

Wednesday, 06 November 2013

Welcome to the Pittsburgh Chapter

Happy November! 2013 continues to fly by and the balance of the year is filled with many great chapter activities and events.

The Board and I had the opportunity to attend the PMI Leaders Institute Meeting (LIM) in New Orleans October 24 - 26. As in past LIMs, it was a wonderful event to learn, share ideas and network. We came back with some terrific ideas for events, improved communications strategies, chapter logistics and additional ideas to enhance the value of chapter membership. We will be sharing these ideas with you over the next several weeks and months as we work to implement them.

While at the LIM, we received two awards! Pittsburgh was the recipient of the PMI Chapter Award for Member Services and Sam Provil was awarded a Volunteer of the Year Award! It was quite an honor to be recognized for this award, and the Board and I thank Anne- Isabelle and the team for all of their hard work and dedication. Photos of the award, the award ceremony and the LIM will be on our website, and a press release will be issued soon.

Don't forget our next chapter meeting – November 14, at the ESWP. We are fired up about the new programs we have to offer for the balance of 2013, and hope you are too. Details are here in the newsletter and of course here in our website. Sign up today!

And last but not least, I'd like to encourage you to update your PMI profile to ensure that you get the most out of your chapter membership. We have a lot of good things to share with you, but can't do so if the information doesn't come through to you due to outdated or missing contact information.

Whew – a lot going on! Hope you all are as excited as we are for the fall season, and hope to see you at many of our upcoming events!

Susan

Meetings

2013 November Chapter Presentation

When: Thursday, November 14, 2013, 6:00PM - 8:00PM

Topic: "Agile from 30,000 Feet"

Presented by Russell Fletcher

Location: ESWP, 337 Fourth Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

[Register here](#)

The Agile methodologies are being adopted in increasing numbers. However, many people are caught between Agile promises and project realities. This presentation will discuss what Agile is and is not at a high level, as well as dispel some of the more popular myths surrounding Agile adoption.

Bio: Russ Fletcher has been managing and leading IT teams for nearly 20 years. As a consultant, coach, project manager, and IT executive, Russ has seen the practical aspects of many different process paradigms throughout his career. For many years he preached the values of transparency, teamwork, small deliverables and iterative interaction with the client in his work throughout the US and Latin America as a banking systems consultant and manager of software development.

In 2007, Russ was formally introduced to Agile, and in many ways felt like he was being introduced to his own beliefs; Agile matched very well with the practices he had been using for his whole career. He began using Agile as a Program Manager at XanGo with a large deployment project (seven teams, 80+ people). The success of that project (under budget, three months ahead of schedule) further crystallized the value of Agile for Russ, and also earned him the promotion to Vice President of IT for XanGo.

As the VP, Russ set about to overhaul the entire department using Agile methodologies. Those efforts were again remarkably successful, as the department was able to keep up with the incredible speed of the company's international expansion without adding additional headcount. One Marketing manager commented, "Our relationship with the IT department has never been better than it is with Russ' leadership," a reflection of the improvements brought on by Agile. XanGo's CEO was given an award as one of the most influential leaders in XanGo's market segment, with the comment, "XanGo's use of technology has propelled it to the forefront on its industry," again reflecting on the power that Agile brought to a formerly stagnant business-to-IT relationship.

Russ left XanGo in the summer of 2009, and began teaching Agile classes for Davisbase. In that work Russ has been able to successfully teach and coach teams in a variety of industries and applications of the methodology from private sector to government entities, from startup to Fortune 100. As he teaches, Russ can make this powerful claim: all of the information from his classes and coaching is practical, and he has either used it himself or helped other teams be successful by using it.

Training

Professional Development

Pittsburgh PMI has quality project management educational opportunities! Please check www.PittsburghPMI.org periodically for more details and to register for these events. (The following training information is subject to change.)

Lee Lambert, Stakeholder Management Workshop, 2/20/14.

The Lambert Consulting Group is holding a workshop on Stakeholder Management in Pittsburgh on February 20, 2014.

Save the date. Additional information will be posted in upcoming newsletters and on www.PittsburghPMI.org.

PMP Preparation Class 2014

Become a certified PMP!

This is a great class at a great value for your preparation to become a PMP!

Mark your calendars – the PMP Preparation Class is planned to be held on five consecutive Saturdays in 2014 starting February 22nd.

Each day is planned to run from 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM with lunch and other snacks & beverages provided.

35 PDUs will be awarded!

This course includes a text book, study guide, online resources, practice exams, instructor support, and more!

We recommend to read and apply processes of the PMBOK® Guide now in preparation for your PMP exam.

Interested in being an instructor for future PMP review class?

Have questions about attending the PMP review class?

Please contact FredBKoos@IEEE.org

PMP/CAPM Certification Study Groups

Complement PMP certification training with our live and online study group. This is a self-organized study group enabled by the Pittsburgh PMI Chapter.

Being “self-organized” we are looking for participant and facilitators for our succession plan.

PMP Volunteers are needed to answer questions during PMP Study Group sessions.

Please contact FredBKoos@IEEE.org to be a leader, participate or volunteer as a PMP.

Future Project Management Training in 2013

Please reply to FredBKoos@IEEE.org with suggestions for additional training offered by our Pittsburgh PMI Chapter for 2013 & 2014.

Managing Scope with Earned Value Trends – New Article

For a new article covering a simple graphical method to help manage scope over time with earned value trends, [click here](#).

Social Media Posting of Pittsburgh PMI Training Information

In addition to training information being posted on www.PittsburghPMI.org, information is often posted at the following social media locations:

- LinkedIn Group: Pittsburgh PMI
- Facebook: Project Management Institute-Pittsburgh Chapter
- Twitter: @PittsburghPMI (use hashtag #PitPMI for related tweets)

Other useful Twitter handles to follow are below.

- Twitter for our the IT LIG: @Pgh_PMI_IT_LIG
- Twitter for PMI: @PMInstitute
- @Fred_Koos for tweets related to our events

Enjoy!

Outreach

PMI Global Outreach

Join us in celebrating our success! Our Chapter was recognized worldwide with TWO Awards at the PMI Global Leadership Institute Meeting in New Orleans!

The PMI Global Chapter Awards recognizes PMI Chapters and Communities of Practice that have demonstrated unparalleled dedication and contributions to the project management profession.

This year PMI Global recognized the Pittsburgh Chapter for its great achievements with the **2013 Members Service Award!**

