

November 2012

Nov. 8, 2012 Monthly Meeting

This month's PMI breakfast meeting will be held on Thursday, November 8, 2012 from 7:15 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., at the **Clarion Hotel and Convention Center at 525 33rd Ave SW in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.** A buffet breakfast will be provided.

**Program: "Moving from Diversity 1.0 to Inclusion –
Using our differences to move our projects forward"**
presented by Beth Anne Tingley-Pigge

Description: This session follows up on the presenter's article in our October newsletter, "How Can Inclusion Help Your Project? Book Review - The Inclusion Paradox, by Andres Tapia"

About the Speaker Elizabeth Anne Tingley-Pigge

Beth Anne currently serves as the Director, Project Management, Enterprise Release Management, Cigna Healthcare and is the Virtual Colleague Resource Group Co-Lead, Domestic US Diversity Team, for Cigna Healthcare.

Beth Anne was born and raised in a blue collar neighborhood outside of Detroit, Michigan. She received a Bachelor's of Art degree from The College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio and completed a Master's of Health Services Administration from the University of Michigan's School of Public Health. She is Project Management Professional (PMP), Performance Catalyst, and Six Sigma Black Belt Certified. Over the last 23 years, Beth Anne has worked as a manager of teams and as an individual contributor with small start-up companies, large hospital systems and with Cigna. Her roles have crossed business and technology. Currently, she works for the Enterprise Release Management Team in Bloomfield, CT. She lives in Iowa City, Iowa with her husband of 22 years and three children, 16, 14 and 9 years old. Outside of work, she is an exercise enthusiast and loves spending time outdoors, especially if it is with her family. Also, she enjoys cooking for others and hosting parties with her husband.

Cost: Chapter Members: \$13; Guests: \$20

Registration Deadline: Sunday, November 4, 2012 (11:45 p.m. CT)

Register at www.pmieasterniowa.org and click **Events > Monthly Program Meetings > November 2012 Monthly Meeting**

Notes: All meeting registration fees will be collected using our online registration/payment system. It is important to register in advance so we have an accurate attendance count for food, beverage, and seating. Thank you for your assistance in this important matter.

7:15 - 7:30 a.m. Registration, breakfast and networking

7:30 - 7:45 a.m. Opening by Chapter Officers

7:45 - 8:45 a.m. Presentation / Discussion

8:45 - 9:00 a.m. Final announcements and wrap-up

This is our last chapter meeting for 2012 and your last opportunity to network with your colleagues and earn a PDU before the holidays. We hope to see you there!

Inside This Issue

- 1 Monthly Meeting
- 2 President's Corner
- 3 PDD 2012
- 4 News and Views
- 5 10 Must Read Blogs
- 6 PM Training
- 7 Chapter Stats
- 7 Chapter Meetings
- 8 Dates to Remember
- 9 Chapter Leadership

President's Corner

By Carol Scherrman, PMP®, Chapter President

The Frankenstorm

As I write this article, NBC News is periodically interrupting the knock out rounds on the "The Voice" with updates of Hurricane Sandy, now downgraded to a "superstorm," as it continues to pummel the east coast—lower Manhattan is flooding, parts of the famed boardwalk in Atlantic City has been destroyed, 2.8 million homes are already out of power, landslides are forecasted, and the list goes on. Sadly, the storm is just now coming ashore, so we are sure to hear more devastating updates. Hurricane Sandy was nicknamed the Frankenstorm because of the frightening predictions of the damage she would cause.

What does a hurricane have to do with this month's article? Well, actually nothing. If I had to stretch for a correlation, there has been a lot weather activity on the east coast over the course of the past two days. Similarly, there has been a lot going on within our chapter in the past month.

First, I would like to thank everyone who participated in our 2013 election process. Our slate of candidates has been confirmed, and I am pleased to announce the following members of our 2013 Board of Directors:

- Behram Kasad, PMP® - President
- Mary Phelan, PMP® - VP of Finance
- Mark Bazzell, PMP® - VP of Communications and Publicity
- Denise Boeding, PMP® - VP of Education

Two Board of Director positions currently remain open, the VP of Outreach and the VP Operations. The Board is currently vetting write-in candidates for these positions and hopes to appoint individuals to fill the vacancies within the next few weeks. The first order of business for new members of the Board will be to ensure that all of our director positions are filled for next year. If you have an interest in volunteering with the chapter, you can review an overview of each position on the Volunteer page on our website. Send an e-mail to the VP who oversees the role for which you have an interest.

