



ASSOCIATION FOR
SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT

OPTIMIZER



APICS Cleveland

January 2026

Newsletter

ASCM Cleveland Chapter

January PDM: **Change Leadership**

MATTHEW P. LOPICCOLO

LEADER | COACH | EXECUTIVE

TRANSFORMATION | BUSINESS PROCESS | PROGRAM LEADERSHIP

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If only allowed one word to define Matt LoPiccolo, it would be “relationships.”

Throughout his career at Swagelok, Matt’s ability to create and nurture relationships has allowed him to make significant contributions

across multiple functions within an organization including Global Corporate Strategy, Information Systems, Supply Chain, Customer Service,

Distribution, and Flight Operations. These relationships have proven to be transformational as Matt has built global teams, developed future leaders, and delivered in high- growth environments year over year. Matt’s relationships span all levels and extend into his nonprofit work.

Matt earned the reputation of a transformational leader and builder of teams in every role he has held. He has a proven method of building self-sustaining programs and organizations through a holistic approach based on trust, engagement, development of collective talent, and an integrated structure producing clarity and results.

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“The mission of the Cleveland Chapter is to continue to be the premier provider of operations management education in the greater Cleveland area.”

PDM DETAILS

Topic:	Change Leadership	
Speaker :	Matthew P. LoPiccolo	
Location:	Merwin’s Warf 1785 Merwin Ave Cleveland, Ohio 44113 216-664-5696	
Date:	Wednesday, January 21, 2026	
Agenda:	5:30—6:00 PM	Registration / Networking
	6:00—7:00 PM	Dinner
	7:00—8:30 PM	Presentation/ Discussion / Adjourn
Admission:	ASCM Member	\$30.00
	Non-Member	\$35.00
	Student	\$15.00
	<i>*Price includes 1 free drink ticket</i>	
Points	Receive One Certification Maintenance Point for each PDM attended.	
Registration:	Registration Link	
	LinkedIn Post	
	LinkedIn Event	
	Instagram	

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Matthew P. LoPiccolo - Change Leadership

As Vice President & CIO, Matt led the vision of integrating IT with the business thereby strengthening his relationship with the leaders and together delivering results that were highly effective. More notably he and his team designed a model to improve business engagement, creating business analysts and process teams for all business functions. As VP of Customer Service & Supply Chain, his team developed the playbook significantly improving planning and responding to changing business cycles. It also services as the main training and knowledge sharing tool for development and onboarding.

As SVP of the Enterprise Program Office (EPO) he was responsible for accelerating the organization's ability to execute business strategies and provide a holistic view of strategic and annual planning efforts. His team designed a flexible set of methods, tools, and training that aligned strategy to execution.

Matt is currently the COO and Executive Consultant for Roeder Consulting where he puts his experience to use helping clients improve the synergy between strategy and their ability to achieve its objectives through project and leadership competencies.

Professional accomplishments include holding a Project Management Professional certification from the Project Management Institute and the Change Management Certification from Prosci. Matt is a recipient of the PMI Kerzner Award for Project Management Excellence and received the 2016 Crains Terabyte award for a distinguished career in Information Technology. He is the former Chairman of the Board of Trustees at Marymount Health Care Systems and continues to serve on multiple boards and advisory committees.

Matt earned a bachelor's degree in computer science from John Carroll University and a master's degree in business administration from Baldwin Wallace College where he was inducted to the Baldwin Wallace Business Honor Society.



Project Leadership

Matt LoPiccolo

COO, Executive Consultant

www.roederconsulting.com

Cleveland - Denver - Los Angeles

President's Message

Terri Winter, President, ASCM Cleveland Chapter



Hello ASCM Cleveland and Professionals wherever you may be,

As the holiday season quickly approaches and many of us prepare to celebrate with friends and family, I found myself on a quick trip to a Walmart in Las Vegas—just a simple visit to pick up a few necessities. What I encountered, however, was a masterclass in operational inefficiency, the kind that instantly reveals where a company's supply-chain, staffing, and customer-experience strategies have drifted far off course.

