



Volume 1, Issue 2

Notes from your President:

Making History

PMI Charleston recently hosted the Region 14 Conference in late March. Before the first meeting, I took a short walk along the old brick and tabby sidewalks, strewn with Azalea blossoms. I was quickly immersed in the beauty and history everywhere in the old downtown area. That sense of history quickly repeated itself as the seminar got underway. The main speaker, one of the founding members of PMI, recounted PMI's origins.

Dr. Gordon Davis, a retired Georgia Tech professor and current CEO with Davis Consulting Group, co-founded PMI with four others in October of 1969. The first meeting was held as a seminar on the Georgia Tech campus. One of the outcomes of the seminar was a strong, shared need for an association that would foster professionalism in the field of project management. Later, at the American Motor Hotel in Atlanta GA, PMI (originally named the American Project Management Institute) was launched, with 28 members.

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Chapter receives official PMI Chapter Charter Certificate



Mark Wentling receives the official PMI Chapter Charter from Linda Vella, PMI Director

PMI Emerald Coast
Florida Chapter
P. O. Box 1265
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Volume 1, Issue 2

April 2009

- President attends Regional Conference
- Emerald Coast FL Chapter -Chartered
- Chapter Branches
- Chapter Board
- Why Join PMI?
- Ceremony Photos

Membership as of March 09

- 146 Members: 69 PMP, 77 Non-PMP
- 100 Regular Members, 6 Student Members
- 13 New Members, 7 Renewals

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Making History—cont'd

Now, PMI has almost 300,000 members in 182 countries, with 248 chartered chapters.

Of course, our own history as the Emerald Coast Chapter of PMI has just begun. It is up to each of its members to take forward the charge of building a history in the Gulf Coast of fostering project management professionalism --every day.

How? Through sharing your experiences at our events, attending monthly meetings that allow professional networking, volunteering for special PMI projects, and attaining of one or more individual professional certifications offered through PMI.

By doing your part, who knows - perhaps soon we'll have visitors from Charleston attending a seminar sponsored by Emerald Coast PMI, strolling along our beautiful beaches, commenting on how quickly we became one of the best, most dedicated Chapters in PMI's history. Please make history. Be an active PMI member.

Ron Foskey, PMP

President, PMI Emerald Coast Florida Chapter

Contact Your Board

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Director, Pensacola Branch	To be determined	
Director, Panama City Branch	To be determined	

Chartering Ceremony Speaker —Ms. Linda Vella



The PMI Emerald Coast Florida Chapter was indeed fortunate to have Ms. Linda Vella, Director/Past Chair (2007) of the Project Management Institute, as the featured speaker at our Chartering Ceremony. She has worked in project management for many years, spoken internationally on project management and PMI, and obtained the Project Management Professional (PMP) credential in 1995.

Ms. Vella spoke to us about the “Value of Project Management” and cited numerous examples of how project management provides results, communication, and learning opportunities.

- Results in projects are goal-focused in that they are temporary, there is a unique product, service, or result produced, and they develop in steps/increments. Project management provides project results that are repeatable and reliable because of the use of standard language and methodologies.
- Communication in projects delivers results by developing and sharing schedules, roles, and deliverables. Further, status reviews and approvals align projects with sponsor and stakeholder expectation.
- A project-ized organization is a learning organization. Learning occurs during the development of new products, new processes, new markets, and through business transformation. The opinion expressed here is that if you already know how to do something – it’s not a project.

Learning and communication are closely related; project management methods support organizational learning. A well-documented project is essential to understanding what worked, what didn’t and how to capture what worked the next time, and the time after that. Documentation and lessons-learned reviews turn new initiatives into repeatable results.

One example of project management results presented was a 2007 Project of the Year winner, Fluor Corporation headquartered in Houston, Texas. This company performed, under contract with the U. S. Department of Energy, one of the largest environmental cleanup and restoration efforts in U. S. history. They used project management standards and methodology to complete the project 12 years ahead of schedule and \$7.8 billion under initial cost estimates; a good indication that Fluor understands the bottom-line value of project management.

