

IIBA Informant

News from the Denver Chapter of the IIBA

April 15, 2014

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Dear Business Analyst,

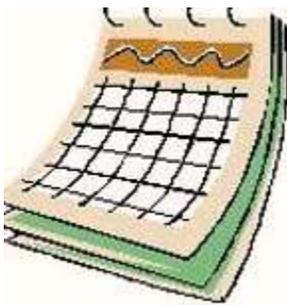
If you enjoy reading this newsletter and think that other Business Analysts, Project Managers, or Directors in your organization might enjoy it as well, it's easy to share. Just forward it to your colleagues.

Did someone forward this newsletter to you? Would you like to receive upcoming issues of this newsletter and learn more about IIBA and the Business Analysis profession? Just click on the **Join Our Mailing List** link on the [IIBA Denver Chapter website](#).

Special April Networking Event

by Debra Urban

Spring Networking Event. Save the date!



Thursday, April 24:

5:30 - 6:00 - Registration and Libation Selection
6:00 - 6:30 - Light Announcements and Chapter Business
6:30 - 8:00 - Networking, Prizes, Fun!
Note that it is on a Thursday night. This is a free event!

Location:

Breckenridge Brewery Colorado Craft
(2220 Blake Street near Coors Field; the sign near the door still says

"Breckenridge Brewery")

Topic: Join the IIBA Denver Chapter for a Spring networking event! This is a great opportunity to meet fellow business analysis professionals in the front range area and interact on a social basis. This is a free event.

Who should attend? Anyone who works in the BA space is welcome: business analysts, system analysts, project managers, quality assurance, process analysts, agilists, enterprise

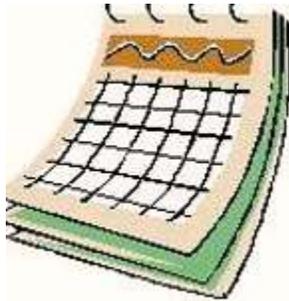
analysts, or anyone who wants to network and learn more about the IIBA. Bring your business cards and join us for a great time, door prizes, and free sandwich buffet!

Cost: There is no cost to attend. Soft drinks provided. Cash bar.

Special Offer: Need a new or updated picture for your LinkedIn profile? A photographer will be on hand to take headshot pictures. Photos are free for members, \$5 for non-members.

Door Prizes generously provided by [MODIS](#). [Click here to RSVP](#).

Upcoming Meeting



May IIBA Denver Chapter Meeting

National MS Society

(Same location as March meeting)

Wednesday May 21:

5:30 - 6:00 Check In, Networking, Food

6:00 - 6:30 - Announcements, Chapter Business

6:30 - 8:00 - Presentation

Topic: Business Analysts as Internal Consultants: Harnessing your Curiosity, Creativity and Technique for Career Success

The next meeting includes a thought-provoking discussion expanding the conversation of Business Analysis beyond job descriptions and tools to uncover the true mission and purpose for this critical role within the enterprise. How can techniques be applied in situations where goals are unclear? How can we uncover unsaid needs? How can we differentiate Business Analysis within our companies and effectively bridge the needs of various actors whom we serve? Is it time to re-invent ourselves in the eyes of management? What approaches can we take to solve unique challenges?

Presenter: Doug Liles

Doug has held Director and Vice President level positions on the buy and sell side of high technology, including Business Analyst and Project Management Roles. Having broad domain expertise in CMS, DAM, CRM, ERP and BPM technologies, Doug has had the privilege of working with top software/hardware vendors, tier-one/tier-two systems integrators and leading global brands. Doug has multi-faceted project experience in an array of verticals, including automotive, consumer products, durable goods, education, entertainment, healthcare, life sciences, pharmaceutical, retail and software. Doug has unique experiences in enterprise IT portfolio management, customer engagement, requirements gathering and project management that provides a unique perspective on the topic of technology driving business value.

Location: National MS Society, 900 South Broadway, Denver

Cost: The cost is \$10 for non members. No cost for Denver chapter members. Snacks generously provided by our sponsor MODIS.

Registration email to be sent separately.