This once easy-to-navigate store had become a maze of bottlenecks. Batteries were locked away in scattered cabinets across the floor. Cosmetics, creams, and lotions were quarantined in a separate enclosure guarded by rows of glass cases. Over-the-counter medications were sealed behind yet more locked doors, each requiring a call button to summon an employee who might—or might not—be available. Even the simple act of buying a bottle of wine required entering another cordoned-off area with its own cashier.

What should have been a five-minute errand turned into a frustrating, fragmented experience that I won't repeat again while I'm here. And I know I'm not alone—every locked case, every unstaffed department, every dead-end in customer flow is a direct hit to sales, loyalty, and brand perception.

As I walked out, I asked myself: *How does a company arrive at such a broken customer journey?* And the answers point to the same systemic realities affecting supply chains across the country:

1. Reduced staffing levels—whether due to cost-cutting or an inability to hire.
2. Rising theft of high-demand products.
3. Increased shrink tied to self-checkout.
4. Limited product knowledge among employees.
5. Layer upon layer of inconsistent locking mechanisms, creating complexity and inefficiency.

But beneath these symptoms lies a deeper root cause: **a lack of trained, end-to-end supply-chain and operational talent capable of designing, standardizing, and continuously improving the customer experience.**

When organizations fail to invest in skilled supply-chain and logistics professionals—or fail to adequately train the people they already have—they inevitably experience breakdowns like the one I witnessed. Poor process design, poorly executed loss-prevention strategies, staff who are spread too thin, and inconsistent operating systems all stem from an underdeveloped or undervalued supply-chain workforce.

In my professional opinion, the path forward is unmistakable. **Companies that commit to developing or hiring trained, holistic supply-chain thinkers—people who understand flow, standardization, human-centered design, and operational excellence—will be the ones that maintain customer trust and achieve their profitability goals.**

Whether through strategic hiring or meaningful investment in upskilling existing teams, this is no longer optional. It is the only sustainable way to reduce inefficiencies, retain talent, deliver seamless customer experiences, and remain competitive in a rapidly evolving marketplace.

In short, the customer experience I had in that store wasn't the failure of frontline employees. It was the failure of systems, training, and leadership decisions upstream. And it's a powerful reminder that when supply-chain expertise is missing, inefficiency fills the void.

There is hope ahead, if you recognize and commit to focus on changing course and aligning with those that can help and support your business goals and customer expectations.

Merry Christmas and Happy 2026!

Warm regards,
Terri Winter
Cleveland ASCM President



Invest in your future with ASCM certification classes and self-study materials

ASCM Cleveland Chapter – Education Partnership

The ASCM Cleveland Chapter has partnered with the ASCM Akron Chapter to provide online classes (CPIM, CSCP, CLTD, CTSC, and Foundations) and self-study materials for members at discounted pricing.

Salary surveys consistently show that APICS-certified professionals earn more than their peers. In addition, they get hired and promoted faster, since companies increasingly list "APICS certification preferred" in their job postings. Our chapter wants to make it easier for you to get an APICS certification. All our classes meet ONLINE with live instruction. Classes are offered on weekdays and weekends, day and evening, with weekday evenings being the most popular.

- CSCP (Certified Supply Chain Professional) classes will meet online on Tuesdays from 6 pm – 9 pm Eastern Time starting **January 27th** for 16 weeks (48 hours of instruction). Other timeslot options are available. More information and registration materials are located at <https://akron.ascm.org/cscp/>
- CPIM (Certified in Planning & Inventory Management) classes will meet online on Wednesdays from 6 pm – 9 pm Eastern Time starting **February 4th** for 20 weeks (60 hours of instruction). Other timeslot options are available. More information and registration materials are located at <https://akron.ascm.org/cpim/>
- CLTD (Certified in Logistics, Transportation & Distribution) and CTSC (Certified in Transformation for Supply Chains) online classes are also **being offered in 2026**. Would you like to get on the mailing list for these classes? If so, please email education@ascmAkron.org

Self-study packages for the CPIM, CSCP, CLTD, and CTSC certifications, as well as all the ASCM certificate programs and the Foundations modules, are available from our chapter at discounted pricing. Our packages include additional study materials not available from ASCM directly. These educational offerings are listed at <https://akron.ascm.org/education/>

ASCM Cleveland Members can save **20–25%** when purchasing **APICS certification bundles** and **ASCM certificate self-study packages** through the ASCM Akron Chapter

Are you interested in furthering your supply chain related education, but not sure where to start? Feel free to email education@ascmAkron.org or call 330-668-6084 for personalized assistance.

