

Cindy Cortell and MLB Network Win PMINJ Project of the Year

Imagine that you are interviewing for a project manager position. You smile as the initial assignment is described to you, as you have led that type of initiative before. You are confident that you can bring this project to completion in about six months. Then you're told how much time you have – two months end-to-end, with the actual build to take place over two weekends!

Many of us would have politely excused ourselves at that point. Cindy Cortell did not. As a result, on January 1, baseball fans throughout America were treated to the launch of the Major League Baseball Network. Cindy and her team are this year's winners of the PMINJ Project of the Year award.

The winning project was the development and implementation of the LAN to enable the broadcasts to emanate from the MLB Network studios in Secaucus. The network reaches 50 million households, making it the largest launch of a new network in cable/satellite



television history. Cindy presented her winning project at the June PMINJ meeting, with her teammates present. What prompted Cindy to accept the assignment? "I enjoy a challenge", she said, "And this one was a monumental task. But if I had a dedicated team, then it was possible."

Given the tight timeframe, close management was a must. Cindy performed daily earned value analysis to ensure that the project was on track. Cost and schedule variances were closely monitored. But no matter how well a PM employs the tools of the trade, it always comes down to the human element. Unplanned turnover was a major challenge, forcing Cindy to juggle resources and ask her team (and herself) to stretch outside their comfort zone. The team responded, and the network was successfully launched as a result. Cindy did not initiate the project with the in-

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May 2009 Seminar & Symposium

A Successful Learning Event for PMINJ Members

On Sunday afternoon, May 3, 124 project managers converged at the Pines Manor in Edison NJ ready for a hands-on workshop titled, *Creativity for Project Managers*. Dr. Oliver Schlake conducted the workshop and attendees had an excellent opportunity to understand obstacles to creativity, how to overcome them and practice creativity techniques. Judging from attendee comments, the audience appreciated the engaging

interactive style, as well as the useful content of the presenter.

The 2009 PMINJ Regional Symposium on Project Management was once again a record-breaking and trend-setting event! Over 600 lucky attendees met on May 4 at Pines Manor. This year's topic, *Outside the Box Project Management*, was truly a creative learning event. The symposium met its goal to provide creative solutions and innovative techniques

to traditional project management challenges. The speakers were dynamic, their presentations informative thus providing a wealth of information to meeting attendees.

The symposium started with an excellent keynote presentation by Sarah Miller Caldicott, President of her own Chicago-based consultancy company, The Power Patterns of Innovation. Sarah is a great grandniece of

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Your Opinion Does Count

President's Message

Either shortly or already you have received a notice to provide your feedback for tactical and strategic direction for the chapter. We really value your feedback and we hope that you will take the time to provide input to our processes.

The results from the surveys that are provided with the monthly programs and the seminars have been invaluable to understand what has been good to continue and what needs to be improved.

We are trying to provide facilities closer to the communities where you live and work – we need more satellite locations in the north and south. We have 'improved' the transmission to the satellites – but we also learned that we need larger bandwidth and improved computer processing to

handle the excellent video and presentation graphics.

We are gathering data for presentation content and speakers that are dynamic and insightful. We have found that many seminars that present multiple tracks provide attendees too many tough decisions. How do we provide alternatives and redundancy?

What programs do we need to provide for the members – starting in September we will initiate a Mentoring program.

How do you like to get information – the Networking LIG has an email distribution that members can join or unsubscribe using our website. Are there other interest groups that need the same mechanism? There is a PMINJ LinkedIn group (over 1000

members) for sharing information. Do we need a presence on Facebook, Twitter,?

I like the story that Zig Ziegler tells about the geese flying in a V formation. He asks the question: Do you know why one leg of the V is longer than the other? There are more geese in it. If I can stretch the analogy, why do we identify some of the objectives? Because there are more requests from our members.

Please take the time to complete the survey when you get the email. Besides the canned questions, we appreciate your written comments.

Help us guide your organization.

Thanks,
John Bufe

Student Paper of the Year Awarded

PMI New Jersey Chapter is pleased to recognize Paula Gutierrez, Thomas McCaffrey, Thomas McCarthy, Deborah Sgro, and Linjun Zhang as winners of the 2009 Student Paper of the Year Award for their paper, "Secure Financial Transaction Infrastructure" (SFTI.)

