



Kansas City Mid-America Chapter



HOME ABOUT KC PMI JOIN PMI MEMBERSHIP EVENTS NEWS DEVELOPMENT CONTACT

UPCOMING EVENTS

- In This Issue -

[President's Report](#)

[Advertisements](#)

[Volunteers](#)

[Membership](#)

[Finance](#)

[Professional Development Days](#)

[Communications](#)

[Programs](#)

[2010 Board Elections](#)

Professional Development

PMP EXAMP PREP

We are in the middle of our tenth class, being held at the Burns & McDonnell facility on State Line Road. In November we will open registration for the next class, starting in January 2010, to be held at the Cerner Conference Center at Riverport for 13 weeks. Please [visit our website](#) for more details.

PMP STUDY GROUPS

The September Study Group is currently meeting on Tuesday nights at Cerner's Innovation Campus at I-435 and Bannister. The next PMP Study Group is expected to begin in late January, 2010. For more information visit the [PMP Study Groups web page](#) or contact the [Director of PMP Study Groups](#).

[PMI Newsletter](#) ▶ [Archives](#)

October 2009

Issue: #26

President's Report :

As I approach the end of my two year term of President it is a good time to look both back and forward, celebrating what we have accomplished and identifying what we need to work on in the future.

Looking back several good things have happened. We have made gains in all three of our programs areas: meetings, training, and Professional Development Days (PDD). The number of dinner meetings has grown from five to ten per year. Now we are holding some meetings in the north part of the city, like this month's meeting at Harrah's. Training too has expanded. This year we offered nine seminars, a big jump from three in the past. All of our PMP prep classes sold out again and we had several sold out classes in Microsoft project. And lastly our PDD again drew over 400 people and had a good group of quality speakers.

In addition to enhancing our programs, our web site was strengthened and is now a stronger communications vehicle.

And best of all we accomplished this on a break even financial basis. Our bank account was strong at the beginning of the year and it will be strong at the end of the year.

Looking forward there are some areas where we can focus our efforts so as to better serve our members. The first that comes to mind is to strengthen our communications program to members by making better use of Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn. Another area to strengthen is our sponsorship programs. We have several vendors that want to work with us and we need to make it convenient for them to be a chapter sponsors. And finally, we should work on better ways to help our members who are looking for new careers.

In summary it has been a good year. We have moved forward. Some things have changed, such as the popularity of social networking and the employment picture. But these changes create opportunities for us to better serve our members.

I have one other item of importance. If you have not already done so, please take a few minutes and complete the [2009 Chapter Survey](#). Please see the [Communications](#) section of this newsletter for additional information regarding the survey.

Advertisements :

WORKSHOPS

At the March chapter meeting, the attendees identified professional development topics they would like the chapter to offer. It was no surprise that Microsoft Project training was near the top of the list. In response to this feedback, KCPMI offered the **Advanced MS Project** workshop three times this year, the last one being held on October 24th.

We are also offering four other workshops in November and December. On November 7th we offer a half day workshop (4 PDUs) **How to Think Like Leonardo da Vinci - Creative Problem Solving Strategies for Project Managers** at LeaderFuel Center, 11020 King Street, Suite 300, Overland Park, KS. On November 14th we are offering a full day workshop (7 PDUs) **Building the Foundation Leadership Power, Influence and Politics in Project Management** at Johnson County Community College (JCCC).

On December 5th, the second offering of the half day course (4 PDUs) **What's New in PMBOK 4** will be held at Cerner's Riverport Conference Center. And on December 12th we will offer another full day soft-skill course (7 PDUs) **Getting the Tools - Communication: A Key to Project Success** at JCCC. Please [see our website](#) for more details.

MENTORING

The next mentoring circles will be held before the November 9 chapter meeting from 5:00 to 5:45 PM. **Applications are available at** kcpmichapter.org/mentor.php. You can also enroll online when signing up for the November

PMP® Exam Prep Boot Camp

Kansas City
December 1-4
7:15 am - 5:15 pm
Embassy Suites on the Plaza

Don't fear the PMP® exam certification test any longer! This fast paced boot camp prepares each participant with all the core competencies to pass the PMP® exam the first time, while providing you with 35 contact hours.