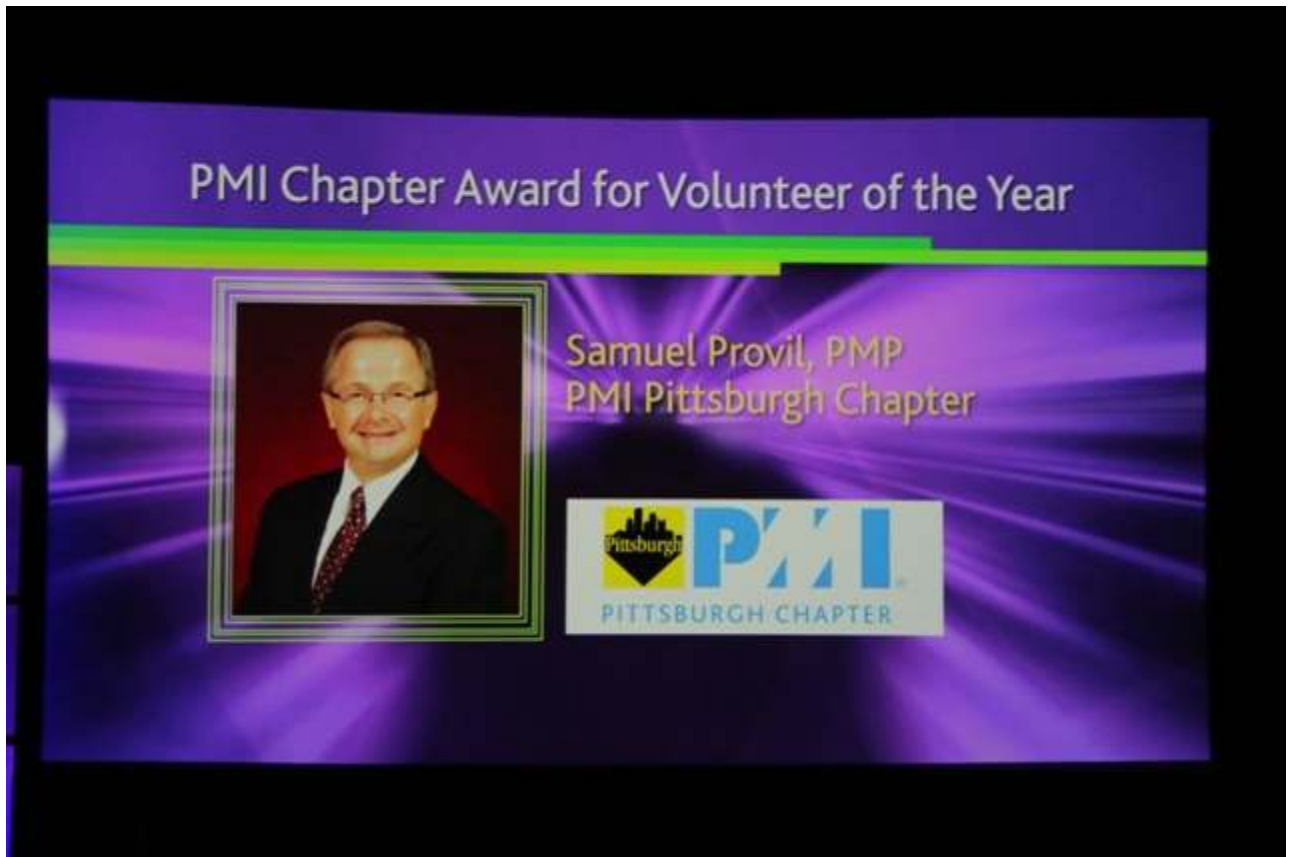


The Members Service Award recognizes the Professional Development opportunities and services that a Chapter offers to its members. Our services include but are not limited to:

- Free monthly chapter dinner meetings
- Free Local Interest Groups (LIG)
- Networking Mixers
- Hand on Workshops
- Lessons Learned Roundtable discussions
- PMP Prep Training
- PDD
- PMP, PgPM, ACP study groups
- Opportunity to earn the 60 PDUs needed toward recertification
- Access local Project Management job postings
- Substantial discounts on all Chapter events and trainings
- Company of the Year award
- Volunteer opportunities to enhance your leadership skills
- Low professional membership fees and discounted students membership fees
- Monthly Chapter Newsletter
- Ongoing efforts to achieve your professional goals!**

In addition to this huge success, one of our Outreach Directors, **Sam Provil was recognized with the 2013 Volunteer of the Year Award!** This award recognizes and honors a PMI chapter volunteer who has demonstrated measurable commitment and leadership in supporting the programs, projects and services executed by his/her chapter.

Our Chapter recognized also Mr. Provil earlier this year by for his lifetime engagement to the Chapter.



Samuel J Provil, PMP, was a Co-Founder of the Pittsburgh PMI Chapter in 1980. Over the past +30 years, Mr. Provil has served in various key roles/responsibilities, including Vice President in 1988 and President in 1989. Today, Mr. Provil is still active with the Chapter working with local academic institutions to provide support for the next generation of Project Managers. For the past four years he has been instrumental in the creation and sponsorship of the Intercollegiate Project Management Triathlon (IPMT), which has been recognized globally in PMI Today and showcased as a best practice at the 2011 PMI Leadership Institute Meeting (LIM). Mr. Provil has shown intense commitment to advance the knowledge and understanding of the Project Management profession throughout his distinguished career and through his volunteer service.