The SFTI project, which was designed and created to be the financial indus-

try's most secure and resilient network for electronic trading, was analyzed by the team for its managerial, business, and technical approach, as well as for its use of PMBOK best practices. It was selected among many submitted by Dr. Aaron Shenhar from his Project Management and Leadership course in the Graduate Division of Stevens Institute of Technology. After reviewing all sub-

missions, the selection committee chose this paper as the one that most thoroughly analyzed all dimensions of the project using PMBOK best practices and provided the best insight into successes and failures. The team presented their paper at the June 16 chapter meeting and each member received a plaque and a scholarship. ▲

Project of the Year

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tention of winning awards. She submitted her project in response to a PMINJ call for nominations, and is glad she did! You can be next year's winner. For more information about Project of the Year, please contact poy@pminj.org. ▲

Please be sure to keep your address current at PMI.org and make your home address your preferred address.

Career Networking LIG

What's Next After Being Laid Off?

by Mary White

Helen Hogan, a dynamic speaker and Financial Advisor shared some important information at the Networking LIG session on April 21 (sponsored by TekSystems) on how to cope with financial challenges after losing your job. Helen's advice on how to protect your family and your dreams when you lose your job or are concerned that you might soon be are outlined in this article; a longer version will be online at the Networking LIG web page.

Before Getting Laid Off

Make it your key priority to accumulate an emergency fund that is enough to cover 6-8 months of your household expenses while you are gainfully employed.

Make sure you are prepared in the event of a layoff. Copy your personal files from your work computer to somewhere that you can access, such as a CD. Make sure you know where to find your company benefits, how to access the information online or bring the binder home. Your Human Resource department is your best resource. And finally, keep your resume current.

Severance

Try to negotiate a severance package with outreach assistance. Remember, you won't be given what you don't ask for. Also, be sure to ask and receive any unused vacation, sick days or performance bonus.

The Ottinger Firm, P.C. Employment Lawyers website states that often an employer will resist altering a standard severance package, especially in the case of a large layoff. In this case, it is important to find creative ways to stretch the package while technically maintaining the integrity of the "standard mold."

It is not mandatory that companies provide separating employees with any severance. These severance payments are taxable as received, and are subject to withholding taxes just as salary.

Severance options:

Lump Sum: Remember that this will be taxed at the time of receipt typically at your normal salaried tax rate however it could be taxed even higher at the time of receipt due to the large one lump sum. Also, consider whether the one lump sum will impact your benefits if your health coverage is based on your payment schedule.

Continuing as Salary: Unless you know how long you will be looking for a job, it is often wiser to extend receipt of the severance over a period of time. Also, consider the impact on your benefits. Finally, be aware that continuing severance payments do not in any way affect your eligibility for unemployment compensation.

Note: As of the time of this article and for the state of New Jersey your unemployment compensation will be effective on the date you stop working full-time

Unemployment Benefits

Apply as soon as possible for your unemployment benefits. You may file your new unemployment claim, or reopen an existing claim via the internet (www.njuifile.net) if you meet certain requirements.

NJ benefit is based on 60% of average weekly income. This benefit however is maxed out at \$584/week in 2009 (adjusted every year).

The benefits could last up to 26 weeks depending on your personal work history.

Due to various federal legislation related to the stimulus program, you could receive an additional \$25/week through June 2010 if you file your claim before the end of this year.

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Piecing it all together

After Being Laid Off

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You may also receive an extension of an additional 13 weeks of benefits. Be sure to check out all of the services at the unemployment office including training. They may, for example, supplement training for the PMP exam.

For additional information go to the State of New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development Unemployment Insurance website.

Severance Pay and Unemployment Insurance: Do not wait until your severance pay ends to file a claim because some severance/separation payments do not extend employment. You should file your claim after you stop working full-time. Remember that salary continuation through termination and payments in Lieu of Notice, do extend employment. For further details visit the Department of Labor website mentioned above.

