eNews Update from ASQ Golden Gate Section
ASQ0618, P.O. Box 360985, Milpitas, CA 95036-0985

Please note our new Web address: http://www.asqgoldengate.org

Newsletter Quick Links

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Upcoming Events

Thursday, February 12, 2009 – Securing the Supply Chain through e-Pedigree, Presented by Mike Ahmadi, Granite Key/Bikash Chatterjee, Pharmatech Associates

This is a joint event with the Institute for Supply Management - Northern California

The drive to globalize pharmaceutical and biotechnology has created significant challenges for supply management and quality management professionals in ensuring supply chain integrity. e-Pedigree offers a solution.

Topics include:

- The Subversive Business Model,
- ePedigree As A Tool in The CyberWar On Drugs,
- The ePedigree Management Process,   and
- The Impact of and Examples of Security Failures.

The event will start at 5:30pm and end at 8:00pm. Location: Spenger's Fish Grotto (phone: 510-845-7771) , 1919 4th Street & University, Berkeley, CA 94702 Dinner will be served. To register for this event, click here.

Thursday, March 19, 2009 – Joint Networking Event with San Francisco and Silicon Valley

We are in the final planning stages for the March Event, which will be all about Networking.

We recognize that networking with other quality professionals across industries is a valuable way to learn from the best practices of other professionals, and we are excited to host this event with the ASQ Silicon Valley and San Francisco sections. We will have topics related to networking and opportunities for you to share ideas and practice your networking skills.

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Special Notice

ASQ Golden Gate Section 0618 elections will be held at the beginning of the March 19, 2009 networking meeting. For more information, please see the Chairman's Corner.

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The event will be held at Jillian's in San Francisco conveniently located in the Metreon. We will start at 6:00pm and end at 9:00pm. Hors d'oeuvres will be served and pool tables have been reserved for play. No host bar. To register for this event:

http://www.acteva.com/booking.cfm?bevaid=175808

To register for upcoming ASQ Golden Gate 0618 events: https://www.acteva.com/go/asq0618

Program Notes

On January 12, 2009 we held a very successful dinner event at Scott's Restaurant featuring Armand Mintanciyan speaking to the group about IT Auditing for GxP Systems. We learned why auditing IT vendors is important, new audit/risk terminology, and why basing the audit on risk is so important.

Your Perspective – Notes, Reviews and Comments from our Members

"The speaker was both informative and knowledgeable, and clearly spoke from experience. The lively discussion with the crowd is crowning evidence of his ability to engage the audience. The gorgeous weather and giant pork chop added a bonus to this delightful event."
Mike Ahmadi

"I received a very warm welcome at my first Golden Gate ASQ section meeting. It was a great opportunity to discuss the Six Sigma Black Belt Certification with real quality experts."
Mike Bouchard

Mike Ahmadi Reviews our January 12 Dinner Meeting

I arrived at Jack London Square about an hour before the meeting. I had just gotten off the phone with my brother in Ohio, who told me of the 0 degree weather back home. I decided to get here early so I could see the sunset over The Bay in this 70 degree plus weather. I had to take my sweater off for the walk. It was a bit hot in that sweater.

Kate Raymond greeted me at the door and ordered me to go to the bar and get a drink; she is so bossy !!!! I dragged my winterworn body to the bar and forced myself to drink a Scotch.

I had to put my sweater on at this point. The air conditioning had kicked in. Brrrrrr !!!! Oh look! Goldfish crackers in little wine carafes. This is my kind of place.

Sunset at Jack London Square

Then came the food. I got the big-as-your-head porkchop with the cherry demi-glace. Nice !!!

The speaker was the venerable Armand Mintanciyan, of RCM Technologies. I had never heard of him, but his name was dynamite !!!! Gary Martin simply refused to utter it, perhaps for fear of mangling the last name. I understood his concern.

