

IIBA Informant

News from the Denver Chapter of the IIBA

October 15, 2014

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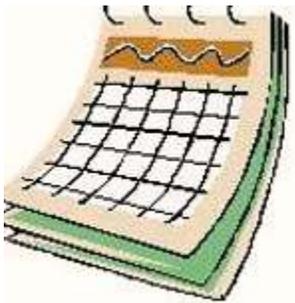
[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

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](#).

Upcoming Meeting



November IIBA Denver Chapter Meeting Note that this is the last meeting of the year!

Date: Wednesday, November 19
5:30 - 6:00 - Check In, Networking, Food
6:00 - 6:30 - Announcements, Chapter Business
6:30 - 8:00 - Presentation

Topic: "Beyond the Profile: Powerful LinkedIn Tools to Foster Business Success"

Presenter: Joyce Feustel, Founder of Boomers Social Media Tutor, believes that the professional website LinkedIn is often underutilized. In her talk, she will show attendees how to:

- Strategically grow their LinkedIn connections
- Effectively identify appropriate groups to join and participate in

- Efficiently discover potential clients and referral partners through the advanced search feature
- Proactively use key filters of the LinkedIn home feed to reach out to LinkedIn connections

Through her social media tutoring and training business, Joyce works with a wide range of business owners to become more effective in their use of LinkedIn, Facebook, Pinterest, and Twitter.

Did you know that we have our own LinkedIn group called the "IIBA Denver Chapter"? It was started in 2008 and has 484 members.

Location: National MS Society, 900 South Broadway, Denver

Cost: There are two levels of membership: 1) IIBA National and 2) IIBA Denver Chapter with IIBA National. The meeting cost is free for members of the Denver Chapter. The cost is \$10 for non-members of the Denver chapter. Snacks are generously provided by our sponsor MODIS.

[Click here to register.](#)

Letter from the President

by Monte Malenke

The fall networking event held Wednesday October 8th, was a great success with a perfect Colorado fall evening on the upstairs patio at the Tavern in the Denver Tech Center. A big thanks to Debra Urban, our Events VP who organized another wonderful networking event, and a special thanks to Modis who once again picked up the cost for the food! We raffled off many prizes, including several books and a bunch of gift cards. If you were there, you enjoyed some special networking activities that Debra organized, and enjoyed a delicious Italian feast for dinner. If you weren't able to attend, you will want to make plans for our next networking event in the spring.

We are planning to ramp up our sponsorship support in the coming year so we can bring in the best speakers for our chapter meetings, and deliver more value to all our members. Would you consider helping us make that happen? We are looking for someone to fill the Marketing VP role, that will have a primary focus on working with organizations that want to sponsor the chapter. You will really enjoy working with the truly wonderful board we currently have, and have a great addition for your resume!

If you like working with technology and websites, we are also looking for someone to take on the webmaster role. Our new website being released shortly is based on the Kentico content management platform. This would be a great opportunity to learn that or leverage existing skills you may have there.

If you have been receiving these newsletters but don't normally attend the bi-monthly chapter meetings, you should plan to join us for the next chapter meeting on Wednesday November 19th. See you there!

Have a great fall!

Modis Salary Guide for 2015 Available

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.

MODIS



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[Get a copy of the 2015 salary guide.](#)

For more information, please contact:

Kristen Short

Resource Development Manager

720-244-5309

7887 East Belleview Ave.

Suite 400, Englewood, CO 80111

Thank you Multiple Sclerosis Society!

The Denver chapter of the IIBA thanks the Multiple Sclerosis Society for allowing the chapter to use their office space for bi-monthly meetings.

There are no current events scheduled with the MS Society, but keep an eye on future editions of this newsletter for information on fundraising events!