Health and Life Benefits

One benefit many employees are very concerned about continuing is their health insurance. If you have been participating in a company-sponsored plan, you should certainly know your rights under Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act "COBRA". It covers health insurance rules when you've changed or lost your job. It can provide the "bridge" you and your family need until you are able to join a new health plan with a new employer or purchase individual coverage. Depending on your family circumstances, you could continue your health coverage for at least 18 months after leaving your employer.

Your employer must notify you right away of your COBRA coverage. In most instances you have sixty (60) days to make your decision to continue coverage. The American Recovery and Rein-

vestment Act of 2009 provides certain employees the opportunity to collect a subsidy equal to 65% of COBRA continuation premiums for themselves and their families for up to nine (9) months. To qualify a worker must have been involuntarily separated between 9/1/2008 and 12/31/2009.

To avoid a "pre-existing condition clause", never let your health insurance lapse.

You may own life insurance per-

sonally or through an employer sponsored group plan. You may want to keep this coverage after you leave. There are several reasons why:

First, your insurance needs may not change. Your family still needs to be protected.

Second, if you surrender the insurance, and later decide you need coverage, your premiums may be higher--or if your health deteriorates, you may not be able to obtain insurance at all.

Third, if you are covered under a group life term insurance policy, you should have the right to convert your death benefit into a permanent policy without evidence of insurability.

If you need money and own a cash value policy you have the right to borrow against the cash value. Please note that not all life insurance policies are permanent and not all permanent life insurance policies have cash value. You should check with your insurer and financial professional, regarding the status of your policy before you borrow.

The key message is you need to continue to protect your family even during the transition.

Retirement Benefits

If you are a participant in a defined benefit plan, popularly called a "pension," you are entitled to a monthly retirement benefit starting at a specific time stated in the plan, such as age 65. Your benefit will not grow between now and this retirement age, but is worth having even if it is small!

If you are at an age when you can retire early and begin receiving pension benefits, you will get them right away. You may also qualify for any other retiree benefits the company provides, such as life insurance and medical coverage.

You can take contributions from your account. If you take a distribution, it

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Piecing it all together

After Being Laid Off

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is reportable as income and subject to regular income taxes. In addition, if you are under the age of 59 ½, you will generally pay an additional penalty of 10%. If however, you are 55 or older and you separate from service, the penalty is generally waived.

A popular option is to roll the account into a new IRA (Individual Retirement Account). IRAs can easily be established by banks, brokerage houses, and insurance companies..

You can leave the funds in the plan where they are. If your account balance is \$5,000 or less though, your former employer may require you to take a lump sum distribution or rollover the funds.

You can take money out of your IRA or your 401k plan account before age 59 ½ and avoid the 10% penalty for early withdrawal. You have to take distributions in an amount calculated to be "substantially equal" over your lifetime. Once you start, you can't change the distribution formula until the later of 5 years or turning age 59 ½, whichever is longer. Changes to your distribution could result in tax consequences.

Many people choose to roll over their account balances into IRAs. The

benefits include having control to choose the funds and products that are best suited to your risk tolerance, time horizon and investment goals.

You do not need to open separate IRAs for these funds. You may deposit them into an existing IRA. However, if the existing IRA has any after-tax or non-deductible contributions, you may not be able to roll it over to a new employers plan in the future.

Job Transition

Finally, you could be thinking about using this as an opportunity for change. If you are thinking of changing your career or wondering how healthy your current industry is, consider the projections for the American work force from 2006 to 2016.

For a listing visit the Bureau of Labor Statistics website at www.bls.gov. Their table highlights some of the occupations with the greatest number of employment growth as well as some others you might be interested in. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the service-producing sector will continue to be the dominant employment generator in the economy.

Early Retirement

Not everyone is planning on returning to work, though. There are a few traps here for the unwary, however!

First, when considering your needs and anticipated income, remember that inflation will eat into a fixed income.

Keep in mind that as retirees age they generally consume more services. And the inflation factor on services is generally higher than it is on hard goods! While commuting and wardrobe costs drop for retirees, other expenses can increase! Medicare doesn't start until age 65. Have you included the rising medical costs in your planning?

