



We hope that all our members and their families had a happy holiday season. We look forward to 2009's new and exciting challenges and anticipate that our professional families will work together to resolve this year's issues. This year the PMINJ has contributed to three New Jersey charities to help during the holiday season.

Symposium Outlook

Aita Salasoo, PhD, PMP

There are a few hours now twice a year that I feel like I am getting my fifteen minutes of fame. They come at the end of PMI NJ Chapter Symposium events. Attendees abound with compliments on many aspects of a just-concluded experience that inevitably has brought them some personal growth. As soon as this starts, I am sending e-mails to all the volunteers whose hard work has just culminated in yet another successful event to share the accolades. As I now approach my fifth year as VP, Symposium, for the PMI NJ Chapter, I wanted to share with you some of the behind-the-scenes thinking that goes on as the two Directors of Symposium and I work with the Board of Directors and the Symposium Team Leads to plan our symposium events.

For more than 20 years, the chapter has held an annual symposium 1-day event each May in addition to its monthly evening programs for 8 months of the year. Since 2006, we have added a second and slightly simpler 1-day seminar event in November, coinciding with International Project Management Day. We have also expanded our May symposium in duration on three occasions, in 2005, 2007, and 2008, to include a Sunday Seminar. Finally, we added a Seminar at Sea cruise event in 2008 to combine project management development and networking with vacationing. We fully expect to continue this tradition in 2009.

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Leverage LinkedIn for Professional Success

Ashay Gharat, PMP, MBA

In today's tough economic times, the value of professional networking cannot be over emphasized. Networking is all about building and cultivating relationships. Networking revolves around effectively marketing yourself, staying in touch with people you know, connecting to people you should know, seeking information about people and companies, the give-and-take of value, projecting an image of reliability and finding a mentor who can offer you advice, support and coaching.

The Internet age has seen a paradigm shift in how networking is undergoing metamorphoses to an online community model. There are many online networking sites on the internet including Facebook, MySpace, LinkedIn, Plaxo, and Orkut.

LinkedIn is an online professional networking site with more than 30 million registered users representing 150 industries. It is a trusted network of people that started on the philosophy of "Six degrees of separation."

Recent job cuts have resulted in a significant increase in LinkedIn registrations. Their closest competitor is Plaxo with about 20 million users.

LinkedIn is different from other online social networking sites like Facebook and MySpace in the sense that the former is purely focused on "professional, business-oriented networking" whereas the latter is used to socialize with a variety of people

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President's Message

A year ago, I wrote an article on Affirmations. How did you do? It is a time to reaffirm those affirmations and identify additional resolutions.

At this time of year there is a lot of conversation about coaches. Many sports teams have great coaches with tactics to influence the performance of their team. The coach is really a project manager. Just think how the coach performs the many tasks that make the team successful. Directing, controlling, analyzing, adjusting and closure.

Many coaches can attribute their success to a previous head coach or mentor. In our industry it is also valuable to have a mentor. The men-

tor can be the influence that makes the project manager.

What does it take to start a mentoring program for our members:

Would you benefit from an interested outside person who has been down "a similar road"? Are you a PM who would like to "give back" to your profession? These are the individuals we need to start this type of program.

Both the mentor and mentee would gain from a program of this nature. In this type of environment, everyone can learn. The mature PM can provide that grey-beard experience and the mentee can identify the new challenges. The mentor has the ad-

vantage to size-up not only the business situation, but evaluate skills, attributes and talents.

Now, what interest do the members have in this program? Let us know if you would like to participate.

Then there is the story of the frog. If you put a frog in boiling water, he will jump out and save himself. However, if you put the frog in comfortable water and then turn up the heat, he will boil to death. Don't let your projects simmer and boil to failure. Seek the advice of a coach or mentor early to help turn down the heat. ▲

John Bufe

Are You Preparing for Your PMP?

Due to its excellent value, the PMP Exam Preparation Class offered by PMI New Jersey remains as popular as ever, with classes filling up within a few days after registration opens. The next class will be held in March 2009. The PMBOK 4th Edition was released on December 31, and the PMP exam will be updated to align with this on June 30, 2009. Therefore, PMI NJ Chapter's March PMP Class will be the last one based on PMBOK 3rd Edition. Subsequent classes will align with PMBOK 4th Edition.