His presentation was even more dynamite! He started off a bit slow, but had the audience engaged early on, and kept them engaged to the very end. He exuded firsthand knowledge of his auditing expertise.   I will remember Armand.

I like spending the night with quality people. It is a welcome step above the normal. The food is great, too.

I hope you can all make it to next month's event at Spenger's Fish Grotto in Berkeley. This will be a joint event with the Institute for Supply Management (ISM). Bikash Chatterjee (another dynamite name !!!) and I (Mike Ahmadi) will be delivering the presentation. We will be discussing security as a quality objective for ePedigree. We will also get to eat more food and drink more drinks. That alone is worth the price of admission. Bring guests ! They will thank you for it in spades. You will leave full and enlightened.

News from ASQ National

ASQ Section Satisfaction and Loyalty Study Open

What can your ASQ section do to make your experience better? Take our survey and let us know. Your input gives section leaders guidance for creating opportunities focused on member needs. This allows your ASQ section to provide the products and services that are most important and beneficial to you.

In January, all ASQ members are being asked to provide feedback on how well their ASQ section is serving their needs. We would appreciate your participation in this survey. Your answers will be kept confidential and reported to ASQ management only in the aggregate.

Participants will be entered into a drawing to win one of four 2009 ASQ World Conference on Quality Improvement registrations (a $925 value). The conference is May 18-20, 2009 in Minneapolis, MN. Email invitations or postcards were sent to ASQ members beginning January 5. The study will be open through January 31. If you did not receive this email and wish to participate, please visit http://www.asq.org/mr/09-sect-sat.html.

The annual survey provides our section leadership with information and statistics about how you perceived our performance and the value we have provided to our membership. For the 2007/2008 season, our section has been awarded the QMP Silver Excellence Level Award due, in part, to your responses to the annual Section Satisfaction survey. See the report from last year's chair at the end of this newsletter.

FREE: Certification Exam Preparation Webinar

This webinar, featuring one of our most experienced certification subject matter experts, is free ($100 value) for a limited time. The webinar will help you:

- Select the perfect reference books to take to the exam.
- Develop a detailed review plan.
- Decide if you need to take a refresher course.
- Use practice exams to pinpoint areas for additional study.

Register and listen in now in the comfort of your home or office.

Keeping Up With the SF/Bay Area Sections

ASQ - Silicon Valley Events

Information about upcoming events and member services provided by the ASQ Silicon Valley section can be found at: http://www.asq-silicon-valley.org/

ASQ – San Francisco Events

Information about upcoming events and member services provided by the ASQ San Francisco section can be found at: http://www.asq-sf.com/

ASQ – San Francisco/Bay Area Joint Events Calendar

A combined calendar of upcoming events for the San Francisco, Silicon Valley and Golden Gate Sections can be found on Yahoo's Upcoming.org. To find out what's events are being sponsored by ASQ Sections around the Bay Area, go to: http://upcoming.yahoo.com/group/5069/

SF/ Bay Area Networking Group available on LinkedIn

LinkedIn is an online network of more than 25 million experienced professionals from around the world, representing 150 industries. The San Francisco/Bay Area ASQ Sections, including the SF, Silicon Valley and Golden Gate sections, have established a LinkedIn group, ASQ - SF/Bay Area Network - Sections 0604, 0613, and 0618. This provides a means for our members to enhance local professional networking opportunities. We welcome any ASQ member from a San Francisco Bay Area section.

To join the ASQ SF/Bay Area networking group, submit your request through the following URL: http://www.linkedin.com/e/gis/146713.

Special Note: Our LinkedIn Group for the San Francisco/Bay Area sections now includes over 70 members. That's fantastic! The discussion board is open, so let's start a chat to share ideas, thoughts, and successes

Certification and Recertification

Certification News

The following Golden Gate Section members passed their ASQ certification exams at the December 6, 2008 sitting.

CQA - Mark T. Drake, Fred W. Hahn, Peter M. Kwan, Michelle Pyeatt, Florence Ventura

CCT – Matthew McCollum

We congratulate you on your achievement!

