

A Note From The President



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Dear ASTD friends,

I want to welcome you to a new year of your ASTD chapter. I am very excited about our theme for this year: *“Growing Our Chapter, Growing Our Profession, Growing Ourselves.”* I believe this theme reflects our chapter’s mission to be *“a network of learning and development professionals building connections to each other and our community to create a world that works better.”* I also believe that the theme allows each of us in the chapter to pursue our growth and development goals, whether they are organizational issues or personal development.

Your dedicated Board of Directors will be working to help make the theme and chapter mission a reality this year. In fact, we started off with a bang on January 5th at a day long Board Retreat where we developed goals for the year (please see the article on *Annual Goals 2008* later in this newsletter). These goals will serve as a guide for providing members opportunities and resources for growth and development.

On a more personal note, I would like to share with you what the Middle Tennessee Chapter of ASTD has meant to me. I have had a long history with this chapter beginning in 1992 when I first came to Tennessee. I have been a member and have served on various committees and in many Board of Director positions. This organization has allowed me to learn new ideas, acquire new skills, meet outstanding workplace learning and performance professionals, and develop some lifelong friendships. I believe my involvement in our chapter has provided an incredible return on investment.

So my challenge to you is to bring your ideas, your passion, and your commitment and get involved! Together we can work on *“Growing Our Chapter, Growing Our Profession, Growing Ourselves.”*

Rick Moffett

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Presenting The 2008 Board

Welcome and congratulations to our new 2008 board members. The chapter looks forward to the knowledge, experience, and new ideas each of these professionals will bring. Thank you for your willingness to serve and lead.

President

Dr. Rick Moffett, MTSU,
Center for Organizational and Human Resource Effectiveness
(COHRE)

President Elect

Toby Cannon, Broadcast Music, Inc.

Co-Vice Presidents of Marketing & Communications

Caitlin Stewart-Congdon, Goodwill Industries of Middle
Tennessee
Andrew Duthie, Duthie Associates, Inc.

Co-Vice Presidents of Membership

Jan Wilson, InSight Partners
Tanya Davis-Barlar, TN Housing Dev Agency

Vice President of Finance

Sally Johnson, Hemophilia Health Services

Vice President of Community Relations

Carolyn Rowe, AIG

Co-Vice Presidents of Programs

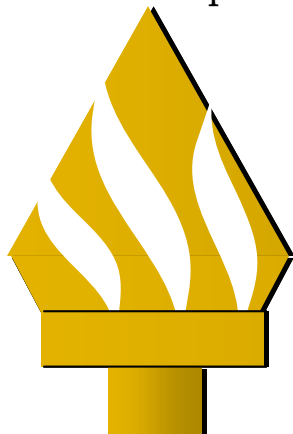
Cecelia Worcester, Strayer University
Kiffin McCoy, Store Opening Solutions

Vice President Administration

Melissa Holley, HealthSpring, Inc.

Golden Torch Continues To Shine

As many of you know, the Golden Torch Awards were announced at our December 2007 breakfast meeting. The accomplishments of the award winners were also celebrated in the *Tennessean* newspaper last month. On Sunday, December 23, in the business section, each award recipient was recognized and photographs were featured, as well. Congratulations, once again, to Nancy Collins, George Wilson, Caterpillar Financial, Cummins Inc., and SERVPRO on their much-deserved recognition. You can obtain the *Tennessean* article, at any metro Nashville library, online, or by calling the *Tennessean* to request it.



New Newsletter Editor

The Middle Tennessee Chapter has a new newsletter editor effective this month.

We strive to bring the most useful, timely content to our middle Tennessee chapter members.

Please submit articles, ideas, and suggestions to the newsletter editor, Angela Ellis. Her email address is angela.ellis@cat.com

Coming In The February Issue:

2008 Board Retreat Update

January Meeting Highlights

Chapter Members & Their Organizations

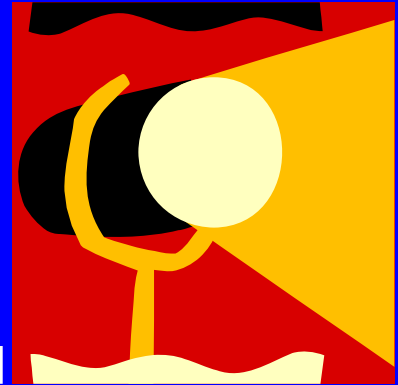
Featured Spotlight Member

National Membership: Why it matters, why you should join.



