



Wednesday, 12 October 2011 | view it in your browser

President's Message

What's New?

Have you had a chance to take a tour through our new Website? We're pretty excited about it and look forward to receiving your comments! Unveiling our new site didn't happen by itself. We have a team of chapter volunteers to thank for their efforts, and a special thanks to Dave Sharp, our technical lead on this project! We're looking forward to your participation to help us keep our web site growing and changing, as a fresh and useful resource. And there's still time to enter the Photo Contest. We'll always be looking for web site banner photos that represent Northern Nevada – so keep them coming. But I've extended the contest deadline until the end of October. The winner will receive a free dinner, so submit your entry to tech@pmi-nnv.org for a chance to win!



Coming up this month are two PMI events in Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas. First the PMI Global Congress 2011—North America is being held on 22-25 October. This is a valuable experience for anyone involved in projects, and the event is very well attended. The Congress offers over 150 educational sessions delivered by knowledgeable presenters. This allows attendees to select from a variety of topics each day to suit their interest and career needs. So this is a good opportunity for project professionals to gain practical information that they can put to work immediately as well as network for career opportunities. More information is available at <http://congresses.pmi.org/NorthAmerica2011/>. If you are planning to attend, let us know. Possibly you can share your experience as a guest speaker at one of our future PMI-NNV dinner meetings. This provides you with a chance to present good information to an interested audience and gain PDUs too.

Also this year's PMI North America Leadership Institute Meeting is being held in Dallas on 20-22 October. This 3-day Meeting is the largest event held by the PMI Leadership Institute annually, and it is designed to inspire and support volunteer leaders in the advancement of their leadership skills. Two members of our PMI-NNV Board will be attending this year. And we'll be sharing the highlights of our experience with the membership in a future meeting.

Carmen Jones
PMI-NNV President

Reno Dinner Meetings



Communication - The *Lifeblood* of Project Management

What are the three main causes of project failure? The answer in order of impact is Communication, Communication, Communication! Communication is so important that it has been referred to as the lifeblood of a project by more than one practitioner. The Project Manager must have access to all the information related to the project, and keep the sponsor and team informed. It is amazing how much the control of the three sides of the Project Management triangle (Scope, Schedule and Budget) depends on communication. Our speaker, Nishu Varma, will share the story of how a project that was behind schedule and over-budget was brought back on-track by tapping into a few simple gems of project communication. Plus, attendees can share their own scenarios where effective communication saved the life of a project.

Nishu Varma, PMP, is a project management professional with nineteen years of experience in project and program management, business process analysis, and application of technology solutions to meet corporate objectives. She is the founder and president of NIIV Inc. which provides strategic and project management consulting and training, and helps organizations set up PMOs as a center of excellence. She is experienced in leading multi-million dollar projects to on-time and on-budget completion for organizations like Covance, Intuit, and Tata Unisys. Nishu was the Technical Director for a local startup that created one of the largest community portals. Her broad industry experience spans global financial clients, a clinical research organization, international consulting firms, and software solution providers. Nishu contributed to the PMP Exam prep program within the PMI-NNV Chapter by creating content and teaching classes.

The presentation is scheduled for the October 25 meeting of the Project Management Institute's Northern Nevada Chapter. It will be held at Firkin & Wolf restaurant (13971 S. Virginia St in the Sierra Summit Mall, Reno). Networking begins at 5:30pm, dinner and announcements begin at 6:00pm, and the presentation begins at 7:00pm. The charge for dinner and presentation is \$25 (\$20 members); \$10 (\$5 members) for the presentation only. Non-members are welcome. You may register in advance.

Additional information can be obtained from Wynnlee Crisp, NNV PMI Program Director, (425) 681-7887. Our monthly Reno dinner meeting will be held October 25th at Firkin & Wolf at 5:30 to 8:00.

Monthly Lunch Meetings

In addition to the PMI-NNV monthly evening meetings, we will continue having two lunch time meetings so that you may attend the location most convenient for you. The format will be the same for all lunch meetings: relaxed with lots of discussion about real-life experiences in project management. We will explore the PMBOK Knowledge Areas listed in the below schedule.

