

## NEXT MEETING

**Thursday, March 20, 2003  
5:30 - 7:00 p.m. Sheraton Madison**

### Managing Obsolescence

*Presented by Randall Schaefer*

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Companies seeking to reduce obsolescence often lack internal agreements as to the conditions that make a part obsolete. This session will discuss why obsolescence is a subjective, not objective, judgment and describe a process to help make obsolescence decisions. Principles for avoiding obsolescence, alternatives for disposing of it, updating the database after disposition, and the surprising impact of obsolescence on the income statement will also be discussed.

This presentation was one of the highest rated presentations at the 1991 International APICS Conference. It was the only one selected for publication in a subsequent issue of the monthly APICS magazine. In 1992, the presentation won the Volkswagen Award for best presentation by a practitioner at the SAPICS (South African APICS affiliate) conference. At the request of APICS, the written version was updated and published again in the monthly magazine in 2002.

The speaker, Randall Schaefer, CPIM, is an Industrial Philosopher with 35 years of manufacturing management experience in diverse industries as automotive, capital equipment, farm machinery, and appliances. He has a degree in philosophy from the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point. He has been APICS certified for nearly 25 years and has done a tour of duty on APICS' CIRM test writing committee. Randall is a veteran APICS instructor who teaches APICS, CPIM, and CIRM review classes as well as his own seminars on inventory management, capacity management, and cycle counting. He has been a presenter at APICS international conferences as well as chapter meetings of APICS and other manufacturing based professional groups. Randall sits on the advisory board of APICS, *The Performance Advantage* magazine. He is a regular contributor of feature articles, and edits and contributes to the popular "Lessons Learned" feature on the last page of the magazine. He is co-author of the Society of Manufacturing Engineer's handbook, *Parts and Material Handling in Manufacturing*.

*Produced by*



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& company**

The menu is herb roasted half chicken with twice baked potato, salad, and dinner roll. The cost for both the speaker and dinner is \$30 for members, \$40 for non-members, and \$15 for students. Please **RSVP by noon on 3/19/03** at [www.madisonapics.org](http://www.madisonapics.org). Please contact Don Peters at 608.441.5916 with any questions.

# New Features Added to the Madison APICS Website

I hope you find the Madison APICS website features useful. The most recent addition is a forum section where you can login and post questions, comments, and solutions on manufacturing, quality control, inventory control, and information technology subjects.

The following sections can be accessed from the menu area in the upper part of each page and include:

**Home, About, Events, Classes, News, Jobs, Students, Members, Store, Links, Contacts, Login, and Forum**

Check the **Home** page for new information, cash winners, and current topics.

The **About** section is a brief overview of what APICS is. However, what it can be and its value to you depend on your active involvement. Networking, professional development, board leadership, and career advancement are all part of this involvement.

From the **Events** and **Classes** pages you can find information on upcoming activities. Maps, descriptions, links, and the ability to register and pay by credit card are available. Survey results from past events will give you an idea of the value attendees obtained from attending events.

The **Newsletter** page contains past copies of newsletters for your convenience. Newsletter distribution is entirely by email so, if you change your email address - *PLEASE* let us know. Send an email to [dba@madisonapics.org](mailto:dba@madisonapics.org).

The **Jobs** page is available for companies and agencies to post APICS part-time, full-time, or consulting related jobs. Got work? Let us know! Members and students can also post their resumes.

**Students** from UW-Madison, MATC, and surrounding schools, have an area to post information on their current activities. Information on case competitions, internships, and the Shadow program is available.

The **Member** section will allow you to see which companies have members and which members are current and have certifications. Convenient links to company websites are also available.

Check out our **Store** if you are looking for a high quality Land's End APICS shirt. We are working on getting the price decreased as our volume increases.

The **Links** section will direct you to other regional APICS groups. They have classes and events that you may find interesting.

The **Login** page allows you to see special areas and make changes to your local data, see your event attendance, and print a receipt (there will be more about this section in the near future).

The final page is the **Forum** section that I hope becomes a focal point of the website.

Any comments, suggestions, and interesting articles are appreciated - just send an email to [dba@madisonapics.org](mailto:dba@madisonapics.org).

Regards,

*Jim Spellman*

# APICS Members Accept Opportunity to Mentor Scholars during International Conference

As teachers in classrooms around the world testify, they do what they do because of the rewards they experience through the young people whose lives they touch every day. APICS members can have this same feeling of reward when they volunteer to serve as mentors to APICS student chapter members who attend the 2003 APICS International Conference and Exposition, October 6-9, in Las Vegas, Nevada. It is anticipated that between 25 and 30 undergraduate and graduate students will participate in the Scholars Education Program during the conference.

“As mentors, the APICS members meet one on one with the scholars throughout the conference to talk about APICS, what APICS has done for them personally, and to be that ‘friendly face,’” said Robert J. Vokurka, Ph.D., CFPIM, CIRM, Scholars Education Program chair. “What better way to have an impact on a young person than to be a mentor. Just a little time and involvement can make a significant difference in a young person’s life, career ambitions, and future leadership involvement with APICS.”

The eager, energetic scholars experience the conference because of the financial support of individuals and APICS chapters and regions through their earmarked donations to the APICS Educational and Research Foundation. They have the opportunity to explore careers in resource management, network with other students and APICS members, develop their organization skills, and attend APICS educational events.

Being a mentor benefits both the scholar and the mentor. According to Eric Somers, CPIM, his experience as a 2002 conference mentor “gave me a boost. All that youthful energy is contagious.” Somers served as mentor to Andrew Pung, the 2002 University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire APICS student chapter president, who expressed his gratitude for the mentor program, his conference experience,

and the role Somers played. “If you (Somers) take anything from our experience, know that you made an impact on my life. Being a mentor of any kind is honorable, and I hope you continue to share your wealth of knowledge with others,” said Pung.

“If an APICS chapter has an associated student chapter, participating as a mentor is an excellent way to further develop close ties between the parent and student chapters,” said Vokurka. “Supporting the scholars program helps develop our future leaders and strengthen the bond between parent and student chapters.”

The mentoring experience may begin at the APICS conference, but it doesn’t have to end there. This year, the Scholars Education Program Committee is working diligently to appoint a mentor from the same APICS region as the scholar to provide some commonality between the two based on geography. “We hope that the two will stay in contact. We would like to provide more than just a three- or four-day conference experience. A continuing mentoring process would even better prepare students for a career in resource management and APICS leadership,” said Vokurka. “Young people are extremely energetic and sometimes only need a little direction. The direction provided by the mentor may last throughout the young person’s working career,” said Vokurka.

APICS members:

Please accept this invitation to take this leadership role as a mentor to help a student scholar realize the value of the APICS community. After all, these scholars are tomorrow’s APICS leaders. To learn more about the Scholars Education Program and the opportunity to become a scholar mentor, visit <http://www.apics.org/Conf&Expo/scholars/mentors.asp>.

# Calendar

## March

- 4 Board Meeting  
5:30 p.m. (TBD)
- 20 APICS dinner meeting  
5:30 p.m. - at the Sheraton,  
speaker is Randall Schaefer -  
*Managing Obsolescence*
- 28 April Newsletter Articles Due

## April

- 1 Board Meeting  
5:30 p.m. (TBD)
- 17 APICS Tour meeting  
5:30 p.m. Tour at Electronic  
Theater Controls
- 25 May Newsletter Articles Due

## May

- 6 Board Meeting  
5:30 p.m.
- 15 APICS dinner meeting  
5:30 p.m. (TBD)
- 27 June Newsletter Articles Due

## June

- 3 Board Meeting  
5:30 p.m.
- 15 APICS Tour meeting  
5:30 p.m. (TBD)

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Visit the website: [www.madisonapics.org](http://www.madisonapics.org) and see pictures from the APICS Region 14 Meeting in Michigan City, IN

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## Job Postings

VP Supply Chain  
Inventory Planner  
Logistics Shift Leader  
Supply Chain Manager

See the website for more details

## Welcome - New Members

1/10/03 - Werner Wysznewskij

1/14/03 - Swaminathan Balachandran

1/29/03 - Linda Nygaard

## Be a Winner!

We are giving away \$20 at each PDM or Tour to an active member. The name will be drawn from a complete list of members. (You must be present to win.) If an individual's name is drawn and they are not present, the money will go back into the pot to grow. At each meeting the pot will grow by \$20 until there is a winner. At that time, we will start back at \$20. Check out the monthly newsletter for information on the winners and/or potential winnings for next time.

There was no winner of the drawing at the tour of Walgreens's. The next drawing is up to \$40.

