearningweek.org/champion.html>. Click here to visit the ASTDBR website and view our [letter of congratulations](#) and our [award certificate](#).*

Please keep us posted about your **ELW** plans and activities so we may once again report your good work to ASTD and be "**Champions of Learning**" in 2008! Once again, congratulations and thank you.

Best regards, MEL

ASTDBR 2nd Annual Professional Development Workshop



Register TODAY
to take advantage
of the Early Bird
Rate!

Wednesday,
Sept 10th 2008
8:00am – 5:00pm



Crucial Conversations: Building Cultures of Agreement



Presenter: *Steve Willis, [Vital Smarts](#)*

- Participants will walk away with a new set of high-leverage tools to effectively achieve breakthrough results.
- Armed with the new skill set to make the most of every interaction, participants will create more positive results, personally, professionally, and throughout their entire organization.

Does your team or organization suffer from under-communication, deference, disagreement, decision paralysis, politics, or alienation?

[Take Crucial Conversations Training to work today.](#)

Crucial Conversations Training will help you create conditions where people speak with complete candor (no matter the topic) and with complete respect (no matter the person).

- Gain from spirited dialogue.
- Learn to maximize input.
- Help your team surface the best ideas.
- Make better decisions together !

[Click here for more information ...](#)

Financial Report for ASTDBR



As of May 31, 2008:

Total Income	\$6,174.78
2007 Total Expenses	\$3,384.55
Net Gain	\$2,790.23
Total Assets	\$25,289.08

NAGTAD Awards LA Department of State Civil Service



The National Association for Government Training and Development (NAGTAD), a nationally-recognized professional association for public sector trainers and developers, has

awarded the 2008 "Program of the Year" Award to the Louisiana Department of State Civil Service.

The award, which is given out annually by NAGTAD to the highest-performing governmental agencies participating in the field of training and development, recognizes DSCS for its efforts in the design and implementation of the State of Louisiana Mandatory Supervisory Training Program.

The program, developed in 2002 in conjunction with the Comprehensive Public Training Program (CPTP) and Louisiana State University, supports the continual development of classified supervisors and helps instill better management principles in these employees.

ASTDBR would like to commend **Dwuena Wyre, DSCS HR Assistant Division Administrator**. Dwuena was member of ASTDBR's 2006 and 2007 Leadership Council. Her staff includes HR Policy Specialists: Darrel Lewis, John DiCarlo and Ranzy Montet, all members of our local chapter. Dwuena and her exemplary staff continue to actively participate and contribute to our chapter's activities and success. ***Congratulations, Civil Service !***

July's Program Description

For the month of July, our Local ASTD Chapter will participate in:
Workforce Innovations – Success Decoded 2008



<http://www.workforceinnovations.org/>

New Orleans, LA • July 15- 17, 2008

Hosted by:



Workforce Innovations is the premier annual conference promoting collaboration among leaders from workforce development, business, economic development, education, community-based organizations, and philanthropy.

Success Decoded 2008 will bring together local, state and national-level strategic workforce investment partners to learn from successes and cultivate the talent development solutions needed in today's global economy.

August's Program Description



What is this thing called "Coaching" ?

Facilitator: [Kent M. Blumberg, ACC](#)

You've heard about coaching before. Perhaps someone at work is pressing you to incorporate coaching into your organization's people processes. Now you need to know what it is and how it might apply to you.

Join ASTDBR in August to find out what coaching is, who will benefit from coaching, the costs and risks, and a bit about how to do it.

Learning objectives

As a result of this program, you will:

- Learn what coaching is, and how it differs from mentoring, training, counseling, consulting and parenting.
- Understand the costs, risks and benefits of coaching in a corporate environment.
- Know when to use coaching and with whom.
- Try out a few basic coaching principles and tools for yourself
- Take away a list of resources for further learning

Kent M. Blumberg, ACC

Kent Blumberg is a business and executive coach, certified by the International Coach Federation. As an executive coach, Kent works one-on-one with clients, catalyzing, inspiring and supporting them in achieving better results faster and easier than they thought possible. Executives choose to work with Kent in order to improve business results while developing themselves and others for long-term sustainable growth.

