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The Northern Nevada Chapter
Project Management Institute

Vol. 2 Issue 9

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President's Message



Your PMI Northern Nevada Chapter has grown to 130 members in just the two years that we have been an official PMI chapter! Many area project and program managers have realized the value of learning about trends in project management, networking with colleagues, and taking advantage of member discounts on meetings, events and both online and instructor-led courses. And if you are considering taking the PMP Exam Prep Course and/or sitting for the PMP exam before it changes in August, you stand to save over \$100 by being a member. If you have not yet become a member, please consider it in the coming weeks to help us meet our goal 150 members.

The PMI-NNV Chapter can only be joined (for \$30) after joining the global PMI organization (\$129), however PMI has some specific ways to manage the global membership dues, such as:

- Student membership – only \$40 if you are enrolled in a degree program
- Retired membership – only \$60 if you have been an active regular member for five years and are now retired from full time employment
- Hardship provision – renewal membership fees may be waived for up to two years “for PMI members whose financial condition has changed drastically and sufficiently so that the member would have difficulty renewing” their membership; must have been a member in good standing for three years and write a letter to Manager, PMI Member Services prior to membership expiration

All PMI-NNV members can participate in two important events coming up in March and April:

- **The PMI Region 7 Leadership Summit** – Take advantage of the fact that this annual event is being hosted by our chapter this year, on March 18-20 at the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno. Come learn what chapter leaders do and gain some insight into best practices for Board members and earn 11 PDUs; or volunteer a couple of hours to help host the event (now also eligible for PDUs). Contact me at president@pmi-nnv.org or Tracy Sharp at reg7summit@pmi-nnv.org about attending. To volunteer, contact Carmen Jones at president-elect@pmi-nnv.org.
- **PMI-NNV Chapter Elections** – We have three Board level positions up for election in the coming weeks: VP of Member Services, VP of Marketing/Communications, and President Elect. The VPs serve two year terms. The President Elect serves for three years: one year as President Elect, one year as President and one year as Past President. Job descriptions are posted on www.pmi-nnv.org and included in another article in this newsletter. All members will be sent an electronic ballot – timeframes are available online at www.pmi-nnv.org. Please consider how you might qualify for one of these positions or the open director positions and committees reporting to them.

Our chapter relies on its members to govern and support each other. And the effort is very rewarding in many ways. Contact a Board member for information, and contact Jessica Craig, Election Committee Chair, if you are interested in nomination. In our organization, people nominate themselves and write a description of their qualifications and interest, rather than having someone else nominate you. Don't be shy – step up and take a turn running a functional area of our chapter.

What is truly significant this year over past years is that PMI has re-categorized the PDU earning structure and guidelines, so that starting on March 1, 2011, all officers can now earn 1 PDU for each hour of volunteer time as an officer, up to the PMP cycle maximum of 45 PDUs in Category 3!! This is huge – in the past an officer could only ear 10 PDUs per year.

How Significant are the New PDU Guidelines?

For anyone with a PMI certification (PMP, CAPM, PgMP, PMS, PMR) who volunteers on PMI chapter boards, or for chapter events, PDUs can now be earned at the rate of 1 PDU per volunteer hour! You must provide evidence of your hours, if your claim is audited, in the form of a work log or certificate and there are ceilings on some categories based upon your certification. As an example, PMPs are required to earn 60 PDUs in a three year cycle to maintain their PMP certification. There are now only four PDU categories. Essentially, under the new categories a PMP can

earn a maximum of 45 PDUs in Category 3 by volunteering and giving back to the organization, and would need to earn 15 PDUs in continuing education by taking courses online or in instructor-led formats.

Other certifications have specific maximums as well. Check out ALL the details at www.pmi.org.

Please consider how you can grow with PMI-NNV in 2011.

Sue Churchill
PMI-NNV President

Financial Summary

The chapter had a net positive cash flow of \$3,314 in January. The majority of this was due to Region 7 registrations which we expect to be offset by expenditures in March. When this is removed, the chapter showed a gain of \$112 in January which is in line with our budget projections. Overall we are off to a great start for the year!

If you have questions, please submit them to vp-finance@pmi-nnv.org.

New PMP

Congratulations to Araceli Madera on becoming PMP certified! Also a huge thank you from the chapter to Araceli for her volunteering to be our new Meeting Director.

2011 Elections

Each year PMI-NNV members elect three officers: a President Elect, who serves for one year and then becomes President, and two of the Board's four Vice Presidents - Marketing and Member Services on odd numbered years, and Finance and Professional Development on even numbered years.

President Elect

Duties as written (Bylaws - Article V; Section 4):

The President Elect will become the President the year following successful completion of his/her duties in this role. (3 year commitment)

- Yearly review of the chapter's strategic plan
- Alignment of tactical projects with strategic plan
- Appoint and lead Policies and Procedures Director and other director positions as required
- Manage budget areas as assigned by President
- Stand-in for the President in his/her absence

*Desired Qualifications: Experience in leadership, communication and executive management skills. Competent in managing relationships, have an understanding of financial management and strategic needs. Able to motivate and communicate with individuals and a group.

Vice President of Marketing

Duties as written (Bylaws - Article V; Section 7):

The Vice President of Marketing is responsible for promoting the chapter and its services to both members and the community at large.