We are excited to announce the launch of our online Project Management courses:

- Project Management Fundamentals*
- Project Risk Management*
- Project Monitoring, Evaluation & Oversight*
- Vendor Management*
- PMP® Exam Prep Boot Camp*
- Microsoft Project 2003 Basics*
- Microsoft Project 2003 Intermediate*
- Microsoft Project 2007 Basics*
- Microsoft Project 2007 Intermediate*

Each class is registered with PMI and qualifies for PDUs. Check out our website for more information.

The Mathis Group

800-224-3731
Fax: (636) 938-5292
keith@themathisgroup.com
www.themathisgroup.com
www.pmexpertlive.com



Onsite Training Available

Course Content

- PMBOK®'s 5 process groups and 9 knowledge areas of project management
- Professional and social responsibility
- Test-taking strategies and techniques
- Project management definitions, process charts and formulas
- Practice exams, scenarios and activities

Regular Price - \$2347
Early Bird before October 31st - \$1850
Government/GSA Price - \$1850
800-224-3731
All major credit cards accepted

What You Receive

- *A Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK® Guide) - Fourth Edition*
- *PMP® Study Guide 4th Edition* by Kim Heldman (includes software)
- Course notebook, Flash cards, Process charts
- Free online simulation Exam & 14+ in class practice tests



Project Management Institute



GSA Contract Holder

The Mathis Group PMP® Exam Guarantee: In the unlikely event you do not pass the PMP® exam the first time, The Mathis Group will pay for your second attempt within 30 days. If you do not pass the PMP® exam the second time, we will pay for the third attempt within 30 days. If you do not pass the PMP® exam after three attempts, we will refund the balance of the seminar price to you!!

PMP, PMBOK, and the PMI Registered Education Provider logo are registered marks of the Project Management Institute, Inc

Volunteers :

Volunteer Committee highlights this month

- November Volunteer Recognition Event
- KC PMI Volunteers are the Best!
- KC PMI Mid-America Chapter Final Service Project of the Year

November Volunteers Recognition Event

Our November business meeting is dedicated to recognizing our chapter volunteers. This year's annual Volunteer Recognition event will be held November 9th. This annual event celebrates all of our chapter volunteers who have donated their time and talents in making our chapter a success. The Volunteer Committee has been working along with the VP of Programs to host an exciting evening for all chapter members. This is one of our most popular events of the year, be sure to add this to your calendar. We hope to see you at the meeting in November.

KC PMI Volunteers are the Best!

Being a chapter volunteer can be very rewarding. Volunteers are truly the heart and soul of the chapter. Without the dedicated volunteers we have in

chapter dinner meeting.

If you have questions or would like to help with the new direction of the mentoring program, please email the Director of Mentoring at mentoring@kcpmichapter.org or visit the [Mentoring Program webpage](#).

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Sponsors/Partners



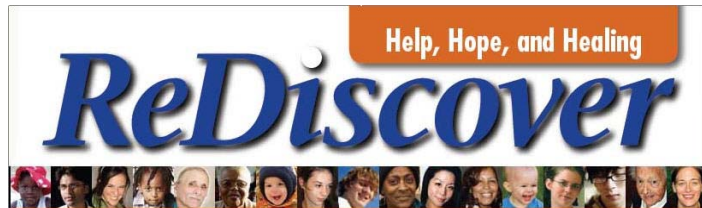
DeVry University's Keller Graduate School of Management A Comprehensive Project Management Program

DeVry University's Keller Graduate School of Management offers a full range of project management offerings. The school's accredited project management curriculum includes options for:

- MBA – Master of Business Administration degree with a concentration in Project Management
- MPM – Master of Project Management degree
- MISM – Master of Information Systems Management degree with a concentration in Project Management
- MNCM – Master of Network and Communications Management degree with a concentration in Project Management
- GCPM – Graduate Certificate in Project Management
- BSBA – Bachelor of Science in Business

our chapter, we would not have the quality programs and events we offer each year. I especially want to recognize all the volunteers who will be honored at the November meeting. Without the dedication and support of the volunteers, we would not be able to do what we do.

