

September 2012

Sept. 13, 2012 Monthly Meeting

This month's PMI breakfast meeting will be held on Thursday, September 13, 2012 from 7:15 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., at the Clarion Hotel and Convention Center at 525 33rd Avenue SW in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The Clarion Hotel and Convention Center phone number is 319-366-8671. A buffet breakfast will be provided.

Program: "The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly – Adventures in Portfolio Management"

Presented by Dane Pelfrey, PMP

Dane Pelfrey, PMP, will share case studies of the good, the bad, and the ugly in program & portfolio management. During this lively, interactive case study, Dane will offer some real life tips and tricks based on extensive experience in pinching fingers and stubbing toes managing IT project teams in several industries. You will leave the presentation with tools you can put into use immediately, no matter your level within your organization, improving your ability to deliver your project load.

- Identify the appropriate program/portfolio management tools and techniques to improve your organization.
- Utilize low-tech/ high-touch solutions to improve stakeholder buy-in.
- Identify the most appropriate project prioritization process to improve your organization.

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About the Speaker

Mr. Pelfrey has 20 years of industry experience as a program/portfolio/project manager leading teams of project managers in the delivery of successful projects. Dane has multi-industry experience, leading teams in the healthcare, health insurance, property-casualty insurance, financial services, mortgage, federal and state consulting industries. Dane is also an instructor with Des Moines University and Des Moines Area Community College focusing on healthcare project management and health information technology. And, most importantly, Dane is a proud resident of State Center, Iowa and a multi-year ribbon-winner in the Iowa State Fair Hog Calling contest.

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

Registration Deadline: Sunday, September 9, 2012 (11:45 p.m. CT)

Register at www.pmieasterniowa.org and click **Events > Monthly Program Meetings > September 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

President's Corner

Trending Now...

By Carol Scherrman, PMP®, Chapter President

Since 1998, Beloit College has annually published The Mindset List, which was created to reflect the world view of entering first year students. According to the Beloit College website, “what started as a witty way of saying to faculty colleagues ‘watch your references,’ has turned into a globally reported and utilized guide to the intelligent if unprepared adolescent consciousness. It is requested by thousands of readers, reprinted in hundreds of print and electronic publications, and used for a wide variety of purposes.” If you didn’t see this year’s list, you might be interested to know that this year’s freshman class (born mostly in 1994):

- Have always lived in cyberspace, addicted to a new generation of “electronic narcotics.”
- Have never seen an airplane “ticket.”
- Having grown up with MP3s and iPods, they never listen to music on the car radio and really have no use for radio at all.
- Before they purchase an assigned textbook, they will investigate whether it is available for rent or purchase as an e-book.
- Point-and-shoot cameras are soooooo last millennium.

You can view the entire list at <http://www.beloit.edu/mindset/2016/>.

The Mindset List reminded me of a recent blog post I read on PMI’s Voices on Project Management. In this post, V. Srinivasa Rao writes about seven trends to watch in project management. Two of the trends identified by the author particularly resonated with me.

- Due to the emergence of new projects in the social, mobile, analytics and cloud arenas, organizations must make sure their project management approach includes new or refined project lifecycles, templates, checklists, best practices, lessons learned, estimation techniques, risk registers, etc.
 - It wasn’t that long ago that I would think of a party if someone mentioned social. Mobile was something with stuffed bunnies and teddy bears that hung above a baby’s crib, and cloud was a white fluffy thing in the sky. Now we are all connected 24/7 and we are all re-thinking how we communicate, share, and store project information.
- Every employee is a project manager: Project management means having a mindset of systematic planning, execution, monitoring, controlling and closure. Every task should be considered as a tiny project. Creating this mindset across an organization requires cultural change. In many organizations currently, only a few people focus on project management.
 - I am a witness that this is easier said than done. We face almost daily challenges with instilling this mindset at my organization. What our PMO considers systematic planning, monitoring, and controlling, others consider “busy work” and roadblocks to “real work.”

