Summer Events
School's out for the Summer! This is either bad news, good news or no news depending on your situation. However, June also marks extra training for many companies as it is one of THE BIGGEST training months for employers promoting safety. June is National Safety Month and what a great month for it as high temps affect many employees at work and at home. Let your employees know you care and pass along information that could save them and their families from heat related accidents!

What's Happening in June?
June 7th - June Program
Successful Virtual Training with Cindy Huggett
You are not going to want to miss this one! Cindy Huggett comes to us in this two-part program to deliver amazing information on how to be successful with your virtual training program as well as how to identify challenges and create an action plan. It's not too late to register! Register here.

June 15th at 5:30 p.m. - Special Interest Group (SIG) eLearning
If you are interested in eLearning or want to learn more about it, this after work hours meeting is for you. Join us at the Fox and Hound to discuss future plans including potential topics and speakers. Learn more here.
June 22nd - CPLP Information and Orientation WebEx
This is a virtual meeting to learn more about how you can get your CPLP! Join us over the lunch hour on June 22nd! Register here.

Future Events
2017 - Save the Date!
Trainer's Institute coming this Fall on Tuesdays running Sept 12th - Oct 10th

2018 - Save the Date!
March 6th - Regional Conference
March 7th - Training Showcase
See Article in this Newsletter for details!

Free For You
Submitted by: Ericka Juno; President Elect
The ATD 2017 International Conference & Expo in Atlanta was amazing. Here are some freebies you might appreciate.

eBooks:

- Gamification is a powerful tool to engage and motivate all generations to higher levels of performance. FREE copy of Game the System™ eBook by Monica Cornetti.
- Did you know recognition is the number one driver of employee engagement? Download the eBook “Recognition Culture – The MVP of Employee Experience” to learn about the importance of recognition and how it significantly increases employee engagement. Also, discover how companies have already seen a strong return on investment from this knowledge.
- Hungry for blended learning? The Blended Learning Cookbook will help you design learning concepts that outperform traditional training programs.
  www.anewspring.com/cookbook
Webinar:

- Ken Blanchard - Interested in learning more about creating a proactive workforce? Sign up for our upcoming webinar featuring motivation expert, Susan Fowler as she shares the keys for developing a workforce with a self leader’s mindset and skillset.

Our Sponsors!

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2018 ATD Nebraska Regional Conference!!!
Submitted By: Ericka Juno; President Elect

We are pleased to announce that ATD Nebraska will be hosting a regional conference March 6, 2018 and a training showcase March 7, 2018 at Metropolitan Community College Fort Street Campus Omaha.

The regional conference on March 6th is for training and development professionals seeking to further their skills. This will be an all-day conference with keynote speakers, break out sessions, vendor expo, and networking opportunities. The theme of the conference is "Maximize Learning. Optimize Resources. Drive Results." If you want to facilitate at this conference click here to submit your request for proposal. If you are interested in attending, be watching for further information.

One new feature of the conference this year will be the training showcase on March 7th. We are going to have local companies facilitate some of their AMAZING in-house training, and it will be available to you! This experience will be for anybody locally or regionally looking to attend world-class training right here in Omaha. The training this day is for participants to leave with skills to apply back on the job. This day is not to teach trainers how to design, develop, or deliver the content; but to participate in the training session. And it is open to everybody.

We hope to see you at the conference! If you have questions, or would like to be involved in organizing this event, please contact Ericka Juno at presidentelect@atdnebraska.org.
Over the last number of years we have seen learning evolve in a number of ways: We’ve seen face-to-face training be limited and mainly embedded into blended learning events. We have seen learning styles thrown out the door. And we have seen CD-ROMs stockpile in the back storeroom as we came to grips with online learning.

In fact, CD-ROM was the first major piece of technology that affected learning in a major way. After all, you were able to ship your course on a small disc and let people on the other side of the world see you, listen to you, and even better, learn from you.

Technology in learning has played a major role in how we have evolved. More importantly, it has shaped our approaches and methodologies in how we design, deliver, and even evaluate learning. Yet one question remains: Should technology be our friend or foe?

