



Building professionalism in project management.™

**Project Management Institute  
Eastern Iowa Chapter**

P.O. Box 1811, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-1811

<http://www.pmieasterniowa.org>

[communications@pmieasterniowa.org](mailto:communications@pmieasterniowa.org)

**Happy New Year**



**January 2011**

## President's Corner – Building upon the Leadership of Others

By Tammy Sweat, PMP

As this is my first article I'm writing as the chapter President, I feel it is appropriate for me to start off by saying "Thank you for your support"! It's an honor to be leading such a great group of professionals...many of whom I have known for almost 20 years (does this age me?). We have watched each other mature, raise families and grow in our professional development. I'm glad that I have had the opportunity to share life's best with you.

Look at this list of previous chapter presidents. Years ago I never imagined that I would follow in their footsteps. All I can say is that I will try to live up to their standards and build upon the foundation that they have laid out before us.



### PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter's Past Presidents (hats off to you!)

Name	Year(s) Served	Name	Year(s) Served
Bill Dietrich	1996 and 1997	Steve Rucker	2003 and 2004
Martin T. Bruns	1998	Bob Sanders	2005 and 2006
Colin Cornhill	1999	Darin Hart	2007 and 2008
Stan Bryant	2000	Paddy Puthige	2009
Glenda Dixon	2001 and 2002	Bhaskar Pulikal	2010



I know this will be a great year. Our chapter's leadership is full of outstanding volunteers (see page 12). This group is dedicated, hard-working and willing to go the "extra mile" to benefit all chapter members. I'm sure you feel their enthusiasm! I certainly do.

Some of the things our leadership team would like to accomplish this year include:

- Rolling out the new web-site (and you are going to love this!)
- Changing the format of our annual PDD; possibly hosting two all-day training sessions
- Continuing the monthly meetings and newsletters
- Partnering with local universities to increase education opportunities

You can also help our chapter be successful too by attending events, providing feedback, volunteering to present, and by selling cookies (oh that's not us). The message is, please get involved this year!! The more help the leadership team receives, the more we can offer each chapter member.

I look forward to serving you during the course of 2011. My "door" is always open – please feel free to visit me, send me an email, or call to discuss any concerns you have with the chapter. I promise to exercise good listening skills and to take your concerns seriously.

Tammy Sweat

[President@pmieasterniowa.org](mailto:President@pmieasterniowa.org)

*See Page 2 for Chapter Meeting details*

**ISSUE 1**

**100's NUGGET**

## News you need to know

### Our Next Chapter Meeting - February 10, 2011

The next PMI breakfast meeting will be held on [Thursday, February 10th, 2011](#) from 7:15 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. at the **Clarion Hotels and Convention Center, 525 33<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Cedar Rapids SW**, Iowa. The Clarion Hotel and Convention Center phone number is [\(319\) 366-8671](#).

**Program Title:**

“Enterprise Operational Analytics for Program Management” presented by Joel Gaede

**About the Program:**

Broad based Operational Analytics have traditionally been a tenet of only the largest corporations. Through the use of existing technologies and business analysis packages, we are creating a unified vision of operational utilization patterns and trends. Analysis is also performed incorporating equity market technical analysis to provide an additional interpretation of data. The central component of the ACT Operational Analytics and Forecasting Program is the monetization of computing resources, enabling a viable chargeback model. Components of the computational currency will include server, network, electricity, maintenance contracts, etc.. These analyses are then used by leadership to provide accurate long term budget projections and allow timely allocation of resources for key business programs.

**About the Speaker:**

Joel Gaede has over 25 years in IT operations, in the fields of finance, manufacturing and education. He is currently developing the Operational Analytics and Forecasting Program at ACT Inc, in Iowa City. Joel holds a Masters of Business Administration and is currently pursuing a Masters of Science in Informatics at the University of Iowa.

