

The mission of NAPM Central Michigan, Inc. is to serve the needs of its members and the profession by providing quality learning opportunities through educational forums, career broadening and mentoring experiences. Additionally, it is our mission to promote increased recognition of NAPM and the growth opportunities offered by the organization.



## President's Toolbox by David Taylor, C.P.M.

### Where's Waldo?

Recently during calls we have made to our members about dues renewals, a frequent comment has been "I want to be more active but have conflicts getting to the dinner Meetings." Are you one of the hidden "Waldos" who are out there, wanting to be involved in some way, but just can't seem to find that way? Some of you - I know only on paper, but I have never met you. We know you are there but we can't see you just like **Waldo**.

Our board is very interested in getting your feedback on what you desire to receive from membership in NAPM-Central Michigan and what you expect of ISM. Please sign on to our website in the next week and take our on-line survey. We really would like to know your expectations for speakers, meetings and educational programs and alternative program schedules. We are exploring various changes which you our members, might be dictating in the future.

Some of the ideas mentioned to us during our calls include luncheon meetings in Jackson or Lansing with some suggested topics of Contractual Obligations, Offshore Sourcing, Software Options, Energy Costs, Outsourcing—how to overcome the attempts to outsource, Performance Metrics, SAP Implementation. Other comments included more social/fellowship time with a less structured speaker program, morning breakfasts either weekday or Saturday. Some have asked about C.P.M. study classes and now with the new CPSM certification, classes on studying for the new exams. Others have expressed interest in e-mail & electronic file management, negotiations. Some have offered the idea of a one-day or half day seminar perhaps on legal topics, or a spring or summer conference in the local area. Job postings, resume banks, career planning? If any of these ideas strike a chord, or the website questions catch your interest, we are truly interested in how many of you would be interested in any of these or other topics you are free to mention. We really seek your opinion—please sound off! Take note of our dinner meeting this month jointly with APICS. I am personally looking forward to learning about the "LEAN OFFICE."

Since we are becoming a very mobile & electronically oriented group with our internet ready cellphones, blackberries, wireless laptops and PDAs, maybe our mode of communication is going to be the next changing paradigm in our profession. I now get 3 or 4 voicemails to 18-40 emails a day (including spam). I remember as a retail store manager I would have 40 or more voice messages each morning from corporate or other store managers—look at how that paradigm has changed in a few short years.

**Satellite Seminar of February 9<sup>th</sup> "Ethics in Supply Management—Minding Your Actions and Decisions"** Though I was unable to attend this week, this topic struck me like a lightning bolt. In October on a Tuesday, I had what started as a routine day, with normal interaction with my boss the Controller. I went to lunch and when I returned, my boss had been arrested. That's right, charged with felony embezzlement of corporate funds. He has been in jail ever since. The only time I have seen him since, was on the front

page of the local paper. He pleaded guilty to all charges a few weeks ago and in the next month will be sentenced—possibly 8-10 years or more in prison. His wife died a year ago—all his belongings and personal property and possessions have been confiscated. His life and reputation are trashed and it will never be the same again. It did not have to happen. He was an intelligent man. Pride, Ego and addiction to money and power did him in. And he had all of us—including his family and friends totally fooled till the end. It can happen anywhere today. You don't have to work at ENRON! Do we even know the signs or what to look for? If you are interested in watching a tape of the seminar at your firm—contact Boyd Shumaker at [shumake3@msu.edu](mailto:shumake3@msu.edu). Our firm was fortunate to recover in time and our team is stronger and more unified in purpose and determination as a result. In many ways it has opened a whole new realm of unexplored opportunities now that the veil has been lifted.

**ISM Web Seminar on (CPSM) Certified Professional in Supply Management**, Thursday, March 23, 2006 1:00p.m. Eastern Time. Check out ISM's website for further information.

Check out local job postings which are sometimes shared by local employers.

**Membership Dues reminder:** Dues billings were mailed to all members in November. They were due by January 31, 2006. Many have still not paid. Just this afternoon the list was circulated of those being dropped from the roster. **If you have not paid yet, your name is being dropped from our roster the beginning of the week.** The affiliate owes a payment to ISM national for all of our dues paying members—which we must send this next week. If you pay immediately or contact our treasurer, Jerry Williams, your membership will be reinstated. We now have the ability to accept credit card payments. Shortly our website will also have a registration and bill paying feature that is secure. If you are dropped from the roster, you lose access to the members only features of the ISM national website such as the job bank and resume posting.

### February Dinner Meeting

**Topic:** Lean Office Systems  
**Presenter:** Mr. Curtis Walker

**Date:** Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2006

**Location:** Jackson Holiday Inn, 2000 Holiday Inn Dr. Jackson, MI. Take the Springport Road exit off US-127 follow signs

**Time:** 6:00 PM check in/social time  
6:30 buffet dinner

**RSVP:**

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**Reservations must be in by Friday Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> 2:00p.m.**

## SATELLITE SEMINARS:

Thurs. 4/20/06 **Satellite Seminar: Risk and Risk Management: Surviving in a Dynamic Business Environment**

Thurs. 6/08/06 **Satellite Seminar: *Buying Travel, Energy and Other Services***

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

The February & March dinner meetings will be held jointly with Mid Michigan APICS hosting both meetings.

**February 21<sup>st</sup>** - Jackson Holiday Inn. Presentation by Mr. Curtis Walker - Lean Office Systems

**March 14<sup>th</sup>** - The March meeting will be held in Lansing at a site to be determined. Presentation by Mr. Art Gase - Team Building.

**March 22** - 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Midwest Supply Chain Management Conference & Exposition. Steelcase University Learning Center, Grand Rapids MI.

MICHIGAN PURCHASING  
CONFERENCE  
(HIGGINS LAKE)  
October 11-13, 2006

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