

HOW APICS WAS FOUNDED ACCORDING TO THE RECORDS OF ALFRED SYLVIA JR.

WHEN AL FIRST JOINED WHAT WAS TO BECOME APICS IT WAS CALLED "THE NEW BEDFORD PRODUCTION AND INVENTORY CONTROL ASSOCIATION".

After World War II, the need for scientific techniques and electronic computers was just over the horizon waiting to be used by practitioners whose knowledge from this field came principally from their own experiences. They had strong desires for mutual aid among other production and inventory controllers and to exchange forms and procedures.

In 1953 a practitioner named Isidore Eisner decided to take action by contacting two other production control managers to form a local group. They met in the conference room of the Aerovox Corp. and decided to call all the companies in the New Bedford area to see if such a group could be formed. Attendance at this first meeting was encouraging, with approximately 40 attendees. Thereafter the attendance increased to 126 by the 5th or 6th meeting. Finally on Oct22,1953, a group of New Bedford formed what was the called, "The New Bedford Production and Inventory Control Association".

Isidore Eisner, production control manager for Aerovox Corp. became the first President, with Elliot Carruth of Acushnet Process Co. and Edmund Currier of the Continental Screw Co. helping. We prospered Eisner said of the group, "as we taught each other, and we revamped each others forms." They would meet monthly where they would have guest speakers or round table discussions.

In 1956, Eisner, Carruth, and Currier went to a seminar of the National Institute of Management and told others of the New Bedford organization. The seeds of the national society were sown.

The next year, 27 Practitioners Including Eisner, Carruth, and Currier went to Cleveland, and with the encouragement of Nyles V. Reinfeld, the managing director of the National Institute of Management, Inc., the National APICS was formed, with Ron Maddox Named the first president, Carruth named the first national vice president, Currier the first national secretary, and Eisner was the chapter development vice president, Carruth later became the National's second President and Eisner was the fifth National President and was also the second president when we became and

International organization. Izzy also served vice president in charge of international chapter development.

New Bedford was named Chapter #1, and the other four chapters formed at that time were Cleveland, OH, Louisville, KY, Wallingford, CT, and Detroit, MI.)

In 1958 the three practitioners sought financial aid and after sharing their thoughts, goals and ideas for APICS with the officials of IBM they were able to secure a grant from IBM in the amount of \$5000., and they received a similar amount the next year. APICS continued to grow, and in 1962 Izzy coined the phrase “62 chapters in 62”. After countless letters and phone calls the 62 chapters became a reality.

In 1963 with Izzy Eisner as President, APICS became an international society, which was firmly established in 1964 when Canada Joined APICS.

Chapters had professional dinner meetings every month with speakers bring the membership up to date on what was new in our profession. All the chapters were run by volunteer officers who gave freely of their time and knowledge. They would attend Region meetings to learn what other chapters were doing and would share with

this with their members. Eventually these meeting were changed to District meeting, and now the concept has evolved to the new Partner Development Committee.

As all chapters, now know as chapter partners, must have volunteers to survive, the New Bedford chapter #1 was dissolved in 2012 due to a lack of member and company involvement. Hopefully the new concept of Partner development will be able to get companies involved to understand the knowledge that APICS will bring to their companies will help their companies grow (not cost them).

Al Sylvia who was born in July 1921, has served in the USN in WW2, was wounded off of Iwo Jima, where he witnessed the raising of the flag by the Marines, the came home to serve over 50 years with APICS.

Thank you Al for sharing the story of APICS, AND YOUR LIFE WITH US.