**Cost:** Chapter Members, \$10; Guests, \$15

**RSVP:** Please confirm no later than Thursday, Feb

4th, to [programregistration@pmieasterniowa.org](mailto:programregistration@pmieasterniowa.org); use FEBRUARY REGISTRATION in the subject line. Cancellations must be received by COB, Friday, February 5th to avoid being charged as a no-show for this chapter event

**Program Schedule:**

7:15 - 7:30	Registration, breakfast, and networking
7:30 - 7:35	Reading and Voting of the new Chapter By-Laws
7:35 - 7:45	Other Chapter announcements by Chapter President / Chapter Officers
7:45 - 8:45	Presentation / Discussion
8:45 - 9:00	Final announcements and wrap-up

#### Inside This Issue

- 1 Message from the President
- 2 Member News
- 5 New PDU Categories
- 6 Chapter By-Law Proposed Changes
- 7 Things to know to pass the PMP Examination
- 9 Chapter Website
- 11 Important Dates
- 12 Who's Who

#### WIN A FREE BREAKFAST MEETING

As we all know the Chapter Leadership team has now changed and we all feel that it would be an opportune time to change the name of our Newsletter from “100’s Nugget” to something else. For those of you that were interested in the reason for the previous name – the Eastern Iowa Chapter is the 100<sup>th</sup> chapter of the PMI.

If you have any suggestions please send them to [newsletter@pmieasterniowa.org](mailto:newsletter@pmieasterniowa.org).

The winner will get an invitation to attend a Chapter Meeting in 2011 at no cost.

The closing date for this is January 7, 2011 so get your entries in soon.

## News you need to know



Chapter Members, please welcome back Bob Sanders to a volunteer position within our chapter. He will serve as the Director of University Outreach in 2011. Bob has previously held volunteer positions for the chapter serving as Vice President of Programs in 2003 and 2004 and as the Chapter President in 2005 and 2006. Bob is also an active volunteer for the PMI Educational Foundation with PMI Global.

Bob has been employed at Pearson since 1999. He is currently the Director of Program Management within Assessments & Information. Bob holds a BA degree in Sociology from University of South Florida and earned his Project Management Professional certification in 2001.

---

### CHAPTER FEES TO CHANGE

Starting January 1, 2011 the Eastern Iowa Local Chapter fee will increase from \$25 to **\$30**. This increase helps offset the costs of special events like the PDD, sponsoring the scholarship and rising costs.

This fee will be indicated on your membership Renewal Notices under "**COMPONENT MEMBERSHIPS-Eastern Iowa Chapter**".

---

### CHAPTER MEETING DAYS TO CHANGE

As announced in previous Newsletters, commencing February 2011, the monthly Chapter meetings will no longer take place on Tuesdays.

The new day will now be Thursday.

The first meeting for 2011, will take place on Thursday February 10, 2011.

---

### CHAPTER LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE CHANGES

In the interests of stream lining Chapter Roles and Responsibilities the Leadership team has eliminated some existing Board of Director roles.

**Merged** - Director of Website with Director of Technology, Director of Corporate Outreach with other VP roles

**Eliminated** – Director at Large, Director of Volunteers, and Director of Technology.

### Your PMI Profile

Carol Scherrman, VP of Operations

Do you know what a DEP is? Do you know why it's important to our chapter? Do you know what your role with the DEP is? No, no, and no? Take a moment to review the following information and find the answers to these three primary questions.

### What is the DEP?

The Data Exchange Program (DEP) is a comprehensive set of products and services provided monthly by the Project Management Institute (PMI) to PMI chapters for tracking chapter membership and financial information.

### Why is the DEP important to our chapter?

The DEP provides each chapter with a current list of members along with their contact information. The member e-mail distribution list that our chapter uses to send announcements about upcoming meetings and events is pulled from the DEP. The DEP provides information on members due for renewal and alerts us to new members. The DEP also can tell us how many of our members hold the Project Management Professional® (PMP®) or other PMI credential and how many members work at particular employers in the Corridor.

