

APLN Houston Events

5/18-5/19/2010 — Houston, TX 8:30am – 5pm

Innovation Games® Come To Houston

Working in partnership with **Kumido Adaptive Strategies** and **Innovations Games, Inc.**, **APLN Houston** is hosting the first ever **Innovation Games®** training event in Houston! Join **Derek Wade** to learn this powerful set of collaborative analysis techniques. The games can be used to help agile teams improve their products -- and their processes -- without heavy analysis, quantitative research, or other "big effort up front" methods that slow teams down. For course description and registration see <http://aplnhouston.org/component/content/article/132-innovation-gamesr-come-to-houston>

5/20/10 – APLNH Chapter Meeting – 6:00pm

An Agile Panel On Agility

In May you will be in the driver's seat. Where on the road to agility do you want to drive to? **Todd Little** and a panel of his colleagues are willing to go along to discuss your questions, your concerns, and your issues. Don't miss this chance to learn from the experience of some of Houston's leading agile practitioners.

Panelists Include:

- **Todd Little** - Sr. Development Manager for Landmark Graphics Corp.
- **Prakash Roopani** - Development Manager at Petris Technology, Inc.
- **Steve Webb** - Account Manager at Computer Modeling Group
- **Gene Lege** - Senior Program Manager at Landmark Graphics
- **Ahsan Rahi** – Project Management & Quality Advisor

In our March meeting, Todd gathered some initial discussion topics for the panel. If you want to suggest additional topics send us a note at info@aplnhouston.org. During the networking period participants will prioritize discussion questions using dot voting. Register at: <http://aplnhouston.org/chapter-meetings/upcoming-meetings/86-apln-houston-chapter-meeting-may-20-2010-600pm>

6/17/10 – APLNH Chapter Meeting – 6:00pm

Lean Program Management: Principles, Practices and Tools for Accelerating Value Delivery

In this session, Dr. Julian will provide a framework and toolset for systematically accelerating delivery at the project, program and portfolio levels. Drawing on over 15 years of experience working with teams to deploy lean principles, participants will have the opportunity to learn how some of the best project-based organizations in the world are using these practices to reduce cycle time, improve quality and develop a high performing learning organization that continuously improves from one phase, iteration and project to the next.

Dr. Jerry Julian is President & CEO of Julian Advisory Group, an operations & technology performance improvement firm founded in 2001. He has helped hundreds of teams in both blue-chip and startup companies alike. As Vice



President at Rath & Strong, a leading global consultancy in the field of lean operations improvement, he served as Master Black Belt Coach and engagement lead. He is the author of the

book "Facilitating Project Performance Improvement: A Practical Guide to Multi-Level Learning." His ongoing research focuses on learning and continuous improvement in project-based organizations with particular emphasis on the application of lean and agile principles.

Please register at:

<http://aplnhouston.org/chapter-meetings/upcoming-meetings/140-apln-houston-chapter-meeting-june-17-2010-600pm>

Chapter Meeting Logistics

APLN Houston monthly meetings are at **Sysco**. Networking is at 6 PM, program from 6:30-7:30. Park in front of **either Sysco** buildings (1370 & 1390 Enclave Parkway). If front lots are full, park on the street along Forkland Drive and walk around the street to the front entrance of 1390.

6/03/10 – APLNH To Go Woodlands – 6:00pm

An Introduction to Agile Software Development

Location: Hewitt Associates, 2601 Research Forest Drive, The Woodlands, TX 77380

Agile methods have moved into the mainstream over the past few years. Industry leaders have discovered that, implemented appropriately, agile accelerates project delivery times, increases customer and employee satisfaction, and provides flexibility to changes in business requirements.



Sanjiv Augustine, President of LitheSpeed, will introduce Agile methods in this session and discuss the rationale for adopting Agile.

For information and registration see <http://aplnhouston.org/apln-houston-to-go>

Other Agile Events

Agile Conferences



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>

Agile Connect 2010 - June 9-10

Online Conference and Exposition for Agile Development Keynote presentations will be simulcast live from the Agile Development Practices|West conference in Las Vegas. <http://www.agilejournal.com/agileconnect>



Agile 2010 Relocated

In an amazing display of agility Agile2010 was relocated due to the flooding in Nashville. The conference will now be held on the same dates, **August 9-13**, at The Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort in **Orlando, FL**. See <http://agile2010.org>.

5/24-5/26/2010 – Certified ScrumMaster Workshop - Houston, TX

ASPE CSM course Discount code **EBS1800**
<http://aspeinc.com/Magento/index.php/course-catalog/certified-scrummaster-workshop.html>

6/14-6/16/2010 – Practical Product Management - Austin, TX

Learn to analyze critical product management and marketing activities in detail using the [Pragmatic Marketing Framework](#). For registration details please click [here](#).

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.pmihouston.org/

APLN Houston April Chapter Meeting

Speed Boat, Product Box, Buy a Feature...

which of these Innovation Games® will help you through you next requirements or process improvement dilemma. Many thanks to **Derek Wade** for signing on to our April meeting at the last minute and helping us understand that playing games can accomplish serious work.



APLN National Website Reborn



www.APLN.org has been reborn as a collaborative Ning site Sign-up today, it's free! Expand your APLN horizons to chapters all across the United States and beyond. Ask and answer questions; Participate in discussions; See what is happening in other chapters: Check-out APLN events as you travel.

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.

Please join us in thanking **Hewitt Associates** for their generous support in hosting the June **APLNH To Go** Woodlands.

Sponsorship opportunities are available

Contact a member of the leadership team at leaders@aplnhouston.org or see our new Sponsorship Program information at: www.aplnhouston.org/sponsors.

Growing APLN Houston in 2010

APLN Houston reaches more milestones:



The **APLN Houston** leadership team has completed the process of incorporating as a Texas nonprofit corporation.

APLN Houston Volunteers

One of our 2010 objectives for **APLN Houston** is to enhance volunteerism by broadening the range of volunteer activities available to chapter members and ensuring that those who choose to invest their time in APLN have a great experience in return. If you would like to get involved please contact Jaynee at volunteers@APLNHouston.org.

For <http://aplnhouston.org/volunteers>

Helpful Resources

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



Speaker presentations

PDF copies of 2009-2010 **APLN Houston** presentations www.aplnhouston.org/chapter-meetings/past-meetings. Note that all speakers are able to share their presentation material with us.

Webinars

Ron Lichty and **Greg Cohen** will be presenting **Real World Strategies for Prioritizing the Product Backlog** on 5/14:

http://www.aipmm.com/aipmm_webinars/2010/04/real-world-strategies-for-prioritizing-the-product-backlog.php

Net Objectives: Team Agility: Scrum or Kanban?

<http://www.netobjectives.com/resources/webinars/bdsd-session-4-team-agility-scrum-kanban>

Next session: Essential Skills for the Agile Developer is on June 16.

<http://www.netobjectives.com/free-seminar-schedule/session-5-bdsd-essential-skills-agile-developer-jun-2010-webinar>

Blogs and other Agile Resources:

See the **APLNH** website: www.aplnhouston.org

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