

Project Management Speed Learning

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If you attended the March 21 New Hampshire Chapter Meeting, you had the opportunity to hear from multiple experts on multiple topics. Similar to speed dating, participants moved from table to table to listen to selected topics in our first Café Roundtable and Networking meeting. Before the meeting closed, an Agile-style retroactive revealed that attendees liked the format and suggested topics for the next “Project Management Speed Learning” event. Here are the take-aways as members mingled, learned, shared, and earned PDUs.

- Improve Your LinkedIn Profile for More Job Opportunities, AND More Money.

Eric Marx, a professional recruiter and Vice president of Probity, discussed the importance of a complete and current LinkedIn profile. LinkedIn is a powerful tool that can improve your visibility in a highly competitive job market. Eric identified simple changes that help recruiters find you, including: a photo showing you smiling and approachable, a title that helps you stand out, a headline that says what you are, keywords, skills, groups, recommendations, and make it perfect with no misspellings or grammatical errors. Finally, if you are looking for a new job, be sure to check the box for “Open to New Opportunities”.

- Neuroscience and the Project Manager

Cris Casey, Managing Director and Chief Architect at Exertus, Inc., did a mini-, but powerful presentation on how the neurology of our brain is a challenge to performing every-day tasks. 90% of the brain’s evolution occurred over 100,000 years ago when the most important task each day was to get food and avoid being food for wild animals. Three challenges to today’s working life are: 1) attention is a limited capacity 2) memory is worse than we think, and 3) multitasking is a myth.

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Congratulations to Our New PMPs

Ten New Hampshire Chapter members are new, certified Project Management Professionals. They are:

- Thomas Croteau , PMP®
- Jennifer Fisher , PMP®
- Kyle Flynn , PMP®
- Shannon LaMonica , PMP®, PMI-ACP®
- Jeff Langenheim , PMP®
- James Mullin , PMP®
- Paul Nuzzi , PMP®
- Daniel Rowell , PMP®
- Cheryl Wheelock , PMP®
- Joshua Willwerth , PMP®

From Epics and User Stories to Milestones

Join us in Concord for the Chapter Meeting on April 18. Dana Getman, Agile Coach and Chief of Staff at Ascendle, will explain how to split epics and user stories into milestones and boost momentum. User stories and their big brothers, epics, are a great way to manage project requirements. They act as stakes in the ground to keep track of what the system needs to do: to identify the type of user most interested in each feature, and the reason it provides value to them.

Some stories are too large for a team to finish within a single sprint, and must be split into smaller stories. Many Scrum teams struggle with this process, not knowing how to properly split epics and large stories in an effective manner that keeps each split story shippable. Ms. Getman will demonstrate proven techniques to split epics and user stories, making them smaller and more manageable, while sticking with the Scrum rule that each user story must deliver value.

For more information, visit the [April Events Calendar listing](#). You can register now on [My Events Guru](#).



Leading with Gratitude Coming in May

At the May Chapter Meeting, Star Dargin will present “leading with Gratitude”. Join us at the Puritan Back Room on May 16.

Professional Development Workshop, June 6

Today’s organizations are looking for tomorrow’s leadership team. As a good Project Manager, the next step in your career could very well take you to this next level. This workshop will put aside the skills and knowledge required to be a good Project Manager and focus on what you need to be a great leader.

Your skills, knowledge and professional attributes will be compared to those of well-known leaders. The gaps will be explored and you will walk away with your customized professional strategic plan.

The workshop location is Portsmouth, NH. Topics include:

- Thinking like a leader - learning the language, talking the talk.
- Communication skills for leaders
- Decision making and good judgement
- Leadership styles and where you fit in
- And More ...

For more information, click the [Upcoming Events](#) link on www.pmi-nh.org. If you are ready register, [Click Here](#).



Chapter Meeting Ticket Change

“Pay at the Door” tickets for dinner at Chapter Meetings are no longer available. To receive the Early Bird discount, you must select “Pay Now” ticket options. Our cancellation policy remains the same. If you pay in advance and are unable to attend, you must send a notice to [Director of Events](#) before the event and you will receive credit for a future chapter meeting.

You Can Get Involved



The PMI New Hampshire Chapter is a volunteer-led and run organization that supports Project Management excellence throughout the state. Everyone is a volunteer, from the people on the Board of Directors to the people who represent the chapter at events throughout the state. For more information about the Chapter, its Vision, and Mission, see the [About the Chapter](http://www.pmi-nh.org) page of www.pmi-nh.org.

Below are some of the ways you can become more involved, have fun, network with over 860 professionals, and support your chapter. See the [Volunteer page](#) for more.

Spread Your Leadership Wings

As a volunteer-led organization, the New Hampshire Chapter can present unique opportunities to grow your leadership skills. Our election committee is ready and waiting to select candidates for open positions on the Board of Directors, including:



- President-Elect
- Vice President of Finance
- Vice President of Membership
- Vice President of Community Relations
- Vice President of Professional Development

Elections will be held in May and announced at the June Chapter Meeting. If you would like to spread your leadership wings, contact President-Elect, [Nora Colliton](#) complete the volunteer form on the [Get Involved-Volunteer](#) page of our [website](#). For more information about the positions, see the [Position Description](#) page. For more information about the 2018 election see the [Volunteer page](#).