The March 2009 class will be held In Parsippany, NJ at SetFocus, a Microsoft Gold Partner for Learning Solutions. Seating in the class is limited to 25. However, since enrollment is expected to be high, students may wish to consider, for an additional cost, using the SetFocus Global Remote Instructional Delivery (GRID) which

enables students to attend the class in a virtual mode, from any location. Please contact Ava Heuer (training@pminj.org) if you are interested in being notified when the March dates are confirmed, or would like more information about this upcoming class.

We continue to recruit new instructors. We are looking for instructors who have: 1.) some prior classroom teaching experience; 2.) the ability to create a positive learning environment; 3.) an understanding of the focus points of the PMP exam; 4.) excellent communications skills and; 5) a willingness to give up a few Saturdays a year. If this describes you, please contact Ava Heuer. ▲



Students take a practice test during PMP Exam Review class.

PMI NJ 2009-2010 Scholarship Award Important Submission Dates

The nomination forms for both new applicants (high school seniors) and renewal candidates (college students) have now been posted on the PMI NJ website. The forms contain a description of the process as well as listing important milestone dates associated with the selection process.

Note that applications for high school seniors are due March 1, 2009 and the renewal applications for previous year recipients who are in college presently are due by May 1, 2009.

For more information or to volunteer to assist with application review, contact Pat Gibbons at d-scholarships@pminj.org or pgibbons@telcordia.com.

PMI-NJ Seminar@Sea 2009

Carnival Triumph
Saturday, August 29 to
Thursday, September 3, 2009
5 Day Canada –
St John, NB & Halifax, NS
Departs from New York, NY

Once again, the PMI NJ Chapter will be offering a unique opportunity for our members to enjoy the comfort, enjoyment, and excitement of cruise travel with a special educational and networking experience. The 2009 cruise will take us to Canada. We sail from New York City to the gorgeous provinces of Canada. You will see such scenic wonders as the Bay of Fundy in Saint John, New Brunswick and the sights of Halifax, Nova Scotia. We are cruising in the late sum-

mer, which coincides with many of our members' vacation times. For those of you new to cruising, it is an excellent economic choice as your room, meals, and on-board entertainment are included in your cost. Additionally, we will ensure our seminar fees are low and provide a great per PDU cost ratio.

When we are not in port, we will offer an interesting and engaging seminar with excellent speakers. Additionally, the chapter will offer optional evening events for you and your family or friends who join you on the trip.

So start planning your 2009 vacation now and if you are the least bit inter-



ested, be sure to mark your calendar for August 29 – September 5 and check the PMI NJ website for updated speaker information, pricing for the seminar and the cruise, as well as registration information.

If you have questions or are interested in volunteering, please contact Faye Horwitz at Seminaratsea @pminj.org. ▲

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New Jersey Chapter Celebrates International Project Management Day

November 6, 2008 was a very big day for the New Jersey Chapter of PMI. Chapter President, John Bufe welcomed a capacity crowd of nearly 500 members to their 3rd annual IPM Day event. IPM Day was held at The Palace at Somerset, which has proved to be an excellent facility for this event. The Governor of New Jersey sent a proclamation recognizing the Project Managers of NJ and the work of the NJ Chapter.

International Project Management Day is a time to reflect, recognize excellence, appreciate the contributions and plan for the challenges that face project managers everywhere. Our 2008 event focused on connections, dependencies and integration issues in project management. These are among the greatest challenges we

have and all project managers can benefit from focusing on them as part of our professional development. We were fortunate to hear from a variety of excellent speakers on timely and powerful topics.

During breaks and lunch, attendees visited vendor booths and had an opportunity to see tool demonstrations and discuss new trends, techniques, and training programs. Networking opportunities were bountiful with so many project management professionals on site. We were also fortunate to have the following PMI Special Interest Groups (SIGs) and PMINJ Local Interest Groups (LIGs) participate; Women in Project Management SIG, PMI-NJ Networking Group, PMI-NJ Program & Project Assessment Group, Healthcare SIG, Consulting SIG, and College of Performance Management.

We wish to thank everyone that brought a food contribution. These have been delivered to NJ food banks.