Make a Difference—Your 2009 ASTDBR Board Nominations

<p>The following slate of nominations for our Chapter's 2009 Board of Directors was presented to the Chapter Membership at the June 26th Program Meeting. Please contact any of the Nominating Committee Members if you wish to add a name for consideration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pammi Bains, Neighbors Federal Credit Union • Alan Crnko, Marathon Petroleum • Carrie Miller, Ledet Management Consulting <p>This slate will be presented to the membership for election at the August 28th Program.</p>	ASTDBR Positions Board of Directors	Nominated for 2009:
	President	Kimberly Seeger
	President Elect	Melissa Terrell
	Past President	Melissa Argrave
	Treasurer	Elizabeth Coxe
	Secretary	Beth Adams
	VP Hospitality	Justin Oberthier
	VP Publications	Marina Brown
	VP Technology	Maurice Velasquez
	VP Communications	Jennifer Erikson
	VP Membership	Patsy Wilkerson
	VP Programs	Kent Blumberg
	VP Professional Development	Leah Tate

Webinar Scheduled for October 2008



Ajay Pangarkar

**Thursday
October 23, 2008**

Building Business Acumen for Trainers: Skills to Empower the Learning Function

Ajay Pangarkar is Senior Learning Strategist of CentralKnowledge Inc., leaders in developing measurable strategic learning solutions. He is one of the leading learning strategists in the world, a foremost authority on integrating learning strategies into the Balanced Scorecard, and is an industry-recognized speaker on strategic employee development, blended learning, training measurement, evaluation, and ROI methodologies. Ajay's passion is to align learning infrastructure and deliverables with an organization's strategic objectives.

This unique and pertinent workshop is based on released "Business Acumen for Trainers: Skills to Empower the Training Function" written by Terrence Gargiulo, Ajay Pangarkar, and Teresa Kirkwood and published by Pfeiffer.

Through a practical approach we will provide learning professionals with the steps required to developing three essential areas of business acumen: (1) Finance Skills; (2) Partnership Skills; (3) Communication Skills.

Program Learning Objectives:

Participant will...

- Acquire basic business financial skills
- Develop budgets and forecasts for accountability
- Integrate evaluation and ROI measures for Management
- Obtain internal buy-in and build internal support skills
- Communicate an effective business message for learning and development

SIG: CPLP Study Group



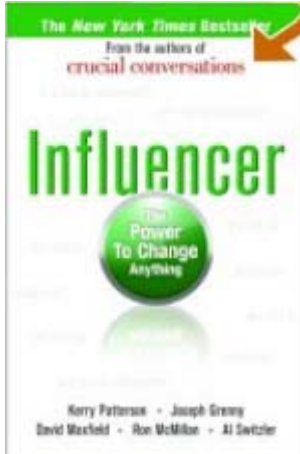
www.cplp.astd.org

Are you interested in obtaining CPLP certification?
Would you like help from others who've recently completed the journey?

ASTD BR member, Mike Frederick, has offered to lead a group to provide assistance to potential CPLP candidates on a one-on-one basis or through a SIG sponsored by the ASTDBR chapter.

If you are interested contact Mike directly at
michael.frederick@farmers.com

SIG: Book Club



Influencer: The Power to Change Anything

By Seth Godin

11:30 a.m. on Friday, Oct 17

Neighbors Federal Credit Union
12529 Perkins Rd.