And finally, it has been shown that your money lasts longer if you begin your withdrawals in an 'up market'. Of course, past results provide no guarantee that future withdrawal needs will be met.

There are many resources available to you. Use them and abuse them. Remember to ask questions and ask for what you need.

Making sure your financial house is protected will help you get through whatever life has in store for you. Work with financial professionals and trusted advisors.

Your trusted advisor team should at least include your accountant, financial advisor and attorney.

Helen can be reached at: Helen Hogan, Professional Economic Growth Group (PEGG), hhogan@htk.com. ▲

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To view the complete agenda and register visit www.pmosymposium.org
Use discount code PM66 to register for only \$899 if you register by September 1!

Seminar & Symposium

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Thomas Edison and her topic, *Innovate Like Edison: Creatively Managing Project Complexity in a Flat World*, was a real hit with the audience. Ms. Miller Caldicott spent three years researching Edison's archives at Rutgers University which gave her insight into Edison and his approach to innovation success. Edison's greatest achievement was a systematic approach to innovation.

Edison was responsible for over 150 companies, including GE, Con Ed, Coopers, etc., a major manufacturing employer with thousands of employees and a truly unique leader. Ms. Miller Caldicott's presentation was very inspiring. She had the audience ready for more as they left to attend the track session of their choice.

Track 1 – Innovative Project Management

Six Unspoken Habits of Highly Effective Program Managers, presented by Raed S. Haddad, reminded the audience that everything is a program or a project independent of industry segment and that studies have shown the number one reason CEOs are fired is because they mismanaged change. The current reality of the economy and the speed of change require excellent talent, which is one of the most challenging areas for a project or program manager. Companies are moving highly effective technical managers to strategic leadership positions without training in the appropriate business skills. The remainder of this presentation focused on getting people from "as is" to "to be" using the habits portrayed in Steven Covey's book on the *Six Unspoken Habits of Highly Effective People*.

How Two PMO's Used OPM3 to Transform Their Cultures, by John Schlichter and Mark Scott, addressed steps organizations can take to trans-

form their culture to achieve greater project success. The pyramid of cultural transformation starts with Knowing Excellence, Assessing Rigorously using OPM3, Creating Accountability and Distinguishing Action.

Two case studies, the Harris and Saudi Arabia Minister of the Interior PMO, were used as examples of the integration of capable project management processes and an effective project management culture are keys to successful execution in the current business environment.

Predicting Project Outcomes by Keith Ellis focused on three learning objectives: quantifying the impact of requirements quality on project time and cost, sharing an assessment tool to identify the high risk project, and proactive strategies for driving success when faced with odds stacked against you.

Track 2 – Creative Techniques

Creative Thinking Skills, Out of the Box and Onto the Bottom Line by John Canfield was a captivating presentation focusing on performance and thinking, selecting goals and success criteria, generating ideas, selecting and implementing ideas. Performance is driven by thinking and thinking is a skill, how we learn to use our intelligence. Thinking, as a skill, is flexible and improvable and can be done accidentally or deliberately. Improved thinking can be guided by effective tools but creative thinking is not enough, implementation is required to realize benefits.



Sarah Miller Caldicott presented a new view of New Jersey's own Thomas Edison.

Mr. Canfield referenced "Six Thinking Hats", a powerful technique that helps you look at important decisions from a number of different perspectives. It helps you make better decisions by pushing you to move outside your habitual ways of thinking. As such, it helps you understand the full complexity of a decision, and spot issues and opportunities which you might otherwise not notice.

The Tools Less Taken presented by David F. Vincente focused on underutilized avenues for developing essential PM skills. David hypothesized that things we encounter every day in our lives can help to make us better Project Managers. These tools are in addition to the PMBOK and other software tools. The emphasis in this presentation is to use simple tools with your team to deliver straightforward, on target messages. David suggested that construction paper, a Thesaurus, a roadmap, a paint brush, a book of folk tales, a mirror, a conductor's baton and a football helmet were helpful ways to remind PMs to provide direction and feedback to their project teams. For example, the PM, using a conductor's baton, is reminded to listen musically to understand the tone and blend of the

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College Scholarships 2009

On June 16, the NJ Chapter of PMI awarded its third round of College Scholarships for deserving high school seniors. The program was designed to assist children of NJ PMI Chapter members in defraying the cost of continuing education beyond high school. Eligibility requirements included a GPA of 3.0 or higher, acceptance to a 4-year accredited college or university in pursuit of a bachelor's degree, being enrolled as a full-time student, and not already having received a full scholarship. Selections were based on the applicants' academic achievements, leadership skills and community service activities, which were all equally rated.