Authentic Leadership

Dr. Martha M. Geaney, PhD, President, The Geaney Group, was the first speaker of the day. Dr. Geaney began by discussing the concept of "whole person integration," which she explained as "In the workplace we are dealing with people as whole people and we need to deal with

them emotionally, spiritually, and intellectually ... resulting in phenomenal performance and productivity." There is an evolving conceptualization of leadership from whole person engaging leadership to transactional quality movement to ultimately empowerment transformational leadership. Transformational leaders understand the connection to whole person integration involves visioning, role modeling, listening, and empathy. She went on to explain Emotional Intelligence (EQ) vs. Intellectual Intelligence (IQ) and provided ways to boost your Emotional Intelligence.

Dr Geaney emphasized listening and reflecting as important components of leadership. Her presentation contained exercises for participants, which provided an opportunity for self-discovery of "authentic leadership" characteristics and ways to practice them.

Clear Away Barriers that Derail Project Delivery

Wendy Blumenstein, founding partner of Momentum Partners, LLC, spoke after the morning break. Ms. Blumenstein started her presentation by suggesting that we listen through our history and a set of filters affected by our history. We need to know what our filters are. If not, we can't influence the outcome of projects. We need to understand how our filters contribute to conflict on projects and can be project derailers.

To achieve success, Ms. Blumenstein recommends eliminating derailers by focusing on yourself and your filters and not the filters of other members of your project team.



Dr. Martha M. Geaney, PhD presented the keynote speech.

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Wendy Blumenstein recommends being specific in your communication.

The most natural of listening approaches is to try to determine which type of individual your team members are and communicate to them appropriately. Be appreciative and empathetic, if the listener is a “telling based” type. Be fact-based, if the listener is discerning, comprehensive and evaluative in style.

Citi Environmental Initiatives

Bruce S. Schlein, VP of Environmental Affairs at Citi, gave attendees an interesting look into Citi’s environmental and sustainability project initiatives. As a large multinational financial services company and a major employer of project managers in New Jersey, this presentation provided information of interest. The topic was also timely, given the recent focus on climate change and energy policies. While most of the audience does not manage environmental projects, understanding how large corporations approach these matters is important for all project managers.

Citi defines “citizenship” as “The positive impact that Citi has on society and the environment through their core business activities and operations, philanthropy, volunteerism

and public policy engagement”.

He cited Citi’s \$50 billion climate project which consists of investments in and financing of, alternative energy and clean technology within Citi’s businesses, sustainable business practices and other related activities across the company.

The audience warmed up to the speaker considerably during the question and answer period. It was fascinating to see how companies providing funding for energy and infrastructure projects need to get involved in addressing

environmental and sustainability issues. All of us may be called on in the future to show how our projects meet sustainability objectives in addition to quality, cost, and schedule goals.

Energizing Critical Relationships for Project Success

Steve Hegele, founder and CEO of Hegele Academy, hosted an afternoon workshop that was lively, stimulating, fun, and informative. His dynamic style had attendees engaged all afternoon. Mr. Hegele talked about knowledge not being the differentiator it once was; it’s what you can do with knowledge that

counts. When asked what characteristics define a successful leader, no one mentioned knowledge; people tend to think of skills and attitudes. He noted that skills and attitude make up 85% of successful leaders and the remaining 15% being knowledge.

Communication was stressed as being the life-blood starting with the ‘how’ (Clear, Concise, Candid and Dynamic) followed by the ‘what’ (Meaning, Connecting and Understanding). In a 10-year study of non-verbal communication, Dr. Albert Mehrabian, UCLA Professor, concluded that in situations with emotional content, what people remember about a communication is in increasing order the actual words (7%), the sound of the speaker’s voice (38%) and non-verbal aspects of the speaker (55%). This mirrors what is conveyed by e-mail, phone calls, and

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Symposium Outlook

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All these areas of growth have been undertaken to serve the ever-increasing demand of our chapter members for professional development and PDUs for maintaining Project Management Professional certification status. As our chapter grows and the number of PMPs in the chapter grows, so does the local demand for programming. There are only so many hours in each day, and a fixed number of venues around the state. So the solutions we have found have been to find optimal size reasonably-priced facilities and extend our program durations and add events.

Below are three broad thoughts that you might appreciate about symposium planning.

1. We are innovating.

Especially when the going gets tough, innovation emerges and saves the day! I wanted to share a few examples below.