Early Bird Registration Deadline Nearing for PDD

- Early bird registration rates end on Monday, September 10th for our chapter's Professional Development Day (PDD). You can save \$20 dollars by registering before the early bird deadline. Don't delay, register today!

News and Views

PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter: Why It's a Great Value

By Jacquie Haltmeyer, PMP®, Vice President of Operations

August is winding down, and I'm wondering where the summer went. Good grief, the kids are back to school already! Do you feel the same? It's been a busy summer for our chapter also. The chapter teamed with Kirkwood to host the Global Education Network program; we've done detailed planning for the Professional Development Day (PDD); and the Operations team has developed a New Member Welcome packet. The Operations team is working to increase the number of chapter members and retain current members. Given this, I thought it would be good to remind everyone of why the Eastern Iowa Chapter is a GREAT value.

For just \$30 each year, the PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter (EIC) membership grants you access to the monthly newsletter, a discount at the annual Professional Development Day, and a 35% discount at the monthly program meeting. The chapter also notifies members of open job opportunities and awards an annual \$1000 scholarship. When you join the PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter, you have the opportunity to learn from peers, share what you know, and increase your professional network. It's one of the most enjoyable and rewarding parts of being a chapter member.

The PMI EIC serves the areas in and around Cedar Falls, Cedar Rapids, Coralville, Iowa City, and Waterloo. This offers a wide area of people and business to grow your network. We hold monthly program meetings on the second Thursday of each month, February through November, which include breakfast, excellent networking opportunities, and an educational program. Attendance at the monthly meeting qualifies participants for one (1) Professional Development Unit (PDU) toward Project Management Professional (PMP) certification renewal.

The annual PDD is held each fall. This year's event is Friday, October 12 at Kirkwood. The theme is "Focus on Fundamentals: Leading Teams & Communicating Persuasively". By attending the full day PDD session, individuals can earn 7 PDUs toward PMP certification renewal.

Other opportunities to earn PDUs include: write an article for the newsletter, present at a chapter meeting, volunteer on a committee or volunteer for the chapter leadership team.

To fully enjoy these benefits we invite you to join/renew the PMI EIC chapter today! For PMI members to do so, visit www.PMI.org and after logging in, click on the Marketplace tab, under Marketplace select Community Memberships and then Chapters. Select United States, then Iowa and Join the Eastern Iowa Chapter.

If you are not yet a PMI member, join PMI Global first. Please visit www.PMI.org and select Memberships, scroll to the bottom and select "Join a chapter or a community of practice, or both" and then select "See the list of chapters". Select United States, then Iowa and Join the Eastern Iowa Chapter.

Help us spread the news of our chapter's GREAT value and have a GREAT fall everyone!



Building professionalism in project management.™

Project Management Institute
Eastern Iowa Chapter

PMI Eastern Iowa 5th Annual Professional Development Day

Friday, October 12, 2012
7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Focus on Fundamentals: Leading Teams & Communicating Persuasively

Benefits to attending the PDD

- Earn 7 professional development units (PDUs)!
- Hear local experts and leaders in project management.
- Network with fellow project management colleagues.
- Win prizes from our PDD sponsors and vendors.

Dates & Rates

- Event date: **Friday, October 12, 2012**
- Early-bird rates thru **Monday, September 10, 2012:**
\$179 Eastern Iowa Chapter Members
\$199 Non-members/guests
- Regular rates after **Monday, September 10, 2012:**
\$199 Eastern Iowa Chapter Members
\$219 Non-members/guests
- Registration ends **October 5, 2012**

Register online at

www.pmieasterniowa.org

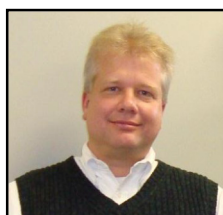
Location

The Kirkwood Center
7725 Kirkwood Blvd. SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

