



# APLN Houston News

August 2008

## Events

### 9/10 - Chapter Meeting - 5:30pm

Join us at [HESS Club](#) to hear **Mike Cottmeyer** discuss the mission of the APLN and how it is being translated into action at the national and local levels. Mike will share his experience as an active board member, his insights from starting the local Atlanta chapter, and his own thoughts on the future of APLN and Agile Leadership. Please RSVP to [info@APLNHouston.org](mailto:info@APLNHouston.org)

### 9/29 - APM Training Event - 8:30am

Join **Michele Sliger** for this two-day workshop which will guide traditionally trained software development project managers who want to make the transition to an agile project management approach. A mapping of the *PMBOK® Guide* practices to agile practices will help students see how the two relate, and how they differ. Register [Here](#)

### 10/08 - Chapter Meeting - 5:30pm

Speaker program to be announced.

### 11/12 - Chapter Meeting - 5:30pm

Join us for a change of pace at this **Open Space** meeting.

### 12/09 - APLNH/PMIH Meeting - 5:30pm

Join us at this first joint APLN Houston/PMI Houston meeting event and learn about the Basics of Scrum from [Peter Borsella](#).

## APLN Atlanta Leadership Summit - September 25-26, 2008

Our sister chapter in Atlanta is hosting the APLN Leadership Summit. The summit targets both new and seasoned Agile leaders . and targets both organizational leaders, product leaders,

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and project leaders. This is your chance to spend a whole day with some of the leading experts in the area of Agile Leadership, to network with other agile leaders and to share your experiences and concerns with those who are in the same situation as yourself. Details of the summit and registration information can be found at <http://summit.aplnatlanta.org/>.

## Do You Have An Agile Experience to Share?

Is your company using or adopting agile methods? APLN Houston is looking for local speakers to share their experiences; What worked? What did not? What is the current state of your adoption? What do you know now that you wish you knew at the start?

If you or someone at your company is interested in speaking at a future APLN Houston meeting please contact [Robbie Mac Iver](#) or [Ron Whitebread](#).



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## ***PMI Houston Conference, E3 – Efficiency, Excellence, and Environmentally Conscientious Oct 27-31***

The Project Management Institute, Houston Chapter (PMIH), invites you to an exciting educational event **October 27 & 28** for project managers, project coordinators, program managers, business analysts, team leaders, and mid- to upper-level managers. Day one opens with a top-notch key note address from [Sam Tyler](#). *How to Transition from Good to Great*.

Educational sessions follow, and the day closes with a relaxing, networking and vendor expo reception. Three full-day, post-conference workshops on **October 29, 30, and 31** offer expanded learning opportunities.

APLNH is also working with the conference committee to select speakers addressing Agile Leadership. Topping the list will be APLN Board Members [Todd Little](#) and [Pollyanna Pixton](#) presenting a 1-day workshop *Leading Change through Collaboration*. [Stacia Broderick](#), co-author of *The Software Project Manager's Bridge to Agility*, will also be presenting a 1-day workshop *An Introduction to Scrum*.

For more information visit the [2008 PMI Houston Conference & Expo web site](#).

## ***What is Open Space?***

In November we will be doing something a little different, perhaps a little unorthodox, and hopefully a little fun. Based on the theme *The Future of APLN Houston*, we will conduct an Open Space Meeting to hear and discuss your ideas about what you want the group to be. In an Open Space meeting, participants create and manage their own agenda of parallel working

sessions around a central theme of strategic importance.

The sessions have four principles:

- ❖ Whoever comes are the right people.
- ❖ Whatever happens is the only thing that could have.
- ❖ When it starts is the right time.
- ❖ When it's over it's over.

*Open Space works best when the work to be done is complex, the people and ideas involved are diverse, the passion for resolution (and potential for conflict) are high, and the time to get it done was yesterday. It's been called passion bounded by responsibility, the energy of a good coffee break, intentional self-organization, spirit at work, chaos and creativity, evolution in organization, and a simple, powerful way to get people and organizations moving -- when and where it's needed most.*

Come help us experiment and learn about these techniques and at the same time plot the future of APLN Houston.

More information can be found at [OpenSpaceWorld.org](#).

### ***APLN Houston Contacts***

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***Please pass this on to your friends  
and co-workers***