



**Building Professionalism  
in Project Management™**  
Project Management Institute

**Central Mass Chapter**

October 2008



## Change is Here to Stay

In recent months, we have been bombarded with tons of political posturing about “change.” But where are the real-time actions coming from

to make these fundamental changes happen? Who are the real agents of change? The answer is that you, the PMI members, who are successfully guiding significant changes every single day. Our PMI members are in the forefront of change 24x7. And where can you turn for cutting-edge counsel on the problems of managing change? Your fellow chapter members, naturally! How does this relate to project management in general and the members of PMI Central Mass Chapter in particular? Change is a perpetually moving target, whether in science and technology, business and industry, economy and financial markets, government and military projects, etc. Change is also happening right here in our chapter and leadership. For PMI members, there is no escaping change in management practices.

Project managers and their teams are change agents. Project managers, teams and methodologies are going to be critical in executing and managing change in industries as they navigate their return to profitability and efficient operations. The Central Mass Chapter celebrated its fifth anniversary in April, with a record 500 members. New member interest continues to grow as a result of the new offerings in the chapter meetings and training events.

The chapter has delivered more training events and

PDU opportunities than last year and the volunteer board has grown correspondingly. The membership has a significant percentage of PMP’s (68%) in our ranks, this number has been growing year to year. The Central Mass board will continue making changes in providing valued benefits to the membership by delivering to plan and managing its budget and operations. In anticipation, the board started early this year on the forward planning for 2009 and will need your continued volunteer support to bring you new programs.

Our new chapter slogan also reflects this, “CMASS, Central to Success”. As project managers, you have a critical role to play in the execution of change.

I wish to thank the 2008 board and recognize their accomplishments and hard work throughout the year in providing value to our members. I am honored to continue as a board member in the role of past president. I look forward to helping the new board tackle the challenges coming up in 2009. Finally let me offer my best wishes to all Central Mass Chapter members as we tackle the changes that we will face in the coming year.

Edward Yee,  
President  
Central Mass Chapter

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You can find us on the internet at [www.pmicmass.com](http://www.pmicmass.com), contact us by email [President@pmicmass.com](mailto:President@pmicmass.com) or by mail at Alice Thayer, President Central Mass Chapter of PMI 290 Turnpike Road, #370 Westborough, MA 01581

### The Board of Directors

President Ed Yee, PMP  
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Newsletter Editor Sandra Roth



## Our 2009 President Elect

by Sandra Roth

This September, I had the pleasure of speaking with Alice Thayer, incoming President of the Central Mass Chapter of PMI. Ms. Thayer has spent the tail end of 2007 as well as all of 2008 thus far, in training as the Vice President of the chapter.

Ms. Thayer graduated from Bentley College with a B.A. in Accounting and earned an M.B.A. from Northeastern University. She now resides in Harvard and works as a

Change Manager for Bank of America.

I asked why she wanted to become the Chapter President, she replied "I am interested in seeing the chapter mature, I personally experienced many networking benefits and support from chapter members in my preparations for taking my PMP exam and received support in furthering my career." Ms. Thayer received her PMP in

August of 2006, and she also has received a Green Belt in Six Sigma.

When I asked her what direction she saw the CMass Chapter headed in for the coming year, she said that as a result of the September 13th Strategic Meeting of the Board, which she chaired, the leadership is committed to providing the membership with features and events targeted for different industry segments. The programs will be shaped to appeal to members who are beginning their pursuit of a certification and also to those who need to maintain their certification.

The President Elect sees the chapter in the next few years maintaining the personal level and approach to foster interpersonal relationships among members. She considers it a privilege to serve as President of the Chapter. Ms. Thayer believes that we will have exciting year ahead of the Chapter.

The CMass Chapter was represented by Ms. Thayer, Mr. Yee, and Steve Forde at the 2008 PMI Leadership Institute Meeting in Denver, Colorado, October 15 to 18.

