



Program Meeting Announcement

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Program Meeting at 6:15 PM

Waterford Lodge

(Formerly the Clarion Hotel and Conference Center)

3600 Dunckel Drive, Lansing, MI

Dinner Speakers: Dan Buonodono and Virginia Hambric

Topic:

" The State of Michigan's Unified Information Technology Environment (SUITE) initiative"

To Register go to : <http://www.pmi-mcac.org/>

And use the Monthly Program Meeting Link

Special Reduced Rate for Only Attending Speaker Portion of Meeting at 7:00 PM. See the above link for details!

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Message from the President

Amy J. Piper, Ph.D, PMP

We are coming to the close of another Program year. The MCAC Board has worked hard to bring you a year of interesting and useful Project Management presentations. As we close this Program year, I'd like to thank the Board for all of the work that they have put into the MCAC to make another successful year.

As we approach the May Program Meeting, I'd like to remind you about our MCAC Board elections. In the past we have held the elections at the May Program Meeting; however, this year we are moving into the 21st century and the elections will be held on-line. Approximately one week before the meeting, you will receive an on-line ballot in your email. This will allow more of our members to be involved in the voting process. Previously, you needed to be present at the Program meeting to vote, now all of the MCAC membership will have the opportunity to vote. Look for your ballot in email prior to the meeting.

There is a new certification offered by PMI, the PMI Scheduling Professional (PMI-SP)SM Credential. Individuals who hold the PMI Scheduling Professional (PMI-SP) credential demonstrate their knowledge, skills and experience in the specialty area of project scheduling. A PMI-SP provides expertise in developing and maintaining the project schedule for the project. Check out the requirements for this credential at www.pmi.org and check under the Career Development Tab.

PMI Michigan Capital Area Chapter Officers

President

Amy Piper, PhD, PMP
President@pmi-mcac.org

Past President

John LeTourneau, PMP
pastpresident@pmi-mcac.org

VP Membership

John Oldham, PMP
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VP Finance

Alireza Namvar, MBA, PMP
Finance@pmi-mcac.org

VP Communications

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VP Professional Development

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Sam Roberts, PMP
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VP Publicity

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VP Outreach

Arun Sampath, PMP
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VP Special Projects

Karl A. Meier
Specialprojects@pmi-mcac.org

Past President

John LeTourneau, PMP

The Michigan Capital Area Chapter of the Project Management Institute is soliciting nominations for board members for terms beginning July 1, 2008. Serving on the Board provides the opportunity to work with experienced Project Managers from a variety of industries. If you enjoy being involved in the administration of a professional group, or would like more experience in doing so, we have many great opportunities. Another thing that we do is build great relationships and friendships with other board members that often times extend outside of the PMI world. If you have ever observed the interactions between board members, I think you will have noticed a congenial atmosphere between like-minded professionals that experience a sense of satisfaction and camaraderie from getting things done together.

[Vice-President's Messages continued on page 3](#)



If you are interested in being a part of this great team, I encourage you to run for a chapter board position.

The open positions include:

- President (12 month term)
- VP – Professional Development (24 month term)
- VP – Programs (24 month term)
- VP – Communications (24 month term)
- VP – Logistics (24 month term)

The time commitment for these positions is typically 5 to 10 hours a month, and will vary depending on your commitment to the organization. Why volunteer for the PMI Michigan Capital Area Chapter Board?

- Gain Professional Development Units towards maintaining PMP certification (10 per year!)
- Opportunity to influence the direction of the chapter, and possibly the global PMI organization
- Gain a greater understanding of the Project Management Institute
- Network with project management practitioners from multiple organizations across USA and the world
- Advance your career!

The roles and responsibilities for each open position are detailed in the Roles and Responsibilities document, located on the Chapter website under Chapter Business / Election Info.

If you are interested in running for one of the above open positions, please email the following documents, the Board Election Candidate Form (located here: http://www.pmi-mcac.org/downloads.cfm?path=/election_info/), and a recent resume, to <mailto:pastpresident@pmi-mcac.org> by Friday, May 9th.

If you want to nominate someone else for a board position, send us their name ASAP and we will contact them for biography and resume information. Candidates must be current members of PMI and the Michigan Capital Area Chapter.

Vice President – Logistics

Pam Sawatzki, PMP

It was great to see so many at the last dinner meeting...we had a wonderful turn out and hope to have even more for the last program of the year. The last speakers have been lined up and they will be Dan Buonodono and Virginia Hambric from the State of Michigan. The topic will be the State of Michigan Unified Information Technology Environment commonly referred to as SUITE. It should be an interesting evening.