PMI makes the DEP available to chapters by the 12<sup>th</sup> day of the month for the previous month. For example, the December DEP—with updates to membership and personal information through December 31—will be available by January 12.

### What is my role with the DEP?

The DEP is created, in part, from the personal information you provide directly to PMI; therefore, it is important to keep your personal information updated on [pmi.org](http://pmi.org). The DEP is the chapter's sole source for your contact information.

There are two primary areas that you should review or update when your position or primary contact information changes.

- Go to [www.pmi.org](http://www.pmi.org)
- Click **Log In** in the upper right corner of the PMI homepage
- Enter your PMI Username and Password (If you have not previously set up a PMI Username and Password, click **Register now**)
- Click **My PMI**, which is your place to personalize and customize your information. Under My PMI, there are 12 categories of information. For purposes of what is important for updating the DEP, there are two key categories:
  1. **Contact** – This is the area to setup your contact information and delineate personal from professional phone numbers, e-mail, and physical addresses. To review or update your information, click **My contact info**. The e-mail address you designate as your “primary e-mail” is the one the chapter uses for its distribution list.
  2. **Professional** – In this area, enter information about your career, where you currently work, and your involvement with project management. To review or update your professional information, click **Professional profile**. The key pieces of information from this page are your company name and your job/title.

Keeping your contact information current ensures that you receive chapter announcements in a timely manner. In a typical month, the chapter might receive 25-30 e-mail announcements that are bounced back due to an e-mail address that is no longer valid. Secondly, the name badges for our monthly meetings or training events are created from the information the DEP pulls from your profile. Updating your information when your company or position changes helps us to create accurate name badges for our events.

Help us help you stay current with chapter news and announcements. Keep your PMI profile up-to-date on [pmi.org](http://pmi.org). Spread the word! If one of your chapter colleagues mentions that they are not receiving Eastern Iowa Chapter e-mail messages, suggest that they check their profile on [pmi.org](http://pmi.org) for any necessary updates.

## CCR PDU Categories are being updated

Submitted by Denise Boeding, PMP®

Dear PMI Community Leaders:

PMI has an exciting update for you regarding improvements to the PDU structure within the Continuing Certification Requirements (CCR) Program.

These updates are both important to note for you and the credential holders that you support in the communities you lead. PMI used feedback from both credential holders who report their PDUs and trainers who register their courses for PDUs as the impetus for investigating a revision of the PDU categories.

### Background and Market Research on CCR Program and PDU Structure

PMI commissioned a major study of the CCR Program in 2007 which identified key areas for enhancement. The first enhancement was the development of PMI's in-house reporting system (CCRS) which launched in August 2009 and the in-sourcing of the operations and management for CCR. This initial enhancement has received positive feedback from PMI stakeholders.

The second proposed enhancement was to improve and simplify the Professional Development Unit (PDU) category structure for ease of reporting. In preparation for making the PDU category structure enhancement to the system, PMI did a formal study targeting PMI credential holders, PMI Registered Education Providers (REPs) and Community Leaders presenting the new categories and asking for their feedback.

As indicated by the findings from this study, the proposed new CCR PDU categories were positively received and were seen as assisting in the process for credential renewal:

- The majority of survey respondents found the new categories to be appropriate
- Only 9% mentioned any additional ways to earn PDUs
- 82% were satisfied or very satisfied with the new categories
- 76% thought it would be much better or somewhat better than the current categories
- 72% strongly or somewhat agreed that it would make the credential easier to renew
- 61% said they would be much more likely or somewhat likely to renew their credential, due to the category structure changes

### PDU Updated Category Structure Implementation Begins on 1 March 2011

We are reaching out starting in December 2010 to provide direction for credential holders for reporting their PDUs before and after the launch date.

*Continues on next page*

## What You Need to Know

Between now and 1 March 2011, PMI is requesting that credential holders register their existing PDUs in the CCR system under the current PDU categories. After 1 March 2011, credential holders will need to report PDUs using the new categories.