Our chapter is wholly run by volunteers. There are volunteer positions which meet every member's talents and availability. If you have volunteered in the past...thank you, thank you, thank you... If you are new to the chapter volunteering is an excellent way to meet new people, network, or expand your horizons. If you have not had the opportunity, please consider a volunteer position in the chapter. All participants are welcome!



KC PMI Mid-America Chapter Final Service Project of the Year

Throughout 2009 the Chapter has been working hard to give back to our community. We have one more opportunity planned this year to assist those in need. Our final community outreach partner this year is ReDiscover Wellness. Their mission is to deliver mental health and substance abuse services to help individuals and families achieve healthier and more productive lives. We know that active minds and active bodies help people live longer and happier lives. The KC PMI Chapter is hopes to help ReDiscover staff enable clients to stay in motion and take steps toward wellness. You can make a difference for someone by contributing to the KC Mid-America PMI Campaign.

ReDiscover Wellness: the Mind and Body Connection

There are two ways you can help with this campaign. First, sharing information about ReDiscover helps individuals and families become proactive regarding their health and wellness. This helps to raise awareness about the important links between physical health and mental health. Please see below for additional information about ReDiscover Wellness. Second, our chapter is collecting items for donation to Rediscover that will encourage their clients to stay both physically and mentally active.

If you can donate any of the items listed below, you may bring them to the November Chapter Meeting. **Please join us** as we work together to gather items that will encourage those in need to look forward to a brighter future.

As always, your assistance with this community outreach project is truly appreciated. Contact Kathleen Cavanaugh at 913-909-0464 with any questions, ideas, or suggestions for future KC PMI charity events.

Wish List

For the Mind, PMI will collect art supplies for ReDiscover's Art Therapy program:

- Acrylic paint and water colors
- Large 12x18 sheets of paper
- Pencils/Pencil sharpeners
- Glue sticks
- Glue tubes for a glue gun
- Fabrics for tapestry projects

- Administration degree with a concentration in Project Management
- BSTM – Bachelor of Science in Technical Management degree with a concentration in Project Management
- Corporate Educational Training Solutions in Project Management

These extensive project management offerings, along with flexible online and onsite locations, and established professional faculty allow Keller Graduate School to provide the right mix for today's working professionals.

DeVry University is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association. Keller Graduate School of Management is included in this accreditation. **Program availability varies by location.** In New York, DeVry University operates as DeVry College of New York. ©2009 DeVry University. All rights reserved.

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How did we do?
Take our event survey and give us your feedback on this month's event.

[Click Here.](#)



- Clay for working into sculptures

For the Body, PMI will collect new and gently used items that inspire motion and physical activity:

- Personal exercise equipment
- Exercise DVDs
- Yoga and meditation CDs, DVDs, and books
- Popular motion-inspiring gaming systems
- Dance Revolution games/systems
- Motion-inspiring games for Sony Play Station and Nintendo Wii

Additional Information

[ReDiscover](#) impacts the community by serving over 500 children and adults daily. Our programs change lives by offering hope and help for recovery from mental illness and substance dependency. Over 86% of our clients live at or below the federal poverty level. ReDiscover reaches local students by partnering with area school districts. ReDiscover's Crisis and Access Intervention phone service is open 24 hours a day to screen, support, and educate individuals, families, and community members. ReDiscover works with area schools, police, hospitals, and others to change lives in the community. Many of our clients fight severe depression. Significant barriers for recovery for our clients include the persistent struggle against poverty, diabetes, and obesity.

2009 Charity Event - Children's Mercy Donations

Please see the pictures below from our previous community outreach event.



Amy Botts and Kathleen Cavanaugh delivered the coloring books, stickers, markers, colored pencils and Crayons generously donated by KC-PMI Chapter Members to Children's Mercy Hospital Thursday, October 22.



Over 1,000 crayons, colored pencils and markers along with nearly 100 coloring books were donated for the children at the Children's Mercy Hospitals.

Membership :

Membership Update thru Aug 2009	
New Members	41
Renewals	77
Total Membership	1318
Membership Update thru Sept 2009	
New Members	26
Renewals	48
Total Membership	1315

The membership committee continues to monitor our membership levels. Both Regular and Student membership activities have added new members, and we are looking for a strong 4th quarter in membership recruitment.