Upcoming Exams

The Golden Gate Section will host the March 7, 2009 ASQ Certification Examination at the Dublin San Ramon Services District, 7051 Dublin Blvd., Dublin CA 94568.

On March 7, 2009, the following certification exams will be offered:

  Biomedical Quality Auditor
  HAACP Auditor
  Manager of Quality/Organizational Excellence
  Quality Technician
  Reliability Engineer
  Six Sigma Black Belt

Complete information on the ASQ certification process can be obtained on http://www.asq.org/training-and-certification.html.

Our Education Chair, Blaine Glandt, may be able to direct you towards exam preparation classes or materials. Please email him at education@asqgoldengate.org. For more information, see our certification page on the Golden Gate Section Website.

Recertification Process

Recertification CPU documentation is available at Golden Gate meetings and sponsored

events. Please contact Jim Kohnen at jim483@aol.com with questions about recertification. If you are coming due for recertification, and you are concerned about meeting the requirement of 18 recertification units, Jim will be happy to work with you to determine what experiences you have had that will help you to recertify without retaking the exam.

ASQ Courses Offered by Silicon Valley Section

Silicon Valley offers a comprehensive selection of technical, certification exam preparation, and biomedical courses. Certification Courses assume participants have had experience in the field they are preparing for and are directed specifically to certification test preparation. You can find detailed information about the Silicon Valley course offerings at: http://www.asq-silicon-valley.org/content/view/19/36/

Chairman's corner

ASQ Golden Gate Section 0618 Receives QMP Silver Excellence Award for 2007-2008

As past Chairman of the ASQ Golden Gate Chapter I have had the pleasure of working with some of the finest ASQ professionals in the Bay Area. Recently we received a great honor by ASQ national which recognized our section's performance with the QMP Silver Excellence Level Award for the 2007-2008 season. The Silver Excellence Level Award is awarded to a section that exceeds the Society's objectives in member satisfaction, loyalty and retention and helps to make the section, the community and ASQ stronger. A volunteer organization's ability to fulfill the needs of our membership is directly related to the commitment and vision of the section's Board of Directors and the willingness of our membership to let their voice be heard. It was a tremendous honor and privilege to work with last year's Board in moving our section forward. Establishing our quality survey process and creating a new website geared towards the needs of the evolving quality community is just a couple of last year's achievements. This year we have complemented last year's Board with new leaders who have brought their vision and dedication to the section. This year, I am confident that under the leadership of our current Chairman, Kate Raymond, we will maintain this same level of performance for you, our membership, and keep the ASQ Golden Gate Section one of the premier quality organizations in the Bay Area.

Sincerely,
Bikash Chatterjee
07-08 ASQ Golden Gate Section 0618 Chairman

Elections for ASQ Golden Gate 2009/2010 to be held in March:

 Elections for our section board and officers are coming up in March. Nominations for officers and board members are now open. We invite you to nominate yourself or other interested members to serve on the ASQ Golden Gate Section 0618 board during the upcoming fiscal year.

 The 2009/2010 Chair is Wai Wong. The slate of officers required are as follows: Chair- Elect; Vice-Chair; Treasurer; Secretary. Additionally, there are a variety committee chair and

committee positions available.

If you are interested in joining a dedicated group of volunteers working toward improving our section and in meeting members from various professions, let us know! We will invite you to our March board meeting. The March board meeting will provide you an opportunity for Q&A with current board members so that you can find out more about serving on the board and the committee positions available.

Please feel free to reach out to our Nominating Committee Chair- Bikash Chatterjee at elections@asqgoldengate.org or contact me at chair@asqgoldengate.org or 510-421-3957.

 We would love to have you join this dynamic and fun team!

Kate Raymond
Chair – ASQ Golden Gate Section 0618

SECTION BASICS 2007-08

SECTION PLANNING 2007-08

TOTAL QUALITY AWARD 2006-07