Letter from the President

by Monte Malenke

This month I'm happy to report that we have new additions to the chapter leadership! Mary

Anne McSweeney has graciously agreed to take on the role of Director, CBAP Education within the Education Committee. Linda Meserve has also agreed to support Mary Anne as the Assistant Director, CBAP Education. These roles will be primarily focused on providing administrative oversight of the CBAP study groups, which we plan to run continuously every 6 months for chapter members. Mary Anne and Linda will be the points of contact for the CBAP study group and will be who receives your emails at CBAPStudyGroup@denver.iiba.org. We now have an excellent board of directors and chapter leadership - check it out at <http://denver.iiba.org/index.php/about-us/board-of-directors>.

We are in the process of revamping our website as an early adopter of the IIBA's new website platform for IIBA chapters. Grant Warden, our VP of Communications is taking the lead on this for which we are very grateful. This should be released sometime this summer so watch for this.

I would also like to encourage everyone to join us at the spring networking event, which you should have received an invite for already. If not, please register from the link in this newsletter or on our chapter website. This is a great opportunity to network with your Business Analysis colleagues and have a fun spring evening in LoDo!

I look forward to seeing everyone at the spring networking event!

Thank You MODIS!

The snacks and refreshments for our next meeting are provided by MODIS.

As a global provider of IT staffing services, MODIS connects the very best IT professionals to great opportunities at leading companies. And we do it every single day - for both temporary and permanent assignments and across virtually all industries. We use our insight, flexibility and expanded resources to anticipate the needs of leading tech companies and help them make exceptional connections with top tech talent.

For more information, please contact:
Erin Myers
Resource Development Manager

303-222-2451

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Certification Study Group

by Mary Anne McSweeney, CBAP

The IIBA Denver Chapter CBAP® certification study group began on Wednesday, April 9th. It continues on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7 pm until September 10, 2014. This is a virtual study group, so there is no need to drive anywhere to meet as we will be connecting via web conferencing. The goal of this study group will be to cover the complete BABOK in preparation for taking the exam. 23 people signed up for these sessions.

Sessions will consist of a review of BABOK content for each session and group discussion to resolve specific questions and insights we have. We will also try to have someone who has passed the CBAP exam attend at least some of our sessions to provide their insights on the content for each session, and general advice on passing the CBAP. There is no additional cost to participate, but you must be a chapter member. Give yourself, your company, and your clients a huge benefit by getting certified. It'll be more fun doing it as a group!

[Click here for more information.](#)

New members are welcome even if you missed the April session. If you are interested in joining this new group, please email CBAPStudyGroup@denver.iiba.org.

National MS Society Events

by Jay Galecki

Announced at last month's meeting was the Denver Chapter's future involvement with the National MS Society. Our chapter has been meeting in the National MS Society conference room. The Denver Chapter is planning to have involvement in the next year with the organization's fund raising events. Keep an eye on future newsletters for further details!

Membership News

by Susan Futey

Welcome new Denver Chapter members!

Sabrina Bovay, CBAP
Sandi Byron
Melissa Harless
Sarah Hutchinson
Evelene Kirby
Jonathan Klinshaw
Jan Lundeen
Terri Meinert
Kate Overton
Cyndy Scholz
Valerie Shockley

Active Member Count: 78

Not a member yet but interested in joining the IIBA Denver Chapter?

You'll find that it is a great way to network, share business analysis knowledge and experience, and learn about new techniques and processes. Best of all, the membership is just **\$25/year!**
[Join now!](#)

Benefits of being a local chapter member:

- Attend chapter meetings free or at reduced cost.
- Participate in members-only offers such as volunteer opportunities at BA World.
- Participate in Denver Chapter elections (as candidates or as voters)
- Get to wear a snazzy name badge at the meetings!

