

January

2007

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.

NEWS FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Congratulations on getting through the Christmas Season and beginning 2007. May this be the healthiest and most prosperous year of your life.

January is the time for dues to be paid. If you haven't done so, please get them in as soon as possible. If you wish pay them by credit card, you can contact our Treasurer, Jerry Williams and he will gladly take care of this. For those who have already paid, thank you very much and don't be afraid to contact us if there is anything NAPM-CM can do to make your job smoother and/or better.

To that note, we are attempting to go with luncheons in January. The topic will be Investment Recovery - What is the Final Outcome of the Items You Procure. There will be a luncheon in Lansing on January 22 at Coral Gables and one in Jackson on January 29th at Steaks Eatery in Jackson. The Speaker is Clancy Pitsch, a Certified Manager of Investment Recovery and the Director of the Investment Recovery Department at Consumers Energy. Clancy is a long term member of the Investment Recovery Association and has experience in selling everything from airplanes to zippers. Reservation information is below and we would like reservations by the Friday before the meeting.

You also received, from ISM, your ballot for proxy voting. Your Board had a lot of discussion concerning items 2 & 3 under Option II. Item 2 is voting to remove the Affiliate Support Council and the Groups and Forums Support Council and your board recommends a no vote on this. These Councils are made up, in part, of at large members of ISM, such as you and me. Elimination of these Councils also eliminates the ability to have these at large members represent us. ISM indicates there is a difficulty attracting members to these Councils which is probably true. With our work loads being what they are, it would be difficult to find the time to serve on any of these Councils. However, elimination of the Councils will eliminate one of the few remaining ways for members to be involved directly with ISM's

operations. This tends to have a negative effect on members and is why the Board is recommending a no vote. Item 3 is the recommended replacement Committee and there will be no need for this as long as the Affiliate Support Council and Groups and Forums Support Councils remain in existence.

Keep in mind that there still is a trial membership available for anyone who has never been an ISM member. This is free for 6 months and a good way to find out more about ISM, what we do and what we have to offer.

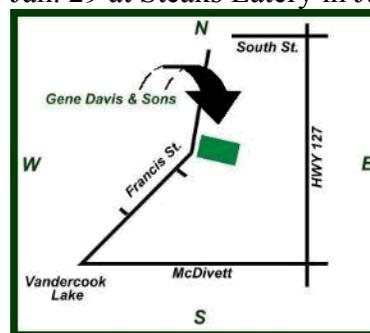
ISM has announced that study materials for the Exam and Bridge Exam for ISM's new Certified Professional in Supply Management (CPSM) are available on the ISM Web site. Check out the site at www.ism.ws and select Professional Credentials for detailed information.

JANUARY LUNCH MEETINGS INVESTMENT RECOVERY

Date: Jan. 22 at Coral Gables in East Lansing

OR

Jan. 29 at Steaks Eatery in Jackson



Map to Steaks Eatery.

If coming from the north, this is off 127 South from 1-94

Speaker: Clancy Pitsch, Certified Manager of Investment Recovery and the Director of the Investment Recovery Department at Consumers Energy

Cost: Meal cost is \$15, payable at the door.

Please RSVP by the Friday before the meeting to:

Tim Pinter
tpinter@auroraspcmh.com
Phone: (517) 372-9121 x104

Mike Butchart
mibutchart@cmsenergy.com
Phone: (517) 788-0077



The Toolbox
by David K. Taylor, C.P.M.

January 2007

Resolution or Evolution Time –Flip the Calendar!

Sorting through some magazines over the Holidays, I was noticing the thickness of the magazines is diminishing over time. Magazine titles change as does the content. Even our job titles and duties change. We once were purchasing or inventory control professionals—buyers, planners, expeditors etc. Now you have commodity managers, supplier development managers, supply chain managers and analysts etc. The inventory control dept is now the materials group.

Just last week a supplier representative was talking about a friend with a 17 year old daughter whose cell-phone bill covered over 1200 text messages in one month not to mention the call minutes.

Increasingly, newspapers are fighting to retain subscribers. Even more individuals are declining to have the printed copy delivered and are opting for the electronic E-zine or website versions. We see more and more feature packed cell-phones like the razor or the blackberry with more features and whistles than ever before.

The big question—are we communicating better--more or less effectively, or have we just added more data and information to wade through and digest daily. It is not uncommon to hear individuals decry their 100 to 400 or more emails a day, most of which are spam or ad-ware. When voice-mail was first introduced it too was abused and overwhelmed us. In this convoluted jungle of the digital age, how do we now determine our priorities and choose what, when and how we will respond? Can we simplify and stream-line?

We used to have a day-timer, Franklin Planner or desktop calendar. Annually we placed a replacement order for desk calendars for the whole office. No longer! Now we most often use MS Outlook if we are in the typical office. My day-timer has sat unused for over three years. I want to ask our members some questions and would like it if you would respond back to me, Dave Taylor at taylo517@yahoo.com.

1. **How much news do you absorb each day and where do you receive it from?**
2. **How much do you read in a day and what do you read?**
3. **How do you choose to expand or enhance your education or professional development?**
4. **Do you see and receive an advantage from networking? How?**
5. **How much time are you willing to devote to stay professionally informed?**
6. **What new or different opportunities would you be willing to explore?**

There are no right or wrong answers. As a writer, I seek input from you the reader and our association members. If you would respond to any or all questions which evoke a response, I will do my best to share the results with our board members and then with you our readers. Change is certain just like death and taxes. Six-Sigma and other tools now show us we can change and re-invent ourselves more frequently to stay competitive. I look forward to your input. Dave Taylor

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UPCOMING SATELLITE SEMINARS:

Thursday, February 8, 2007

Critical Business Skills for Effective Supply Chain Leaders

Thursday, April 19, 2007

The Business Case for Diversity in a Social Responsibility Context

Thursday, June 7, 2007

Project Management for Supply Professionals

**Higgins Michigan
Purchasing Conference
October 10, 11, & 12, 2007**