Recently I was asking a group, via Twitter, to livestream, via Periscope, aspects of a conference that they were attending. What surprised me was a response I got back: “Periscope has too many security breaches.” This from a learning and development professional. It got me wondering—why are some of us still thinking like this? It made me pause for a while and realize that maybe we do have a greater challenge before us than what I thought in educating and raising awareness of how technology can support learning.

Many people have embraced learning technology, mainly because they have been told to. Then there are those who must (albeit hesitantly) to carry out their business. But deep down, technology is still seen as a foe to some folk.

As a solutions consultant in the e-learning field, I strive to understand my clients’ needs and design solutions and, more importantly, deliver effective business impact results. Those who know me know that I am a big fan of social learning and how technology can support the implementation of a social learning framework.
At some stage of the consultation process, clients and I tend to discuss various platforms and technologies. Once the conversation moves into this space, I find some L&D folks start to get concerned about how this technology will be rolled out and how will they deploy it, and then they hit me with their concern: “I don't think our people are ready for that.”

After hearing this statement a few times, I tried to unpack it further. Yes, situations exist where some technologies may not be right for an organization. These can be due to technical issues or the maturity of the company, but this is where it also gets interesting.

I ask how they themselves are using technology and apps for their personal learning needs. What platforms are they accessing? How often do they use them?

Surprisingly enough more often than not, I find not many have explored the world of learning technologies and thus tend to have had limited exposure to the technologies and platforms available.

When I led the L&D Innovation cell at the Australian Taxation Office, I expected that those I worked with would actively identify and explore various tools, platforms, and apps that we could include in our L&D kit.

Our aim was to be the leading agency in L&D design and innovation. If we were to achieve this, then we had to explore and experiment. It was through such experimenting that we managed to deploy innovative and creative learning solutions in an agency that was crippled with “cultural issues” and won numerous awards along the way.

We made technology our friend!

So what learning technologies can you explore?

From my perspective and based on the recent technologies I have been exploring with my clients, I think there are three that are worth a look.... more.
What's Your Opinion?  
ATD Nebraska wants to know!  
Submitted By: Lesa Deeker; VP of Membership

One of the ways ATD Nebraska seeks your input is through a polling question that is posted on the front page of the ATD Nebraska website. These questions are updated regularly. Some are questions related to programs. Some are questions related to your interests or experience. Some are asking for your feedback. Have you seen the polling question? Have you shared your opinion? We'd love to hear from you!

If there is a question you’d want to see posted, we would be happy to review it and if approved and submitted early enough, we’ll include it in the rotation. Just send your question to directorengagement@atdnebraska.org.

Please visit the website by clicking on the Poll picture located below this article to see the latest polling question and vote. We want to hear from you!

Changes to Early Bird Pricing – Coming August 2017

By: June Kowalewski
Changes! They are coming! Due to the overwhelming response of attendees for our programs and workshops (which is awesome, by the way), we have changed the cut off dates for the early bird pricing. Currently the early bird pricing changes the Friday before our program date (the following week). Starting in August the early bird pricing will change to ending on Monday (at least a week and half before the program/workshop date). Our programs are available on our website for the rest of 2017. We are currently working on 2018 programs/workshops and hope to make it just as awesome!

Welcome New and Renewing Members!

Nichole Abbott, Omni Hotels & Resorts
Kim Barber, SouthernCarlson
Lesly Becerra, Nebraska Medicine
Carol Brush, Farm Credit Services of America
Jill Borgelt, Farm Credit Services of America
Lynette Campbell, Farm Credit Services of America
Sally Carroll, Farm Credit Services of America
Elizabeth Curtis, Nebraska Medicine
Karen Dwyer, School of Communication, University of Nebraska-Omaha
Randy Esterling, Esterling Learning and Development
Danielle Evans
Denise Grolly-Case, Farm Credit Services of America
Angie Hamilton, Home Instead Senior Care
Ginger Miller, Infogroup
Lacy O'Doherty, Applied Underwriters
Britney Osbern, HDR
Sommer Wiegert, Nebraska Medicine

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