



Building professionalism in project management.™

Project Management Institute
Eastern Iowa Chapter

100's NUGGET

2010 Issue 9

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September



Back to School

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*When all is said and done,
more is said than done.*

Unknown.

Our Next Chapter Meeting - September 14th Evening

The next PMI meeting will be the Fun Night on **Tuesday, September 14th, 2010 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Clarion Hotels and Convention Center, 525, 33rd Avenue, Cedar Rapids SW**. The Clarion Hotel and Convention Center phone number is **(319) 366-8671**.

PROGRAM: PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter Fun Night - "Project Management and Marriage" presented by Mark Latta.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM: "Project Management and Marriage" is a lighthearted look at one of the biggest projects one will ever take on, that of finding a mate and getting that mate to marry you. Through personal anecdotes, Mark will discuss the marriage project lifecycle and share lessons learned from the journey.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER: Mark Latta is a Lead Quality Engineer at Pearson in Iowa City. He holds several ASQ certifications and an MBA from Mount Mercy. He is currently pursuing graduate work in Applied Statistics from Penn State. A long-time Toastmaster, won the state Humorous Speech Contest in 2005 and the Evaluation Contest in 2009.

Cost: Chapter Members, \$20; Guests, \$25

RSVP: Please confirm no later than **Thursday, September 9th**, to programregistration@pmieasterniowa.org; use **Fun Night Registration** in the subject line. Cancellations must be received by **COB, Friday, September 10th** to avoid being charged as a no-show for this chapter event.

Program Schedule:

5:00 pm to 5:20 pm	BOD Election Voting
5:00 pm to 6:00 pm	Social networking, Registration for prize drawings*
6:00 pm	Dinner
6:15 pm to 6:20 pm	Chapter announcements, PDD Preview
6:20 pm to 6:50 pm	Guest Speaker Mark Latta
6:50 to 6:55 p.m.	Prize Drawings*/Election Results

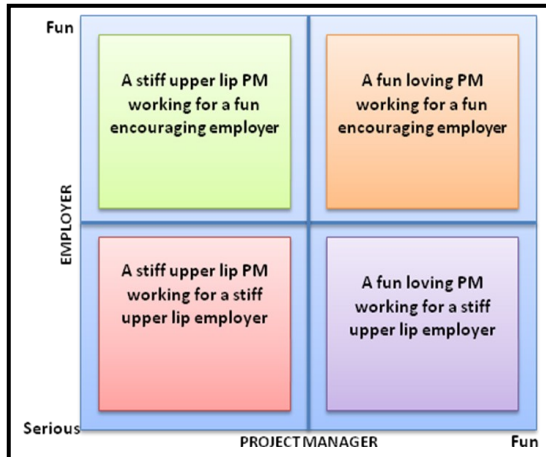
* Prize drawings will be for members only.

2011 BOD Elections

An election will be held during our monthly evening meeting on **Tuesday, 09/14/2010**. All completed paper ballots will be tallied and results will be announced during the meeting.

Fun and Work?

Fun and work - are they synonyms or antonyms? I guess it depends on (a) if you love fun or not, and (b) the organization you work for loves fun or not. Let's review this pictorially.



So just what is the ideal state?

You may perhaps place yourself in the top right hand quadrant, but your peers may place you and your company elsewhere in the matrix. You may be pleasantly surprised that there is a new trend emerging. Many companies have taken to distributing best sellers on how to relax, sleep more, have better life styles, and a more balanced life and work. Hardly surprising since a happy employee is a productive employee.

It turns out, employers have finally begun to realize that their most important assets walk out of the door every evening and it is vitally important that these assets return the following day. A healthy and well balanced employee is a greater asset to the company and society. So it seems only appropriate that even a PMI Chapter should embrace this theory and incorporate some fun-

factor into its existence. Which is why we have incorporated into our Chapter an Annual Fun night each September.