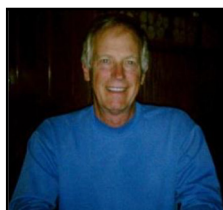
www.thehotelatkirkwood.com

Guest Speakers

Leading Project Teams



George M. Hollins, P.E., PMP, and Frederick L. Smith address the dynamics of leading project management teams using project-ready tools that you can immediately use in the workplace. This session provides practical tools and techniques for improving team performance. From basic fundamentals like differentiating a team from a group or committee to team member selection and commitment, Hollins and Smith cover the critical components of successfully leading project teams from project initiation to project close. You know that teamwork is essential for meeting project requirements. Learn how to promote a common understanding of the project as well as a shared vision within an atmosphere of trust.



Understand why some team conflict is good. Find out why officially releasing a team is important.

Professional Presentation Skills

Angie Bennett is a program instructor and business relations contact for Dardis Communications, Inc. This session will teach you how to organize thoughts quickly and present them persuasively, how to captivate various audiences, and how to present effectively in virtual settings while overcoming inhibitions, controlling your nerves, and thinking under pressure. This instruction is completed in a participatory, interactive setting where you can receive immediate coaching and feedback. Build on your fundamental communication skills by becoming aware of audience perception and learning how to create energy to keep audiences engaged. Leave this session with practical, effective skills that you are able to immediately apply on-the-job.



Find out more at www.pmieasterniowa.org

More PDDs In Region 2: The PMI Central Iowa Chapter (PMI CIC) invites the Eastern Iowa chapter members to attend our upcoming PDD on Friday, October 5, 2012 at the greatly reduced rate of \$200 which we offer our local members. Receive 7.5 PDUs for a full day attendance.

The event requires pre-registration and is only available through September 7, 2012 by going to the PMI Central Iowa Chapter <http://www.pmi-centraliowa.org/page/> Select "IIBA/PMI Chapters pricing" and enter Promo code - "PMIPO" and click the promo code button to apply the discount. Proceed to check out.

The Professional Development day is being held at The Meadows Conference Center (Prairie Meadows) in Altoona, Iowa (near Des Moines). Event hours are 7:30 am – 5 pm and include breakfast and lunch. Map with directions <http://www.prairiemeadows.com/contact.cfm>

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:

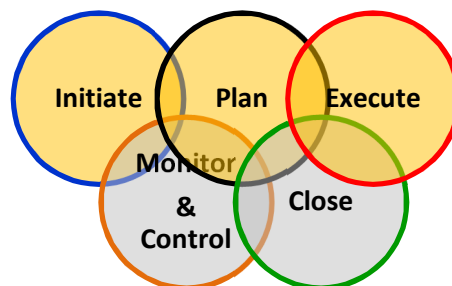
http://www.sau.edu/Professional_Development/Training/Current_Programs/Project_Management.html

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

Go for GOLD!

By Behram Kasad, PMP®, VP Education

The Olympics come once every four years. Countries bid for the privilege of hosting games many years in advance of the event to allow time for preparation. When the announcement takes place entire nations come to a standstill to hear if they have won the bid. No different than your organization waiting to hear about that big contract that you bid on. However, bidding is the easier part. What happens next is where the real challenge begins. Even for a mega project such as the Olympics, the same theories of program and project management apply – Initiate, Plan, Execute, Monitor and Control and Close out.



Last month I had the pleasure of attending some small part of the 30th Olympic Games of the modern era, hosted in London, England.

It would be safe to say that like millions the world over, I saw a lot of it on TV and on giant outdoor screens, but was still caught up in the “Team Great Britain (GB)” euphoria of the entire event. The hustle and bustle of the event was addictive. I was impressed at how smoothly everything went off. Sure there were some snafus like someone gate crashing the opening ceremony, or when the South Korean national flag was displayed on giant screens prior to a soccer game? Only problem was the North Koreans were playing; or the time a South Korean Fencer lost a gold medal duel against her German opponent due to an error with the timing clock. The judges did nothing. You would think that the best athletes in the world deserve the best judges and the best clocks!