Key changes to the program include:

- Simplification to the CCR category structure, reducing the number of categories from 18 to 6
- Ensuring that all categories use the rule that one hour of learning activity is equivalent to one PDU
- Expanding the categories to include Web 2.0 learning opportunities
- Adding limits on certain categories to require that all credential holders pursue project management continuing education as part of maintaining their credential

It is also important to note what is not changing in the program:

- The three-year renewal cycle and number of PDUs required to maintain the credential will remain the same
- The re-certification fee structure will remain the same

Since research has shown that people did not fully understand the PDU categories and how to appropriately report their PDUs using that structure, we are pleased to respond to this customer feedback to make the structure more user-friendly and better serve our certification holders and the stakeholders who support them.

Please take a moment to read through the [FAQs](#) and the [New PDU Category Structure and Policies](#) document on PMI.org for more detailed information about this update. If you have questions, please contact [Chapter Support](#) or [Virtual Communities Support](#).

Best regards,

Brian A. Weiss, MBA  
Vice President, Product Management

---

## Vote to Change Chapter By-Laws

By Tammy Sweat, PMP

Your Board of Directors has a few proposed changes to our Chapter's By-Laws. As the By-Laws state, any changes to them must be voted upon by the chapter members. This vote can take place at a scheduled chapter meeting. So at the February chapter meeting, we will vote on the following changes:

- Global change of VP of Communications to be renamed Communications & Publicity.
- Section 5.0, 5.8 & 7.4 – Added the PMP certification requirement for holding the President role for the chapter.
- Section 6.2 – Removed term limits for BOD members, and clarified term limit of one year for the President.
- 6.9 – Removed references to Policy File. This has not been used or maintained for several years.
- 7.8 – Removed the references to Proxy voting.
- 8.0 – Removed reference to charter for directors.

Copies of the entire Chapter By-Laws will be available at the February meeting.



## The 7 Things You Need to Pass The PMP Exam

By Cornelius Fichtner, PMP ®

The Project Management Institute (PMI) has developed a set of criteria and credentials for recognizing Project Management Professionals (PMPs) worldwide. The credentialing process is fairly rigorous, including: three to five documented years of work experience in project management, 35 hours of project management related training, and successful completion of the multiple-choice PMP Exam. The amount of material on the PMP Exam is vast and can seem overwhelming, but don't be intimidated! Having and using the 7 items in this article will ensure you are prepared to meet the exam head-on and achieve optimal results both on exam day and in your future career.

### 1. PMP Credential Handbook

Including everything from an overview of the PMI certification program to exam policies and procedures, the PMP Credential Handbook is available for free online at: [http://www.pmi.org/Certification/~media/PDF/Certifications/pdc\\_pmphandbook.ashx](http://www.pmi.org/Certification/~media/PDF/Certifications/pdc_pmphandbook.ashx). The first 20 pages of the handbook cover many exam basics and are a must-read for every potential examinee. Becoming familiar with the application process, payment policy, and examination administration rules will go a long way to making the actual exam day less stressful.

### 2. Time

The material on the PMP Exam is vast and detailed. This is not an examination you can "cram" for in a couple of weekends. Plan to take the exam after spending 10-12 solid weeks of studying for an hour or two nearly every day. Naturally, this schedule will have to be flexible enough to fit in with the rest of your responsibilities and commitments.

### 3. A Study Plan And Schedule

As project managers, we are well aware of the importance of a plan and schedule. Create a study schedule over 10-12 weeks that fits with the rest of your responsibilities. Depending on your job and household commitments, you may need more or less time. Take a practice exam to evaluate your weaknesses and consider spending more time on those areas. Be realistic in how much material you can cover each day and set weekly goals to track your progress. Don't forget to include time for refreshing breaks and activities that you enjoy.

### 4. PMBOK® Guide, 4th Edition

The PMP Exam is based on the most current version of the [PMBOK®](#) Guide. Specific principles include communication, cost management, human resources, integration, procurement, quality, risk, scope, and time management. It is essential to understand each of these topics individually and how they work together for overall project management success.