Let's face it, life and work can be stressful. Correction – life and work are stressful. From the moment we close our garage doors (*wait a minute, did it actually close?*), the moment we take the on-ramp to the Interstate (*oh geez, the traffic is horrendous*), to the moment we are at work (*what do you mean the off shore team can't deliver the code for two months*). We've all been there and done that. As Project Managers we have to tread that delicate line to lead people and deliver results – every time. Humor or fun (let's use them synonymously for the purpose of this article and leave the semantics to others to earn their PhDs) can be a secret weapon in the armor of successful Project Managers. It is one of those things that does not get discussed in detail in the PMBoK, but effectively used by successful Project Managers. When stakeholders are breathing down your neck and sticking their guns out, nothing works better than effective humor to diffuse the situation and bring them to a middle ground that is safer at least from a Project Management point of view. Go ahead, recall an anecdote that is funny and relates to this situation and how ultimately it got resolved. Can't think of one? Surround yourself with people who are fun and you will notice they are successful too. Read books, watch movies that showcase the humor in our lives. I am sure one can come up with a possible good story for every incident.

While humor is good, to be effective some ground rules need to be followed. Treating everything as fun will not deliver results. It is a Project Managers' call and he/she should exercise it when the situation warrants it. Again one has to be careful on the type of humor. It can't be at the expense of one stakeholder over other and should not hurt any of the stakeholders internal or external. It should be something that everybody can laugh and restart their work in all earnest with no bad feelings.

So get ready for the Fun night on September 14, 2010. Network and find out about other chapter members to see how their employers define "fun" or if their work /life balance equation is one to emulate. If you know a magic trick, are a closet Karaoke singer, a mind and/or body bending contortionist or have got comedy to share? Now is your chance to show case your talents? Think of the Fun Night as a pot pourri of American Idol, America's Got Talent and So you Think you can Dance all rolled into one but without the cameras.

We look forward to seeing you for our fun night or solicit some feedback on which quadrant your friends place you, or you place them. Oh and so you know, I am applying for a patent on this matrix in case it helps me - with my PhD!

Bhaskar Pulikal, President

News you can use

BEHIND THE SCENES

Tammy Sweat, PMP®

During the month of August, the Leadership team:

- contacted and secured sponsors for the PDD
 - began to work with new volunteers to place them on the team
 - held the monthly meeting for the BOD
 - raised chapter fees (beginning next year) to \$30.00 a year
 - experienced several outages with the website that were investigated
 - continued work on the PDD including selecting the menu and creating the brochure
-

DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Suzanne Prymek, PMP®

The PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter has an open volunteer opportunity for the Director of Programs. Some of the duties include lining up the monthly chapter meeting topics and speakers, assisting with Fun Night and PDD activities, participating in occasional conference calls and attending the chapter meetings. Many of the duties can be handled via email. If you would like to become involved with our chapter and earn free PDUs for volunteering, please contact education@pmieasterniowa.org.

Srikanth Kamineni is our current Director of Programs, but will be transferring to the VP of Education role after the first of the year. He will work with you to provide training and support while you transition to this role.

DIRECTOR OF INDIVIDUAL OUTREACH AND UNIVERSITY OUTREACH VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Behram Kasad

The Chapter continues to seek out a highly motivated members to fill recent openings for the two listed Director positions. The Director of Individual Outreach serves as a liaison between the Board of Directors and targeted persons who have been identified as having the potential to benefit from learning and applying project management practices. The Director of University Outreach serves as a liaison between the Board of Directors and targeted universities or colleges identified as having a project management curriculum relating to project management.

If interested in any of these positions, please contact the Director of Volunteers at volunteers@pmieasterniowa.org.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Don't forget you can renew your PMI Membership online at www.pmi.org.

The PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter membership currently stands at **310**, with **168 PMP®s**, 5 new members, and 11 renewals.

PMI Chapter Transfers

If you have a need to transfer chapters because you have moved or relocated due to employment location changes, be sure to update your membership data at the PMI global website, www.pmi.org.

2011 BOD Elections—Coming Up!

Dear Chapter Members,

An election is commonly defined as a decision-making process in which a population chooses individuals to hold a formal office. As a member in good standing, you are eligible to vote for five new members to serve on the 2011 PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter Board of Directors.

