

# PMI Region 14 Chapter News & Events

A summary of Celebrating and Sharing all things good within our region-

*Compiled by John Watson, Region Mentor,*

SECOND EDITION

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*The intent of this newsletter is to develop and nurture the communication and collaboration within our region through sharing what you are doing in your chapter and communities and hopefully this information will assist everyone in achieving their strategic goals of leadership development, indentifying and delivering member value and benefits while promoting the awareness and increasing the value of our profession.*

## CHAPTER UPDATES:

**NORTH ALABAMA - [HTTP://WWW.NORTHALABAMAPMI.ORG/](http://www.northalabamapmi.org/)**

**MONTGOMERY ALABAMA - [HTTP://WWW.PMIMONTGOMERY.ORG](http://www.pmimontgomery.org)**

**BIRMINGHAM ALABAMA - [HTTP://WWW.PMIBIRMINGHAM.ORG](http://www.pmibirmingham.org)**

PMI Birmingham is wrapping up a successful 2011 and preparing for 2012. Our focus for 2012 will be on Community, Knowledge, Volunteers, and Professionalism. The Board is undertaking a review of our governance documents and policies and procedures in order to get everything in order.

We are starting a focus group in Tuscaloosa Alabama for the members that work and live in this geographic area. The distance between Birmingham and Tuscaloosa has prevented this group of members from being able to participate in our monthly chapter events. Based on the success of this initiative we will look at other areas on our geography where there is a pool of member/potential members that could benefit from localized events.

Programs is booking our 2012 calendar and looking to bring in some big name speakers during the year.

For additional info contact: [info@pmibirmingham.org](mailto:info@pmibirmingham.org)

**CENTRAL FLORIDA - [HTTP://WWW.PMICFC.ORG/](http://www.pmicfc.org/)**

**The PMICFC would like to wish all the R14 Chapters a great 2012!**

Elections were complete. We received nominations for all open positions. We welcome two new VP's and a President Elect. *David Siegel – VP of Membership, Ron McCollum – VP of Member*

*Relations. Hedi Ago is transitioning from VP of Member Relations to President Elect and will be transitioning into the President position as of 01/01/2013.*

We will be doing a lessons learned of our 2011 election process. Things that went well: high participation and no vacant positions. Things that can be improved: timing for elections (considering moving elections from December to February; *Roles and Responsibilities of Elections Committee and current involvement of the active Board. There is a fine line between taking an active role which could generate problems with an unbiased process (bylaws) and letting things run without involvement and risking staffing issues.*

We continue to work hard towards our first PMICFC Symposium. We have secured Dr. Kerzner as our Key Note Speaker. *The symposium will take place on April, 12-13 at the beautiful Marriot World Center in Downtown. Registration is open and we already have attendees registered.*

We obtained a copy of GotoWebinar/GotoMeeting for \$94 from TechSoup. TechSoup is a non-profit organization who distributes donated software to non-profit organizations. Check them out at [www.techsoup.org](http://www.techsoup.org) for more information. Working with John on next steps for the speaker DB.

We will have a busy January with board transitions, budget approval and getting ready for several events: Happy Hour, Lunch and Learn, Traci Duez in February. *Our membership continues to be strong with a low attrition rate and new membership numbers. We will be focusing on membership in 2012 with several programs that will include schools, universities and business.*

#### **NORTHEAST FLORIDA - [HTTP://WWW.PMI-NEFL.ORG/](http://www.pmi-nefl.org/)**

The PMI-Northeast Florida chapter ended the year on a high note with our December board of directors meeting and thank you luncheon at Maggiano's Restaurant. Our 2011 President Brian Phillips thanked the 2011 board members for their excellent support to the chapter in 2011. He also welcomed several new 2012 board members who were able to join for the occasion.

Through the 11 dinner meetings this year, five of them offered 2 PDUs. One of them also had an afternoon session for PMs in transition for another 1.5 PDU and we gave the follow-up 2 PDU dinner meeting attendees a CD which offered yet another PDU. Attending dinner meetings alone, there were 17 PDUs available. Including the three workshops and Scrum Master training the chapter offered a total of 67.5 PDUs, not including the ones from the free Project Leadership Podcast which were at the member's choosing. Membership grew from 549 to 632.

