

MT CHAPTER HAPPENINGS



Welcome Winter 2022

Welcome to the Montana Chapter of PMI, your local source in Montana and Northern Wyoming for PMI resources, professional development, and a forum for the exchange of ideas, applications, and solutions to project management issues.

The past two years have presented our chapter, and the world, with many challenges. Like many of you, the chapter has adjusted our communication and meetings to meet the changing needs and health and safety of our members. Until recently, branch meetings have been virtual, and primarily hosted at a state level rather than individual branch meetings to consolidate resources and provide the chapter members with regular monthly meeting opportunities. We have begun to resume in-person branch meetings while leveraging virtual options when needed.

The Board has continued to meet regularly and explore ways to sustain and grow the chapter. The focus has been on increasing leadership opportunities and expanding the regions our leaders participate from as well as ensuring that we are offering strong Professional Development Days (PDD) for the membership. The 2022 PDD in Butte was a great event. The board will be meeting in February to update our annual charter with PMI.

Message from the President

Hello PMI Montana Chapter Members! We've faced unique challenges these past couple of years but we are re-building.

Our unique chapter is small yet our membership spans all of Montana and Northern Wyoming. While virtual opportunities have brought together members from opposite corners of our community, I am so grateful that we are meeting in-person again. In this newsletter you'll see a recap of this year's events, get an introduction to your 2023-2025 board, learn more about upcoming events and opportunities to get more involved in the chapter. Volunteering can be supporting an existing role, presenting at a monthly meeting, organizing an evening community engagement event, or meeting up with other members to network.

PMI's mission statement is, "The PMI EIC will provide a forum for professional project managers to promote the principles of the Project Management Institute through networking with other project managers, sharing project experiences, providing and receiving training, and supporting project managers in their certification efforts." As a chapter, let's come together to support this mission in our beautiful states and build a community that is larger and stronger than ever.

I'm excited about our future and look forward to seeing you at an event or meeting soon!

In gratitude,
Kirsten

Getting involved in the Chapter:

The Chapter Board

The Montana Chapter of PMI is led by a group of volunteer Project Management professionals living and working in your communities. Board positions are open to all members, regardless of where in Montana or Northern Wyoming they reside or work. Our 2021-2023 board members live primarily in Missoula and Helena. The 2023-2025 Board welcomes 3 newly elected officers and 2 new branch leads. The new members of the leadership team are located in Helena, Great Falls, and Elk Park.

Meet the 2023-2025 Board



Chapter President, Josh Pearson

Josh Pearson is currently a Principal Consultant with Advanced Technology Group. He's a Missoula native and has worked in the IT space as a project manager & business analyst for the last 11 years. Josh in this time has continued to work with PMI and has supported us through roles as Western Branch Chair, VP Programs and VP Finance. When he's not working or supporting the board, he keeps himself busy staying active in the mountains and taking care of his family.



VP of Finance, Kina Jo Kuhn

Kina is a native Missoulian who has been with Blackfoot Communications since 2000 and active in the Montana PMI Chapter since 2016, holding the VP of Marketing Board Position from 2019 to 2022. Project & Process Management, Client Experience & Success, Technology & Cybersecurity Education are highlights of her career as a Senior Solutions Project Specialist - she enjoys networking through PMI Montana for ongoing education and idea sharing.



VP of Marketing, Stephen Stanton

Stephen is a Senior Cybersecurity Program Manager at Splunk. He has approximately 20 years of experience as a technical leader, building and leading cross-functional teams. Prior to joining Splunk, Stephen helped to grow the Montana branch of ATG (A Cognizant Company). He maintains a versatile skill set spanning business analysis, project management, enterprise consulting, methodology design, software development, solution architecture, cybersecurity, and executive leadership. Stephen lives in Helena.



Meet the 2023-2025 Board, Con't

VP of Communications, Suzanne Eslick

Suzanne is a project manager for Boeing, where for the last 10 years has managed cross-functional projects in all disciplines of engineering in Helena, MT, and Charleston, SC. She has been instrumental in aligning site wide projects to PMBOK to ensure project success. Before Boeing, she spent 12 years at both large and small civil engineering firms as a designer and project manager; and 10 years as a facility planner at a large firm. She obtained her PMP credentials in 2013.

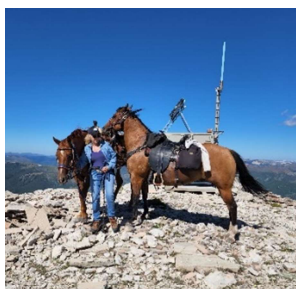
Being raised on a ranch near Anaconda, Montana, she learned a strong work ethic and how to manage time and projects at a very young age. As an advocate for being a lifelong learner, Suzanne has completed several degrees with the most relevant being an M.S. in Project Management, The Citadel, Charleston, SC, and a B.A. in Management and Communication, Corban University, Salem, OR. She is currently working on her Doctorate in Project Management.

Outside of work, she lives in Elk Park, MT with her husband, David. She enjoys her Life Coaching business to help others establish a healthy work-life balance and establish their life legacy.



VP of Membership, Mikki Goodhart

Mikki is a native Montanan and after earning her PMP certification in 2018, she has been volunteering in a leadership role with the MT Chapter since 2019. As a Learning Partner for the largest non-investor-owned health insurance company in the country, she has a passion for consulting, professional development, mentoring, and furthering the PM profession. Outside of work, she enjoys hiking, beekeeping, and learning.