Thank you.

ASCM/APICS Cleveland & Akron Chapter Board of Directors

Invest in your future with APICS certification online classes and self-study materials

SUPPLY CHAIN CERTIFICATIONS

ASCM Cleveland Members can save 20-25% when purchasing APICS certification bundles and ASCM certificate self-study packages through the ASCM Akron Chapter



ONLINE

NEW
DATES!

UPCOMING COURSES



CTLD

(Certified in
Logistics,
Transportation &
Distribution)



CTSC

(Certified in
Transformation
for Supply Chain)



CSCP

(Certified Supply
Chain
Professional)



CPIM

(Certified in
Planning &
Inventory
Management)

For more information :

 cleveland.ascm.org/Education

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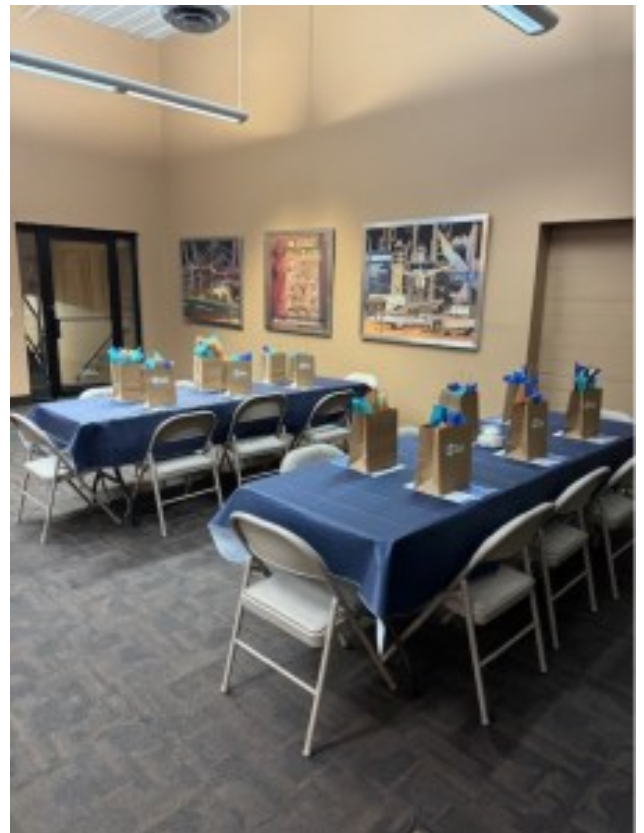
ASCM AKRON
CHAPTER



ASCM Cleveland Professional Development Meeting

Pictures from the November PDM: Midwest Transatlantic Lines Tour

Mike Schneider of MTA Lines, and ASCM outlined plans for what was a very engaging and relevant tour—especially given the current global and economic climate surrounding tariffs and international trade partnerships.



ASCM - Chapter Membership & Anniversaries

November, 2025 through January, 2026

Congratulations!!! New Members

First Name	Last Name	Date joined
Deandra	Ballard	11/12/2025
Margaret	Deng	11/17/2025
Rohan	Kumar	11/6/2025
Courtney	Mintz	11/4/2025

Anniversaries

(CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU!!)

First Name	Last Name	Date joined	Tenure	Date paid through
Edward	Merker	12/20/2004	21	9/30/2026
Jonathan	Todd	12/7/2015	10	12/6/2026
Corey	Leggett	12/12/2022	3	12/11/2025
Xin	Li	12/12/2023	2	12/11/2025
Girish	Gupta	12/10/2024	1	1/9/2026
Anthony	Human	12/11/2024	1	12/10/2025
Grant	Sirow	12/11/2024	1	12/10/2025
Cody	Walker	12/16/2024	1	12/15/2025

ASCM Cleveland Chapter - January 21, 2026 PDM

Merwin's Wharf

**1785 Merwin Ave
Cleveland, Ohio 44113
216-664-5696**



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Please contact Ed Merker for article submissions or editorial comments

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ASCM CLEVELAND CHAPTER

The original founding chapter of APICS as American Production...

Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/ascmcleveland?igsh=N2k3MjczM2JkMzd6>

X

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