Did you know that if you are an IIBA (International Organization) member, instead of paying \$10 per meeting, you can pay an annual membership fee of \$25 and attend all meetings **free**? That's a bargain! *Take advantage of this deal today.*

It is important to know that you do have to be a member of the IIBA in order to join the IIBA Denver Chapter. Joining IIBA can be done through their website at www.iiba.org. [Membership benefits](#) include:

- Access to a free copy of the [Business Analysis Body of Knowledge® \(BABOK® Guide\)](#).
- Free access to the [Online Library](#) of more than 300 books.
- Knowledge sharing and networking opportunities through the [IIBA Community Network](#).
- Access to exclusive IIBA monthly publications such as the [IIBA BA Connection monthly newsletter](#).

- Eligibility to join a local [IIBA Chapter](#).
 - Access to a free copy of the [Business Analysis Competency Model](#).
 - Access to [IIBA Webinars](#) on a range of professional development topics.
 - Job search capabilities using [Career Center](#).
- If you have any questions about membership or renewal, please feel free to send an email using the [Contact Us](#) link on the IIBA Denver Chapter website.

Hope to see you at the April 24 networking event!

Educational Article: How to Write a Use Case

In the April 2014 IIBA newsletter, there is a very informative article by Laura Brandenburg, CBAP, on how to write a use case. Highlights of the article include:

- Definition of a use case
- Elements of a use case
- Specific techniques on creating a use case

To view this article, click [here](#).

Meeting Schedule for the Rest of 2014

Because of the new location, some meeting dates must be moved to a Monday. Here's the schedule for the rest of the year:

- May 21 (Wednesday)
- July 16 (Wednesday)
- September 15 (**Monday**)
- November 19 (Wednesday)

Get Involved

Joining IIBA Denver Chapter Committees

Do you want to support local Business Analysts, the profession, and increase visibility to your company? The Denver chapter is looking for help on numerous committees. **There are currently openings for Corporate Programs and Web Master.** If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please respond to President@denver.iiba.org.

Endorsing and Recognizing the CBAP and CCBA®

The IIBA Denver Chapter is continuing to support the CBAP as the highest designation in the field of business analysis. CBAPs must meet requirements for experience, education, knowledge, skill, and ethics. The IIBA is looking for organizations that support the CBAP designation, and we would love to see strong company support right here in Colorado! If your organization reimburses you for CBAP exam fees, recognizes the CBAP or CCBA as a professional certification, promotes the certification as part of its professional development goals, or otherwise endorses the designation, please let us know!

Do You Need Help With Your CBAP or CCBA Application?

Need tips on completing your application? Need BABOK study book recommendations? Debbie Rasor, who earned her CBAP certification in July 2011, has graciously offered to assist other BAs who may currently be applying for their CBAP or CCBA applications.

Since Debbie has made the journey of studying for the CBAP and sitting for the examination, she can answer your questions, review your application, and offer feedback on it before you submit it. She can be contacted at debrador@yahoo.com.

Newsletter Editor: Debbie Rasor, CBAP
Associate Editor: Jay Galecki

If you have a contribution to make to the IIBA Informant, please email us at editor@denver.iiba.org.

If you are interested in advertising BA-related services in the IIBA Informant, please email us at info@denver.iiba.org.

Produced by the Denver Chapter of the IIBA

President (Interim)

Monte Malenke

Finance Committee

VP - Finance and Treasurer: Felicia Arambula

Education Committee

VP - Education: Heidi McLaughlin

Marketing Committee

VP-Marketing: Duanyelle Perry

Director - Corporate Programs: open

Membership Committee

VP-Membership Services: Susan Futey

Communications Committee

VP - Communication: Grant Warden

Technology Committee

AVP-Technology: Bill Kennedy

Events Committee

VP -Events: Debra Urban

The International Institute of Business Analysis is a non-profit organization for Business Analyst professionals. The goal of the local Denver Chapter is to support IIBA by (1) advancing the role of the Business Analyst as a recognized profession, (2) support opportunities for members to network with, and gain knowledge from, seasoned BA practitioners as well as industry and government leaders, (3) provide access for members to a formal "knowledge base" as well as forums for sharing expertise, expressing professional opinions and building a reputation within the industry, (4) provide pathways to learn about business analysis best practices, and (5) obtain and sustain a level of financial security, sustainability, and autonomy at the local level.