Denver Chapter Education News

by Heidi McLaughlin

Lean In Group

You may be familiar with the book "[Lean In: Women, Work, and the Will to Lead](#)" that Sheryl Sandberg, COO of Facebook, wrote which reached No. 1 both on the New York Times Bestseller list as well as on Amazon. She was inspired to write the book based off of the success of her 2010 Ted talk entitled, "Why We Have Too Few Women Leaders." The book has in turn inspired Lean In circles to be formed across the country for purposes of helping people gain peer coaching in their careers. As described on the [Lean In site](#), "Lean In Circles are small groups who meet regularly to learn and grow together. Circles are as unique as the individuals who start them, but they all share a common bond: the power of peer support." The Denver IIBA would like to begin its own Lean In group. This is not for women only - our group would be co-ed and would meet virtually. We're looking for a circle manager, circle facilitator, and 8-10 additional members. If you're interested, please contact Heidi at Education@denver.iiba.org.

Call for Speakers

We are looking for speakers to speak at our chapter meetings on topics relevant to business analysts. If you have an interest in being a speaker, being part of a panel of speakers, or if you know someone who would make a great speaker, please contact Heidi at Education@denver.iiba.org. Some topics that have been suggested are listed below, but of course our interests are not limited to this list.

- BABOK Review
- Agile Extension to the BABOK
- Process Mapping
- BA Diagramming & Modeling
- Elicitation
- Enterprise Analysis

Free Webinars

Sirius Requirements is offering two free, 4-hour workshops on Requirements Quality. They will

be held virtually on October 21st and November 13. At completion, you'll better understand how to write quality requirements and you'll receive insights on how to improve your current project's requirements. The links to register for the webinar deliveries are:

1. Tuesday, Oct 21st, 8 - 12 EDT: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/requirement-quality-workshop-tickets-13470860707>

2. Thursday, Nov 13th, 1 - 5 EST: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/requirement-quality-workshop-tickets-13470993103>

More details regarding the workshop can be found via the registration links or this blog post: <http://www.sirius-requirements.com/blog/2014/8/27/free-workshop-requirements-quality>

September Chapter Meeting Recap

by Jay Galecki

The September chapter meeting featured a story mapping exercise which allowed everyone to get into groups and brainstorm features/functions that would serve fictional stakeholders. Through this process, the teams were able to work together to build requirements for assigned products. We would like to thank Return Path for their involvement and mentoring in the learning session!

CertificationStudy Group

by Mary Anne McSweeney, CBAP

New CBAP® Study Group Coming Soon!

The IIBA Denver Chapter CBAP study group is a virtual study group, so there is no need to drive anywhere to meet as we connect via web conferencing. The goal of this study group is to cover the complete BABOK in preparation for taking the CBAP exam.

We expect to meet on the 2nd Wednesday of every month from about October 2014 through March 2015. **This will be the last group to meet before CBAP Certification is based on the new 3.0 version of the BABOK**, which is scheduled for the second half of 2015.

Sessions consist of a review of BABOK content and group discussion to resolve specific questions. Give yourself, your company and your clients a huge benefit by getting certified. Hope to see YOU there! It's more fun doing it as a group!

Primary content is the IIBA Business Analysis Body of Knowledge (BABOK). In addition, the study group has specific study materials and a practice exam for each chapter.

To join the Study Group, you must be a member of IIBA and also a member of the Denver Chapter. If you are interested, please email CBAPStudyGroup@denver.iiba.org and include the following details:

- 1) Your name
- 2) Phone
- 3) Email Address
- 4) IIBA member number
- 5) Any special areas of desired interest or focus

New Chapter Website Coming in October!

by Grant Warden

Over the last 6 months, the Denver IIBA Chapter has participated in the pilot program to migrate our website from the old Joomla platform to a new Kentico platform. IIBA uses the new provider currently, and a new relationship will extend to all chapter sites over the next year or so. Denver, along with six other chapters around the globe, were the first to see the new templates and functionality. Working closely with IIBA, Linda Meserve and Grant Warden have researched,

tested, and built the new site. The initial goal is to mimic the functionality of our current site, and over time add expanded functionality as warranted.