We tried to brand our symposium events more with a stronger theme, a logo, even a color. This has met varied success, but is always fun.

We went green! We have cut down paper from the symposium registration process, now 100% online, as well as the post-event survey method. This has helped us keep our costs down and be more efficient. It is also the way of the future!

We introduced new programming formats, including posters and SIGs/LIGs. Posters at our annual symposium are aimed at encouraging active participation by our own chapter members who may not be comfortable speaking in front of a large crowd, but who have a project management best practice or innovation to share. By preparing a poster presentation and talking to visitors about it during breaks, you can earn 10 PDUs. We even introduced the best

poster prize to motivate more participation. The idea for SIGs (PMI Specific Interest Groups, e.g., Healthcare SIG, IT SIG, etc.) came from attending the North American Congress, where one evening's reception had the edges of a large ballroom filled with SIGs. It was just great to walk around and find out what was going on. It's how I first met up with the PMI Education Foundation, a group that helped me support my daughter's girl scout troop with project management skills and tools.

When we found that attendees were not taking advantage of all that the vendors at our symposium event had to offer, one year we tried having a ticket to be punched by each vendor, which if fully validated, could enter the attendee for a substantive prize. (When we did this, the facility we were at offered a 1-day spa experience for 2, which was a terrific incentive for our attendees!)

So you can see, there is room for lots of creativity in planning PMI NJ symposium events. With the current state of the economy, innovation will be needed more than ever to meet our needs.

2. Programming quality rules!

My passion is excellence in programming at events. This includes both substantive, original, appropriately-targeted content, and superb presentation. These are high standards, and the Directors of Symposium and Speaker Team leads throughout the years know how much I will stand by them. For our annual symposium, we develop a theme based on survey results from previous events and timely topics. We seek eminent speakers from various fields, not all from project management, to be keynote speakers. In addition, we solicit proposals for track speakers. Our approach multiple parallel track sessions is to provide variety of topic and level of

audience to cater for the interests of our members. Quality is also about the details of the presentation, which we review and collaborate on with the selected speakers, and insist on avoiding late changes. Some speakers feel constrained by our approach, but it has become a proven tool to avoid unnecessary programming risks.

One of the challenges we face with programming is sorting the wheat from the chaff. There is push and pull in the situation. Our Speaker Team is seeking presentations to match our needs. Meanwhile, our chapter receives unsolicited proposals from speakers and consulting firms. Good marketing is not always synonymous with good product. We have a fixed budget and what is more, we have learned throughout our years that a higher speaking fee does not guarantee a better presentation. One way that project management consultant speakers can view our events for a win-win is as opportunities for exposure to our members, who then can follow up for additional services for their companies as appropriate. Project management practitioners who happen to be excellent communicators and are motivated by sharing their experiences with their communities can also be a source of quality programming. Our team vets the speaking style, topic, actual presentation for all the factors that are needed to keep an event with many moving parts on track.

One of the best ways to find a new speaker is for someone on our volunteer team to share something that excited them recently. We welcome all such references!

3. The Shifting Sands of Volunteers and Attendees

As individuals, organizations, and project teams, we are all dynamic and fluid. Our lives are so full, our careers ever-changing, we reinvent

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Symposium Outlook

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ourselves as needed. So it's not surprising that our interests change, and our ability to focus on things that are purely discretionary is not fixed or given. I am continually amazed at the fact that our chapter has some long-time volunteers who consistently contribute to making the chapter run. We are so lucky! I truly appreciate and respect the commitment of all volunteers, but especially our long-timers! Having said that, we also have many new volunteers who participate on teams. We also have our share of those who start, but cannot complete a volunteer assignment. Life happens to all of us, and so it's best I find to just admit when something is not working, be graceful in the communication, accept the change, and pick up the pieces to

move on. Easier said than done, but that's the theory. The bottom line is that we don't have a guaranteed knowledge base of knowledge transfer mechanism in symposium planning. Our best assets are the good will, and desire to both succeed and solve problems of our volunteers. We do have a few tools to help, such as an operations handbook with brief descriptions of all the teams involved in planning a symposium, their responsibilities, a schedule, and sample assets. However, things change constantly, so this will never be a cookbook, but it's a start.