The Board is accountable to the membership and is responsible for strategic planning and establishing policy with respect to the activities of the Institute. The individuals presented on the ballot have been evaluated by the Nominating Committee and have been found to possess the necessary characteristics to meet the demands of the position.

Please read the biographic information provided below to become familiarized with the candidates who are contesting for the 2011 board positions.

An election will be held during our monthly meeting on Tuesday, 09/14/2010. All completed paper ballots will be tallied and results will be announced during the meeting.

Sincerely,

Paddy Puthige, PMP

Bob Sanders, PMP

2010 Nominating Committee Chair



President - Tammy Sweat, MSPM, PMP®

Tammy has over 20 years of IT Project Management experience. Tammy is currently a Senior Project Manager working as an Independent Contractor. Previously, she was a Lead Engineer at ACT implementing ITIL best practices. Prior to this Tammy was a Senior Process Engineer, Lead Quality Auditor, Software Project Manager, Software Developer and Software Development Manager at Pearson.

Tammy received her BA in Computer Science from the University of Iowa, a Master of Science degree in Project Management from the University of Wisconsin in 2006, her PMP® certification in 2001 and an ITIL foundation certificate in 2007.

Tammy has been a PMI and Eastern Iowa Chapter member since 2001. She has served two years as VP of Communications and Publicity. She also served as the Director of Programs in 2007 and the Director of Newsletter in 2008 and 2009. Tammy also serves on the University of Iowa Parent's Board.

2011 BOD PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

Vice President - Outreach, Suzanne Prymek, PMP®

Suzanne has 17 years of Project Management experience, including planning and executing large scale complex contracts and programs. Suzanne is a Senior Program Support Specialist at Rockwell Collins in the Government Systems group responsible for Integrated Master Schedules with Earned Value data on large scale programs. Prior to this, Suzanne was a Lead Business Analyst at ACT and also worked as a Project Manager at Pearson where she was responsible for the planning and execution of large scale state testing programs.

Suzanne received her Bachelor's of Science in Business from Mount Mercy College in 2006 and her PMP® from the Project Management Institute (PMI) in August of 2005 and a Yellow Belt in Six Sigma from the University of Wisconsin in October 2007. Suzanne has been a PMI and Eastern Iowa Chapter member since 2002. She has served as VP of Education for the past 2 years. She also served as the Director of Programs in 2008.



Vice President -Operations, Carol Sherrman, PMP®

Carol has over 8 years of Project Management experience, supporting government contracts of varying size and scope. Carol is currently a Senior Project Lead within the Beneficiary Contact Center (BCC) Program Management Office (PMO) at Vangent, Inc. Previously, Carol provided conference and event services management, technical writing, and subject matter expertise on several U.S. Department of Education contracts at Pearson Government Solutions/NCS Pearson.

Carol received her bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Texas at Arlington and her master's degree in business administration from the University of Dubuque. Carol received her Project Management Professional (PMP) certification in March 2009 and has been a PMI and Eastern Iowa Chapter member ever since. Carol previously served as the chapter's Director of Professional Development, and is the current VP of Operations.



VP Communications and Publicity – Behram Kasad, MBA

Behram is currently a Lead Business Analyst at ACT. Behram graduated in 1989 with an Honors degree in Electrical and Electronics (Nottingham University, England) and earned his MBA in 1997 in Strategy, Innovation, Information and Technology (Theseus/EDHEC, France). Behram has worked as a Program Manager in both the UK and in Cedar Rapids in the public as well as the corporate sector.

Behram has been a PMI and Eastern Iowa Chapter member since 2005. In 2010 Behram served as the Director of Newsletter. He also serves on the Board of Directors for another local nonprofit organization, the Professional and Technical Diversity Network (PTDN).



2011 BOD VP CANDIDATES



Vice President – Education, Srikanth Kamineni

Srikanth has 10 years of experience in engineering, various project management activities and research and development. Srikanth is currently a Senior Software Engineer at Rockwell Collins, and has been employed there since 2001. Currently, Srikanth is responsible for managing multiple projects to track the cost and schedule variance as project activity manager. For the past 6 years, Srikanth has been leading various global teams on assigned programs and projects including managing various project management activities that involve initiation, planning, scheduling, execution, monitoring and controlling.