VP of Events, Diana Lee

Diana is a Project Manager III for D.A. Davidson, a financial investment company headquartered in Great Falls, Montana. I'm a veteran marketing & project professional, with over 25 years of project and event management under my belt. I have planned small festivals, such as apple dumpling days, where I scheduled advertising, sold sponsorships and ran the event with a team of four (4); to fund raisers, parades and even large events, which had upwards of 200 + booth vendors, over 50 volunteers, over 2,000 ladies in attendance who enjoyed a full weekend of local and national speakers, and events from cooking demonstration to fashion shows. Even though I have moved on to other projects, some of these events continue to exist today.

VP of Programs (open)

Regional Branches

Due to the geographical territory that our chapter covers, the Montana chapter has sponsored regional branches to foster more local professional networking, learning, and collaboration opportunities for our members. Branches are dedicated to increasing the value we bring to our members and local communities by working to ensure networking opportunities are available for Project Management professionals, as well as offering a variety of discussion topics that are covered under the PMI Talent Triangle. Attendance, as well as volunteer opportunities, can be eligible for earning valuable PDUs.

Branches are located in the following regions and currently led by the following Montana PMI members:

- Western Montana (Missoula area) – Hans Hoffman
- Central Montana (Helena area) – Rick Pomeroy
- Southwestern (Bozeman area) – Daryl Gunnarson
- Northern (Kalispell area) – Morgun McQueen

We are currently seeking branch leads in

- Eastern Montana (Billings area)
- Northern Wyoming

If you are interested in being a branch lead, please visit the chapter website (<https://pmimtchapter.org/about-us/branch-leaders>) and submit your contact information.

Branch Meetings

Branch meetings generally occur monthly from September through May. Each branch determines a day, time, location (in-person v. virtual) that works best for the members. During the first part of 2022, our Branch leads have hosted virtual, state-wide Branch meetings. As more Branch leaders join the team, there is the opportunity for branches to meet individually as well as state-wide.

A Message from the Southwest Branch:

The Southwest Branch of the MT PMI Chapter is looking to kick off its Branch Chapter again for the Bozeman area in January 2023. Email southwesternbranchlead@pmimtchapter.net if you are interested in participating. An email will go out to all branch members in early January 2023.

Thanks,

Daryl Gunnarson, new SW Branch Chapter lead

A Message from the Northern Branch

The Kalispell Branch recently held its first networking event of 2023. We will continue to hold networking events, learning sessions, as well as training sessions for people pursuing the PMP or those who want to brush up on their skills. If you are interested in participating, please email Morgun at northernbranchlead@pmimtchapter.net.

Membership Update

As of December 2022, the Montana chapter had 226 Members. This number has been slowly growing this year with membership renewals and new members joining the chapter.

- Total Members 226
- New Members in 2022 Year 52
- PMP® Members 149
- Members with no Certification 78

As of 3 January 2023, PMI has increased dues for US members by \$10 to \$139 per year. This is the first time that PMI has increased dues in over 10 years is part of a larger fair pricing initiative established by PMI to address economic equality for the diverse global community. The initiative aims to address fair and equitable pricing for membership and PMI products globally. PMI will also be implementing location-based pricing for some of their key products worldwide

Professional Development (PDD) 2022 Recap

The Montana Chapter of PMI hosted a 2-day professional development opportunity and chapter annual meeting in Butte in September, 2022 at the Copper King Hotel and Convention Center. Over 35 Montana Project Management Professionals from around the state gathered for the 2-day event and the opportunity to earn up to 10 PDUs. Sessions included a World Museum of Mining and Orphan Girl Mine Tour, speakers Libby Brunell and Brad Bigelow, Chapter Annual Meeting, and keynote speaker Chris King.



PMI Standards

The Project Management Institute (PMI) is continuously working to improve upon and keep the PMI standard process relevant. PMI has spent the last several years updating the Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK) to ensure that is relevant and meaningful to project management professionals. The seventh edition of the PMBOK was published in 2022 and is now considered the fundamental resource for effective project management in any industry.

PMI has been working to streamline how the standards are updated and published. They have broken out components of the standards that used to be included in the PMBOK into stand-alone foundational standards (key resources for any of the four areas of the profession), practice standards (describe the use of a tool, technique or process identified in a foundational standards), and practice guides (provide supporting information and instruction to apply PMI standards). Separating these standards and practice guides into separate documents allows PMI to make changes to individual standards or guides and deliver them to market faster than revising a single foundational guide as the profession changes. Most of the guides can be downloaded for free with your PMI membership from <https://www.pmi.org/pmbok-guide-standards>.

The foundational standards are the foundation on which practice standards and industry-specific extensions are built. The four key areas of the profession include: project, program, portfolio and the organizational approach to project management. Practice standards have been developed for several areas with the profession, including project estimating, scheduling, work breakdown structures, and risk management to name a few. Practice guides have been developed to support other documents, including a practice guide for the process groups which is a key companion guide to the PMBOK. The process groups are an example of content that was previously included in the PMBOK and has been moved to a stand-alone guide. Process guides will be added and or retired over time as PMI determines what support is needed for project management professionals.

The PMI documents are developed and reviewed by volunteers. Over 2 million copies of the PMBOK have been downloaded since 2012. The PMBOK is currently translated into 10 languages; the translated materials are reviewed by volunteers to confirm the translations are accurate. PMI is working to increase the number of languages that the PMBOK will be available in.

Interested in sponsoring the PMI Montana Chapter?

Please contact marketing@pmimtchapter.net

Stay up to date on Chapter events at:

<https://pmimtchapter.org/event-listing>

PMI Montana Chapter

Advancing Project Management in Montana and Northern Wyoming



VISIT US AT
pmimtchapter.org

Email:
Membership@pmimtchapter.net

More Highlights from PDD 2022 in Butte

Several attendees joined the World Museum of mining tour on Day 1 of the PDD (<https://miningmuseum.org>)

