

January 2013

Feb. 14, 2013 Monthly Meeting

Our next PMI breakfast meeting will be held on Thursday, February 14, 2013, 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: "Chasing the Perfect Project"

Presented by Zac Henrich

Using Project Management experiences from RuffaloCODY, Pearson, Rockwell Collins and ACT the presentation will focus on elements from each organization to document a fictional perfect project. Being part of several successful project teams at four of the corridors premier employers has helped shape a vision of what crucial traits an ideal project and project team must have.

About the Speaker:

Zac Henrich is a product manager focusing on new product development for ACT. He has worked with a wide variety of clients and successfully launched several products into the market place. Zac has worked with a wide variety of customers including The College Board, The United States Coast Guard, and hundreds of colleges and universities. He is skilled in project management, software product development, and vendor management.

Zac completed his undergraduate studies at Wartburg College receiving a B.A. in business administration and received his M.B.A from University of Iowa's Tippie School of Management. He completed his PMP certification in May of 2009. Zac currently resides in North Liberty and in his free time he enjoys all of the outdoor sporting activities the area has to offer.

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

Registration Deadline: Sunday, February 10, 2013 (11:45 p.m. CT)

Register at www.pmieasterniowa.org and click **Events > Monthly Program Meetings > February 2013 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

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President's Corner

New Year Resolutions

By Behram Kasad, MBA, PMP®, Chapter President

5 – 4 – 3 – 2 – 1, the countdown started; and in a heartbeat the year went from 2012 to 2013. All around me people were slapping each other on the back, couples exchanged hugs and kisses and someone shook my hand and said “*Congratulations*”. I didn’t pay much attention to the comment, focusing more on wishing Happy New Year to all those around me. A second “*Congratulations! How does it feel to be the President?*” followed. I gazed around trying to make a connection – President, huh? That’s when the truth struck me. Oh my God, it was me they were talking about. I was the “President” of the PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter. Slight panic set in? How much did I know, how much did I need to know, how much did I still need to learn?



In that moment I skipped making any ad-hoc resolutions about going to the recreation center more often or eating healthy or about catching up on all the resolutions that I had not finished the year before; and figured I should concentrate on learning as much as I could about the role and trying to do the best for the Chapter in my term as President.

The outgoing Board of Directors (BoD) and Leadership Team (LT) of 2012 deserves a huge acknowledgment for their efforts. They performed their duties to the best of their abilities. 10 chapter meetings, 1 incredible Professional Development Day (PDD), 1 global student seminar, 12 lunchtime conference calls, 12 BoD meetings, all contributed in many ways to the bottom line of our chapter. To all of them I owe deep gratitude and appreciation for their efforts. Thank you.

But much remains to be done. The new BoD is committed to picking up from where the previous BoD left off. After each chapter meeting we solicit feedback from our members and try to address your comments. We have received some interesting suggestions and ideas. Sometimes we are limited by our efforts, sometimes by economics; and sometimes both. Change is hard to handle, but change is necessary – we recognize that.

To that end, in 2013 we will try to shake things up a bit and try to see how far our economics and our abilities allow us to pursue our Chapter’ needs, and although we start with common meeting venues we will venture further than these two. We will invite speakers from further afield as well as local organizations providing we can economically afford them. Like every good Project Manager, we conduct our own lessons learned after the closure of each chapter event, perhaps now is the time to apply those lessons.

Like those before me, I will ensure that I serve and represent the chapter in the most professional manner possible. The bylaws give the guidelines on how to perform but not how to execute on strategy. That is where we ask our members to help us with ideas for speakers, venues and opportunities to broaden the reaches of our profession. At our last BoD meeting we decided - unanimously - that we need to encourage and invite a whole new generation into the profession and keep those that we already have. With the new BoD and LT in place we intend to venture further into educational institutions and start this effort. Watch out for more updates on this in the coming months.

But we cannot do this alone. We still have opportunities for volunteers to serve on our Leadership Team. If you can contribute a few hours each month in any shape or form please join the team. Not only does it broaden your name and experience but it also gets you free PDUs.

2012 was a year that we may not easily forget. There were the Olympics, the Presidential elections, turmoil in Syria and demonstration of power in the N Korea. There were the tragic shootings in Colorado, Wisconsin and Connecticut; and the devastation caused by Hurricane Sandy on the East Coast of the USA. The rise and fall of stock markets; nations crumbled

under the debt of their social welfare systems. As human beings they affected us all. We may not have reacted the same way each time but our world kept turning. I think it is because our profession allows us to deal with these. A degree of preparedness and the ability to react in the best possible way is part of our professional DNA. If this is the first Chapter newsletter you are reading you have clearly established that the world did not end on Dec 21, 2012. It appears the Mayans got it wrong, perhaps a floating point error or misplaced decimal point! But we are glad that you are here and with our Chapter - Happy New Year and Welcome.

