

The Latest News from

ASTD Greater Atlanta, Community Involvement Group

Karen Sieczka, Communications Manager



NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2010

Happy Thanksgiving! We are thankful for the wonderful group of volunteers at ASTD Atlanta. We couldn't accomplish our goals without your support.

Got news? [Submit](#) your news to share with our group.

CONFERENCE CALL HIGHLIGHTS

November 19, 2010

- ✓ **Cecil Fricano** gave an update on the November Habitat for Atlanta Computer Training events which were a huge success—our volunteers already completed two sessions with good feedback and are going to conduct more classes for Habitat homeowners to get computer savvy. We need trainers as well as floaters to assist for upcoming December training: Saturday, December 4th from 1-5pm and Tuesday, December 7th, from 5-9pm. If you want to get involved, email [Cecil](#).

Thank you to everyone who participated in the November training! Many folks contributed to the facilitation, content, and participated in the instruction and training. A big thank you to the folks who contributed including:

The following ASTD Atlanta members participated in the Saturday, November 6th training session:

- Jennifer Williams
- Stephen Joachim
- Jennifer Day
- Tiffany Smith
- Tonette White
- Cecil Fricano



ASTD Atlanta members train Habitat homeowners to use their computers

The following ASTD Atlanta members participated in the Wednesday, November 10th training session:

- Christy Jones
- Lynn Harrison
- Cecil Fricano
- Tiffany B. Smith
- Jennifer Williams
- Cindy Smith

These people contributed to developing the materials for the training

- Jennifer Williams
- Stephen Joachim
- Jennifer Day
- Tiffany Smith

- Tonette White
 - Christy Jones
 - Lynn Harrison
 - Janice Wicks
 - Cindy Smith
- ✓ **Mark Myette**, our Chapter's 2010 president-elect, shared the news our ASTD Atlanta chapter now has a Facebook page that went live on the 15th. Add your comments and photos to the mix by logging into your Facebook account and then typing ASTD Greater Atlanta into the search box.
 - ✓ **Mark** also reported Georgia Governor Perdue signed an official proclamation declaring the first week of December as ELW aligning with our ASTD ELW activities.
 - ✓ Many thanks to **Julie Sanders** for her work this year as Project Manager for the Atlanta Habitat project. Julie has done a great job moving the skills assessment project forward and serving as liaison between Habitat and ASTD Atlanta. She will be unable to participate next year due to job constraints, making the position open for 2011. Please let Cecil know if you're interested in filling this crucial position.
 - ✓ Don't forget the upcoming day of service at the Product Recovery Center of the Atlanta Community Food Bank on **December 9th**. Volunteers will be going through collected food items and packaging the food for families in need. We will also be delivering the food collected at our meetings as well. **You can still donate at the December 6th Chapter meeting.** Our current Food Drive count -285 items at last official count but there are some items collected at SIG's and Gig's not included. A big thank you to Susan Johnson for all of her efforts around this project! For more information, go to our website and [register](#) for the 12/9 event!
 - ✓ **Cecil** also discussed our Community Involvement goals for 2011. See [below](#) for more information.
Don't forget to join us for the next conference call scheduled for Friday, January 21, 2011, 9 -9:30 am. Toll-free dial-in number: (888) 295-6951, Conference code: 7851936107

ACTIVITIES, PROJECTS & EVENTS -THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

2011 goals for Community Involvement

- ✓ Raise awareness and build partnerships in the community.
- ✓ Grow the Habitat for Humanity partnership and identify other organizations to partner with using the Habitat model.
- ✓ Grow and formalize service events and programs to supply short-term volunteer opportunities for our members.
- ✓ Add overall value for the members as part of ASTD Atlanta.

View all ASTD Greater Atlanta volunteer opportunities on the [ASTD Chapter website](#).

RESOURCES, LINKS & ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Tips to reboot your organizational workforce's mindset. Read the article on [SmartBlog Insights](#).


How to get more from your ASTD Greater Atlanta volunteer experience:


-- *Contributed by Karen Siczka, Communications Manager*


Are you thinking about doing some volunteer work through ASTD Atlanta's Community Involvement Group or with one of our SIGs or GIGs? Great! Volunteering makes you feel good while delivering a host of


benefits to local organizations and agencies that need help. Although you don't get paid for your efforts, the non-monetary rewards are many.


Here are some ways to get more from your experience as a volunteer:

-  Use your interests to guide which opportunities you volunteer for. Our Community Involvement Group has partnerships with many different types of organizations in the Metro area, ranging from Atlanta Habitat for Humanity to the Atlanta Community Food Bank to Dress for Success. In addition, the SIGs and GIGs have many volunteer positions available. You can find information listed on the [ASTD Atlanta website](#).

-  Don't see a current volunteer opportunity fitting your interests? How about recommending an organization that would benefit from ASTD's volunteer activities? Many local service and social organizations are in need of volunteers to help stretch their ever-shrinking budgets and train their employees.

-  Be realistic when trying to determine how much time you have to devote to volunteer service. Include your time getting to and from the site as well as time spent on email correspondence and conference calls for planning purposes. You are preparing to make a commitment even if it is only for a few hours per month. If you can't commit to a regular schedule, consider volunteering during special events. These events are often a one-time commitment.

-  When beginning your volunteer work, remember it takes a little time to get used to a new situation and new people. However, if you feel your volunteer assignment isn't a good fit, let us know and consider trying something different. Sometimes a small adjustment is all it takes to find the perfect volunteer opportunity.

-  Don't forget to smile and enjoy the experience! You are making an important contribution to our local community while making new friends, expanding your skills, learning new skills, and making future business contacts.

Have a resource or article to share? Group members are always welcome to [submit](#) their own links.

POSTSCRIPT!

Don't forget to join our **ASTD Community Involvement [LinkedIn group](#)**, a subgroup of ASTD Greater Atlanta to view the latest news from the group, post your news, and keep up with the conversation.

We need reporters! Attending an ASTD SIG or GIG event? Let your group members know what happened and get them interested in participating. [Submit](#) a brief update of the event to be included in a future newsletter. **Attending a volunteer event?** Share your pictures and give us a [brief update](#) to be included in a future newsletter. Share your excitement!

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

"SEE" YOU NEXT YEAR!