Our fifth annual Professional Development Day on Friday, October 12, 2012 was a great success, with nearly 100 chapter members and guests in attendance. Read more about this event later in our newsletter.



On October 18-20, 2012, incoming chapter president Behram Kasad and I attended the PMI North American Leadership Institute Meeting (LIM) in Vancouver, British Columbia. This was the largest LIM in history with nearly 1,000 attendees from over 87 countries. When we weren't being reminded about how much Canadians *love* hockey, we were inspired and informed with great general sessions and numerous breakout sessions.

The overarching goal of the LIM is to provide chapter leaders with the tools and ideas they need to provide the best value and programming to chapter members. There were many opportunities to network with colleagues from around the world and learn about the interesting things they are doing in their chapters. It was exciting for me to learn that the successes and challenges faced by the chapters in Northern Italy, Saudi Arabia, Peru, North Saskatchewan, or Sioux Falls are very similar to our successes and challenges in the Eastern Iowa Chapter.

The common themes I heard are continuing to provide member value (quality programs and low prices), engaging volunteers, and managing your budget to support chapter programming. The big announcement this year from PMI Global was their formal Chapter Web Services initiative. PMI is now providing chapters a list of preferred website solution providers. You'll be hearing more about this as our chapter moves to a new website platform in 2013.

This was my second year attending the LIM, and it is an invaluable opportunity for chapter leaders. The trouble, for me at least, is that I have a list of about 40 "great ideas" that I would love to see our chapter explore. I had a similar extensive list after last year's LIM. The problem is distilling that huge list down into the top five and working to implement the ideas that will give our members the biggest return.



Finally, I do want to encourage everyone to come out for our last chapter meeting of 2012 on November 8 at the Clarion. Where did the year go? I can't believe this is our last time to be together until February 2013.

The 2012 PDD Highlights another Great Year

By Mark Bazzell, MBA, PMP®, VP of Communications and Publicity

The 2012 Eastern Iowa Chapter Professional Development Day was abuzz on Friday, October 12, while the facilities staff brought in additional tables to seat the overflow crowd. President Carol Scherrman settled the chatter and quickly gained control with "Let's Get it Started" from The Black Eyed Peas. Carol thanked our gracious sponsors Pearson, ACT, St. Ambrose University, The Hotel at Kirkwood, RMC Project Management, and O'Reilly and then set the stage for a great event.

Representing St. Ambrose University, George Hollins teamed with Fred Smith to present "Leading Project Teams" with practical tips, interesting examples, and a thought provoking exercise. Hollins was spot on with his message about managing stress and applying project management techniques to make projects predictable and less stressful. Hollins made strong recommendations for gaining commitment from team members and capturing lessons learned. The interactive audience challenged him several times and Hollins responded with relevant guidelines including how to gain and enforce commitment from team members. Hollins' handout is available on the chapter website.

Fred Smith led a team building exercise that encouraged group interaction. We all had an opportunity to meet new colleagues and learn how our personal environments and preconceptions influence our decision making process.

After lunch, Angie Bennett, of Dardis Communications, presented "Professional Presentation Skills." Bennett delivered an overview of eight key communication skills in an interactive format with many practical exercises. To compress the class into a half-day format, Bennett focused on the effective use of your eyes and hands. She added to our learning with tips about "Briefing the Boss."

The audience included guests from the Quad Cities and Dubuque. Everyone who attended earned seven Professional Development Units, but they received much more by gaining knowledge, practical tips, and the opportunity to reconnect with colleagues and meet new people.

News and Views

One Team's Experience with The Inclusion Paradox, by Andres Tapia

Written by Kris Kestermont-Pierce

Edited by: Beth Anne Tingley-Pigge

At Cigna, we believe that diversity is the cornerstone of our global business, while inclusion lets us leverage a world of insights, perspectives and experiences that help us to make a positive difference for both our customers and employees.