The chapter is starting the year with a bang, hosting a 2 PDU dinner meeting on January 30<sup>th</sup>.

Dave Davis will be leading 2 discussions that evening: Enthusiasm and Leadership, followed by Schmoozing and Project Management. It should be an informative and fun filled evening for all.

Make plans now to attend at Embassy Suites on Baymeadows road. See our chapter web site for all the details.

January is our usual planning time so the meeting and event calendar for the year is still being determined. Led by new chapter President Robert Presley, the board of directors will be sharing their vision of 2012 as soon as we lock in the details. Please stay tuned, as it should be an action packed year.

One new item is our new Linked in feature called "Monday Morning Quarterback" (MMQ). We post a new scenario each Monday morning to elicit dialog amongst our 780 Linked In members. Our plan is to use it as a tool for our experienced members to share what did and didn't work in their past experiences. Our goal is to stimulate dialog amongst the chapter so that we can all

learn and grow in the profession.

For more information contact: Kevin Johns [communications@pmi-nefl.org](mailto:communications@pmi-nefl.org).

#### **SOUTH FLORIDA - [HTTP://WWW.SOUTHFLORIDAPMI.ORG/](http://www.southfloridapmi.org/)**

- PMI SFL Chapter - Celebrating our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!
- December 8<sup>th</sup> last dinner meeting of the year. Total of six (6) dinner meetings in 2011
- December 15<sup>th</sup> last Dade Networking event of the year. Total of six (6) networking events.
- Education held three PMP Exam Prep; three Scrum Certification training; two Agile PM courses; two Soft Skill Seminars and a Professional Development Day.
- Launch of the Mentoring Online Tool and Program

#### **SPACE COAST - [HTTP://WWW.PMISPACECOAST.ORG/](http://www.pmispacecoast.org/)**

Another year gone by along the Space Coast of Florida... another auld lang syne... This year has seen many changes along the coast as The Space Shuttle Program came to an end and a new Program (21st Century Ground Systems Program) was launched. The end of the Shuttle Program brought with it many job losses to the area, but also new opportunities for Project Managers to expand their horizons into different industries.

December hustles in the holidays and with those holidays come gifts. At our Annual Dinner Meeting in December, the Chapter awarded gifts by way of three PMI Space Coast Awards:

- 2011 Project Manager of the Year—Large Project
  - Awarded to: **Guy Esten**
- 2011 Project Manager of the Year—Small Project
  - Awarded to: **Steven Murphy**
- 2011 Volunteer of the Year
  - Awarded to: **Dr. Deborah Carstens**

#### **Congratulations to the winners!**

The Chapter will welcome newly-elected members to the Board of Directors for 2012:

- VP Membership: **Frank Walker**
- VP Finance: **Rick Baker**
- VP Communications: **Janet Simmerman**
- VP Programs: **Tres Bishop**
- VP Logistics: **Jeanne Johnson**

#### **Congratulations to the new Board Members!**

The Chapter saw an 8% increase in membership for the 2011 membership year. As of November 30, 2011, Space Coast Florida Chapter had 431 members and we continue to grow each month.

**SUN COAST - [HTTP://WWW.SUNCOASTPMI.ORG/](http://www.suncoastpmi.org/)**

The PMI Suncoast chapter provided a presentation on 12/6 entitled "What Every Project Manager Needs to Know About Agile PM, Certifications, and your Career", which was presented by Jesse Fewell. This was an additional two-hour presentation that we offered to our Chapter members at minimal cost as an extra value-add. Seats were limited to 30 and 25 chapter members and 5 board members attended this special presentation. The event was a success.

We held our Chapter Annual Business Meeting on 12/14/11. During this meeting we recognized Gail Grimm as our Chapter Volunteer of the Year. We also held elections, and all Board members are returning for one more year of service to the Chapter.

The chapter promoted two course offerings by Braintrust Consulting in Orlando: Certified ScrumMaster (Nov 29 – 30) and Certified Scrum Product Owner (Dec 1 – 2).

Upcoming events:

- 1/11 – "Get Your Head in the Clouds", to be presented by Robert K. Patterson.
- We will be surveying our Chapter members to see if there is interest in Agile classes. Based on the results the Chapter may be presenting or promoting Agile classes in the upcoming year.
- We are working with the Tampa Bay chapter to hold a co-sponsored networking event next year to get our two chapters together. More info to follow.

