

Conference Call Highlights

April 8, 2011

Please note: the Community Involvement Group Conference Call time is now **12pm -12:30pm on the second Friday of each month. Toll-free dial-in number: (888) 295-6951, Conference code: 7851936107. Our next call is May 13th.** Add this to your calendar as a recurring appointment to keep up on the latest volunteer opportunities and community involvement projects.

- ☑ Thanks to Jennifer Williams for a great update on the Habitat Computer Training. She has some great anecdotal information about the impact the computers and training have had on these Habitat homeowners and she'll share this in our newsletter. So far this year, Atlanta ASTD has been able to provide training to more families than all of last year – this impact is tremendous!
- ☑ The Food drive continues to be a success – thanks to everyone who has contributed, we are almost halfway to our annual goal! Great job by Susan Johnson in coordinating the food drive and the Hunger Walk!

Habitat Computer Training

Habitat for Humanity Homeowner basic computer education classes are held every month until the end of the year. We need instructors once each month as well as “technology partners” to assist during the classes.

Upcoming class dates:

- ☑ Saturday, May 14, 1-5 pm
- ☑ Tuesday, June 21, 5-9 pm
- ☑ Saturday, July 30, 1-5pm
- ☑ Saturday, August 13, 1-5pm
- ☑ Tuesday, September 27, 5-9pm
- ☑ Saturday, October 8, 1-5pm
- ☑ More dates to come...

Mark your calendars and plan to help with the training. Please [email](#) Jennifer Williams, the ASTD Habitat Project Manager, to get involved. Sign up for one or multiple dates.

Interesting Stats for the Habitat Homeowner Computer Training Program

Homeowner Participation:

- ☑ 2010: 42
- ☑ 2011:44 YTD
- ☑ 2011 Goal : 144

ASTD Volunteer Hours:

- ☑ 2010: 180 hours
- ☑ 2011: 240 hours YTD
- ☑ 2011 Goal: 720

Habitat Program Goals:

- ☑ Create professionally designed and easy to use Instructor and Participant Guides for facilitators and students.
- ☑ To create a national model that can be duplicated across the country at other Habitat Offices.

ASTD Integration Goals:

- ☑ Create professionally designed and easy to use Instructor and Participant Guides for facilitators and students.
- ☑ Develop a Train the Trainer Program for the course in order to develop a strong stable of facilitators.
- ☑ Leverage the Habitat training program as a resource to ASTD members seeking facilitation experience as a part of the CPLP certification.

One Family's Story:

One of the Habitat families wrote us that the computer has given her family many opportunities – one daughter gets online help with homework, the mother has used it to find a better job and another daughter is taking an online class. They used to go to the library but now can accomplish all these tasks rather than just choose one!

Sound interesting? We would love to have you on our ASTD team of volunteers. For more information email [Jennifer Williams](#), the Habitat Project Chair.

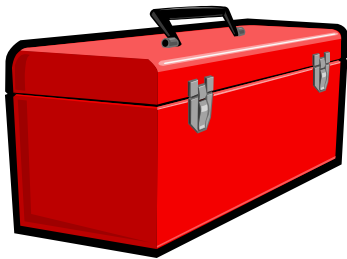
ASTDATLCIG Website

Check out the ASTD Atlanta Community Involvement Group (ASTDATLCIG) [website](#) for easy to access volunteer information, newsletter archives, training documents, templates, and much more.



Want to read a previous edition of the Group's newsletter? Visit the archives and download newsletters at our [ASTD ATL CIG newsletter](#) archive page.

Cool Tools



Add some of these creative & training tools to your toolbox. Have some you would care to share? [Email](#) them to us and they will be included in a future issue.

This month's tool was contributed by Dawn Gartin, Social Mediaologist and ASTD Atlanta Member.

Facebook Groups: A free, fun tool for trainers

Recently I was sent overseas to give technical training to a group of customer support reps. I wanted to make a connection with the participants before I arrived and knew just the tool to make it happen--Facebook. I didn't need to "friend" everyone; I just created a Closed Group and then let everyone know they could join the group by sending them an email with a link to the group.

Before I arrived, I used the group space to ask get-to-know-you questions. I also posted resources around the material we would be discussing, so if they wanted to do pre-work, they could. Once I arrived, I used the space as a white board to collect questions, tips and ideas around the material we discussed in training. This worked particularly well as the participants didn't always speak up or ask questions in class. By having a place to write out questions, as well as reinforce the learning, I could check-in to make sure the information was "sticking."

Before I left we all posted pictures and reminisced of the time in training on the group page. Not only did we learn, but we built relationships. And, we have kept those relationships going through the miles and time zones. I post hellos and material updates and they post follow up questions and new ideas. It wasn't just two weeks of on-site training for me; it was finding new ways to make the training experience a better one for all involved.

I wrote this article from the Philippines, where I have returned to give training once more to the same group of

support reps. It is a delight to still be connected and be able to pick up right where we left off.

If you want to take a peek at the closed group and how we used it, I am happy to share. Just send me a message through Facebook to <http://www.facebook.com/dgartin>.

--contributed by Dawn Gartin

Food Drive Stats



Don't forget to bring canned food items to every ASTD meeting you attend throughout the year, including SIG's and GIG's.

We need volunteers!

First of all, what's the **WIIFY** (*what's in it for you*)? Although you don't get paid for your efforts, the non-monetary rewards are many. Add to your existing job skills, network, and make a difference within the community. If you know an organization that could benefit from our members' workplace training and performance expertise, [email](#) us.

Our Community Involvement Group has partnerships with many different organizations in the Atlanta Metro area, ranging from Atlanta Habitat for Humanity to the Atlanta Community Food Bank to Dress for Success. Some of the opportunities are on-going and some are one-time events. In addition, the Chapter's SIGs and GIGs have many volunteer positions available. You can find information listed on the [ASTD Atlanta website](#). Or email [Cecil Fricano](#), VP of Community Involvement.

P.S.

Follow the Greater Atlanta Chapter on [Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#). You can also join our **ASTD Community Involvement LinkedIn group**, a subgroup of ASTD Greater Atlanta to view the latest news from the group, post your news, ask questions, and keep up with the conversation.

We need reporters! Are you attending an ASTD SIG or GIG event? Attending a volunteer event? Share your pictures and give us a [brief update](#) to be included in a future newsletter. Share your excitement about volunteering with the rest of the Chapter!

Group members are always welcome to submit news, articles, and information for distribution in the group news at any time!

"See" you next month!