### 5. Self Study Course

It bears repeating: The PMP Exam covers a large amount of material in a relatively short period of time. Don't be discouraged! While many project managers are able to successfully schedule their time to achieve optimal results, almost everyone can benefit from an online or self study course.

The latest generation of self study courses come to you as PMP Podcasts/Videocasts, that you download to your laptop or portable player. In this way your PMP Exam preparation becomes completely portable.

Self study PMP Podcasts help divide the material into manageable portions and assist you in developing a successful schedule. Focused instruction over a specific timeline will help you meet your study goals and may count toward the required 35 hours of project management instruction.

### 6. PMP Exam Prep Book

There are a wide variety of PMP Exam prep books available. Some people call them "study guides". They complement and explain the dry concepts from the PMBOK Guide and having one at hand in your studies is an absolute must. Go to your local bookstore and select one that fits with your style of learning and covers a variety of high- and low-yield topics.

### 7. Questions. Questions. Questions.

A large number of free PMP Exam sample questions are available from hundreds of resources on the internet. These free mock exams are a good start, but because they are free they will only go so far for you. You will also want to subscribe to an online PMP Exam Simulator to have access to the highest possible quality of samples.

Your study plan must include answering as many practice questions as possible including at least seven to eight complete 200-question practice exams. This type of preparation will help gauge your study progress and prepare you for the format of the real thing. You will be nervous on exam day, but becoming intimately familiar with types and formats of questions will help reduce anxiety and prepare you for success.

To sum up, there are a few simple things you can do to ensure you are prepared for the PMP Exam. Including these 7 items in your studies will reduce anxiety and eliminate stress associated with the exam day. Study hard and good luck!

*About the author:* Cornelius Fichtner, PMP is a noted PMP expert. He has helped over 10,000 students prepare for the PMP Exam with *The Project Management PrepCast* at <http://www.pm-prepcast.com> and *The PMP Exam Simulator* at <http://www.pm-exam-simulator.com>

## Do You Know Me?

By Margaret Meloni, MBA, PMP®

An Anonymous Letter from a Co-Worker

I am smart and funny. I am truly quirky and proud of it. Sometimes I create or get caught up in drama. My life can be fast paced. Some people think of me as highly creative, others see me as some type of genius or mad scientist. Some people like me, some love me but nobody is neutral when my name is mentioned.

I am really messy, I just can't help it - it is my nature. At least I can make myself and others laugh by making fun of my idiosyncrasies. I know where everything is, even though my desk is nearly invisible under the mountains of documents that cover every square inch of space.

Who am I really? Although you like me, I am that person who sometimes drives you crazy. I don't mean to drive you crazy. I guess the fact that I express my creativity or genius through disorganization gets on your nerves. I suppose that when I misplace or borrow things and never return them, you take it personally. If it makes you feel any better, I do this to everyone. I forget such things but I'm never offended if someone asks me to return something that I borrowed; I just wish more people would remind me when I don't return things. And even though I think of myself as a creative genius, I do not always think that I am smarter or superior to everyone else. I am what I am.

Can I be honest with you? I don't want to use your system to stay organized. I know I can be a better co-worker to you, but I am actually intimidated by planners and filing systems. I just don't get how they work or why I should be constrained by these so-called tools. When I try to maintain a filing system I spend so much time trying to keep things organized that I'm totally ineffective at my job.

I am willing to accept your help. I have given this considerable thought, here are some ideas:

- Don't ask me to take notes or messages. We both know this is a recipe for disaster. When I try to take notes, I usually don't understand what I wrote. Perhaps you can rely on voice mail or recordings.
- Speaking of recorded messages, I hate a planner, but I might love some type of handheld electronic device to help me stay on top of things. Something where I can record memos and easily play them back would be useful. I have heard there are voice organizers.
- Can we work together to come up an innovative approach for me? You know I love things that are creative. You know what organization can do for me and I know how I think. If we combine talents we might just find a way to help me.
- Whatever process we invent for me, let's make it streamlined and easy. Otherwise I will become frustrated and lose interest or spend so much time organizing myself that I won't get any work done.
- Recognize that organization is not my strength.
- Send a little help my way. If we have an administrative assistant available, perhaps that person can spare an hour a week to help me get it together? If not, how about you or others take turns helping me out and in exchange I will buy you lunch?