The board of directors will be holding the election for the new officers. It will be a wonderful evening. I look forward to seeing you on May 20th at the Waterford Lodge (former Clarion Hotel).

Vice Presidents Reports continued on page 4



Vice President – Professional Development

Marjorie Greer McIntyre, PMP

The next PMP Exam Prep Study Group will kick off on May 15, 2008. This will be a comprehensive six week endeavor with a commitment of one onsite session each week. In order to sit for the exam, applicants must have attained at least 35 contact hours of formal education that addresses learning objectives in project management. This Study Group will provide 12 contact hours that will assist you in meeting the eligibility requirements. If you are ready to commit to this time period and follow through on all assignments, you will be well prepared to take and pass the exam. Those of you who are interested in additional information, please contact me at professionaldevelopment@pmi-mcac.com. A \$200 fee will be charged to participate in this Study Group.

Preparations for our 2008 Professional Development Day (PDD) are ramping up. If your desire is to hone your project management skills, then you will not want to miss this magnificent event. PDD will be held on Monday, October 13, 2008 at the Sheraton Lansing Hotel on Creyts Road. Come out and hear our Keynote Speaker, James T. Brown, presenting, "Kill What's Ugly While It's Young." There will also be a host of additional dynamic speakers. We will be sure to keep you abreast of this year's spectacular PDD!

Vice President – Special Projects

Karl Meier

PM Eye on David Freund

David is the Director of Operations for NCI, Inc., "the people behind e-Government" (www.nicusacom) and is the winner of the April drawing for a free program meeting. He attends many of our program meetings and is always a very interesting person to talk with. David attends our meeting for the presentations, to meet fellow professionals, and to work towards certification.



When you see David at a program meeting, take a few minutes to introduce yourself to him. You will be glad you did.

On another note, our annual elections are quickly approaching. If you would like to get more involved with our Chapter, please consider running for a board position. I have been on the board for several years and can testify that it has been a very rewarding experience. In addition to the greater project management understanding you gain while serving on the board, the others that you serve with are fantastic to work in the company of, and most board members come out from their experience with new, lasting friendships that extend well past their tenure on the board.

Vice President – Communications

Amita Das, PMP

PMI MCAC is pleased to offer another PMP study group, which will kick off on May 15, 2008 to prepare you to take the PMP Exam. These sessions are fast paced and require a six weeks of commitment. The curriculum has been updated for you to be successful in the test. Please look further for more information.

We are also putting together a "committee of volunteers" to establish the Fall 2008 through Spring 2009 program year. Our program director, Samuel Roberts, has already booked a speaker for May and our Professional Development Day is in October, so we will need to schedule programs for September, November, January, February, March, April, and May. Please send your email address and phone number to communications@pmi-mcac.org if you are interested in being on the committee or if you have ideas for speakers.

[Vice Presidents Reports continued on page 5](#)



The next program meeting on May 20, will be our final meeting for the year 2007- 2008. We will also be announcing new elected board members for the chapter during the meeting. I will be looking forward to seeing many members at this final meeting.

Vice President – Membership

John Oldham, PMP

Membership information will be updated in this newsletter when it becomes available.

Vice President – Finance

Alireza Namvar, MBA, PMP

Note: The financial information will be updated in this newsletter when it becomes available.

Michigan Capital Area Chapter PMI Balance Sheet As of March 31, 2008

Assets		
Current Assets – Checking/Savings		\$25,726.59
Total Assets		\$25,726.59
Liabilities & Equity		
Liabilities		\$0
Equity		
Retained Earnings		\$24,886.31
Net Income		\$840.28
Total Equity		\$25,726.59
Total Liabilities and Equity		<u>\$25,726.59</u>

The above Balance Sheet is generated from the Chapter's accounting system and does not suggest audited information.