The Enterprise Release Management team at Cigna in CT wanted to more deeply understand how they could leverage diversity and inclusion and become more effective. Therefore, everyone – Senior Lead, Directors and all team members – incorporated diversity and inclusion into their Annual Performance Objectives (APOs). In an effort to make this a fun task, the team chose to create a weekly book club discussion and selected “The Inclusion Paradox” by Andres Tapia.

Kristine Kestermont-Pierce, IT Project Management Senior Specialist, feels that the book club discussions have been critical in helping her team understand diversity and inclusion and how to best leverage each other’s strengths:

“Our discussions are interactive – we relate the book’s significant topics to our own lives and experiences, and I have learned so much about others on our team, their struggles, experiences, joys, and about our cultural differences. And now our team is more aware of the importance of understanding that people and cultures are different, and that the only way to really succeed in our business is to acknowledge and embrace our differences.”

Terry Shepherd, IT Project Manager, shared her ‘inclusion aha’ moment:

“What I’ve found most eye-opening for me so far is that diversity is so much more than ethnicity, religion, or age. It reaches far beyond those things and that unless we ‘marry’ it with inclusion, we won’t realize the full benefits of being a truly diverse company.”

Diane Wilson, IT Project Management Senior Specialist, shared her favorite line from the book and what it means to her:

“I think the saying ‘be the change you want to see in the world’ means we need to toss out negative stereotypes and totally commit to embracing our differences because we are stronger, together!”

Collectively – and globally – all Cigna team members need to remember that inclusion (making the mix work by leveraging people’s differences and calling them out constructively) is what will help us to unleash the true creative contributions of our team member’s diverse perspectives. Cigna believes Inclusion is imperative for success in our Go Deep, Go Global, Go Individual strategy.

If you have any enjoyed this article or the October Book Review, by Beth Anne Tingley-Pigge, please attend our November meeting where Beth Anne will speak on “Moving from Diversity 1.0 to Inclusion -- Using our differences to move our projects forward”.

10 Must Read Blogs and Websites for Project Managers

By Kayla Eko-Acquah, Director of Professional Development

In a lull in your career, looking to hone your project management skills or just plain want to learn another thing or two about project management? The World Wide Web is full of blogs and websites that can do all of the above. Here is a collection of ten that I would recommend you check out.

ProjectSmart (projectsmart.co.uk)

Project Smart offers easy access to information about the project management profession.

A Girls' Guide to Project Management (pm4girls.elizabeth-harrin.com)

Elizabeth started this blog five years ago because at that time she didn't think there were enough women writing and speaking about project management. A Girl's Guide to Project Management aims to provide some direction in the world of project management by offering news, opinion and coverage of the many project management events that happen in the UK.

pmStudent (pmstudent.com)

pmStudent is good for not only students but also for those looking for guidance and success in their project management career.

Pinterest (pinterest.com)

No, this is not a typo. While this is one of my favorite websites I have found that if you type in project management there are some great resources tagged.

Voices on Project Management (blogs.pmi.org/blog/voices_on_project_management)

Voices on Project Management offers a place for project managers to write about their insights, tips, advice and personal stories. Bloggers are from multiple industries and backgrounds.

PMCrunch (pmcrunch.com)

PMcrunch.com brings you fresh insights, ideas, editorials, analysis and more in the field of project management.

PM Hut (pmhut.com)

PM Hut is considered to be one of the largest databases of categorized Project Management articles.

Way2PM (way2pm.com)

Way2PM provides you tips on how to master the techniques of project management so that your projects are delivered on time and under budget.

Project Management Tips (pmtips.net)

As pmtips.net states, this is "a collaborative blog about project management, collaboration, knowledge management and everything in between".

PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter (pmieasterniowa.org)

Shameless advertisement? Maybe, but I recommend that you check out upcoming events, open volunteer positions, presentations from our speakers, newsletters with original content written by our members, and much more on our chapter's website.

PM Training

Back by Popular Demand: PMP and CAPM Exam Preparation

Are you preparing to take the Project Management Institute's Project Management Professional (PMP)® or Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM)® certification exams? St. Ambrose University announces a PMP and CAPM exam prep class. The class will be held February 5-7, 2013. The course includes a comprehensive review of the PMBOK® Guide, practice exams, test-taking tips, a review of the application process, and a copy of the best-selling study guide, "The PMP Exam: How to Pass on Your First Try," by Andy Crowe.