Srikanth completed his Master's in Computer Science at Maharishi University of Management, Fairfield, Iowa and Bachelor's in Electrical and Electronics Engineering at Sri Venkateswara University, India. Srikanth is the current Director of Programs.

Vice President – Finance, Brian Thorn, PMP®

Brian has over 15 years of experience in the engineering, process improvement and quality fields. Currently Brian is a Sr. Financial Systems Analyst for Pearson. Prior to his current position, Brian was a Sr. Process Engineer for Pearson.

Brian received his Industrial Engineering Degree and MBA from University of Iowa and his PMP® from the Project Management Institute (PMI) in 2005. Brian has been a PMI and Eastern Iowa Chapter member since 2005. Brian is the current VP of Finance.



Past President, Bhaskar Pulikal, MBA, CISA, PMP®

Bhaskar has more than 20 years of experience in IT and Project Management in Banking, Finance and Telecommunication areas. Bhaskar started his career with a Management role in Reserve Bank of India and has worked in senior positions for over 15 years. He is currently a Senior Project Manager at Verizon Business and lead for the team that works on portfolio and release management of global billing and sales systems. Bhaskar has been with Verizon Business (formerly MCI) for 11 years.

Bhaskar did his Masters at Indian Institute for Technology. He started his MBA degree with the University of Cincinnati and completed it at the University of Iowa in 2002. He obtained his PMP® from the Project Management Institute (PMI) and has the Information Systems Audit (CISA) certification. Bhaskar served earlier on the Board of PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter as VP (Operations), Director of Logistics and Director of Individual Outreach. Bhaskar is the current President.


August Meeting Overview - Mark Athas, AVP Architecture, Information Technology, ACT Inc.

Mark Athas presented, “**Multi-Dimensional Behavior**” for the August Chapter meeting. Mark shared with the forum the obvious and not-so-obvious “people skills” required by today’s Project professionals. He summarized that these management styles fell into 4 distinct categories : Autocratic, Unassertive, Easy going and Collaborative.

The Chapter thanks Mr. Athas for speaking at our August meeting in Cedar Rapids.



Chapter Meetings Schedule (subject to change)

	Date and Time	Location	Topic and Presenter
	September 14, 2010	Clarion Hotel & Convention Center, 525 33rd Ave SW, Cedar Rapids	Fun Night!! Mark Latta, PMP® will present “Project Management and Marriage”.
	October 12, 2010	Clarion Hotel & Convention Center, 525 33rd Ave SW, Cedar Rapids	“Tips to Motivating Individuals -- On and Off Site” presented by Beth Anne Tingley-Pigge
	November 9, 2010	Clarion Hotel & Convention Center, 525 33rd Ave SW, Cedar Rapids	“Earned Value Management System (EVMS) How Can It Help You On Your Projects?” presented by Sung S. Stultz
	December 14, 2010	No meeting	

Priority Management Training Schedule (subject to change)

The following Priority Management sponsored professional development opportunities are available.

Please find more details at http://www.prioritymanagement.com/rsmith/workshop_schedule/ or send questions to

Date	Course ID	PDU's	Location	Title
Sep 21 & 28	1161-TN060100	7	Web workshop at your desk	Working Smart with Microsoft Outlook
Nov 2 & 9	1161-TN060100	7	Web workshop at your desk	Working Smart with Microsoft Outlook
Dec 8 & 15	1161-TN060100	7	Web workshop at your desk	Working Smart with Microsoft Outlook
2011 dates to be advised				

New Horizons Training Schedule (subject to change)

The following courses are available at New Horizons of Cedar Rapids in the coming months.

Visit www.newhorizonscr.com, email events.cedarrapids@newhorizons.com, or call 319-294-9035.