On the other side of the equation, we have the symposium attendees. Our surveys tell us the profile is pretty consistently a majority of attendees are PMPs with more than 12 years of experience. Nevertheless there are always significant numbers of new

attendees and junior project managers too. Our chapter event attendees are not shy about telling us how they feel. They comment on everything! This includes the locations of events, the quality of the food, and the speakers. Recently, we were told that the topic of environmental initiatives by a major corporation was not of interest to our audience. We have taken note! We perennially pay a lot of attention to lunch logistics, restrooms, parking, and other details, but recently we did not do as well in these areas as we like to. We have heard you and will focus on improvements in these areas. We do the best we can, always strive to improve, and ask for your forgiveness when we are imperfect. We can always use your help in planning our next event to be better!

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2nd Annual Women In Project Management Conference	
<i>Where women gather to seek the best of themselves and every woman experiences herself as the leader she was meant to be!</i>	
<p>Los Angeles, CA April 29 - 30, 2009 Columbus, OH June 10 - 11, 2009 Washington D.C. Sept 15 - 16, 2009 Atlanta, GA Oct. 7 - 8, 2009 Dallas, TX Nov. 11 - 12, 2009</p> <p>More info: 614-309-6565 www.ProjectManagementResourceGroup.com</p>	<p><u>EARLY-BIRD Special Pricing Extended</u></p> <p>Register Before Jan 31, 2009 <u>\$400 per day \$700 both days</u></p> <p>Register After Jan 31, 2009 Please See Individual Cities for More Information, Early Bird Registration Deadlines, and Pricing after Jan 31, 2009</p>
Day 1 Speakers and Topics	Day 2 Speakers and Topics
<p><u>Genevieve Bos</u> - Keynote Owner & Co-Founder, PINK Magazine</p> <p>TOPIC: SECRETS and INSIGHTS From America's Most Successful Women in Business</p>	<p><u>Donna James</u> - Keynote Past President of Nationwide Strategic Investments - On the Board of Coca Cola Enterprises and Limited Brands</p> <p>TOPIC: MENTORING: Maximizing the Value of Mentoring in Your Life and Career.</p>
<p><u>Patricia Shafer</u> President, Compel Organizational Excellence Alliance</p> <p>TOPIC: POWERFUL and CONNECTED: A ½ Day Interactive Workshop for Women Transforming Their Work Environment</p>	<p><u>Shannon Cassidy</u> Executive Director of Bridge Between, Inc.</p> <p>TOPIC: POWERFUL NEGOTIATION: How Questions Lead to Solutions.</p>
<p><u>Sandra Yancey</u> Founder & CEO, eWomenNetwork</p> <p>TOPIC: RELATIONSHIP NETWORKING: The Core Components of Effective Networking.</p>	<p><u>Margie Warrell</u> Executive and Life Coach Author, <i>Find Your Courage</i></p> <p>TOPIC: THINK BIGGER, LIVE BOLDER! Achieve Greater Success at Work and Beyond.</p>
<p>EVENING NETWORKING SOCIAL EVENT 5:30-8:00pm</p> <p>Hors D'oeuvres will be served - Cash Bar 7.5 PDU's/per day</p> 	<p><u>Jacqueline (Jacqui) Welch</u> Senior VP, Turner, Division of TimeWarner</p> <p>TOPIC: SUCCESSION PLANNING: Living Into a Future That You Create.</p>

LinkedIn

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including family, friends, classmates, and people you work with.

Why LinkedIn?

LinkedIn helps people track down the right professionals – active and passive job seekers, potential customers, vendors and competitors – quickly and efficiently. LinkedIn gives you the power to leverage the collective wisdom of global experts by allowing you to ask questions through the Q&A forum.

Key reasons why you should use LinkedIn to promote your career:

1. LinkedIn is the new “Google” of people search. It provides the tools necessary to professionally reconnect with colleagues and friends you’ve known over the years. More importantly, you can now gain access to their network and their network’s network. Remember that 80% of most job positions are found through networking or job referrals.
2. LinkedIn is becoming one of the top job sites in the world. Recruiters are on the look-out for both active as well as passive job seekers there.
3. LinkedIn is like a personal career blog where headhunters can read your profile like a storybook.
4. LinkedIn allows you to make your profile information available for search engines to index. Since LinkedIn profiles receive a fairly high page rank in Google, this is a good way to influence what people see when they search for you.
5. Q & A feature allows you to show your competencies. People who want to know you better will get a better feel for who you are. The Q&A feature gives you the opportunity to be acknowledged as an expert based on how your answers are rated by the questioners.