For the 2009-2010 academic year, ten (10) out of twenty one (21) applicants were each awarded \$1,500 scholarships. The winners of the scholarships were: Elizabeth Connol-

ley, Pritha Dasgupta, Alyssa Federoff, Carolynn Gaut, Ariel Glickman, Andrew Hampton, Alexander Pajusi, Marc Personick, Ian Vlahovic, and Jacqueline Yen. The academic achievements, leadership skills and community activities of all applicants were extremely impressive, which made the selection process a very challenging one for this year's scholarship committee.

In addition to the 10 new recipients, the chapter awarded renewals to 9 members of the class of 2007 and to 7 members of the class of 2008. Class of 2007 recipients included: John Bufe III, Tanya Dainoski, Stephen Fung, Jennifer Gaglioti, Julia Juska, Reema Khanchandani, Anand Parikh, Kristen Recine, and Stephanie Spelman. The Class of 2008 included: Brian Goodacre, Ankit Goyal, Allison Hadley, Jacquelin

Scully, Prakirthi Yerram, Grace Taylor, and Brandon Zarsky.

All scholarship winners were invited to attend the June monthly meeting, which was held at the Martinsville Inn in to be recognized by the general membership. Photos of the 2009 scholarship recipients are below and posted on the website.

The NJ Chapter of PMI is very proud of all the scholarship applicants and winners. Please join us in congratulating the winners and wishing them all the best in their future endeavors. We would like to thank the members of this year's College Scholarship Program selection committee for volunteering their time to this worthwhile program; Carmen Goodman, Pat Jacke, Vaidy Kothandaraman, Sandy Seidorf, Mildred Waale, Laura Wentz and Marti Wien. ▲

Pat Gibbons



E. Connolley



P. Dasgupta



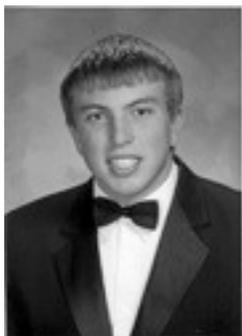
A. Federoff



C. Gaut



A. Glickman



A. Hampton



A. Pajusi



M. Personick



I. Vlahovic



J. Yen

Seminar & Symposium

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various team members and the paintbrush allows the PM to paint a compelling picture with passion.

Getting 40% More Productivity and Cooperation From Your Team, Traci Duez, shared her learning journey on the subject of Axiology, the science of human value. Traci covered the teachings of Dr. Harman, the Father of Axiology, regarding the three classes of value: systemic, extrinsic and intrinsic. Of these, the most valuable and priceless to human beings is intrinsic value. Traci emphasized the intrinsic class of value is the level of true collaboration and loyalty



Dux Raymond Sy, author of an O'Reilly book on SharePoint for Project Managers, presented as part of Track 3,

and the level where project managers can be most successful in working with their teams. Often, project managers operate in the systemic and extrinsic value classes where they treat team members as doers and not as human beings. Dr. Hartman found in his research that people hold back 40% of their productivity and cooperation until they feel valued. By understanding and utilizing the seven principles of Intrinsic Validation project managers can capture that 40% of productivity and cooperation.

Track 3 – Out of the Box Tools

(Mind) Mapping Success Out of Chaos presented by Ronald Krukowski, began with the question, "Do we think in pictures or words?" Studies indicate that 30% strongly use visual/spatial thinking, 45% use both visual thinking and word-based thinking and 25% think exclusively in words. Of the 30%, only a small % (True Picture Thinkers) would use this style over all other forms of thinking. Mind mapping is a concept created in the early 1970's by Tony Buzan. Buzan felt that brains do not process information in a linear way. Words, images and color use the

right brain. It is more effective to start with a central idea and allow the main points to radiate outward, called radiant thinking. Different colors are used for each radiant thought. Mind Mapping helps us think and remember more effectively. Studies have shown that Mind Mapping can result in cost

savings, faster time-to-market for deliverables and aids in shifting the organizational culture.

