

PMI® Montana Chapter Newsletter 4th Quarter 2015



Greetings PMI® Montana Chapter Members!

Happy Holidays! We had an amazing Fall. In September, we conducted our 7th Annual Professional Development Day in conjunction with our annual business meeting. We also had Steve Norton conduct two PMP™/CAPM™ Boot Camps in Missoula and Glendive (for a private company). Finally, all of our branches have had great speakers and activities. Read more about upcoming events in this newsletter and on our web site.

Steve Norton is coming back twice to Montana next year to teach our PMP™/CAPM™ Boot Camp. This class continues to get high praise from participants (scoring a 9.5 out of 10 in the course survey at his recent session in Missoula) for its quality and high exam pass rate!

Finally, we could not put on all of the events that we do without our sponsors. Platinum sponsors include Advanced Technology Group (atg) and Project Management Skills, LLC. Our other sponsors, Glacier Bancorp and Blackfoot Telecommunications Group, have also continued their strong commitment to the Montana Chapter. If you have any questions, or would like to volunteer and help advance your profession, please do not hesitate to contact any of our board members.

Stay warm and we'll see you at the next local Branch meeting.

Dale Matheson, President

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PMI® Montana Chapter Well-represented at LIM

What is LIM? The PMI® Leadership Institute Meeting (LIM) is an annual conference designed to inspire and support volunteer leaders in strengthening leadership skills to benefit both chapter operations and career development.

The primary value of the conference is:

- ▶ Networking with more than 1,100 like-minded volunteer leaders
- ▶ Hearing remarkable keynote speakers (including Chesley B. “Sully” Sullenberger) and benefiting from more than 60 educational sessions
 - Educational sessions focused on PMI institutional knowledge, association governance, leadership development and other important information relevant to chapter leaders
- ▶ Breakout sessions based upon volunteer role -- academic, marketing, membership, volunteer engagement and professional development
- ▶ Learning about tools and resources to assist in managing the chapter
- ▶ Hearing the latest news and information about PMI’s global initiatives

This year's North American LIM was held October 8-10, 2015, at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort. Our Chapter was fortunate to be able to send three board members and one branch chair. Additionally, Mike Goehring, PMI Montana Chapter past-president, was a speaker for one of the sessions (see pictures on the following page!). We all came home energized with new ideas for our chapter. We hope you will see some of the new initiatives and changes in our chapter to help increase the value of your membership.

Photos From LIM Speak For Themselves!

Disney's Coronado Springs Resort--a beautiful conference venue!



Who's that speaking?
Our own Mike Goehring!
Well done, Mike!

A fantastic opportunity to
network with professionals!



PMP® Exam Change Reminder

- ▶ Just a friendly reminder that the PMP® Exam will change on 12 January 2016. If you or someone you know is preparing for the exam, we recommend you take the exam prior to 12 January or get to know what will change.

Looking For More Ways to Earn PDUs?

- ▶ Once you earn your credential, don't forget to earn Professional Development Units (PDUs) to maintain it. How? There are several ways! Be a practitioner, attend chapter and branch meetings, volunteer for our Chapter or for other organizations, take courses or training, do some self-directed learning. PMI has more information on the many ways to earn PDUs. Visit the following site to find out more:

<https://ccrs.pmi.org/info/earnpdus>

PDU Reporting Questions?

- ▶ On December 1, 2015, PMI updated their user guide for the Continuing Credential Requirements system (CCRS) to better align with the Talent Triangle and major system updates. The guide helps users understand how to report PDUs and how to navigate the new CCR dashboard. The guide is available at the following link:

http://www.pmi.org/help/ccrs_user/default.htm

PMI® Montana Chapter Branch Meeting Information

Western Montana Branch: Our Western Branch is based out of Missoula and typically meets once a month on Tuesdays (Jan-May and Sept-Nov). Meetings are held at Advanced Technology Group (atg) in downtown Missoula and typically include a project presentation or topic discussion followed with networking opportunities. Members and non-members are welcome to attend. For more information (or to be included on a mailing list of future events), please contact Branch Leader Joshua Pearson at joshua.pearson@atginfo.com.

Central Branch: Our Central Branch is based out of Helena and holds meetings from 12:00-1:00 on the second Friday of each month, typically at the Lewis and Clark Library on Last Chance Gulch. Bring your lunch and a friend! Meeting topics vary. Please contact Branch Leader Greg Pierson at gregpierson4550@yahoo.com with questions or to request more information.

Northeastern Wyoming Branch: The NE Wyoming Branch meets regularly, every third Friday of the month from 11:30-1:00 at the George Amos Library on Gillette Avenue in Gillette. We'd love to see you at our next meeting! Please contact Branch Leader William Mourer at wmourer@outlook.com or 307-696-3080 for more information.

Eastern Montana Branch: Our Eastern Branch is based out of Billings and typically meets the last Friday of each month for a Lunch-and-Learn style meeting. Meetings are held at the Public Library in the Large Conference Room from 12-1 and typically include a project presentation or topic discussion followed with networking opportunities. Members and non-members are welcome to attend and bring their lunch to join in a fun and casual learning environment. For more information (or to be included on a mailing list of future events), please contact Branch Leader Berta Murnion at blmurnion@gmail.com.

Southwestern Montana Branch: Our Southwestern Branch is based out of Bozeman. The schedule is still being worked out, so if you're in the area and want to help provide a format and structure for this branch (or want to be included on the mailing list) please contact Branch Leader Kristen Nichols at Kristen.Radford@yahoo.com.

Featured PMI® Montana Chapter Branch: Western

During the last several months, the Western Montana Branch has focused on community--building a stronger community of peers within our network and working with folks in our community. Recently, Dr. Shawn Clouse from the University of Montana began joining our meetings, and he recently lead an informative session helping folks understand how they can get engaged with his project management course at the University.

We've also started to save time at the end of each branch session to do project spotlights, taking time for an individual to talk about a current project they are working on, discuss a challenge, and leverage the group for discussion.

Last month we took a field trip to Ikuw Solutions where folks learned of an amazing community teaching program. Then Kevin McMannus took us through a brief Agile Project Management training course focused on beginners. Overall, I think we will see more of this in months to come.

In January 2016, we are working with Billings to host a cross-chapter session to facilitate an Agile vs Waterfall debate, then we have some amazing speakers lined up in the spring.

Our branch meetings are held on the third Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. and everyone is welcome. We host a remote bridge and record the sessions for those who can't make it. We will be taking a break for December, but we'll be back in in swing for January. For more information, please contact me at Joshua.pearson@atginfo.com.

Cheers!
Josh

Thank You Platinum Sponsors!



Thank you Gold Sponsors!



PMI® Montana Chapter Board Members

We are interested in hearing more from you, our members, so we can better serve and support you. Please contact any one of us to share your ideas and recommendations. Thank you for your support!

PMI® Montana Chapter Board Members

Name	Role	Contact Information
Dale Matheson	President	President@pmimtchapter.org
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