

APLN Houston Events

3/18/10 – APLNH Chapter Meeting – 6:00pm

The 25 Minute Sprint: The Pomodoro Technique and Agility

Every once in a while someone comes up with a novel perspective on how to solve challenging problems. The Pomodoro Technique relies on the Agile concepts of a simple process, simple tools, sustainable pace and reflection to *manage time* more effectively. This session will introduce the core concepts of the Pomodoro Technique and include an exercise in which everyone will participate in a Pomodoro/sprint.



Tony Akins has spent over 25 years in the software industry in R&D, direct marketing and sales, product development, training and development, project

management, process improvement and technology transition. He is currently the Director of Software at Behavioral Recognition Systems.

For more info and to register go to:
<http://www.aplnhouston.org/>

4/15/10 – APLNH Chapter Meeting – 6:00pm

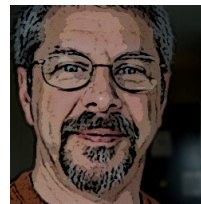
Facilitation Patterns and Antipatterns

Facilitation skills are essential for anyone who works on a team, manages an organization, or otherwise works with others. **Steven “Doc” List** will lead APLNH to explore the common patterns & antipatterns that come up in facilitation. We'll take on roles and explore behaviors that work or don't. The session will include specific activities and techniques used for effective facilitation.

After a short presentation on the fundamentals of facilitation and an introduction to Patterns and Antipatterns, small group discussions will start.

Each person will represent a pattern/antipattern, and participants will then identify other group member's pattern/antipattern by name after the discussion. This will be followed by large group discussion, of experience and with discussion of how to deal with, encourage, discourage, or otherwise address that pattern/antipattern.

Steven “Doc” List is a principal consultant with ThoughtWorks. Doc's focus is on organizational transformation and agile adoption, including coaching, assessment, and training.



Doc is an experienced software professional who has worked on all types of hardware and operating systems, multiple languages and environments. He is a recognized expert Open Space facilitator.

For more info and to register go to:
<http://www.aplnhouston.org/>

Meeting Logistics

APLN Houston monthly meetings are at **Sysco**. Networking is at 6 PM, program from 6:30-7:30. Parking is available in front of both **Sysco** buildings (1370 & 1390 Enclave Parkway). If both lots are full, please go to parking garage behind the 1390 **Sysco** building (off Forkland Drive.) Press the call button for entry into garage to park and come in building back door (look for APLN sign) or walk around the street to the front entrance of 1390 (if back door is locked.)

Other Agile Events

Agile Conferences



Join the **Lean Software & Systems Consortium** for their inaugural conference in Buckhead (Atlanta) **April 21-23, 2010**. This is the first formal

community event of the broad based community forming around application of Lean Thinking to software development and systems engineering. For details visit: <http://atlanta2010.leanssc.org/>



Two great **SQE** conferences are co-located at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas **June 6-11, 2010**.

Register for one and attend both! See more at:
<http://sqe.com/conferences>



The premier event will be **Agile 2010** held this year at the Gaylord Opryland Resort in Nashville **August 9-13, 2010**.
<http://agile2010.agilealliance.org/>

3/22-3/23/2010 - Certified ScrumMaster Training with Sanjiv Augustine - Houston, TX

Use code **APLN** to get a 20% discount at http://www.lithespeed.com/CSM_Detail.htm.

3/24-3/25/10 Certified Scrum Product Owner Training with Sanjiv Augustine - Houston, TX

Lithespeed's Product Owner certification course provides everything you need to be an effective customer to a Scrum team.

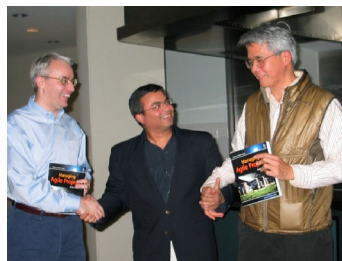
Use code **APLN** to get a 20% discount at www.lithespeed.com/CPO_Detail.htm

6/14-6/16/10 – PMI Houston Conference, George R Brown Convention Center

Program includes an Agile track of sessions. For info or to register: www.pmi-houston.org/

February Meeting

Another large crowd joined **Sanjiv Augustine** in February to hear about scaling Agile PMOs through adaptive governance.



Congratulations to **Philip Lorenzo** and **Chen Sun** on winning copies of Sanjiv's book **Managing Agile Projects**.

Helpful Resources

Join and participate in our LinkedIn Group today! Check out discussions and JOBS Listings



PDF copies of 2009-2010 APLNH presentations www.aplnhouston.org/chapter-meetings/past-meetings

Podcasts

Lean-Agile Straight Talk by Net Objectives
<http://www.netobjectives.com/taxonomy/term/38>

Beyond the Team by Sanjiv Augustine
<http://lithespeed.blogspot.com/2009/04/podcast-beyond-team.html>

Blogs

Large Scale Agile by James Shore
<http://jamesshore.com/Blog/Large-Scale-Agile.html>

More blogs/resources at www.aplnhouston.org



Thanks to Our 2010 Sponsors

Please join **APLNH** in thanking the following sponsors for their generous support.



APLNH appreciates **Sysco's** continuing support in hosting our meetings again in 2010.

Sponsorship opportunities are available.

Contact a member of the leadership team at info@aplnhouston.org or see www.aplnhouston.org/sponsors.

Growing APLN Houston in 2010

APLN Houston is initiating **APLN To Go**, seeking more Houston locations to host special events such as Waste Management last year. Contact the leadership team at info@aplnhouston.org if you'd like to host an **APLN To Go** or get involved as a volunteer.

APLN Houston Newsletter Editors

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Send announcements, Agile events or articles to Newsletter@APLNHouston.org