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## Newsletter Editor

The CMass Chapter welcomes Sandra J. Roth to the team as our Newsletter Editor. Ms. Roth graduated Cum Laude from UMASS Amherst with a major in forestry and soils. She assisted in the development of the State of NH soil definitions to preserve wetlands, and has since supported various groups and civic organizations with environmental education. Ms. Roth is committed to uniting the businesses of the world in their efforts to maintain a sustainable environment.

Ms. Roth brings a wealth of knowledge to the Chapter. Aside from her influence in the preservation of the natural environment, she has experience in the professional realms of publishing, insurance, and project management in telecommunications.

Ms. Roth has held a New Hampshire Soil Scientist Certification, and has been awarded a certificate in Customer Service.

Ms. Roth's personal endeavors include spending time with her family, and sharing her passion for the natural world with them.



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## PMI Announces New Credential

In this economic climate of lessening credit availability, pressures to complete projects on accelerated schedules and on budget are among the reasons why qualified risk management professionals are needed on project management teams. The newly created PMI-Risk Management Professional credential will assure stakeholders of the project that a team member has the knowledge, skills and experience in this area.

To qualify for the PMI-RMP examination, applicants must have a bachelor's degree or global equivalent, three to five years of professional work experience, with 3,000 hours of experience in project risk management, along with 30 contact hours of formal education in project risk management.

To maintain the credential, project risk management professionals will need to acquire 30 Professional Development Units (PDUs) per 3-year cycle in the specialty area of project risk management.

To find out more information on this new certification go to the PMI main website: [www.pmi.org](http://www.pmi.org).



## CMass PMP Training

The first 12 week PMP Study Group sponsored by PMI Central finished September 24. An extra make-up week was added so those who missed a week could fulfill requirements for the full 35 education credits. 18 people were enrolled in the program. Approximately half the attendees have completed their PMP application and one took and passed his test the week the course ended. Our thanks to 3COM for allowing us to use their Marlborough conference center. The program was developed and facilitated by Barbara Karten, PMP assisted by Dick Kennedy, PMP.



The Chapter is considering the formation of another Study Group program if there is sufficient interest. Please contact the Director of Training for more information.

## Call for Volunteers

Opportunities are available for volunteers, the open volunteer slots include: Director of Finance, Director of Sponsorship, Director of Events, Director of Meetings, and Project team leaders.

These positions include earning PDUs toward maintaining your PMP credential, gain of professional experience and industry

knowledge, networking and career contacts, and gain Board of Director experience with a successful, growing Chapter. Please contact Debra Trainor at [DirrofMembership@pmicmass.com](mailto:DirrofMembership@pmicmass.com).

## Election Nominees

Chapter Elections are scheduled for the November Chapter meeting set for November 11th. You must be a chapter member and present to vote. The following are personal statements supplied by the nominees.

Treasurer – 1 year term

Nominee Name: **Susan Baust**

I have served as Vice-President and President of this chapter. I have also served as Treasurer of the Pilgrim Church Women's Fellowship and as Treasurer of the Charles River Investment Club. I currently serve as Moderator of Pilgrim Congregational Church and an Alternate Member of Southborough Council on Aging.

Vice President – 2 year term

Nominee Name: **Debra A. Wallace**

During the past two (2) years serving as the Treasurer for the

Central Mass Chapter of PMI, I have learned the finances and operational processes of the Chapter as well as provided input to the strategic direction of the Chapter. This exposure in addition to my commitment to project management as a means of effectively implementing change within business, positions me to take on the responsibility of Vice President. I am a Membership Chair, Assabet Valley Mastersingers, Inc., and a Member of church choir.

Recording Secretary - 2 year term

Nominee Name: **Judy Butterworth-Kremer**

I am currently the Secretary of the Board of Directors of Greater Marlborough Programs, Inc., (GMPI) a local non-profit organization that serves individuals with developmental disabilities in the MetroWest area. I have held this position for 4 years and will be ending my tenure on this Board in November, 2008. I was also Past President for 2 terms.

## Newsletter Gets New Look

by Sandra Roth

Our newsletter has obviously changed. I felt that a simpler format with some graphics makes it easier to read. The graphics are symbolic of some of the different industries that utilize project management. I hope to interview at least one member for each issue, please let me know if there is any project that you believe would be interesting to the membership.