6. Recommendations from current and past colleagues posted on your profile give deeper insight into your capabilities

7. Research employees, employers, vendors, associates. Perform blind reference checks. LinkedIn’s reference check tool can find out who worked at the company during the same period, providing balanced data.

8. Be better prepared for your interview. Use LinkedIn to find information on the people you are meeting. Knowing about their background, accomplishments, interest will make your interview go smoother

9. LinkedIn Groups provide you an opportunity to network with fellow members of the Groups who have similar interests to you.

How to leverage LinkedIn?

Create a LinkedIn profile

- ▶ Profile name is an important part of your branding. Your branding should be consistent with what you use on your cover letters, resume, and marketing material. For example, John Smith, PMP, MBA. Include your email address if you want people to reach you. Add a picture
- ▶ Professional Headline - Add targeted role or position you desire, what you have to offer, your email address, industry.
- ▶ Professional Summary – A brief snippet of your goals and what you are.
- ▶ Specialties – A searchable field, so ensure that you have the right key words for recruiters to find you.
- ▶ Experience – Add responsibilities and accomplishment statements
- ▶ Recommendations – Get as many recommendations as possible from Managers, direct reports, colleagues, and customers.

▶ Applications: You may add a presentation on yourself, connect your blog to your LinkedIn profile.

▶ “What are you working on?” – This will be visible only to your connections. Examples: You can add a short description of the white paper/research project you are working on, the target job opportunity you are looking for, etc.

Grow and cultivate your network

Invite people you know by their names and email addresses to join your network. Request your contacts to introduce you to their connections. Share your connections with your network. This is a network built on trust.

Use InMail to get introduced to people who are not connections of anyone in your network

Search for jobs by your area of interest or location. Research the recruiters and companies.

Join groups of your interest and communicate with fellow members. Participate in discussion forums. Discussion forums have job listings from around the world

Call for Action

Networking and especially online professional networking has become more important than ever. How people are networking and connecting to great opportunities is changing with next generation of job sites that combine networking and job searching. Start building and cultivating your relationships today. Be sure to attend the Career Networking LIG meetings held at 5:30 pm just before the regular PMI NJ monthly chapter meetings.

Special thanks to Diane Litchko, PHR who was the speaker at the Career Networking LIG November meeting. for an outstanding presentation. You can reach Diane Litchko via email at litch324@aol.com. ▲

IPM Day

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Mr. Hegele provided insight into how to recognize your critical relationships.

face-to-face communications, indicating the value of in-person meetings, especially when the content might be sensitive.

Critical Relationships are defined as those relationships that typically determine the overall quality and productivity of our personal and professional lives. The audience was asked to think about their 'critical relationships' both business and personal. Relationships are a reflection of us, our expectations, needs and quality of life based upon quality of relationships.

Mr. Hegele shared insights into energy specifically the 'right kind of energy' that improves productivity, improves communication, increases innovation, and is fun.

Enhancers are defined as those people, situations, and relationships that (+/-) elevate or intensify the emotional dynamics of what is happening in your life. Examples of enhancers are sharing, passion, candor, truth and facts, to name a few. On the other hand, there are Eroders that can 'erode' a relationship by avoiding, ambiguity, dishonestly, judge and label, to name a few.

By the end of the workshop, Mr. Hegele had provided insight into how to know and recognize your critical relationships, who is energizing you the right way and wrong way, what relationships are elevating your expectation, and where are you building trust and fear. His delivery of this material and his examples used to make a point or clarify a concept were well received by the audi-

ence. The workshop was beneficial to all attendees with learnings that can be applied immediately.

Special thanks to the Lanyard and AM Break Sponsor, PRICE Systems, and PM Break Sponsor, Teachers' College Columbia University. We would also like to thank other sponsors, Tek Systems, Stevens Institute of Technology, Rutgers University, and DATA Inc.