AerospaceFest Volunteers Needed

Would you like to go to the stars? How about the moon? You can sign up as a New Hampshire Chapter volunteer for the 2018 AerospaceFest at the McCauliff-Shepard Discovery Center in Concord, on May 5th. As a volunteer you will have the opportunity to join the festivities while talking to parents and students about Project Management in New Hampshire. This year's activities will include:

- Solar observing
- Flight simulations
- Fun with spectroscopy
- Rocketry
- Chemistry experiments
- Engineering activities for kids and families
- New planetarium show premiere
- Meteorites and meteor wrongs



"No one can whistle a symphony. It takes a whole orchestra." — H.E. Luccock

For details about the event, see the official [AerospaceFest website](#). To volunteer, visit the New Hampshire Chapter [AerospaceFest page](#) or contact President, [Steve Lundquist](#).

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Chris suggested that these can be overcome by structuring each day to avoid distractions and maintain focus and to get plenty of sleep. Sleep refreshes the chemicals that are used up by shifting focus and saves short term memories, so they can be retrieved later. These simple changes will lead to better project outcomes and a less stressful work-life.

Café Roundtable attendees moved from topic to topic while learning and earning PDUs.

- **Current Trends in Project Management**

Nora Colliton, PMP, PMI-ACP, and President-Elect of the PMI New Hampshire Chapter held a lively discussion about recent changes in Project Management tools and methodologies. Her mini-meeting participants shared changes in Project Management direction and roles in each of their industries.

- **Better Meeting Management**

Lynda Sawicki, PMP and Recording Secretary for the PMI New Hampshire Chapter shared meeting preplanning tactics that will keep attendees engaged and support better executive decisions. 40-50% of project time is spent in meetings, but 90% of attendees day dream, 73% do other work in meetings, and 25% of meeting time is spent discussing irrelevant issues. Here are Lynda's tips to better meeting management:

- Get participant feedback before the meeting so concerns can be addressed.
- Send an agenda prior to the meeting and display it during the meeting. Include action items in the email and not just in the attachment.
- Start and end meetings on time with no exceptions. Reschedule if decision makers are not present. Announce rules of engagement at the beginning of the meeting.
- Start and end meetings differently. Infuse fun. Use images, poetry, stories, and film to spark ideas.



- **Best Collaboration Tips for Project Managers**

Ken Quast, PMP and Director of Technology of the PMI New Hampshire Chapter, talked about types of collaboration, such as synchronous and asynchronous, and when each is most productive. There were many opinions and examples of how collaboration improves productivity of teams and groups.

- Tactics for handling a project in jeopardy of failing, no cavalry is coming, and failing is not an option

Lea Stabler, Owner of Pathways Navigation, gave examples of projects in trouble and in crisis and talked about the “human” factors needed to get back on track. These include intuition and creativity to find new solutions: trust, willingness of team members to think out of the box, and open communication within the team and when reporting to management.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

- Director of Publications: Bernadette Donnelly, PMP, M.S.
- Volunteer Editor: Eliot Andler, PMP, CLSSGB
- Volunteer Editor: Jeff Eichel, PMP, MSEE
- Director of Communications: Sandra Hebert, PMP
- Vice President of Operations: Peg Duggan, PMP



Food Bank Donations

Thank you for your contributions to the New Hampshire Food bank. Since 2013, the Chapter donated 1,433 pounds of food, equaling 1,194 meals.

Remember to bring non-perishable food products or a check payable to “NH Food Bank” to every Chapter meeting you attend. Or, if you can’t attend in person, you can send a check to the New Hampshire Food Bank, 700 E Industrial Park Drive, Manchester, NH 03109.

Can You Recognize Excellence?

The New Hampshire Chapter does. Every June, awards for demonstrated excellence in Project Management are presented in three categories: Project Manager of the Year, Project of the Year, and Company of the Year. This year’s submission deadline has been extended to April 15, so you still have time for your nominations. The candidates come from you, our Project Managers “in the trenches”, so submit your candidates, now.

If you, your project, or your company has demonstrated Project Management excellence, you can nominate yourself, so there is no reason to delay. Visit the [Awards and Recognition](#) page of the PMI New Hampshire website for nomination forms and more information.

After the nominations are received, our volunteer judges will review all submissions and select the winner in each category. Award winners will be announced and presented at the June 2018 Chapter meeting.

This program recognizes the outstanding efforts of New Hampshire Project Management professionals, organizations, and excellent projects. It increases the visibility of the New Hampshire Chapter throughout the state and local communities.



Claim Your PMI Digital Badges

Now you can quickly and easily share verified proof of your distinguished PMI certification wherever and whenever you choose. You can embed it in your email signature and you can share it on LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter. This is possible because PMI has partnered with Acclaim that digitally displays your professional qualifications and achievements. You worked hard to earn it. Why not broadcast your accomplishment?

To claim your badge, visit the PMI Certifications, [PMI Certification Digital Badge Program page](#).

While on the PMI website, take the opportunity to update your profile under [myPMI](#). In particular, make sure your email address is correct. The New Hampshire Chapter uses your PMI email address for all email correspondences.