I am open to new ideas, please email me with constructive or creative comments at [Editor@pmicmass.com](mailto:Editor@pmicmass.com).

## Membership Benefits from the O'Reilly Media Group



By Deb Trainor

The CMass chapter of the PMI has joined with the O'Reilly Media group to provide the members access to new books, conference and webinars on project management and other technical and management topics.

Here is some information on the company from their website.... O'Reilly Media spreads the knowledge of innovators through its books, online services, magazine, and conferences. Since 1978, O'Reilly has been a chronicler and catalyst of leading-edge development, homing in on the technology trends that really matter and spurring their adoption by amplifying "faint signals" from the alpha geeks who are creating the future. An active participant in the technology community, the company has a long history of advocacy, moneymaking, and evangelism.

At the core, we create products that we want to use. Whatever form it takes-- book, conference, online products--we want anything produced with the O'Reilly name to be useful, interesting, and truthful. And we believe that there are plenty of intelligent, discriminating people in the world who value those qualities as deeply as we do.

As you can see, they carry quality information on very current technology and thinking. Recently the O'Reilly Group generously provided a bundle of books on project management to provide as giveaways at the C Mass chapter meetings.

Through the Professional Association Program, members of the CMass chapter may enjoy a 35% discount on all O'Reilly books and free shipping, if the order is over \$29.95. O'Reilly also offers conferences and webcasts from the authors and other experts in the various fields, such as software development and project management. Please visit the website to find something of interest to you.

The O'Reilly Group also offers a newsletter of new publications, speakers and other items of interest. Sign up individually for this through their website.

Are you interested in reviewing a book and writing up your opinion on Amazon.com or another site? O'Reilly will GIVE you your requested book for the purpose of acquiring reviews. A guideline on writing the review is available through the organization. Requests for books for this purpose must be made through me as the contact with O'Reilly.

Here is a short list of books under the project management topic.

The Principles of Project Management, 1st Edition  
By Meri Williams A full color guide for anyone who finds themselves responsible for executing projects and needs some guidance on how to get the job done! [Publish Date: March 2008]


How to Keep Your Boss from Sinking Your Project, 1st Edition  
By Jennifer Greene, Andrew Stellman Like it or not, your project needs management. Yet few good software projects can survive bad management. If you're a programmer on a high-visibility project, this PDF offers five principle guidelines for managing upward .[Publish Date: June 2006]

Microsoft Project 2007: The Missing Manual, 1st Edition  
By Bonnie Biafore Microsoft Project 2007 helps users control the variables on any project, big or small -- such as schedules, budgets, communications, and changes -- rather than be controlled by them. [Publish Date: August 2007]

Making Things Happen, 1st Edition  
By Scott Berkun In the updated edition of this critically acclaimed and bestselling book, Microsoft insider Scott Berkun offers a collection of essays on field-tested philosophies and strategies for defining, leading, and managing projects. [Publish Date: March 2008]

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When you join Cheetah's 2-PDU of the Month Club, you receive a monthly e-mail telling you that your new, 2-PDU course is activated and available from your My Cheetah page. Access the course content for six weeks, then simply pass an online quiz with a 70% grade (in three tries) to earn your PDUs. So join our 2-PDU of the Month Club today for \$49 per month (you can cancel at any time) and increase your knowledge, improve your skills, learn about the hot topics in PM each month—and earn 2 PDUs. Your 60 PDUs for recertification delivered—on a silver platter. Register today at [www.cheetahlearning.com/landing\\_2PDU.htm](http://www.cheetahlearning.com/landing_2PDU.htm).

For more information about Cheetah's Project Management programs, career counseling or to register for a course, contact Jean Steinhilber at [jean.steinhilber@cheetahlearning.com](mailto:jean.steinhilber@cheetahlearning.com) or call (888) 659-2013.



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The Central Mass Chapter of PMI is a professional association serving the Central Massachusetts area promoting the practice of project management, "Making project management indispensable for business results."™