The 2008 IPM Day was another success! Thanks to all of the volunteers, led by two directors, Deven Trivedi and

Jerry Flach, and our team leads. We appreciate your sustained support as we prepare for future events. If you would like to participate in planning a future symposium event and earn PDUs at the same time, please contact volunteers@pminj.org. ▲



Thank yous are due to the volunteers who make it all happen.

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Volunteer of the Quarter



While many students who have taken PMI NJ Chapter's PMP Exam Prep class are familiar with our talented instructor team, the class would not be possible without the tremendous dedication of Steve Gould, a less visible volunteer who works behind the scenes to ensure the course runs smoothly and professionally. And although the instructor team has varied over time, Steve

Gould has remained a constant - supporting this class quietly and relentlessly since 2001.

Steve has multiple responsibilities. All students receive a large binder of materials that include a variety of formats. Steve is responsible for coordinating the printing and distribution of these materials, using his excellent negotiation skills to find the lowest price and resolve various problems with printing facilities. His dedication and flexibility has enabled smooth transitions over the years as our materials grew from 500 to 800 pages, from overhead transparencies to computer-based slides, from hotel sites to formal training facilities. And on 3 Saturdays

of each year for the past 8 years, no matter the location, no matter the weather, while the rest of the world is sleeping Steve is up at the crack of dawn delivering the handouts to the class.

But Steve is not the kind of person to let his responsibilities end at the delivery. He always takes the extra step to distribute materials during class and follow-up with diverse student requests, whether to adjust a thermostat, or replace a light bulb in the LCD projector; he's even moved walls in training rooms! No matter the situation, Steve always embodies the PMP Code of Conduct by treating everyone with courtesy and respect. While tensions may rise, he remains a cool and calming presence, and always gets the job done.

Probably the most difficult of his responsibilities is maintaining version control of the materials. Because different instructors customize their sections, or the PMBOK undergoes revisions, or updates are made in the spirit of continuous improvement, there are always changes being made. Therefore managing the version control is an absolutely essential element. It is a very difficult task, and like everything else, Steve handles it with aplomb and good humor.

Please join us in congratulating Steve for his relentless dedication to making the chapter's PMP Prep Course a best in class offering. ▲

M a s t h e a d

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Deadlines for 2009 issues

Spring	March 1, 2009
Summer	June 1, 2009
Fall	Sept. 1, 2009

Please submit articles in MS Word, RTF, Mac Pages or plain ASCII text. Graphic files should be in **high resolution** JPG, GIF or EPS.

All members are invited to submit articles, meeting reviews or other items of interest for publication.

The newsletter is edited by Connie Nicholson who can be reached at editor@pminj.org.

This newsletter is printed on 30% recycled paper.

Congratulations to our new PMPs

Elizabeth R Acree
 Shama H Aijaonkar
 Aditya N Amin
 Kenneth Barth
 Saudamini Baru
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 Denise Catalano
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 Richard Clark
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 Karen Cromwell
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 Erik Lund
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 Karen Diane Riedmiller
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 Victoria G Sanchez
 Sanjay Shukul
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 Catherine H Smyth
 Kishan M Sreedhar
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 William A Steel
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 Dr. Vivian de Trespacios
 Thomas J Tsilionis
 Kenneth P Tyburczy
 James A Van de Water
 GhanaShyam N Vellala
 Casilda Vinoz
 Kevin C Walker
 Kevin Wendt
 Kimberly B Whittle
 Evelyn Wilhelm
 Dean B Workman
 James Yu
 Michael G Zamalkany, Sr.

New PgMP certified members:
 Warren V Mayo
 Sulemana Abubakar

New PMI-SP certified member:
 Jay D Gassaway
as of Nov 31, 2008

Symposium Outlook

Continued from page 7

This brings me full circle to the predominance of positive support and appreciation from symposium event attendees. Thank you for your voices. Finally, what can you do to help us?

Do you know of an exceptional speaker who we may be able to attract to a future event? Might your company wish to be a sponsor of a future PMI NJ event to support the programs we offer to NJ project managers? Do you have an idea you would

be willing to present as a poster at the next symposium? Can you commit to being a volunteer for 6 months for a future event? Please join with the more than 100 volunteers per year who bring you PMI NJ events. Contact volunteers@pminj.org if you would like to volunteer, or me at symposium@pminj.org with other suggestions. ▲



Attendees at the IPM Day had a chance to socialize over snacks.



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