Date	PDU's	Location	Title
Sept 8	21	New Horizons	Project Server Administration
Sept 30	7	New Horizons	Microsoft Project 2007 – L2
Oct 6	21	New Horizons	Introduction to Project Management
Dec 6	21	New Horizons	Leadership for Project Managers
2011 dates to be advised			



Eastern Iowa PMI Chapter members attentively listening to Mark Athas presenting Multi-Dimensional Behavior

PMI - Eastern Iowa Chapter Contacts

2010 Board of Directors

President	Bhaskar Pulikal, PMP	president@pmieasterniowa.org
VP of Communications and Publicity	Tammy Sweat, PMP	communications@pmieasterniowa.org
VP of Education	Suzanne Prymek, PMP	education@pmieasterniowa.org
VP of Finance	Brian Thorn, PMP	financial@pmieasterniowa.org
VP of Operations	Carol Scherrman, PMP	operations@pmieasterniowa.org
VP of Outreach	Open	outreach@pmieasterniowa.org
Past President	Paddy Puthige, PMP	pastpresident@pmieasterniowa.org

2010 Directors

Director At-Large	Thom Lusardi, PMP	atlarge@pmieasterniowa.org
Director of Certifications	Carol Meeks, PMP	certification@pmieasterniowa.org
Director of Corporate Outreach	Steve Sawyer, PMP	corpoutreach@pmieasterniowa.org
Director of Individual Outreach	Open	indoutreach@pmieasterniowa.org
Director of University Outreach	Open	unioutreach@pmieasterniowa.org
Director of Logistics	Brian Wayling	logistics@pmieasterniowa.org
Director of Marketing	Jennifer James, PMP	marketing@pmieasterniowa.org
Director of Member Relations	Geri Stivers, PMP	membership@pmieasterniowa.org
Director of Newsletter	Behram Kasad	newsletter@pmieasterniowa.org
Director of Professional Development	Jacquie Haltmeyer	professional@pmieasterniowa.org
Director of Programs	Srikanth Kamineni	programs@pmieasterniowa.org
Director of Technology	Milind Shalia	technology@pmieasterniowa.org
Director of Volunteers	Nita Inani, PMP	volunteers@pmieasterniowa.org
Director of Website	Mark Bazzell, PMP	website@pmieasterniowa.org

Other Contacts

Chapter Monthly Program Registration	Program Registration	programregistration@pmieasterniowa.org
Chapter Training Registration	Training Registration	Online registration.
Chapter Website Administrator	Webmaster	Contact Director of Website.



— Registration is now open —



PMI Eastern Iowa

October 21, 2010

3rd Annual Professional Development Day

EXPLORING OPPORTUNITIES

Kirkwood Center For Continuing Education
7725 Kirkwood Blvd. SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
<http://www.kirkwood.edu/maincampus>

Registration begins July 1, 2010.

Early Bird Special until September 30, 2010

\$199 per PMI Member/ \$229 per non PMI Member

After September 30, 2010

\$229 per PMI Member/ \$259 per non PMI Member

Register online:

<https://www.123signup.com/register?id=mckpr>



Keynote:

Dr. Ginger Levin, PMP, PgMP

"Successful Virtual Teams for Project Management Excellence"

Track 1



Doug Williams, PMP

"Using Deliberate Project Communications Management"



Gayle Mote

"Building the Emotional Intelligence of Your Project Team"



Closing:

Tim Kasse

"Utilize Multiple Models and Standards to Enhance Your Project Management Knowledge and Skills"

Track 2

Dr. Ginger Levin, PMP, PgMP

"Embracing Change in Project Management and in Your Career"



David Wanetick

"Initiating a Devil's Advocate Program"



For more details visit
<http://www.pmieasterniowa.org>

PDD Sponsors

**Gold
Sponsor**



**Silver
Sponsor**



Sponsor levels available:

Platinum Sponsor	\$4,000.00
Gold Sponsor	\$2,000.00
Silver Sponsor	\$1,000.00
Bronze Sponsor	\$500.00
Tradeshow Booth Only	\$500.00

How sponsorship works?

	PLATINUM	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
Company recognized on PDD program	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Company featured in monthly newsletter	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Company logo on select promotional item	Yes	Yes	No	No
Company name recognized in opening and closing addresses	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Tradeshow booth in general session area	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Company name and logo on chapter Web site	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Display of banner provided by sponsor in general session area	Yes	No	No	No
Number of free admissions to the PDD	3	2	1	1