- Develop and implement the chapter marketing plan
- Manage budget areas as assigned by President
- Develop policies and procedures for areas of responsibility
- Appoint and lead directors as required

*Desired Qualifications: Marketing and internal/external communication background; ideally with a non-profit organization. Experience in developing programs to promote an organization, creating marketing products, newsletters and brochures. Strong presentation and negotiation skills.

Vice President of Member Services

Duties as written (Bylaws - Article V; Section 8):

The Vice President of Member Services is responsible for ensuring that members are aware of available services.

- Develop and implement the chapter member services plan
- Manage budget areas as assigned by President
- Develop policies and procedures for areas of responsibility
- Responsible for member communication
- Appoint and lead directors as required

*Desired Qualifications: Experience in building relationships and supporting PMI membership. Strong organization and technical/web skills.

How to Volunteer

- Complete PMI-NNV Nomination Submission Request Form

- Email to elections@pmi-nnv.org
- Must be received by 3/21/2011

Volunteer Positions

We are in need of volunteers to progress the chapter. If you would be interested in any of the following positions please email the contact listed.

Public Relations Director

- Support PMI-NNV Marketing Communication Plan
- External Communications
- Media Contact
- Press Releases
- Increase Online Presence
- Chapter Promotions
- 5 PDU Compensation
- Please contact [VP of Marketing](#)

Networking and Special Events Director

- Network and liaison with community and professional organizations
- Social Media activity
- Special events
- 10 hours a month
- 5 PDU Compensation
- Please contact [VP of Marketing](#)

Outreach Promotions Director

- Manage marketing materials
- Branding campaigns and PMI Global liaison
- 10 hours a month
- 5 PDU Compensation
- Please contact [VP of Marketing](#)

Financial Cashier

- 1-2 people to collect payments at registration, count petty cash & collections and provide to VP of Finance
- 3 hours a month
- 5 PDU Compensation
- Please contact [VP of Finance](#)

Research Assistance

- Internet Searching
- Data entry
- Increase your knowledge about area businesses & potential contacts
- 10 hours total in March

- Please contact [VP of Marketing](#)

Vendor Set up

- Event Coordination
- Assist in the Vendor Expo set up
- 4 hours during Region 7 LIM. March 18-20, 2011
- Please contact [VP of Members Services](#)

Vendor Solicitation

- Promoting Ideas, marketing event to vendors
- 5 hours per month through March 2011
- Please contact [VP of Members Services](#)

Program Committee input

- Brainstorm & contact potential speakers using existing letter templates
- Coordinate info & dates with Program Director
- 1-2 hours per month; PDU potential for ongoing input over 12 months
- Please contact [VP of Professional Development](#)

Reno Dinner Meeting

Accepting Project Risks

Project threats can be systematically reduced. If the degree of remaining risk is measured each time a threat is reduced, conditions can reach the point where the PM and sponsor are comfortable with accepting the residual risk. Then, the remaining chance of failure can be counterbalanced with corresponding contingency. How much is “corresponding” contingency; 5%, 10%, pi, speed of light squared?? To be effective, the amount of contingency must match the amount of risk, rather than be an arbitrary quantity. This talk explains practical risk acceptance techniques used by PMs who can’t leave success to chance.

This presentation is by chapter member Wynnlee Crisp (H. Wynnlee Crisp LLC Project Management Training), who has managed risky projects around the world. The principles are based on real projects and are among those taught in his “Managing Project Risk” class. Mr. Crisp and his eight instructors offer 19 project management trainings through the University of Washington, League of Oregon Cities, and Association of Washington Cities, and for organizations’ in their own facilities throughout the West.

**Meeting will be March 22nd at Firkin & Wolf.
Firkin & Wolf**

13971 S. Virginia Street
Reno, NV 89511
775-852-9898

Lunch Meetings

Our luncheon meetings topic will be the same in both locations. We have set up the two different meeting places to accommodate our membership. Please plan to attend whichever one is more convenient for you.

PMBOK Project Time Management

This month continues our series exploring the PMBOK Knowledge Areas.

The Project Time Management knowledge area covers which activities are needed to create the deliverables we determined during the Scope Management section. The Time Management area discusses defining and sequencing activities, estimating, developing the schedule along with controlling the schedule.

Our monthly Carson City Lunch forum will meet on March 8th at B'Sghetti's on Carson St. at 11:30 to 1:00.

Our monthly Reno lunch forum will meet on March 15th at Firkin & Wolf at 11:30 to 1:00.

PgMP Program Management Workshop

The Sacramento Valley Chapter will be presenting this workshop for the first time in Sacramento. This workshop will be presented by Certification Expert Alieen Ellis, PgMP, PMP, President AME Group, Inc.

Get PMI's newest credential globally recognized and demanded!

The PgMP is the perfect fit for Program Managers with advanced experience and skill that oversee multiple related projects and resources to achieve strategic goals.

Add best practices and best of class to your credentials:

- Understand the criteria, process and content for certification
- Learn how to define programs, benefits and operation of the Program Office
- Align with corporate strategic goals and objectives
- Learn the essential ingredients for Program Governance

- Gain a distinct advantage in employment and promotional opportunities

**Will be held April 8th, 9th and 10th at Lion's Gate Hotel,
McClellan, CA**

Members \$1,500; Public \$1,750; PMI-SVC Volunteers \$1,250

**For more information on this course please contact the
Sacramento Valley Chapter at pmi-svc.org.**

Thanks to our sponsors:

