



PMI Mt. Baker Chapter
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 renewed
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PMI Mt. Baker Chapter Newsletter

Volume I Issue I May 2008

May 12, 2008, 5:30 Presentation: “Power and Influence for Project Managers” by Mike Greene, MBA

Mike shared an excellent presentation with a focus on how we can use our power as project managers. Mike spoke about how successful project managers are both masters of technical skills and masters in soft skills. His presentation demonstrated the art--of influencing others and the impact that this skill has on selling projects and leading teams. There are seven types of power; coercive, connection, expert, information, legitimate, referent, reward. He whispered to Doug Bestle while looking at the back table. When Doug asked everyone at the back table to stand, and they did, this was a demonstration of referent power. Mike went on to utilize many real life examples of power that the group could easily relate to. His presentation was educational and entertaining.



Mike Greene with his diagram of Maslow's Needs

May 12, 2008, 8:00 Presentation: “Developing the Kaizen Mind” by Henry Beeland, Evergreen Team Concepts

Henry shared a very moving presentation on the Kaizen Mind. Kaizen is Japanese for "improvement". It is a Japanese philosophy that focuses on continuous improvement throughout all aspects of life. When applied to the workplace, Kaizen activities continually improve all functions of a business, from manufacturing to management and from the CEO to the assembly line workers. By improving standardized activities and processes, Kaizen aims to eliminate waste. Henry shared how Lean Management is a style that supports this theory. Kaizen was first implemented in several Japanese businesses during the country's recovery after World War II, including Toyota, and has since spread to businesses throughout the world.



Henry Beeland of Evergreen Team Concepts in Bellingham, WA.

Three Amigos Travel To Salem

Doug Bestle (President-elect), Jim Bowan (VP Professional Development) and John Garrigues (VP Marketing) traveled to Salem, Oregon to attend the PMI Region I Leadership Conference. This was a two day event from 12:30 pm on Friday, May 1 to 5:30 pm on Saturday, May 2. Sarah Miller, the Willamette Valley Chapter, Salem Branch President stopped by to say hi to the guys while they were finishing up lunch on Friday. From that moment, the conference was on. The conference was jam packed with opportunities to network, collect new ideas and share how our Mt. Baker Chapter operates. The Keynote Address was provided by Mark Langley, Chief Operating Officer from PMI Global Operations Center (GOC). Mark reviewed the Strategic Plan for the PMI GOC. He shared many slides that showed the metrics of PMI chapters all over the world. One of the more intriguing slides showed that there are actually more Certified PMPs globally than there are members of PMI.



Registration and bags of conference materials.

Business Problems



Mark Langley, COO of PMI-GOC

The presentation by Mark Langley transitioned into a Question and Answer session. Mark had a collection of Business Problems posed by officers of the attending chapters. We each had a copy of the same Business Problems in our binders. Mark would read/summarize each of the Business Problems and then share the PMI GOC position for each.

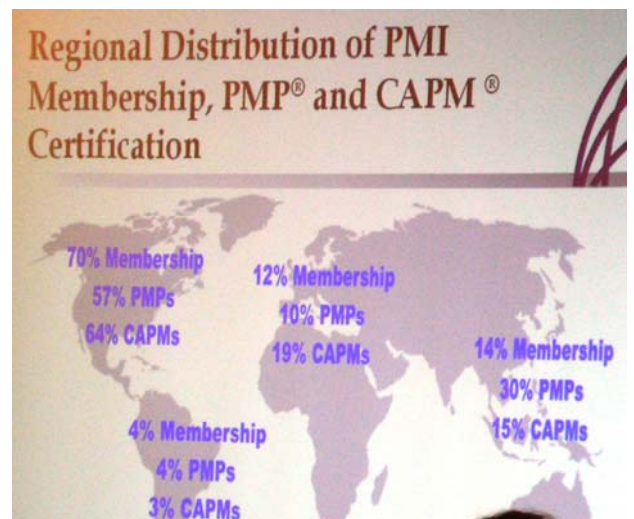
1. The Chapter Website is an area where many chapters would encourage PMI GOC to step up and help smaller chapters to share web site resources. Many of the larger chapters can afford to hire a professional web master or web site service while smaller chapters are left to fend for themselves. The PMI GOC solution will be the roll out of a Share Point web site as a pilot in Region 3. Mark also agreed to bring this topic to the IS Sig in June 2008.
2. Can PMI GOC use the size of PMI to negotiate rates with carriers for conference calls, WebEx and video conferences to get a reduced rate for all chapters? PMI GOC will investigate this.
3. The members of Chapters often view that a portion of the annual membership fee paid to PMI actually gets "siphoned" into the hands of the Chapters. This year we have had repeated requests to provide Philanthropic funding for training, Region I Meeting, Participation in the ISO Project Management Standard development. This is putting pressure on the Chapters to fund activities that are valued by the members through other means. Has PMI considered partially funding chapters or making Regional Funds available? The chapters want to server their members. The chapters are being forced to think in a "for profit" mode to fund activities. Mark

recommended using the joint activities form on pmi.org.

4. There were 12 topics covered in all. The one that receive the most attention was the Chapter Website and the concept of a SharePoint site for all chapters to share how they do things with each other.

Mark fielded all of the questions and retained his composure quite well. There were many instances where the comments and questions became quite hostile in the direction of PMI GOC.

Doug, Jim and John came away with many wonderful ideas. Look for those to be shared in a future issue.



Globally, there are more PMPs than members of PMI

Results from our 2007 member survey

In 2007 the chapter members had an opportunity to complete a survey on a collection of topics that concerned the members and our chapter. Here are the results of some key questions/

| | | |
|--|----------|-----|
| 1. How long have you been a member of PMI? | Tot resp | % |
| Less than one year | 4 | 19% |
| 1-2 years | 6 | 29% |
| 3-5 years | 6 | 29% |
| 5-10 years | 2 | 10% |
| More than 10 years | 3 | 14% |
| 2. Are you PMP, CAPM or PgMP certified? | | |
| Yes | 9 | 43% |
| No | 8 | 38% |
| In the process | 4 | 19% |

5a. Please rank the importance of the following as your reasons for membership in PMI:

| | Very Important | % | Somewhat Important | % |
|--|-------------------|-----|-----------------------|-----|
| Improving PM knowledge | 18 | 86% | 1 | 5% |
| Career advancement | 9 | 45% | 4 | 20% |
| Sharing experiences/learning from others | 13 | 62% | 7 | 33% |
| Facilitating job search | 1 | 5% | 10 | 48% |
| Professional Certification | 6 | 30% | 5 | 25% |
| Professional development units (PDUs) | 7 | 35% | 6 | 30% |
| Member programs (insurance, credit cards, professional development discounts, etc.) | 0 | 0% | 2 | 10% |
| Promote professionalism in PM | 11 | 52% | 7 | 33% |

| | Somewhat Unimportant | % | Very Unimportant | % |
|--|-------------------------|-----|---------------------|-----|
| Improving PM knowledge | 2 | 10% | 0 | 0% |
| Career advancement | 5 | 25% | 2 | 10% |
| Sharing experiences/learning from others | 1 | 5% | 0 | 0% |
| Facilitating job search | 4 | 19% | 6 | 29% |
| Professional Certification | 7 | 35% | 2 | 10% |
| Professional development units (PDUs) | 3 | 15% | 4 | 20% |
| Member programs (insurance, credit cards, professional development discounts, etc.) | 5 | 25% | 13 | 65% |
| Promote professionalism in PM | 2 | 10% | 1 | 5% |

Registration At Our May 12 Chapter Meeting

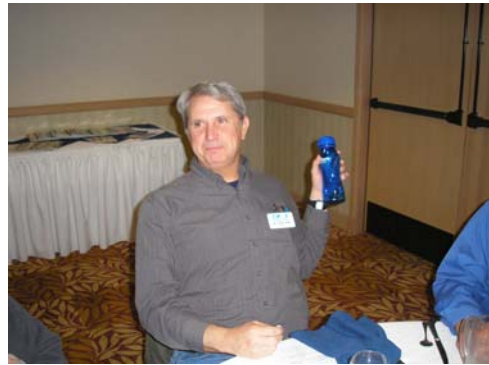


Can you name everyone in this photo?



Something looks different.

Prize Winners From Our May 12 Chapter Meeting





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Congratulations to the
New and Renewed
PMPs for May 2008:
Teresa Hanson
George M Olson
Mark Olwick
Martin Scott
Gordon Stevens

Congratulations to the
New Members of
Mt. Baker Chapter:



Next Chapter Meeting
Monday, June 9
5:30 PM
Lakeway Inn
Bellingham, WA

John G talks with Mike Gowan

John Garrigues asked Mike Gowan to provide a bit of info on the GowanGroup. Mike sent John a wonderfully detailed document that was just crammed with details. John took the liberty to publish a small sample to give everyone a good overall idea of what The GowanGroup is all about.

JG: So Mike, we are initiating this newsletter with an article about the GowanGroup llc, welcome aboard. And as a new member, we'd like to get the scoop on you.

JG: So who is the GowanGroup?

MG: Briefly, it is yours truly doing recruiting. The group part comprises other independent professionals who service companies, corporations and industry in general and we work collaboratively.

They are:

Mark Warren: A Professional Coach and Trainer for some of the largest companies in the area. He also works with individuals in doing career assessments and transition to help individuals find careers and job roles that match their core strengths at high level.

Bill Palmer: Who consults with top management for medium to large local companies and he does Interim-CEO work for companies in transition.

Mitch Whitman: Holds a PhD in clinical psychology and wears a variety of hats. One of which is to work with executives and leaders who have addictions that are ruining their personal and professional lives.

JG: Specifically, what do you do and who do you work for?

MG: I am considered an niche, technical recruiter. I do not get involved with mass hiring or staffing of projects. My role is to find the specific person to fill the specific position. What this usually means is that the Client-company has been trying to fill the position for a minimum of a year and sometimes two years. It can be challenging. I work for engineering firms and large companies that require engineers, technical staff and management.

For more information you may contact Mike at

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