Sometime in the second half of October, we will go live with the new version. Members and guests will see our new website platform at our existing domain name www.denver.iiba.org. Your suggestions and feedback are encouraged regarding content and format. If you have any, please send to communications@denver.iiba.org. We look forward to providing even more features as the site evolves in order to better serve our membership community.

November PMI Chapter Event

by Michelle Kahler, CBAP

November PMI Chapter Event on Integrating Business Analysis and Project Management

Come join us next month at one of two PMI Chapter events to both network and engage with PMI/CBAP certified presenter Michelle Kahler, who will lead attendees through an interactive workshop and dinner presentation focused on integrating business analysis and project management for success. Workshop exercises will be focused on role definitions and which business analysis techniques are most effective in certain scenarios. The Dinner session will discuss the value of the Business Analyst on a project, best practices for aligning the business analysis function in your organization, and engage the audience to help answer burning issues submitted by attendees.

The two chapter event locations are:

- Tuesday, November 11 at 5 pm: Larimar County Fairgrounds, Beard & Brown Rooms, 5280 Arena Circle, Loveland, CO 80538
- Wednesday, November 12 at 5 pm: Summit Conference and Event Center, 411 Sable Boulevard North, Aurora, CO 80011

More event and registration information will be posted in the next few weeks at:

<http://pmimilehi.org/meetinginfo.php>

Hope to see you there!

Membership News

by Susan Futey , CBAP

Welcome new Denver Chapter members!

Sheryl Lampert
Kathryn Ohman
John Reed
Patricia Sterling
Active Member Count: 100

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, membership is just **\$25/year!** [Join now!](#)

Benefits of being a local chapter member:

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

If you are an IIBA member, instead of paying \$10 per meeting, you can pay an annual

membership fee of \$25 and attend all meetings **free**. *Take advantage of this deal today!*

You do have to be a member of the IIBA International Organization in order to join the IIBA Denver Chapter. Join IIBA through their website at www.iiba.org. IIBA [Membership benefits](#) include:

- Free copy of the [Business Analysis Body of Knowledge® \(BABOK® Guide\)](#).
- Free access to the [Online Library](#) where you will find hundreds of books.
- Knowledge sharing and networking opportunities through the [IIBA Community Network](#).
- 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.

Joining IIBA Denver Chapter Committees

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 both VP Marketing and Corporate Programs. If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please respond to President@denver.iiba.org.

Technology Volunteer

The chapter would like to be able to stream and/or record chapter meetings presentations, but we need help to do it. Do you have the skillset/ equipment to stream or record our chapter meetings? If you can help, please contact Heidi McLaughlin (VP of Education) at Education@denver.iiba.org or any board member.

Website Help

We are in the process of our Chapter Website Migration from Joomla 1.5 to Kentico 8. We have some tutorials and templates, and are looking for a volunteer to help with the Kentico platform, either version 7 or 8. We need some expertise on an occasional basis. If you can help the chapter with this, please contact Grant Warden or email communications@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!

Companies Seeking BAs

Are you following the chapter's Linked In community? New job opportunities are posted there when information is available.

Meeting Schedule for Early 2015

The Denver IIBA Chapter has dates already scheduled for the first two 2015 meetings. They are as follows:

- January 21, 2015 (Wednesday)

- March 18, 2015 (Wednesday)

Certification News

by Debbie Rasor, CBAP

Recently there was lessons learned article posted on the IIBA national Linked In site about one person's insites into taking (and passing) the CBAP test. See the article [here by Robert Gal.](#)

Need Help with your CBAP or CCBA application?

Need another set of eyes to review your application before you submit it? Tips on applying for recertification? I can answer your questions, review your application, and offer feedback on it before you submit it. Contact me at debrasor@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 (president@iiba.denver.org)
Monte Malenke

Finance Committee
VP - Finance and Treasurer: Felicia Arambula

Education Committee
VP - Education: Heidi McLaughlin

Marketing Committee
VP-Marketing: open
Director - Corporate Programs: open

Membership Committee
VP-Membership Services: Susan Futey, CBAP

Communications Committee
VP - Communication: Grant Warden

Technology Committee
AVP - Open

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.