Congratulations to Mr. Provil and to all the volunteers for getting us there!

Outreach Events

Join us for our final Hands on Workshop of 2013!

Topic: Virtual Project Office solution (VPO)

Date: Tuesday, November 12th, 2013

Time: 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Location: Industrial Scientific Corp, 1001 Oakdale Rd., Oakdale, PA 15071

Cost: There is no cost to attend this meeting.

PDUs/CEUs: 2

We have two informative speakers lined up from the Simplex Group for our November meeting –Laura M. Nee, President and CEO, along with Senior Implementation Consultant, Beth Anderson, will be presenting their companies Virtual Project Office solution (VPO).

The Simplex Group, Inc. is a software development and professional services company specializing in online project management. President and CEO Laura M. Nee is a visionary consultant and experienced advisor, with expertise in both Primavera and Microsoft solutions for project management, as well as for online collaboration and working in the ‘Cloud.’

Senior Implementation Consultant Beth Anderson holds degrees in both Computer Science and International Business Management. She combines this background with strong creative thinking in order to analyze clients’ business practices and deliver unique solutions through consulting and training.

Our speakers will share how Simplex’s Cloud-based VPO project management solution offers teams a common platform for managing project information, communicating through instant-messaging tools, creating better documentation through familiar Office tools, and aligning their projects with their business strategies through portfolio management.

This will be an exciting event, a great networking opportunity and a fun way to earn 2 FREE PDUs towards your PMP certification! It will also be a good chance to connect with new contacts in the Pittsburgh, Beaver, and West Hills areas.

Agenda:

5:30p Sign-In, Eat, and Network

6:00p Welcome, Introductions, Announcements

6:10p Featured Presentation Begins

6:50p Break

7:00p Hands On Scenario

7:50p QA and Wrap-Up

Registration Open Until: November 12th, 2013

Register NOW here: “[HOW Registration](#)”. Seats are limited! No walk-ins can be accommodated.

Contact: Paul Halenda, PMP at dir_outreach_events@pittsburghpmi.org or Ken Presutti, PMP at kenpresutti@gmail.com with any questions/queries.

Academic Outreach

5th Annual Inter-Collegiate Project Management Triathlon



Date: March 28-30, 2014

Location: Palumbo Donahue School of Business, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

The Inter-Collegiate Project Management Triathlon (IPMT) is an undergraduate level competition hosted by Duquesne University and is sponsored as well as supported by PMI and the PMI Pittsburgh Chapter. This event tests competitors' knowledge of the PMBOK® Guide and their responses to project case-based scenarios.

There are three competitive events where the participants can showcase their project management knowledge:

Team Quiz-Bowl: Teams of four students will compete in a Jeopardy-style event. All questions will be based on the PMBOK® Guide and at a difficulty level equivalent to that necessary to achieve the Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM®) designation. (The form of the questions will be fill-in-the-blank or short answer.)

Individual "All-Star" Quiz-Bowl: This is also a Jeopardy-style event, to be played exclusively by individuals, and it will follow a similar format to the Team Quiz-Bowl. Participants will be selected based upon the degree of knowledge s/he has shown in their individual performance in the team event.

Quick Fire Team Challenge: During the competition weekend, teams of four participants will be given a project management scenario and asked to develop and submit three work products. Teams will be evaluated on how well the team performs developing the work products. The same teams that participate in the Quiz Bowls will participate in the Quick Fire Challenge.

In between competitive events, participation in team building activities, which require physical and mental dexterity, is encouraged. These activities are designed to provide competitors an opportunity to relax and have fun.