- October - Project Integration Management - Part 2: (Executing, Controlling and Closure)

Our monthly Carson City lunch forum will be held every 2nd Tuesday of every month at High Sierra Brewing Company at 11:30 to 1:00pm.

- October 11th

Our monthly Reno lunch forum will be held every 3rd Tuesday of every month at Firkin & Wolf at 11:30 to 1:00.

- October 18th

NEW! PMI-NNV Educational Sponsor Program

We are excited to announce our new *PMI-NNV Educational Sponsor Program!* The purpose of this program is to offer high quality project management training programs at significant discounts to organizations within the Northern Nevada community.

What is a PMI-NNV Educational Sponsor?

Today's enterprises – companies, government agencies, community groups – accomplish the majority of their work and achieve their objectives project by project. Yet many organizations don't recognize the value of best project management practices, or don't have access to high quality, cost-effective training and professional development for project staff. This may be especially true for the small to medium sized organizations that constitute the majority of our business community.

A PMI-NNV Educational Sponsor is an organization which seeks to provide professional development opportunities for project staff. Whether your staff are novice or seasoned, professional project management development will enable them and your organization to significantly increase the knowledge and practical application of skills to complete projects

successfully – saving time and costs, and improving quality and customer satisfaction.

Why Become an Educational Sponsor?

PMI-NNV training programs are provided by professional project management educators who have developed and delivered training programs to corporate and government audiences worldwide. PMI-NNV maintains stringent standards for instructors and course materials to ensure only the highest quality programs are made available to sponsoring organizations. Criteria for selection of training providers include, for example, excellence and relevance in project management subject matter, instructional design for adult education, and instructor knowledge, presentation skills and references.

Project staff will develop a common language and methods to produce consistent and predictable results. They will have access to industry best practices and tools, techniques, metrics and templates to use on their projects at any time. Sponsoring organizations will have local access to high quality training for employees at significantly lower costs, and benefit from improved performance from increasingly professional and educated project staff.

According to the PMI Registered Education Provider Benchmark Survey, the average fee for a 3-day classroom type educational activity is just over \$1,500 *per attendee!* PMI-NNV will offer instructor-led training programs at up to 30% discounts from standard commercial rates.

Training programs for Educational Sponsors are conducted on-site at your location, or other location of your choice. Attendance is exclusive to your organization's staff. For many programs, attendees will have the opportunity to apply what they learn to their actual projects in the classroom in order to quickly and more effectively transfer knowledge and skills back on the job.

Leadership and the Application of Project Management **Course**

In collaboration with Cypress Professional Services, LLC, a locally owned international project management training and consulting firm, we are pleased to inaugurate the Educational Sponsor Program with the 3-day course, ***Leadership and the Application of Project Management***.

Leadership and the Application of Project Management (LAPM) is an instructor-led 3-day, interactive course for both experienced and novice project managers and teams. The course emphasizes best practices that are essential to successful project planning and execution. The course is designed to achieve three crucial goals:

- Expand the participants' capabilities as strong project leaders.
- Increase participants' knowledge of key project management concepts.
- Build skill in the practical application of best practice techniques for planning and executing projects.

Participants in ***LAPM*** receive the following materials in support of the training and on-the-job

application:

- Attendee handbook of presentation slides.
- The 50+ page ***Project Management Process Guide***, a step-by-step guide to on-the-job application of project management concepts and techniques.
- 10 templates in MS Word™ and MS Excel™ format to document project plans and data.
- 24 Educational Professional Development Units (PDU).

How to Become an Educational Sponsor

The Educational Sponsor Program is a collaborative endeavor between the PMI-NNV Professional Development and Marketing functions. We would like to learn more about your organization's requirements and expectations for project management education to ensure that your objectives for the professional development of project staff are met.

To learn more about becoming a PMI-NNV Educational Sponsor, contact Julia Childs, Vice President of Marketing at vp-marketing@pmi-nnv.org or Sharon Grundy, Vice President of Professional Development at vp-prof-dev@pmi-nnv.org to schedule a meeting at your convenience.

Partner with PMI-NNV for Excellence in Project Management Education!

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