7 Ways to Leverage SharePoint for Project Management Success by Dux Raymond Sy, PMP, was a very dynamic session in which Mr. Sy included demonstrations along with his presentation to clearly show the power of this tool for Project Management. He started by defining SharePoint; it allows individuals in an organization to easily create and manage their own collaborative Web sites and does not refer to a specific

product or technology. Using SharePoint as a framework for a Project Management Information System (PMIS), Mr. Sy covered the 7 ways to leverage this tool to easily create a PMIS; efficiently manage project information; facilitate project collaboration; seamlessly integrate with PM tools; automate project processes; generate relevant reports; and enable mobile access.

Idea Mapping – A Whole New Mind for Project Managers presented by Jamie Nest focused on a very creative approach expanding your thinking using color, key words, lines and images to connect thoughts associatively. Ms. Nest defined Idea Mapping as a powerful whole-brained visual thinking tool that enhances memory, note-taking skills, thought organization, planning, creativity, and communication. Maps are the natural expression of the way the brain processes information associatively. Idea Mapping for PM's can be used to assist in solving complex problems, requirements definition, team brainstorming, just to site a few applications for this powerful process. Ms. Nest shared real life examples of Idea Maps completed by individuals that have adopted this approach and created the visual map to expand their thinking. Attendees had an opportunity to create a map, beginning with defining the purpose, then using key words to go where their brains took them. This session was interactive and fun to see how each of our brains takes a slightly different path when presented with a single purpose. We were fortunate to have Dr. Oliver Schlake, our Sunday Seminar speaker, back as our lunch keynote speaker. Dr Schlake presented, *How Far "Out of the Box" Do You Want Me to Think*, which was a session regarding the value of applying creativity as projects are managed. Dr. Schlake cited several cases for more creativity in organizations:

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Seminar & Symposium

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Our volunteers are the backbone of the chapter.

- global competition demands for faster, more and better ideas
- creativity is essential to push innovation forward
- increasingly top managers are not the source of ideas
- today's top talent looks for a workplace to pursue creative passions

Dr. Schlake indicated that the challenge for more creativity is not at the top of corporate agendas. Creativity is considered unmanageable with uncertain immediate returns. Clients are looking for efficiency, not creative solutions. Dr. Schlake hypothesized that there is a need for new roles for creative project managers and approaches they can adapt.

Overall, attendees enjoyed this charismatic speaker and his style for delivering this material.

The closing keynote speaker, Joseph F. Scott, enlightened the audience with his topic, *An Rx for Outside the Box Health Care*. Mr. Scott is President and CEO of Liberty Health

which includes Jersey City Medical Center and Meadowlands Hospital Medical Center. He provided an interesting presentation on how these hospitals are using out of the box thinking and Six Sigma projects to reduce duplicate healthcare costs, increase information sharing and ultimately improve patient health. He began by discussing contributing problems and the economic impact of poor care coordination and management. With the trend of care management today, putting patients in charge of their own care, innovations were needed. Emerging payment and technology innovations are in progress and implementation of P4P (pay for performance) metrics to encompass care management explicitly.

There were 10 vendors participating in this year's symposium. These vendors provided attendee's information on new developments and opportunities in project management. They included software providers, consulting services and train-

ing providers. We also had a sponsor for the afternoon break, Rally Software, who spoke to the attendees about agile software development support services.

We were fortunate to have the following attend this year's symposium; Women in Project Management SIG, Healthcare Project Management SIG, BioPharmaPM Network, and the PMINJ Career Networking Group LIG.

To see pictures of the event or download the presentations, go to the PMINJ website, Symposia/Archive and select the date of interest.

In all, the 2009 Outside the Box Project Management regional symposium was another success! The breadth of topics and speakers was truly "outside the box." We used the power of more volunteers, with Aita Salasoo leading two directors, Deven Trivedi and Jerry Flach, and our team leads. Thanks to all of them!