Educational institutions are limited to entering two (2) teams to participate in the IPMT Competitive Events. Universities that have participated in previous IPMT competition include:

Appalachian State University, Boone, NC
Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA
Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA
Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI
New Jersey Institute of Technology, Newark, NJ
University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA
University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC
West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV

For more information or to register visit www.duq.edu/pm-triathlon

Academic Outreach

College Speaker Opportunity - The Triple Constraint

An opportunity to share your knowledge with students at Geneva College! On Thursday, November 7th, students will gather to learn about the "Iron Triangle". You will need to prepare a basic presentation on the triple constraint to present to students and answer Q&A. The requirement is your time to develop the presentation and approximately one hour on site at Geneva, beginning between 5-6 (time can be flexible to meet your travel needs). You will be eligible to claim 1 PDU for every hour spent to create a deliver the presentation. Interested volunteers should contact Keith High, Pittsburgh PMI's Academic Outreach Advisor to Geneva, at kbhigh@me.com.

Professional Outreach

Some of the organizations we have established relationships with are interested in having speaker(s) on Project Management at one of their membership meetings. In particular, Robert Morris University Society for the Advancement of Management (SAM) is interested in a Project Management panel discussion in early November. The Professional Outreach team is looking for volunteers to participate in the panel discussion or speak on a Project Management topic for one of these organizations. You get PDUs for participation on the panel. Please contact Anne Monroe at annemonroe44410@gmail.com for more information or to volunteer.

Community Outreach

2013 Walk to End Alzheimer's

Our chapter members and their family and friends walked for the third year in the Burgh's Walk to End Alzheimer's on Saturday, October 5th at the North Shore!

Walking this year were Betsy Norton from PNC Bank, Chris Walker from Eaton Corporation, Lisa Carney-Majesky (and friend Pat) from Eaton Corporation, Mike Coxon from Eaton Corporation, Kim Mangan (who also brought our canine mascot) from BNY Mellon, Jason McMann (and wonderful son) from ADP, Peter Korancie-Boah (and wonderful son, wife, and aunt) from Alcoa, Lorraine Robinson from Industrial Scientific Corporation and our Team Captain Jan Hanchak from Eaton Corporation.

It rained at the beginning but we had a sunny finish. The highlight of the day, besides representing the PMI Pittsburgh Chapter, was seeing the DUCK located at the Point.

We raised a total of \$1,061 and we thank those who could not walk but donated to the ALZ walk!

Scholarships

The Carl Pritchard Scholarship

Please join me in congratulating the two Carl Pritchard Scholarship winners:

Charles Tominjanovic and Phani Krishna Reddy Vuyyuru

Because of the Carl Pritchard Scholarship they will have the opportunity to attend the PMI Pittsburgh PDD in November for free, which will further improve their Project Management skills and promote Project Management to their community.

If you would like to know more about the Carl Pritchard scholarship, please [click here](#).

Membership

Your Chapter Needs You!

Contribute to the Pittsburgh Chapter, increase your professional network and get to know others involved in your profession. PMPs can earn valuable PDU's in addition to making a contribution to the Project Management Profession! Volunteers and Operational Team members earn up to 5 PDUs per year and elected officers earn up to 10 PDUs a Year. Check out the [chapter website](#) for more details.

New Chapter Members

As of October 30, 2013 the chapter has 1431 members. Please join us in welcoming the following new chapter members:

[Blake Miller](#), [Cynthia Gautschi](#), [Anand Shankar](#), [Raj Maragoud](#), [Adolfo Perez-Hernandez](#), [Andrew Fouse](#), [Bob Hester](#), [Leslie Bowe](#), [Kalyan Thalakoti](#), [Linda Roberts](#), [LaMoyne Darnall](#), [Michel Bullard](#), [FNU manslow](#), [Stephen Mozelewski](#), [Richard Reitmeyer](#), [Matthew Smith](#), [Lori Preston](#), [Jessica Boca](#), [Diana Pearson](#), [Lisa Hancher](#), [Donna Dineley](#), [Colin Gallagher](#), [Edward Smith](#), [Nik Kolev](#)

New Chapter PMPs

As of October 30, 2013 the chapter has 1001 PMPs. Please join us in congratulating the following new chapter PMPs:

[Mark Spehar](#), [Amy Lewis](#), [John Pitts](#), [Erik Sella](#), [Gayl Bungo](#)

Contacts

Click to view the [Pittsburgh PMI chapter contacts](#).