

May 17, 2000 - Professional Development (Membership) Meeting

## IN THIS ISSUE

**APICS Tour**  
May 17 at Trek  
...Page 1

**President's Message**  
...Page 2

**APICS Application**  
...Page 3

**Job Posting**  
...Page 5

**CPIM Reconfiguration**  
...Page 5

**2000 Calendar**  
...Page 6



# May 17, 2000 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

## Topic: FREE Tour of the Trek Bicycle Plant

Our activity finale for the 1999 - 2000 season is a FREE tour of the Trek Bicycle plant at 801 West Madison Street, Waterloo, WI. Trek is a member of the Quick Response Manufacturing Consortium. We learned about the POLCA concept developed by the Center for QRM from Frank Rath, Associate Director, at our February 16, 2000 dinner meeting.

There is no luncheon or dinner meeting planned in addition to the tour.

The tour starts at 1 p.m. and may continue until 3 p.m. If you have difficulty finding the plant, call 800-879-8735 and ask for extension 3125, Tim Foreman, Production and Inventory Control Manager. We are indebted to Tim for arranging the tour for us.

Please register for the tour by calling the USA First answering service at 608-257-8756 between 9 AM and 5 PM no later than Friday, 12 May 2000. We owe Trek the courtesy of a headcount by Friday to schedule guides for the tour.

No activities are planned for June, July, and August. The 2000 - 2001 season will be announced in the September 2000 newsletter. I hope you enjoyed the activities you attended.



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# President's Message John Weisenberger, CPIM

This month our professional meeting is a tour of Trek Bicycle. Here is a grand opportunity to see how another company approaches the same issues you have at your company (or should we say the same opportunities). Just seeing the configuration and processes another company has created is always enlightening. You almost seem to learn by osmosis in this kind of situation.

"It is our choices that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities" (Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets). I came across this line and had to read it about ten times. It is not very often that I come across a line in a book that really grabs my attention. This line reflects so clearly what I have seen in the lives of others and personally experienced in my life, particularly in the world of work.

Conventional wisdom suggests that in order to get ahead we have to keep our head down, make no waves, do only what we are told, work hard, and success will come to us. This is the wisdom of the person whose only goal is to work in the same job (with no promotions and very little in the way of wage increases) for the same company and get the gold watch after 25 years of service.

Our work world is more like that of the turtle - the only time you get ahead is when you stick your neck out. We have a great advantage over the turtle - for us, failure is not fatal and failure cannot hurt us. It is not if we fail that makes the difference, rather it is how we respond to our failures. Good skiers tell us that until they fall down they are afraid of falling down - it is only after falling down that they can really relax and ski to their best ability.

So what does this have to do with me you might ask? The APICS Body of Knowledge is the collection of the wisdom and failures of a large group of normal people. At the edge of any body of knowledge is trial and error as the process of growth and enlightenment. At the edge of all the old maps of the world was the notation, "And Here There Be Dragons" usually complete with a drawing of a large mythical beast. At the edge of all knowledge, there be dragons; those things that the common man will fear like all those things that go bump in the night.

If you are reading this, I know that you are not just a common person. You may not have the all educational credentials of some of your peers. You do have an interest and capability to make a difference both in your life and in your value to your employer by the choices you make. If you look around, you can do as Tom Peters suggests, "Choose to make 1,000 things 1% better rather than 1 thing 1,000% better." If you only choose to make a single small improvement each working day you will have made 260 small improvements in a year of work days. And if you are normal like me, about two thirds of your attempts will be failures (from which you will learn and get value). And from the one third will come value far exceeding what you normally would have accomplished.

Live long, add value, and prosper.

*John*

## CPIM Reconfiguration: Transition Mapping

Because the curriculum is changing effective September 1, 2000, I wanted to share with you the information disclosed by APICS showing the steps you can take to finish your certification and not lose what you have already accomplished. It also maps out the future curriculum for those wishing to start the certification process now.

### 1) Already testing and plan to certify before September 2000

Candidates who wish to certify before September 2000 should continue taking six of the seven current exams to finish their certification.

### 2) Begin testing after September 2000

Any candidate who begins testing after September 1, 2000, will be required to take all five of the new exams: Basics of Supply Chain Management, Master Planning of Resources, Detailed Planning and Scheduling, Execution and Control of Operations, and Strategic Management of Resources.

### 3) Currently testing and plan to certify after September 2000

Candidates who are currently taking tests and plan to become certified after September 1, 2000 will have the following testing combinations to choose from to finish their certification.

#### *Step 1*

You must pass the Basics of Supply Chain Management exam.

#### *Step 2*

You must pass any two of the following three exams, or pass Execution and Control of Operation only.

- a. Just-in Time
- b. Production Activity Control
- c. Execution and Control of Operations

#### *Step 3*

You must pass one of the following pairs of exams:

##### Current Exams

- a. Inventory Management and Master Planning
- b. Inventory Management and Material and Capacity Requirements Planning
- c. Master Planning and Material and Capacity Requirements Planning

##### Combination Current Exams and New Exams

- a. Inventory Management and Master Planning of Resources
- b. Inventory Management and Detailed Planning and Scheduling
- c. Master Planning and Detailed Planning and Scheduling
- d. Material and Capacity Requirements Planning and Master Planning of Resources

##### New Exams

- a. Master Planning of Resources and Detailed Planning and Scheduling

#### *Step 4*

You must pass one of the following two exams:

- a. Systems and Technologies (current)
- b. Strategic Management of Resources (new)

After September 1, 2000, the original seven modules will no longer exist.

## 2000 Calendar

### FEBRUARY

- 10 NAPM Meeting; 6:00 at Sheraton Madison  
Negotiation/Communication  
-- Edie Raether
- 16 APICS Meeting; 5:30 at Sheraton Madison  
Technical

### MARCH

- 9 APICS will have a joint meeting with NAPM  
6:00 at Sheraton Madison  
Integrating the Buyer and Planner functions  
– Dave Robinson (Harley Dvdsn)

### APRIL

- 13 NAPM Meeting; 6:00 at Sheraton Madison  
TBA
- 19 APICS Meeting; 12:00 at Sheraton Madison  
Technical

### MAY

- 11 NAPM Meeting; 6:00 at Sheraton Madison  
TBA
- 17 APICS Plant Tour; Time to be determined  
Trek Bicycle Plant – Waterloo, WI

### JUNE

- 21 APICS Summer Planning Meeting, date and  
time to be confirmed

### JUNE, JULY, AUGUST

Summer Break - No Activity

### OCTOBER

- 22-25 APICS International Conference and Expo  
Orlando, FL

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