For athletes that participate in the Olympic Games the same attributes, identified above, apply. Over four years those aspiring to represent their countries at the games have to dedicate their efforts to competing against the crème-de-la-crème of the athletic world. Over the course of 17 days medals are won or lost, World & Olympic records are broken and dreams are crushed. Mental, physical and emotional attributes are all pushed to the limits of endurance. The few that have mastered this are the ones that walk away with the medals. Those that don’t win medals stick around their teams to support those still in the competition. With a global audience watching, 4 years of training comes down to just a few seconds. Much like how I felt as I walked into the examination center at the end of July to take my PMP® examination.

In 2011, as part of our new PMO set up, the gauntlet had been thrown down to get our PMP® certification. How and when we did it was entirely up to us. Many of my colleagues went all out and got certified in no time. After several months of dilly dallying and making excuses why I could not devote more time to studying for the test, I finally took the plunge and committed to getting it done. After 4 hours, which felt like 4 years, and an exhausting 200 questions later, I emerged from the test center clutching my own “gold medal” – the piece of paper that said “*Congratulations, you passed*”. The other person in the room wasn’t pleased with their results I felt some sympathy for them since I know that taking an examination can be a nervous experience for many. Had the result been different for me, I too would have the same expression. Just like the Olympian that finishes in 4th position by just a few hundredths of a second, they had done everything right except perform on the day. I encouraged them to try it again.

That said, no one at the Olympics is a loser, neither is a failed attempt at the PMP®. If you go by the old adage that taking part is more important than winning; everyone undertaking the journey whether it is over 4 years or 4 months is a winner. Those that don’t succeed can, circumstances permitting, try again at the next Olympics. I am pleased to say that a 4 year wait is not necessary to take the PMP® again. If you need any help on how to go about getting your certification, please contact any member of the Leadership team. We cannot have enough Gold Medals in our chapter.



The Olympic cauldrons have barely cooled down from the closing ceremony, but for my part I am still wrapped up in the warmth and intensity of the games. It may take a few more weeks to bring me down from the winner's podium.

While I can say **"Jolly Good Show London"**, I am beginning to plan for the Olympics games of 2016. Rio de Janeiro alguém (anyone)?

Chapter Membership Stats

Period Covered: July 1 – July 31, 2012

By Geri Stivers, PMP, Director, Member Relations

New PMPs this month 0

Welcome new members:

Collette Darden, GE Capital

Joshua Evridge, Siemens Industry, Inc.

Jenni Kolek, The AdTrack Corporation

Judy Miller, GE Capital

Membership Summary for July, 2012:

Starting membership:	308
Renewals:	20
New members:	4
Rejoins:	0
Non-renewals:	7
Current membership:	305

Certifications:

Member PMPs:	198
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
Sept. 13, 2012 7:15 to 9:00 a.m.	Clarion Hotel and Convention Center 525 33rd Ave SW Cedar Rapids, Iowa	"The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly - Adventures in Portfolio Management" presented by Dane Pelfrey, PMP (rescheduled from the May 2012 meeting)
Oct. 11, 2012 7:15 to 9:00 a.m.	Iowa City Area Association of Realtors (ICAAR) 847 Quarry Road, Suite 110 Coralville, Iowa	TBD
Oct. 12, 2012 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	The Hotel at Kirkwood Center 7725 Kirkwood Boulevard S.W. Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52404	Professional Development Day
Nov. 8, 2012 7:15 to 9:00 a.m.	Clarion Hotel and Convention Center 525 33rd Ave SW Cedar Rapids, Iowa	TBD

DATES TO REMEMBER

SEPTEMBER 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
 13 – Chapter Meeting
 20 – Board Meeting
 24 – Newsletter Articles Due

OCTOBER 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	31			

4 – Leadership Conference Call
 11 – Chapter Meeting
 12 – Professional Development Day
 18 – Board Meeting
 20 – 23 – PMI Global Congress 2012 (Vancouver, BC, Canada)
 24 – Newsletter Articles Due

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
 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, 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