SPOTLIGHT MEMBER

OF THE MONTH



- **Hometown?** – Nashville, though I was born in Brockville, Ontario
- **Family status?** – Married for 13 years
- **Current Position?** - President of a small e-learning content developer
- **Years in training field?** – eight
- **How long have you been a member of ASTD?** – I think two years.
- **What do you value most about your membership?** – Meeting other folks who understand what we do and have different and deeper perspectives on both our piece and other parts of the industry.
- **Interests and Hobbies?** – Cheap vehicles that everyone else has forgotten about, especially small cars and quiet motorcycles.
- **Dream job?** – Being paid to learn about and tinker with anything and everything. I'd say I'm at least 50% of the way there.
- **What is your favorite thing in life and why?** – I rarely hold favorites in any category, but a relaxed dinner with my wife and a couple good friends is way up there. Track days in the roadster are a close second.
- **What is the best advice you can give to a new trainer?** – My advice for a new e-learning developer would be to try to learn enough about all of the various skills that go into a single course to know what's possible, so that you know what questions to ask and from whom to enlist help on a given project. And if someone's insisted you do the whole thing on a shoestring, start looking for ways to simplify.
- **Other comments?** – I am honored to be invited to join the board and help the chapter; and I'm excited about the upcoming year!

The 2008 Board Conducts a Productive Retreat

Earlier this month, the 2008 chapter Board conducted its annual board retreat. The objective is to develop these goals and make plans to achieve them. Goals were set for each function: Community Relations, Marketing and Communications, Membership and Programs. Some of the more notable goals are: Develop partnerships with Ronald McDonald House, Country Music Hall of Fame, and continue partnerships with Habitat for Humanity and Nashville Public Television; Increase membership by 10%; Target local Colleges and Universities to promote membership; Promote national ASTD membership and its benefits; and Establish regular public relations initiatives to increase ASTD's visibility in middle Tennessee

The 2008 Middle Tennessee ASTD Board agrees that the most effective ways to help move the organization forward are to build on the work done last year. We will strive to provide meaningful and valued programs, new member assimilation, revenue generating opportunities, expanded networking opportunities, additional learning opportunities, additional resources, and to work to expand the membership and ensure board effectiveness. As a result, the **2008 Theme is "Growing Our Chapter, Growing Our Profession, Growing Ourselves."**



Learning Tree International has arrived in Middle Tennessee.

With the understanding that cookie-cutter training doesn't work for everyone, Learning Tree takes the position that your training requirements are as unique as your business.

Studies show that when a company uses a one-size fits all approach to leadership training, participants may simply go through the motions unless the program can help the student retain the knowledge in the months following the training.

Learning Tree's model is to work with their clients to design organizationally specific course material, which reflects the challenges, stimulus, and expectations of the contemporary workplace. They deliver their courses through instructor-led classroom training, interactive video scenarios, computer simulated environments, real-time data acquisition and analysis, on-line activities, coaching, and many additional collaborative activities.

Whether it's a single course for a small team or a complex global curriculum design and delivery project, Learning Tree can provide customized, scalable solutions to help your organization achieve its specific goals.

Learning Tree invites you to discover for yourself how they can deliver a unique and results-oriented IT and Performance Improvement education program that is right for you!

Please visit www.learningtree.com/onsite or contact Jeremy Kirsch at (800)-289-5913 to learn more.



We are looking forward to some exciting meetings and events in 2008. Below: ASTD members network at the holiday breakfast meeting in December 2007.



Thank You To The 2007 Board

A special Thank you to the 2007 Board for their dedication and accomplishments.

President, Lee Ann Smith; President-Elect, Rick Moffitt; and Past President, Pat White, provided great vision for the chapter. One of their major accomplishments was the successful implementation and promotion of Learning Week.

Sally Johnson diligently handled the chapter's dues and finances as the VP of Finance.

Janie McCreary, contributed as VP of Administration, by providing support at chapter meetings, keeping meeting minutes, and ensuring that chapter information, including webpages and archives, were maintained.

The Co-VPs of Community Relations, Kim Newman and Cindy Zwickel, got our chapter more involved in the community, including opportunities for us to work with Habitat for Humanity and other causes.

Additionally, Bob Duthie and Caitlin Stewart-Congdon served as Co-VPs of Marketing and Communications. Thanks to their efforts our events and accomplishment have been well publicized in major media outlets and throughout the learning community.

In 2007, Tanya Davis-Barlar and Jan Wilson acted as Co-VPs of Membership. During their tenure our membership increased greatly. To date, the Middle Tennessee chapter has 144 members. This includes 74 members who participate both locally and nationally; and 70 additional members who belong solely to our local chapter.

Lastly, our Co-VPs of Programs were Toby Cannon and Lynn Manzelmann. They coordinated chapter meeting throughout 2007. Our members and visiting guests had an opportunity to network and delve into a number of exciting topics including leadership, e-learning, and storytelling.

The chapter you serve appreciates your hard work and efforts.



The 2008 Middle Tennessee ASTD Chapter Board Members at the Holiday Breakfast Meeting & Golden Torch Award Ceremony

January Meeting Scheduled

The January Chapter meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, January 17, 2008.**

To kick-off the New Year, this meeting's focus will be **“Learning From Last Year's Winner”**.

Our presenters for the occasion will be the 2007 Golden Torch Award recipients, who will discuss their award-winning programs.

The meeting will take place from 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm at Goodwill Industries, 1015 Herman Street, Nashville, TN 37208.