I want to be a good employee. I love my job and enjoy my coworkers. I don't like to inconvenience people with my disorganization but I don't know how I can change. I may be quirky and creative and sometimes a bit irritating but I truly want to be the best worker that I'm able to be.

One of the things I like about working under someone like you is that you have always found a way to make weakness into a strength. Instead of chastising a worker for failing, you always encourage us to learn from our mistakes and that gives us confidence. I hope that you and I can work together so that I'm an asset to the team and not a problem.

Thank you for reading this!

Sincerely,  
The Creative Genius

*About the Author:* Margaret Meloni, MBA, PMP, is an executive coaching consultant for IT professionals. She helps project managers and teams work together better by improving their soft skills. Learn how to successfully combine your technical and soft skills in her webinars from The PDU Podcast ([www.pducast.com](http://www.pducast.com)) and from her website at [www.margaretmeloni.com](http://www.margaretmeloni.com).





## Coming soon...

### PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter New and Improved Web Site

Carol Scherrman, VP of Operations

In 2010, the Eastern Iowa Chapter's Leadership Team identified several issues and areas for improvement with our current Web site, content management system, e-mail platform, and online registration functions. A small team was formed to research options for a more streamlined system that would enhance functionality to our members, automate some of the manual processes being performed by the Leadership Team, and provide an overall best value to the chapter's membership.

From the initial search of products available in the market, three primary options were considered:

- 1) Cvent (a market leader in event management and marketing)
- 2) PMPlatform (an enterprise system developed by the PMI Central Indiana Chapter)
- 3) No change (Continue with our current tools and platform)

After careful consideration of the functionality, reliability, costs, and support available with each option, the Board of Director voted to adopt the PMPlatform. In November 2010, we began work to convert to the new system and are hoping to complete the cutover in early 2011.

### What is PMPlatform?

The PMI Central Indiana Chapter designed the PMPlatform software as an enterprise system to address all aspects of a PMI chapter's business. PMPlatform was developed by and for PMI members and chapter leadership. Several other chapters in the Midwest region have adopted PMPlatform, including the Central Iowa (Des Moines ), Northeast Wisconsin, and Chicagoland chapters to name a few.

### What benefits will I see as a chapter member?

PMPlatform consolidates the several disparate systems currently being used by the chapter (Web site, e-mail distribution, content management, event registration, and chapter meeting RSVP) into a single platform. Once the new web site is in production, you will be able to view a master calendar of events, register and pay for upcoming meetings or chapter-sponsored training, read chapter newsletters and other announcements, learn about chapter leadership roles and responsibilities, print attendance forms for professional development unit (PDU) verification, and access information about the chapter. The new site will also allow us to publish content that is available to the public and to restrict access to other content, as necessary, to chapter members only.

### What is the implementation timeline?

The table below gives a high-level overview of the Implementation Team's progress with the implementation.

Timeframe	Major milestones
November 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Licensing agreements signed</li> <li>▪ Kick-off meeting held</li> </ul>
December 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Content of current site mapped</li> <li>▪ Chapter organizational structure and e-mail accounts identified</li> <li>▪ Staging site populated with new content (in progress)</li> <li>▪ Merchant/financial accounts set up (in progress)</li> </ul>
January 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Site policies and procedures documented (in progress)</li> <li>▪ Complete publication of new site content</li> <li>▪ Complete set up and test merchant/financial accounts</li> <li>▪ Finalize site policies and procedures</li> <li>▪ Craft marketing plan to membership</li> </ul>
February 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Perform user testing of production site</li> <li>▪ Go Live!</li> </ul>

*Continues on Page 10*

As you might imagine, beginning a project of this size with a volunteer Implementation Team during months with several major holidays and numerous personal and professional commitments presents some time management challenges. We are making every effort to keep the project on schedule so that we get the enhanced system into production for our members as quickly as possible.