[Click to subscribe to our Suncoast eMail!](#)

For additional info : [VP-Communications@suncoastpmi.org](mailto:VP-Communications@suncoastpmi.org)

**TALLAHASSEE - [HTTP://WWW.PMITLH.ORG/](http://www.pmitlh.org/)**

**TAMPA BAY - [HTTP://WWW.PMI-TAMPABAY.ORG/](http://www.pmi-tampabay.org/)**

**EMERALD COAST FLORIDA CHAPTER - [HTTP://WWW.PMIEMERALDCOASTFL.ORG/](http://www.pmiemeraldcoastfl.org/)**

**ATLANTA - [HTTP://WWW.PMIATLANTA.ORG/](http://www.pmiatlanta.org/)**

**COLUMBUS - [HTTP://WWW.PMICOLUMBUSGA.ORG](http://www.pmicolumbusga.org/)**

**SAVANNAH RIVER - [HTTP://WWW.PMIAUGUSTAAIKEN.ORG/](http://www.pmiaugustaaiken.org/)**

2011 was a very good year for the PMI-Savannah River Chapter. We placed our priorities on the

Organization first, PMI HQ and then the community.

### **The Organization (PMI-SR Chapter):**

\* We reinvented our Website by collaborating with Proteon. This allowed us to register and pay for our business meetings in advance.

\* We reinvented our business meeting. A few of the highlights were as follows:

- Added a safety moment that included a contest and prize
- Shifted to a buffet style meal that included multiple entrees and multiple visits to the hot food
- Added a PMP preparation Question and Answer session to every meeting in which everyone at each table participated and a star was affixed to the badge of the winners (This session created added excitement to the room due to the competitive nature of PMs. In addition, collaboration skills were being practiced due to each table only getting one answer. It was observed that some individuals looked for mentors to sit with so they would win. Lastly, even the non-PM visitors would get excited if they helped get the right answer.)

- Table prizes that included movie tickets or other prizes were at every table and were presented at the end of every meeting

- All BODs were requested, during the year, to tell about their duties to encourage others to participate

- Our average attendance was 50 members and guests (a new high)

- We replaced outdated computer and audiovisual equipment

\* We invented a recognition coin, "GOOD PROJECT MANAGEMENT PRACTICE" that was presented to new PMPs, volunteers, speakers, and co-workers that were seen demonstrating or executing good project management practices. Approximately 75 were handed out during the year.

\* We celebrated PM cognizance by rewarding the star recipients with a prize commensurate with the number of stars earned at the end of the year meeting.

\* We held a Holiday Party event in November (first ever) to encourage comradery in which Appreciation Certificates were handed out for "meeting participation, mentoring, subcommittee contributions, and practicing good project management practices.

\* Set up tours for the membership to visit the new construction of Nuclear Plant Vogtle Units 3 and 4.

\* Presented the benefits of the Local PMI Chapter and PMI HQ to a group of PMs at a large 12,000+ Military Base (Fort Gordon) in Augusta, Ga. 15 PMs attended. Discussions are continuing.

\* Our organization grew to 190 members (a new high).

\* We developed a marketing brochure for Sponsorship in our Chapter and then pursued several industries for sponsorships. Received two sponsorships for a total of \$6,000. Mentorship, advertisement, PMP Prep class discounts and meal discounts were offered to the sponsors.

### **PMI-HQ:**

\* We offered and conducted two PMP Preparation Classes to the local industry. We had no less than 10 volunteers to offer their time and experience to teach these classes.

\* The Regional Leader was requested to speak for the first time to the chapter with great results. A connection to HQs was made.

\* The Bylaws were updated and submitted to HQ with an energetic volunteer team.

\* The "GOOD PROJECT MANAGEMENT PRACTICE" recognition coin was shared with HQs.

\* Several anonymous members participated in the HQ survey on the Chapters performance in many areas. We found the feedback to be extremely valuable for future planning.

\* Sent representatives to the Region 14 Conference and North American World Congress.

\* Numerous questions were asked of HQs. All questions were answered promptly and accurately.

