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Subject: November 2012 - IIBA MSP NewsLine and Event Reminder
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IIBA[®] MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL
Chapter
Grow - Connect - Evolve
NewsLine

November 2012

Book of the Month



Upcoming December 13th Chapter Special Meeting
"Is Your Organization Project Capable?"
How to Assess Organizational Readiness
by Stevie Peterson, PMP
and our Chapter's annual "Toys for Tots" drive!

Dear Gail,

Organization change starts with assessing the organization's ABILITY to change. It is critical to complete an organizational readiness assessment quickly and reliably. And you, as the BA, do not have all day! This interactive seminar will introduce four practical tools to rapidly assess the organization's ability to change.

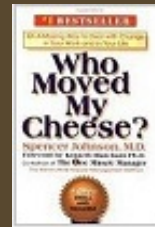
[<Click here Read more about this upcoming event and please register prior to NOON on DEC 7th>](#)

Make note of these special points of interest for our December meeting!

- Please join us for networking prior to the DEC meeting from 5:30 to 6:00PM.
- We encourage all attendees to make a reservation and join us for dinner served at 6pm. Please make your reservation for dinner when you register for the meeting. If you have already registered for the meeting, dinner reservations can be made by email and you pay as you check-in. Please note dinner registrations must be made prior to the meeting and dinners include entree choice only; salad and soup is a separate option to choose.
- Dessert and warm beverages will be provided at our DEC meeting by the IIBA MSP Chapter for all attendees at this meeting, regardless if you ordered dinner (no appetizers will be provided).
- The presentation by Stevie Peterson will start at 6:30pm.
- Bring a new, unwrapped toy for our annual Toy Drive, benefiting Toys for Tots.
- Santa himself will make an appearance at this event!! "Have you been a good BA this year?" If so, maybe Santa will have a gift for you. However, if you've skipped traceability or missed requirements, it may be a lump of coal for you. All in good fun, please join us for some winter cheer.

President's Pick of the Month

"Who Moved My Cheese?"
by Spencer Johnson, M.D.



This book is an international bestseller on the New York Times, USA Today, Wall St. Journal, and Business Week bestseller lists. It has become an instant classic in leading organizations across the nation regarding "what it is each of us wants in life." The author, Spencer Johnson, has become well known for the way in which he addresses complex subjects and creates simple solutions. "Who Moved My Cheese?" is a simple parable that is as relevant today as when it was written in 1998. It has been translated into more than forty-two languages and in 2004 was made into a video for which it won the Telly Award. The author has used mice as main

November 8th Chapter meeting was a HUGE Success!

Many important things took place at our Chapter's annual general meeting held each year in November.

A new Board of Directors was voted into place for 2013. See the article below in this newsletter and the [IIBA MSP Website](#) for more details.

The highlight of the evening was Bob the BA's special presentation, "Requirements Elicitation in Crisis!", including many of your past and current board members cast in starring roles. Bob's slide presentation is available on the IIBA Website at the link below.



In addition to his presentation, Bob Prentiss was honored as he officially retired from the Board of Directors, after years of continual service, going all the way back to our chapter's inception. The level of success our chapter has attained today is due very much to the flawless hard work and dedication Bob provided over the years. He will be missed as a board member, but we know we will still see him at meetings as his schedule permits. Thank you, Bob!

<[Click here for the November 8th slide presentation](#)>

NEW! Three-Part Webinar Series sponsored by IIBA MSP Chapter on "Sharpening Your Soft Skills", Hosted by Hollstadt & Associates and presented by John Kaman, PhD

Part 1 of 3 was Nov 7th: "Emotional Intelligence, Understanding Personal Motivators and How They Drive Behavior"

Your IIBA MSP chapter is offering a series of valuable Webinar's on sharpening your BA soft skills as part of the chapter goal for outreach. These Webinars are being hosted by Hollstadt and Associates (www.hollstadt.com) with John Kamen of White Water Coaching & Consulting, Ltd. as presenter (www.pmascoach.com).



The first in this three part series was offered on November 7, 2012 and focused on "Emotional Intelligence, Understanding Personal Motivators and How They Drive Behavior".

<[Click here for the audio of the November 7th Webinar!](#)>

Save the two dates below and watch this newsletter and event reminder emails pointing you to where you register for these upcoming Webinars. And please make sure you register early as registration is limited and attendance at the first Webinar was filled.

- Jan 23, 2013 Webinar title: Tools for Managing Successful Change - "Helping people & organizations adapt to change"
 - Watch for future email with Webinar details and registration link.
- March 13, 2013 Webinar title: The Art of Negotiation - "Knowing what you want and a strategy to get it"
 - Watch for future email with Webinar details and registration link.

SAVE the date of April 15, 2013 on your calendars!! IIBA MSP/St. Paul Chapter is sponsoring Business Analyst Professional Development Days (PDD)

This is the premier industry event sponsored each year by the IIBA Minneapolis/Saint Paul Chapter. Learn from industry leaders in hands-on presentations, hear motivational keynote speakers and network with Business Analysts from all around the region.

Registration opens in February and make sure to register immediately as last year's registration sold out more than a month in advance of the event.

characters and the metaphor of a maze to share the idea of how every decision can lead to new opportunities. This parable shares great insights that can be used for a lifetime.

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Watch this newsletter and the IIBA MSP Website (www.iibamsp.org) for upcoming details on registration.

Target Corporation hosted November Breakfast Meeting Well Attended and Upcoming Breakfast Meeting to be Announced

Given the overwhelming response to the November 2nd breakfast meeting presentation by Target Corporation, another breakfast meeting is being planned for early 2013,.

Planning is in progress so watch this newsletter and the IIBA MSP Website (www.iibamsp.org) for upcoming details on registration.

For Business Analysts who were unable to attend the Nov 2nd Target presentation:

[<Click here for the Target Nov 2nd Presentation>](#)

New IIBA MSP Chapter Board in Place for 2013!

The Annual General Meeting elections were held during the monthly MSP chapter meeting on November 8th. Several new IIBA MSP members were elected into Board of Director positions while other board members were elected to continue in their current positions for another term.

New 2013 IIBA MSP Chapter Board of Director members are as follows:

- Paul Crosby (PMP) - Chapter President
- Alba Misner - Chapter President-Elect position and VP of Sponsorship
- Jean Smith - VP of Membership
- Tom Lutz (CBAP) - VP of Technology
- Deb Winter (MBA) - VP of Marketing
- Cheryl Pagel (CBAP) - Secretary
- Jeanne Roffee - VP of Professional Development
- Bill Bates - Treasurer.

New roles were added to the Board of Directors for 2013 and were filled as follows:

- Nancy Turnball (CBAP) - Director of Social Media
- Jen Swearingen - VP of International Projects.

Continuing in their current Board positions for another term in 2013 are as follows:

- Jen Battan - VP of Events
- Tim Firnstahl - VP of Outreach
- Gail Toussaint (CBAP) - VP of Communication
- Diane Moench (PMP) - VP of Rochester Chapter Branch
- Mindy Duvernet - Past President as the succession of president's marches on!

There are two openings for the 2013 yet to be filled:

- VP of St. Cloud Chapter Branch
- Director of Registration & Merchandise.

IIBA MSP chapter could not successfully serve all of our members without volunteers and anyone is encouraged to volunteer today!

IIBA MSP Chapter Sponsor Recognition and Gratitude

As we celebrate our announcement as the number one IIBA chapter in the world and, as we prepare for the holidays, our thoughts are drawn to all that our humble chapter has for which to be thankful.

Our deepest gratitude goes out to our valued sponsors who help make this chapter a success. Our sponsors sustain our efforts and enable all of the great events brought to you throughout the year.

Most notably, without our sponsors we would not be the largest BA conference provider in the state!

Thank you 2012 Sponsors for a wonderful year...here's to planning ahead for 2013!

Our 2012 Sponsors:

PLATINUM Level Sponsors:

- U of M College of Continuing Education

GOLD Level Sponsors:

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- Beacon Hill
- Fissure
- Genesis 10
- Hollstadt and Associates
- Horizontal Integration
- IS Leaders
- ITR Group
- SafeNet Consulting
- Star Collaborative
- Target Corporation
- Trissential
- Watermark Learning

CORPORATE Level Sponsors:

- Benchmark Learning
- Genesis 10
- Keyot
- Target Corporation

Watch for the new 2013 Sponsorship package to be released in early December - including an exclusive offers for the IIBA MSP PDD - April 15th, 2013!

IIBA MSP Chapter Wins "Top Chapter of the World" Award!

IIBA International VP of Chapters, Neil Bazley, announced the global winners for the 2012 IIBA Chapter Awards at the BBC (Building Business Capabilities) Conference in Fort Lauderdale FL, held during the last week of October.

Awards were given out to IIBA chapters across the world in six categories.

The IIBA Minneapolis St Paul Chapter took **1st Place** in following two categories:

- Top Chapter (Note: this is out of 120+ chapters worldwide)
- Community Involvement



Our chapter also **placed 2nd** in the following three categories:

- Advancement of Business Analysis
- Sustainable Growth
- Innovation!

Our chapter is very proud to be recognized by IIBA International as the top chapter out of 120+ chapters worldwide. A lot of hard work went into achieving these awards and we celebrated at the November monthly chapter meeting with plenty of cake and balloons!

[<Click here to read more details!>](#)

"Storytelling Techniques for Capturing Effective Requirements!"



by Mindy Duvernet; Chapter President

Since the beginning of time, mankind has enjoyed a good storyteller. A story that is simple and compelling can change lives and offer new perspectives on solving problems that the listener, or reader, may never have otherwise considered.

Stories provide a view of someone else's challenges and ways in which a series of events can either make for a tragic end, or show how certain choices can make things right. Telling a good story is the best way to convey a message to inspire. So, as a business analyst what does the process of building a narrative do when trying to put a voice to the business needs as requirements are captured and documented?

[<Click here to read more!>](#)

December Toy Drive - "Toys for Tots!"

Bring a new, unwrapped toy to the December 13th IIBA Chapter meeting and get into the December 8th chapter meeting for free.

The IIBA MSP Chapter has been holding this annual Toys For Tots drive for several years and each year the pile of toys grows larger!



Please help to make this year the best year yet for giving to those tots who are in need of new toys!

Monetary donations will also be accepted!



November Quote of the Month

"Do the difficult things while they are easy and do the great things while they are small. A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step" by Lao Tzu; 6th century BC philosopher of ancient China, author of the "I Ching"; also known as the Book of Changes

IIBA Minneapolis - St. Paul Chapter

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