### **What happens until the new site is in production?**

Until our new platform goes LIVE, we will continue to post announcements to our current Web site and will continue to send e-mail blasts regarding upcoming chapter meetings and events.

If you have any questions or concerns, please direct them to [operations@pmieasterniowa.org](mailto:operations@pmieasterniowa.org).

## **2011 New Beginnings**

Behram Kasad, VP Communications and Publicity

*" Now everybody's talking about this new decade, like you say the magic numbers  
Then just say goodbye to the stupid mistakes you made, my memory serves me far too well  
Don't you know that the years will come and go; some of us will change our lives  
Some of us still have nothing to show, nothing, but memories. "*

These lyrics from a George Michael song have a ring of truth to them. The months, the years, the decades they come and they go and while we expect things to change around us, we fail to keep up with the changing times. How often have we started something and given up on it?

With the New Year come new resolutions! Of course, there will be the usual suspects namely - to lose weight, give up smoking and get fit (apparently the most popular ones for decades). Many of which will fall by the way side on day 8, but kudos to all those that do continue to the bitter end. Hopefully one of them will be to become a better person, a better professional, a better human. Does anyone ever start of the year by declaring that they were going to contribute more to charity, or volunteer more time to a worthy cause? Well some of you just did by joining the leadership team of our chapter. So welcome to those new folks that came aboard.

This would be my first formal article to this newsletter and it feels somewhat intimidating to think that some people might actually read this and think 'I can do better'. Well that is precisely the goal of my article, you don't have to have written a best seller in the past year or be a closet Dan Brown to submit an article for this newsletter. I guess the adage *"if I can do it, anyone can do it"* applies here. As long as it has a theme that bridges personal life, topical discussion and/or project management. Well that's a pretty wide bridge if you ask me! So I encourage you all to step up send us your missives for our monthly newsletter.

The newsletter articles that you read are submitted by volunteers that put personal time and energy into compiling them while doing their day jobs and committing time to the chapter during their spare time. So I request you to give them a break allowing them to commit more time to their chapter duties! Go on – you have nothing to lose. Make it your resolution to play a greater role in your chapter. And earn PDUs for doing so.

Win win – me thinks!

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### JANUARY 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

1 – New Years Day  
17 – Martin Luther King Day

### FEBRUARY 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

10 – PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter Meeting  
14 – Valentine's Day  
21 – Presidents' Day

### MARCH 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

10 - PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter Meeting  
13 – Daylight Savings start (Spring Forward)

### APRIL 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

7 - PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter Meeting  
15 – State income tax filing deadline  
18 – Federal income tax filing deadline  
21, 22, 23 - Region 2 Meeting (Manitoba)

## WHO's Who?

Role	Name
President	Tammy Sweat, MSPM, PMP®
VP of Communications and Publicity	Behram Kasad, MBA
VP of Education	Srikanth C Kamineni
VP of Finance	Brian Thorn, PMP®
VP of Operations	Carol Scherrman, PMP®
VP of Outreach	Suzanne Prymek, PMP®
Past President	Bhaskar Pulikal, MBA, CISA, PMP®
Director of Certifications	Denise Boeding, PMP®
Director of Individual Outreach	Mary Phelan, PMP®
Director of University Outreach	Bob Sanders, PMP®
Director of Logistics	Brian Wayling
Director of Marketing	Jennifer James, PMP®
Director of Member Relations	Geri Stivers, PMP®
Director of Newsletter	<b>Open</b>
Director of Professional Development	Jacquie Haltmeyer, PMP®
Director of Programs	Terry Silberger
Director of Website	Mark Bazzell, MBA, PMP®