(you may bring your own lunch if you wish)

for more information, contact:
Carrie Miller – cmiller@lla.la.gov
work: 225-339-3892

Please RSVP to Carrie by October 15th

SIG: Non-profit, Community & International Training

We would like to gauge members' interest in a proposed **Special Interest Group (SIG) for Non-profit, Community and International Training**. This SIG would target Chapter members who are interested in improving their training skills for non-profit groups, community organizations or international stakeholders. The SIG could meet on a regular basis to expand members' knowledge in this area and/or to enjoy networking with colleagues. The format is open to discussion, but would likely include a speaker, a case study, or a discussion topic.

Interested Chapter members are welcome to contact Jonathan Hubchen (578-7067, jhubchen@agcenter.lsu.edu). Jonathan will arrange for an organizational meeting and we will develop a program.

We look forward to hearing from you !

SIG: eLearning

ASTDBR hosted its second eLearning SIG

The SIG was held at Blue Cross Blue Shield Center on Corporate Blvd. The topics presented were ***Authoring Tools*** by Tanya Bird of Blue Cross Blue Shield and the ***eLearning Course Development Process*** presented by Karl Cantrelle of Portico Learning Solutions.

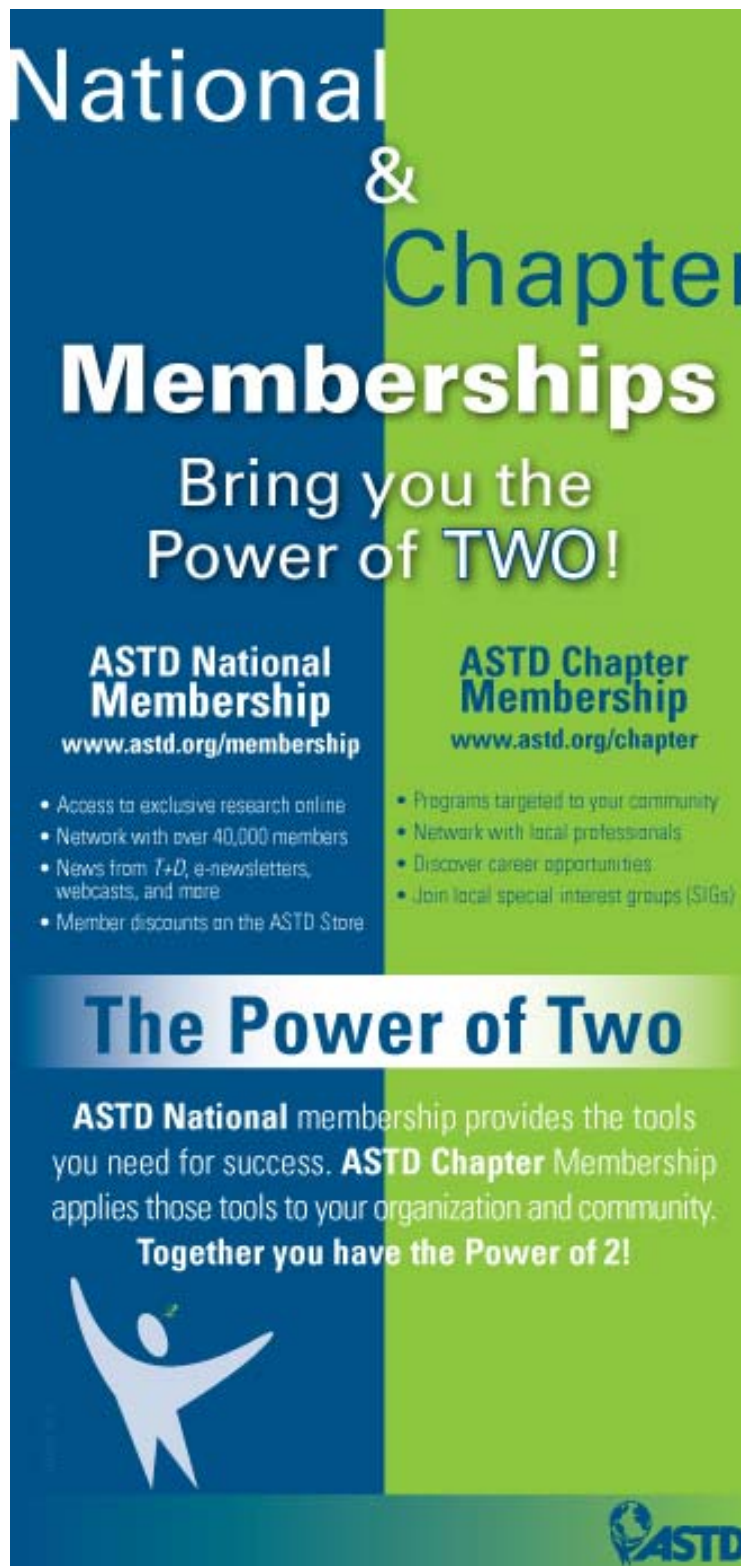
A special thanks to Tanya Byrd and Blue Cross for hosting this SIG.