We appreciate your 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. ▲

Earn 16 PDUs for attending 2-days of International Smart

Sourcing Conference being held on **August 24-25, 2009** in the Hyatt Regency of Jersey City, NJ with a breathtaking view of NY city financial district (5 minutes by path train under the Holland tunnel to Wall Street in NY city). The organizer, **Center for Global Outsourcing**, is offering a **33% discount** to the PMI members on the **registration fee of \$450**. That means, for PMI members, \$300 will cover 2 days' attendance, continental breakfast on both days, lunch on Tuesday August 25, tea/coffee breaks, and conference proceedings. The discount code will be "PMINJ." For details, please visit www.outsourceglobal.org. Those interested in utilizing this discount must e-mail to admin@outsourceglobal.org one day prior to registering for the conference."

Volunteer of the Quarter: Barbara A. Fuller, PMP



Volunteer extraordinaire would best describe Barbara Fuller. Barbara has been a member of the New Jersey Chapter since 2001 and a PMP for over 10 years.

She has been actively involved in leading the Career Networking Group since 2006. Under Barbara's direction, the Networking Group has gone from chapter members in transition searching for a job to a true networking forum. In addition to providing a venue for chapter members to network with each other, Barbara has been instrumental in bringing in speakers to educate and motivate. Group members and participants have truly mastered the art of networking that goes well beyond job search. By attending these meetings and sessions, members have learned how to create a resume that gets a second look, honed interview skills and perfected the effective 30 second elevator pitch.

Barbara was the program manger for the Seminar@Sea event in 2008. It was the first time such an event was offered by the New Jersey Chapter and Barbara rose to the challenge of managing it! She worked tirelessly to negotiate contracts, attract sponsors, secure dynamic speakers,

and provide a venue of overall fun. Barbara successfully achieved a mix of fun and learning to all participants' satisfaction.

In June, Barbara managed the successful Career Workshop at Rutgers University. In addition to securing Rutgers School of Business as a host/sponsor and inviting career coaches, Barbara taught an elevator pitch session.

After her education in Ohio, Barbara moved to Dallas and soon connected with AT&T where she worked for 21 years. AT&T relocated her to New Jersey where her final assignment was establishing and running a PMO. Her work there transformed the information technology organization; the people, the processes and the client perception.

Barbara now pursues her own business within the project management consulting arena. Her company, Process and Project Solutions, Inc. has successfully built its client base utilizing project management skills to manage large scale initiatives for customers or provide process or project consulting expertise. Recently she formed a professional and personal coaching business for individuals, entrepreneurs and companies called "Focus on You, Now" that embraces her passion of developing people and teams using her many years of coaching experience. When asked about her successes, she recognizes the talent, and excellence of the people on the teams she has led. Kudos to Barbara on all her successes! Please join us in congratulating Barbara on a job well done and as volunteer of the quarter – 3Q2009. ▲

Masthead

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Deadlines for 2009-2010 issues

Fall	September 1, 2009
Winter	December 1, 2009
Spring	March, 1, 2010
Summer	June 1, 2010

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.

Printed on 30% recycled paper.

Congratulations to Our New PMPs

Kelechukwu Akaniro
 John Almerino
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 Brian Barretto
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 Scott Weiss
 Gordon White
 Diane Wilkerson
 Josae Wilson
 Flordeliza Yalong
 Christina Young
 Cheryl Zaccagnino
 Michael Zeto
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**Additional certifications
 have been achieved by:**
 Robert Fried, PgMP
 Kiran Ghodasara, PMI-
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As of May 29, 2009



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- Andy Crowe (PMP, PgMP) – Founder and CEO of Velociteach
- Dr. Michael Poli – Distinguished Professor of Project Management at Stevens Institute of Technology
- Walter Vial – Co-founder of PMO-To-Go
- Donald Gardner – Founder of Gardner Project Integration Group, longtime advisor to financial industry

Activities & Excursions

- Visit Scenic Nova Scotia and New Brunswick
- On-board meals and entertainment included
- Two social events sponsored by chapter for attendees, friends and family
- Great networking opportunity

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