If you have any questions regarding the finances of the Chapter, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Vice President – Outreach

Arun Sampath, PMP

Like me, I am sure everyone is welcoming the warmer Michigan weather by pulling out our lawn movers and making summer travel plans. Before we wander off to more pleasurable summer activities, I want to take a moment to acknowledge the overwhelming response we received in response to our request for volunteers. Over the next few weeks we plan to get in get touch with all the volunteers to gather information on their interest/skills and try matching them against several current initiatives. On a more personal note, I will be traveling out of the country on vacation for the next three weeks. However you can continue to send me your questions, ideas, suggestions and comments on our outreach efforts to outreach@pmi-mcac.org



Give Your Resume an Extreme Makeover

Career Coach

If you're of the boomer generation, and looking for a new career, you could be getting the cold shoulder from employers. Your hair may be saying "under 40", but recruiters put your resume in the geriatric-reject pile. If you're feeling symptoms of age discrimination, your resume could be working against you, making you seem out of date and one step from retirement.

There are three reasons your resume may be keeping you out of interviews. Your resume is due for an update if:

1. Your technology skills date you from the stone age
2. Your key industry words are decades old
3. Your resume format doesn't follow current trends

Don't despair if your resume is out of date. You can perform an extreme resume makeover by using the following tips.

1. Get current on your industry's technology.

Be aware that technology terms are often used as keywords to filter the best resumes from electronic databases. If your resume doesn't have them, it may never be seen. Make sure your technology skills aren't leaving you behind.

Check job descriptions from various sources within your industry to see what technology skills employers are looking for. Determine what's missing from your resume. Then decide what you need to learn or do in order to fill that technology gap. Adult education, college classes, or even online learning are all great ways to catch up.

2. Make sure your resume reflects current terminology.

If you have just been adding to the same old resume over the years your early entries reflect outdated key words. Bring your resume up to date with the help of publications from your industry's professional associations. If you don't belong to any professional associations, you might be missing out on the latest industry-speak.

Another good resource for current terminology is online job postings. Search job descriptions in your field for recurring key words. Learn to use the current terminology for your industry for optimum results.

3. Make sure your resume reflects today's trends in resume format and style.

A decade back, the reverse-chronological format worked fine for you. But now that you have more experience, it may not be your best choice. The more advanced hybrid format will showcase your skills and expertise to your optimum advantage. With a hybrid resume, potential employers will form an impression of you based on your top accomplishments, not just your most recent job description.

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Many of the old resume rules just don't apply any more. For example:

* "Limit your resume to one page." This idea went out with the advent of electronic resumes. Nothing is harder on the eyes than trying to read a three-page resume squished onto one page.

* "Your resume should go back no more than ten years." Don't use an arbitrary number to determine how much to include on your resume. Ask yourself, "how far back does my work history relate to my current objective?"


* "One resume should handle everything." Not so! For greater effectiveness adjust your resume to different functions or industries you'd like to explore.

Finally, make sure you use the correct electronic version. You'll want to have (1) a standard Word format (for printouts and email attachments), and (2) a Plain Text version for "text only" online forms.

Give your resume an extreme makeover using these tips to let your experience work for you rather than against you. You'll see increased requests for interviews leading to your best career opportunity ever.

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Deborah Walker, Career Coach, and former executive recruiter understands from an insider's view the resume errors that can spell disaster for job seekers. Visit Deb at <http://www.AlphaAdvantage.com>

***MAXIMUM FLOAT***  
*Michigan Capital Area Chapter Newsletter*



**Published Monthly prior to Chapter Meetings**

|                 |                 |                 |             |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Charlie Kidd    | Managing Editor | Amy Piper       | Contributor |
| Pam Sawatzki    | Contributor     | John Oldham     | Contributor |
| Karl Meier      | Contributor     | John LeTourneau | Contributor |
| Arun Sampath    | Contributor     |                 |             |
| Marjorie Greer  |                 | Alireza Namvar  | Contributor |
| <b>McIntyre</b> | Contributor     |                 |             |

## ***Monthly Program Meeting Information***

The MCAC Chapter Program Meetings are held at the Waterford Lodge, formerly the Clarion Hotel and Conference Center, 3600 Dunckel Drive, Lansing, MI 48910

MCAC Chapter Program Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month, September through May, excluding December. Bonus Programs are often held prior to the Program Meeting (normally from 5:15 PM to 6:00 PM). Networking begins at 6:00 PM and Dinner at 6:30 PM. The Main Program begins at 7:00 PM. Please go to <http://www.pmi-mcac.org> to registration and for additional information.

**Costs:** \$25 for members and \$30 for non-members which includes dinner. A presentation-only option is available to members for \$10 and non-members for \$15. Anyone who does not register in advance will be charged an additional \$5 at the door. If you are not pre-registered, we may be unable to accommodate you due to restaurant limitations