Our next SIG will be a webinar hosted on Wed, Sept. 17, 2008. If you are interested in attending the September 17th SIG, contact Melissa Terrell at mterrell@porticolearning.com.

Mark Your Calendars!

Click on the links below for more info:

Tuesday - Thursday Jul 15-17, 2008	 Morial Conv Center New Orleans, LA	ASTDBR Monthly Program: ASTD New Orleans sponsors ... <i>Workforce Innovations – Success Decoded 2008</i>
Thursday, Aug 28, 2008 11:30am–1:00 pm	Univ of Phoenix Baton Rouge, LA 4 th Floor	ASTDBR Monthly Program: <i>What is this thing called “Coaching”?</i> Kent Blumberg
Wednesday, Sep 10, 2008 8:00am – 5:00pm	 WBR Conference Ctr	ASTDBR Annual Professional Development Event: <u><i>Crucial Conversations: Building Cultures of Agreement</i></u> Steve Willis, VitalSmarts
Wednesday, Sep 17, 2008 11:30am–1:00 pm	Viewed from your desktop of choice !	ASTDBR elearning SIG: <i>Details forthcoming</i>
Friday, Oct 17, 2008 11:30am–1:00 pm	Neighbors Federal Credit Union 12529 Perkins Rd.	ASTDBR Book Club SIG: <i>Influencer: The Power to Change Anything</i> by Seth Godin
Thur – WEBINAR Oct 23, 2008 12 noon –1:00 pm	Viewed from your desktop of choice !	ASTDBR Monthly Program: <i>Building Business Acumen</i> Ajay Pangarkar, Central Knowledge
Thursday, Nov 20, 2008 11:30am–1:00 pm	tba	Joint GBRSHRM-ASTDBR Monthly Program: Rick Hicks, Randy Smith Training Solutions
Mon – Fri Dec 8-12, 2008		Employee Learning Week http://employeelearningweek.org/
Thursday, Dec 11, 2008 6:00– 8:00 pm		Annual Holiday Networking Event <i>But Unseriously Folks !</i> Christee Gabour Atwood



**National
&
Chapter
Memberships**

Bring you the
Power of TWO!

**ASTD National
Membership**
www.astd.org/membership

- Access to exclusive research online
- Network with over 40,000 members
- News from T+D, e-newsletters, webcasts, and more
- Member discounts on the ASTD Store


**ASTD Chapter
Membership**
www.astd.org/chapter

- Programs targeted to your community
- Network with local professionals
- Discover career opportunities
- Join local special interest groups (SIGs)

The Power of Two

ASTD National membership provides the tools you need for success. **ASTD Chapter** Membership applies those tools to your organization and community.

Together you have the Power of 2!



Interested in learning more about the benefits of national membership?

Visit National [ASTD](http://www.astd.org) for more information.



To learn more about local chapter membership benefits ?

Visit us at
[ASTD Baton Rouge Chapter](http://www.br.astd.org)

<http://www.br.astd.org>