Travis Worden continues to send out "Welcome to Kansas City Mid-America Chapter" letters and "Time to Renew Your PMI Membership" reminders.

Thanks to everyone who visited or helped work the PMI Chapter table at the PDD. If you haven't already seen it, keep an eye out for the new Kansas City Mid-America Chapter brochure. A BIG THANK YOU to Nancy Petersen for creating it! Please pick some up at your next PMI event and pass them on to your friends or co-workers who may have an interest in joining our chapter. It does a great job of detailing the numerous things that our chapter provides.

We will continue "getting the message out" to students in 2009, one classroom visit at a time. Nancy Petersen, director of student membership, recently visited Keller Graduate School of Management and shared the benefits of joining PMI. If you are interested in joining the Student membership team or have a special service we could offer for the student population please contact Nancy Peterson at StudentMembership@KCPMIChapter.org.

Listed below are all the new members who have joined our PMI chapter from August 2009 and September 2009. On behalf of the Kansas City Chapter, I want to welcome each of you.

Please continue to share the benefits of PMI with your co-workers, bosses and other associates. This is the best way to get the word out about the PMI organization.

If you or someone you know is unemployed and has been a PMI member for 3 years or more, they are eligible for 1 free year of PMI membership. Visit the [PMI website](#) for details.

New Chapter Members

August	September
Greg Ballentine	Leslie Boatright
Annie Bittaye	Dale Carmichael
Ledru Bolder	Kevin Farnam
Ivy Brock	Kurtis Gardner
Matt Brodine	T. Gates
Traci Bryan	Kelly Grisham
Clint Cain	Ann Heeter
Karen Chamberlin	Mark Horner
Connie Dunn	Amelia Hurley
Sarah Eliason	Michele Keller
Kristen Ellis	Michael Larma
Krik Elrod	Meredith Leach
Cherise George	John Mathew
Donica Goodwin	Samuel Osborne
David	James Pennetti
Heldenbrand	Marcy Randall
Suzanne Henkle	Steven Randolph
Susan Hoffman	Lee Robinson
Karen Langtry	Marilyn Rubin
Mary LeCluyse	Melinda Runnion
Tony Marshall	Evelyn Simpson
Jessica McQuarrie	Raymond Smith
Jebi Miller	Soon-Lee Tho
Vincent Miller	Ashokan
Justin Murray	Vattakkattil
Megan Parks	Shelley Whitson
Kathy Payson	
Michael Porazzo	
Larua Radke	
Frank Rios	
Terri Risinger	
Jennifer Stickney	
Angela Thurman	
Sandra Warner	
Nicholas Welter	
Evelyn	
Werbaneth	
Kari Woods	
Muhammad Zafar	
Juan Zambrana	
Tonia Zeller	

Again, thanks for all your support and commitment to our KC PMI Chapter.

Finance :

As the third quarter of 2009 comes to a close, it came as no surprise this year's Professional Development Days (PDD) event was a key driver toward the financial health of our Chapter. Although early attendance results were very positive, preliminary estimates indicate the Chapter fell short of our bottom line profit goals which will impact our fiscal year business plan. However, we're confident a positive fourth quarter can provide a final push to a strong 2009.

Key members of the Chapter Vice-Presidents and Directors attended the October PMI Global Leadership Conference in Orlando, Florida, and it's apparent the feedback will provide a strong transition from 2009 to 2010.

During a challenging economic year I'm very proud of the efforts, participation, and enthusiasm of our Chapter members, Board Vice-Presidents, and Directors. I am excited about the very stable financial infrastructure in place for future events.

As always, our financial goal is to continue providing leading edge Project Management events and learning opportunities for our Chapter members.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Cameron Wingers
VP of Finance

Professional Development Days :

2009 KC-PMI Professional Development Days

On September 21-22, the 2009 Professional Development Days (PDD) were presented by the Kansas City Mid-America PMI Chapter at the Overland Park Convention Center in Kansas City. More than 30 volunteers worked over six months to plan the event, which was attended by over 400 project management professionals from around the region.