### **The Community:**

\* The first ever Local Chapter PMI Project of the Year trophy was awarded to a local business for practicing PM principles. A Runner Up project also received a trophy. An article was written up about the award at a large business complex with 8,000 workers that highlighted the Chapter's activities.

\* We selected the award recipient of a \$1,000 college scholarship.

\* We presented a \$250 "Best Project Management Practices" award at a local "Future City" middle school

competition.

\* We supported the United Way for the 10th straight year at the Shiloh Community Center in Augusta, Ga. Work included maintenance of the facility and yard care.

\* We completed project management support of the Phase I modifications to the Jessye Norman School of Arts in Augusta, Ga. as a pro-bono activity.

\* We assisted in the planning for Phase II modifications to the Jessye Norman School of Arts by issuing a Communications Plan and having a volunteer team on standby when grant funds become available to begin the project.

\* We evaluated the repair of the famous James Brown automatic camera system located in downtown Augusta, Ga. that became inoperable due to technology issues. Planning is underway to repair the system.

**COASTAL EMPIRE - [HTTP:// WWW.PMISAVANNAH.COM](http://www.pmisavannah.com)**

**CHARLESTON - [HTTP://WWW.PMI-CHARLESTON.ORG/](http://www.pmi-charleston.org/)**

**PALMETTO - [HTTP://WWW.PALMETTOCHAPTER.COM/](http://www.palmettochapter.com/)**

**MIDLANDS - [HTTP://WWW.PMI-MIDLANDS.ORG/](http://www.pmi-midlands.org/)**

We are excited to begin the new year with our new Board of Directors. We held a board orientation session mid-November and are getting off to a strong start.

Our board is working on moving all of our paper documentation to a document storage system to help with transitions and sharing of information with the board.

Our 2012 Strategic planning session is coming up quickly and in preparation each board member is creating a strategic plan for their area and a SWOT analysis in advance to assist in making our planning session effective.

Our Director of PDD has started working on our 2012 PDD – seeking out venue and speaker options.

Our VP of Programs is working on expanding our chapter meetings to include quarterly evening meetings as well as our lunch meetings.

We are also adding Twitter (#pmismidlands) and Facebook along with our Linked In page as other ways to reach our members.

Upcoming Events:

1/14/12 – Strategic Planning Session

1/17/12 – Board of Directors Meeting

1/23/12 - Chapter Lunch Program

For additional info contact : [bod@pmi-midlands.org](mailto:bod@pmi-midlands.org)

**CHATTANOOGA - [HTTP://WWW.CHATTANOOGAPMI.ORG/](http://www.chattanoogaapmi.org/)**

**EAST TENNESSEE - [HTTP://WWW.ETPMI.ORG/](http://www.etpmi.org/)**

As 2011 nears an end, and the new year begins, it is a time to reflect on the past year, and plan for the year ahead. In 2011, the East Tennessee Chapter celebrated a few milestones, of which, our most notable milestone was reaching 25 years as a PMI chapter! We could not have reached this milestone without great support, volunteers, and leadership over the years. We have several special programs planned in 2012 to celebrate this milestone. The first is March 9th where the chapter is sponsoring a full day workshop with Rick Morris at a special ETPMI member rate of \$25. Non-ETPMI members may also attend at a favorable price. 2011 also contained several other milestones for our chapter. These included:

- Implemented quarterly new member meetings to answer questions and network
- Hosted Harold Kerzner – brought one of the most recognized leaders in Project Management to Knoxville
- Held our inaugural Professional Development Day on September 16, 2011. The speaker line up paralleled a national event, and it was very well attended
- Grew our membership over 10%
- Expanded programs and meetings within our region

Our 25th year was certainly a success on many fronts, but we are hard planning for 2012 to keep the momentum going and provide even more opportunities and value to our members.

**MEMPHIS - [HTTP://WWW.PMIMEMPHIS.ORG/](http://www.pmmemphis.org/)**

**NASHVILLE - [HTTP://WWW.PMINASHVILLE.COM/](http://www.pminashville.com/)**

**DOCTOR BIRD -JAMAICA [HTTP://WWW.PMIDBC.ORG/](http://www.pmidbc.org/)**

**SOUTHERN CARIBBEAN CHAPTER (TRINIDAD/TOBAGO) - [HTTP://WWW.PMISCC.ORG/](http://www.pmiscc.org/)**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**