Way back in 2008, when I started serving as a volunteer Newsletter editor, I had no idea where this would take me – Director of Newsletter, VP Technology, VP Education and now President. Thank you for your support during all those roles and I look forward to your support over the next 12 months and towards building a better chapter and PM community.

The late Steve Jobs once said *“The journey is the reward”*. I now understand much better what he meant.

Behram

News and Views

The Director Role Is the Backbone of Our Chapter

By Bob Sanders, PMP, Director – University Outreach

First of all, thanks for volunteering as a director as the director role is extremely important in the operational running of our chapter. The director role is truly the backbone of the chapter, hence the need for so many (12 or so!).

Second, I have been a director, a board member, and president of this great chapter since 2003 AND every position has been very rewarding. So that makes me biased in one way or another. If you have the passion and the time to give back as a board member and willing to think strategically, I highly hope you consider a board position.

I am also available to help answer any questions you may have. Volunteers are the ones that keep our chapter going and we need to continue to find more of you!!!

Consider volunteering for the volunteer positions listed below... You can apply online at www.pmieasterniowa.org (click on **Get Involved > Volunteer Openings**) or contact a current member of the Leadership Team.

Volunteer Position	Brief Description
Director of Certifications	Provides information and support to chapter members on maintaining the Project Management Professional (PMP®) credential and other credentials endorsed by the Project Management Institute (PMI). The director is also responsible for creating professional development unit (PDU) certificates, as needed.
Director of Logistics	Works on all logistical issues associated with running any program on behalf of our chapter, including monthly chapter meetings. Works with the VP of Operations and interacts with other leadership team members requiring logistical support. Collaborates with the Director of Programs to obtain logistical details and requirements (date and time of next meeting, expected number of attendees, desired location, food, technological requirements, details of presenter, agenda, etc). Manages registration for monthly chapter meetings and coordinates collection of feedback for meetings.

Volunteer Position	Brief Description
Director of Newsletter	Serves as the primary point of contact for the chapter in the creation of the monthly chapter newsletter. The Director solicits articles from the chapter Leadership Team, drafts articles into the newsletter template, and works with the VP of Communications & Publicity to edit final version of newsletter. The Director of Newsletter requests that the VP of Communications & Publicity publishes the newsletter to the chapter website, who also ensures that an e-mail notification is sent to chapter members that newsletter has been posted.
Director of Individual Outreach	Works with the chapter to identify individuals who would benefit from gaining project management knowledge and skills. The Director invites targeted persons or individuals to a project management workshop. He or she establishes contacts with selected individuals to cultivate interest in attending a workshop or series of workshops on project management subjects. Reports to the VP of Outreach.

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

Chapter Membership Stats

Period Covered: October 1 – October 31, 2012

By Geri Stivers, PMP, Director, Member Relations

New PMPs this month

None

Welcome new members:

Gary Benser, Fastek International

Linda Leaven, Aegon

George Ward, Clipper Windpower

Sheila Zheithamel, General Dynamics Information Technology

Membership Summary for October 2012:

Starting membership:	298
Renewals:	13
New members:	4
Rejoins:	1
Non-renewals:	10
Current membership:	292

Certifications:

Member PMPs:	198
Member CAPMs:	5
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
Feb. 14, 2013 7:15 to 9:00 a.m.	Clarion Hotel and Convention Center 525 33rd Ave SW Cedar Rapids, Iowa.	"Chasing the Perfect Project" presented by Zac Henrich
Mar. 14, 2013 7:15 to 9:00 a.m.	Iowa City Area Association of Realtors (ICAAR) 847 Quarry Road, Suite 110 Coralville, Iowa In 2013, 4 meetings will be held in Coralville: March, June, August, and October	TBA

PDU Opportunity

Share your PM knowledge with your peers to earn PDU credits. Submit your newsletter articles to communications@pmieasterniowa.org. Book reviews, PM Tips & Tricks, tasteful humor, your projects, or creative use of social media are just a few of the possibilities.

DATES TO REMEMBER

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		

3 – Leadership Conference Call
 17 – Board Meeting
 24 – Newsletter Articles Due for Feb. 2013 Newsletter

FEBRUARY 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		

7 – Leadership Conference Call
 14 – Chapter Meeting
 21 – Board Meeting
 24 – Newsletter Articles Due for March 2013 Newsletter

MARCH 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						

7 – Leadership Conference Call
 14 – Chapter Meeting
 21 – Board Meeting
 24 – Newsletter Articles Due for April 2013 Newsletter

PMI Eastern Iowa Chapter Leadership

Role	Name
President	Behram Kasad, MBA, PMP®
VP of Communications and Publicity	Mark Bazzell, MBA, PMP®
VP of Education	Denise Boeding, PMP®
VP of Finance	Mary Phelan, PMP®
VP of Operations	Patty Collins
VP of Outreach	Darwin L Hochstedler, PMP
Past President	Carol Scherrman, PMP®
Director of Certifications	Open
Director of Individual Outreach	Open
Director of University Outreach	Bob Sanders, PMP®
Director of Logistics	
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