The theme of this year's event was "Great Results Don't Happen by Chance," emphasizing the impact project management education and training have on project success. Mitch Holthus, "The Voice of the Kansas City Chiefs," emceed the event and presented an inspiring opening day keynote. Jason Dorsey, "The Gen Y Guy," entertained and informed attendees with his day two keynote on the topic of the how to interact with different generations in the workplace.

Other highlights included Jeff Nielson from RMC Project Management, who presented his workshop "Making Project Management Work in Your Organization." In all, 22 speakers presented workshops on a wide variety of relevant topics designed to help project managers apply best practices, tools, and techniques immediately on the job.

This year also marked the introduction of a Hardship Scholarship Program, designed to help individuals attend who otherwise would not have been able to due to financial difficulties. Also for the first time, members were to keep up with the latest news and information about PDD on LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube.

The chapter was pleased to welcome sponsors from Hallmark Cards, the

Center for Business and Technology of Johnson County Community College, RMC Project Management, Sogeti, Triple I, Watermark Learning, ASPE SDLC Training, Columbia College, Ecco Select, Fissure, IBM, IIL, Keller Graduate School of Management, and Lambert Consulting Group.

For those who completed the 2009 PDD 2009 Attendee Survey, two names were drawn to win free admission to the 2010 PDD. The winners of this drawing were Barbara Norton and John Pitzel.

Details of the event are available on the KC-PMI Chapter website at www.kcpmichapter.org/pdd.php. A big thank you goes out to all the attendees, volunteers, and speakers. Without your participation the 2009 PDD would not have been possible. Plans are already underway for the PDD 2010. We look forward to seeing you next year!

Communications :

If you have not yet done so, **please take a few minutes of your time and complete the [2009 KC Chapter Survey](#)**. We need your input to determine what we are doing right and where we need improvement. We want to provide the maximum chapter member benefit for the least amount of cost and volunteer effort. In order to do this we need your input on what we did right in 2009 and what you would like for us to do in 2010.

Your access code for the survey is your PMI Membership number. As an incentive for your input, one out of every twenty members who completes the survey will win free admittance to the November 9th Chapter Dinner Meeting.

Programs :

We had a great turn-out for the October 12 meeting at Harrah's in North Kansas City! James Harlow and Julie Burkhart delivered a fun and informative presentation on **Knowledge Management**, after which we enjoyed a varied buffet dinner. Meeting surveys were very positive about the venue, especially because we've had a lot of requests to have a meeting north of the river.

Our next meeting is November 9, 2009, at the Overland Park Marriott; Rich Delaney will present on **Leading without Authority**. Registration is open for the meeting which will also be our volunteer recognition dinner. Committee team leaders: please confirm your volunteer lists. Let volunteers know that they can register for free, but must enter their committee name in the comments section of the registration form.

Next year will see some changes in the monthly chapter meetings. Bi-monthly business meetings (odd numbered months) are moving to the *third* Monday of the month. Unfortunately we must also raise the price to \$28 due to the increasing cost of food and facilities. Please keep in mind this is still a good value for the price. In addition to mentoring and networking opportunities, you also receive a PDU.

2010 Board Elections :

Don't delay in casting your vote for the 2010 Board of Directors. Look for an email from PMI-KC Ballot that contains your personalized link to the ballot. Elections will close at noon on November 9th and the results will be announced at the chapter meeting that evening. Please note there will be no voting at the Chapter meeting. To review candidate biographies in advance, please visit http://www.kcpmichapter.org/Candidates_2010.htm.

Several voters have expressed concern regarding the number of candidates on the slate. Each year the board members make personal contact with each of our active volunteers as well as others in the chapter to encourage taking on a leadership role within the chapter. It is unfortunate that in a 1,300 member organization we have difficulty identifying a minimum of two people willing to run for each position. Every member of this organization has an opportunity to make a difference and keep our chapter vibrant and active. I commend those that are willing to step up and be part of our leadership team and encourage each of you to put your name on the slate for 2011!

How did we do?
Take our monthly
meeting survey and
give us your feedback
on this months event.
[Click Here.](#)

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