Discounted rate available: PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter members will receive a 30% discount off the \$995 course fee by registering at: https://epay.sau.edu/C21430_ustores/web/store_cat.jsp?STOREID=4&CATID=100

For more information, contact St. Ambrose University at 563.333.5720 or PD@sau.edu.



St. Ambrose University Professional Development has partnered with On-Track to provide several project management training programs and a Project Management Certificate. On-Track is a registered education provider with the Project Management Institute® (PMI).

The Project Management Certificate Program provides a scalable project management system for managing projects of all shapes and sizes. The program provides a "project-ready tool kit" to serve project needs...regardless of industry.

Participants can pick and choose which program fits their needs or they can complete the St. Ambrose University Project Management Certificate by completing three core courses and two electives within three years. These classes include elements of the Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK®) developed by PMI®.

Core Courses:

- Project Management: Planning, Execution and Control
- Managing Projects through People
- Managing Project Communication

Elective Courses:

- Project Leadership and Ethics
- Managing Project Quality, Procurement, and Risk
- PMP and CAPM Exam Preparation
- Planning and Managing Construction Projects

Each program is three-days in length and costs \$995. The cost includes all seminar materials, networking luncheons, PDUs or CEUs. Discounts for additional participants and for St. Ambrose alumni are available. For more information about the program or to register, visit the St. Ambrose website at:

http://www.sau.edu/Professional_Development/Training/Current_Programs/Project_Management.html

Or, contact St. Ambrose at 563-333-5720 or PD@sau.edu.

Chapter Membership Stats

Period Covered: September 1-30, 2012

By Geri Stivers, PMP, Director, Member Relations

New PMPs this month

Stephanie Decker

Welcome new members:

Kevin Brown

Patty Collins

Mike Jacobi

Ron Marrah

Membership Summary for September 2012:

Starting membership:	305
Renewals:	13
New members:	4
Rejoins:	1
Non-renewals:	6
Current membership:	298

Certifications:

Member PMPs:	201
Member CAPMs:	4
Member PMI-ACP:	1

Chapter Meetings

Mark your calendars for upcoming chapter meetings. All meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month.



Date & Time	Location	Topic and Presenter
Nov. 8, 2012 7:15 to 9:00 a.m.	Clarion Hotel and Convention Center 525 33rd Ave SW Cedar Rapids, Iowa	"Moving from Diversity 1.0 to Inclusion -- Using our differences to move our projects forward" by Beth Anne Tingley-Pigge
Feb. 14, 2013 7:15 to 9:00 a.m.	Next meeting	TBA

DATES TO REMEMBER

NOVEMBER 2012						
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	

1 – Leadership Conference Call
 8 – Chapter Meeting
 15 – Board Meeting

DECEMBER 2012						
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						

6 – Leadership Conference Call
 20 – Board Meeting
 28 – Newsletter Articles Due for Jan. 2013 Newsletter

JANUARY 2013						
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			

4 – Leadership Conference Call
 18 – Board Meeting
 24 – Newsletter Articles Due

PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter Leadership

Role	Name
President	Carol Scherrman, PMP®
VP of Communications and Publicity	Mark Bazzell, MBA, PMP®
VP of Education	Behram Kasad, MBA, PMP®
VP of Finance	Brian Thorn, PMP®
VP of Operations	Jacquie Haltmeyer, PMP®
VP of Outreach	Mary Phelan, PMP®
Past President	Tammy Sweat, MSPM, PMP®
Director of Certifications	Denise Boeding, PMP®
Director of Individual Outreach	Rachel Fowler
Director of University Outreach	Bob Sanders, PMP®
Director of Logistics	Darwin L Hochstedler, PMP
Director of Marketing	Liz Herman, PhD, PMP®
Director of Member Relations	Geri Stivers, PMP®
Director of Newsletter	Irene Dymerski, PMP®, PSM®
Director of Professional Development	Kayla Eko-Acquah
Director of Programs	Dania Ajam, PMP
Director of Website and Technology	Stanley Freyermuth