Ms. Vella also discussed the preliminary results of a research project that was presented at the 2008 PMI Research Conference. The objective of the research project was to understand the “Value of Project Management” – where the goal was less to provide answers than to find out if we’re asking the right questions. It explored what goes into what we mean by “value.” It found strong statistical evidence of what factors typically make the most difference in a variety of outcomes.

- One discovery was that the “fit” of a specific implementation of a project management to a specific organization is very important. There are no “one size, one style, fits all” solutions.
- Another discovery: there is compelling evidence that value increases with how long and how well organizations implement project management... suggesting that the crucial “fit” improves over time.
- And: Project management value is highest where its importance is understood all the way up from the project team to the boardroom and when continuous training keeps sharpening the skills of project team members and others who work with them.

The full presentation given by Ms. Vella during the PMI Emerald Coast Florida Chapter Chartering Ceremony is provided on the Chapter website.

PMI Emerald Coast Florida Chapter

P. O. Box 1265
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...making project management
indispensable for business results©



We are proud to be the Project Management Institute's newest US chapter and look forward to serving the Project/Program Management Professionals within the Emerald Coast Region. Over the course of the next several months we will begin operations in earnest, so please check back often. Also, be on the lookout for our branch operations in Panama City and Pensacola, Florida, as well as in Mobile, Alabama during the spring and summer months of 2009 if you should reside in one of these areas.

Chapter Website

We are now posting Webinars, Classes, and other events on the PMI Emerald Coast FL website. Check out our website to see additional ways to earn PDUs.

*Yes, we're on the web.
Check us out @
www.pmiemeraldcoastfl.org*

Why Should I Join PMI?

For those of you who may be wondering why you should bother with a membership in PMI, here are a few things to consider. Membership in PMI continues to grow—which might be the first clue that it's worth something to someone!

But—let's look at some of the specific benefits and available information as found in the March PMI Today:

- Online access to all PMI standards
- Access to over 250 books via eReads and Reference
- Online access to research studies
- PMI Career Headquarters
- Online access to the PMI career framework—PathPro
- Online access to case studies, current and past issues of PMI publications
- Online access to PMI Virtual Library (biographies & whitepapers for example)
- Web-based, self-study courses covering an intro to the PMBOK - available around the clock
- Schedule of Seminars with dates and locations via SeminarsWorld
- Web-based, instructor-led professional development courses offered via eSeminarsWorld
- PMI Today and PM Network (monthly)
- Project Management (quarterly)
- Virtual Communities Project (VCP) - evolving from a few SIGs into a full operation of the new forums and communities of practice—over the next few years
- PMI generates awareness about the value of project management and the value of project management practitioners
- Volunteer opportunities—support both PMI efforts and the profession; provide the volunteer with knowledge, leadership skills, and a professional network that stretches far beyond a local PMI chapter
- One volunteer activity of particular value to the members of the PMI Emerald Coast Florida Chapter is that of speaking at our monthly membership and training sessions. We continually seek qualified speakers to provide a 50-minute presentation on a Project Management-related topic **AND earn 10 PDUs in the process!**

If you have an interest in providing the 50-minute program for one of our monthly meetings—please contact our VP Programs, Ms Narda Vega -

vpprograms@pmiemeraldcoastfl.org

Visit the PMI website (www.pmi.org) AND our Chapter website (www.pmiemeraldcoastfl.org) to keep up with national, regional, and local PMI activities.

PMI Emerald Coast Florida Chapter Chartering Ceremony March 18, 2009



Mark Wentling - Outgoing Chapter President



Ron Foskey - Incoming Chapter President



Linda Vella, PMP - PMI Director presents the program "Value of Project Management"



Cheryl Archer - VP Finance, Chartering Ceremony Committee Chair welcomes attendees



Lakeishia Gunter - Recognized as Organizing President with Ron Foskey (presenting award)



PMI Emerald Coast Florida Chapter Board of Directors - 2009-2010

PMI Emerald Coast Florida Chapter Chartering Ceremony March 18, 2009



Pre-Dinner Social



Dinner at Ramada

2009 Member Meeting Schedule

May 20, 2009-REEF

June 17, 2009-REEF

July 15, 2009-REEF

August 19, 2009-REEF

September 16, 2009-REEF

October 21, 2009-REEF

**To register visit the PMI Chapter website and click on
Events tab for link to registration site.**