



# PMI DVC CONNECT

October 2023, Volume 2, Issue 9

## From the Marketing and Communications Team and Editor

Welcome to the October Issue of our Chapter's newsletter, *PMI-DVC Connect!*

In this issue, we announce the results of our 2024 Chapter Elections, the PMI-DVC's Volunteer of the Year and the return of Agile Kaffeeklatsch. We also seek volunteers for the upcoming Future Cities Competition. As per usual, we'll share details about upcoming events, educational resources like certification exam prep dates, and celebrate Chapter members who achieved important milestones.

Newsletter Editorial Team: Rich Lobron, Kelly Stoner, Nancy Berger, Kaitlyn Luboff, and Abey Abraham.

Support the PMI-DVC by following us on social media and engaging with the posts.



You can always find a listing of upcoming chapter events on our [website homepage](#). Here are a few events happening soon!

<p><b>PMINJ - Career Fair</b> Friday October 20, 2023</p>	<p>\$5 for members / \$10 for non-members <a href="#">Read More &gt;&gt;</a></p>
<p><b>Returning: Agile Kaffeeklatsch</b> Every Thursday, 12:30pm ET, starting October 19, 2023</p>	<p>Free</p>

<p><b>Project Mastery with AI: Tools of Tomorrow</b></p> <p>Tuesday October 24, 2023</p>	<p>Free</p> <p><a href="#">Read More &gt;&gt;</a></p>
<p><b>International Project Management Day</b></p> <p>Thursday November 2, 2023</p>	<p>\$89 to register</p> <p>use the discount code provided on the event page!</p> <p><a href="#">Read More &gt;&gt;</a></p>
<p><b>CAPM Exam Prep Study Group</b></p> <p>Mondays and Wednesdays from November 6, 2023 - December 13, 2023</p>	<p>Free for members / \$25 for non-members</p> <p><a href="#">Read More &gt;&gt;</a></p>
<p><b>PMP Exam Prep Study Group</b></p> <p>Tuesdays and Thursdays from November 7, 2023 - December 14, 2023</p>	<p>Free for members / \$25 for non-members</p> <p><a href="#">Read More &gt;&gt;</a></p>



[Sign up today](#) to help at the upcoming Philadelphia Future City Competition!

PMI-DVC is a sponsor of the [Philadelphia Future City Competition and Engineering Fair](#) which is a project-based learning non-profit competition for middle school students. Volunteering at the Future City Engineering Fair is one of the most fun ways you can earn PDUs in the Giving Back category.

**When:**  
 Saturday, October 21, 2023;  
 Set up starts at 7:30 AM and most  
 volunteers are done by 11:30 AM.

**Where:**  
 SAP America  
 3999 West Chester Pike  
 Newtown Square, PA.

**What to expect:** The Engineering Fair consists of a Moving Parts Workshop (the model cities have at least one moving part), an Exhibition Hall where organizations including

PMI-DVC have a table, some demos, and some bling for students, and a speaker who addresses the Engineering Challenge for the year.

This year the engineering challenge is: *Design a 100% electrically powered city with energy generated from sources that keep your citizens and the environment healthy and safe.*

The Future City Engineering Fair is in urgent need of a few more volunteers. Please [register here](#) and show up on Saturday, 10/21.

[Learn More](#). If you need more information, contact Ken Golkin, [kgolkin@pmi-dvc.org](mailto:kgolkin@pmi-dvc.org).

## Announcing the Results of the 2024 Board Elections

The elections for the Chapter's Board of Directors for 2024 were completed this month.

As a result we have a new member of the Board - Kaitlyn Luboff, who has been a mainstay in the ongoing production of our Monthly Chapter newsletter. In addition, the election provided the continuation of Board services by Ken Golkin, our Executive Vice President and Rich Lobron, the Vice President of Marketing and Communications for the Chapter. The New Officers of the Board will be selected and presented to the membership shortly.



## News from the DEI Team

***Priya Rajagopalan, DVC DEI director***

During September we focused on the topic of fostering Belonging.

As Project Management Professionals, creating a sense of belonging is critical to the success of the team, the project, and our professional careers.

The DEI team had the pleasure of hosting Christopher "CJ" Gross, an international organizational development consultant, author, and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion speaker at a recent event, on September 21. During the virtual Ways of Working event, CJ talked about "Creating a Culture of Belonging in Project Management".

CJ made the difficult topic of belonging very interesting, with this easy delivery and conversation style and relatable examples to understand what belonging is. Inclusion is being invited to join; belonging is achieved when people feel they are part of the group.

It was interesting to learn about brain science; fast brain and slow brain, bridging and bonding to achieve belonging in a team, a workplace. I took away very practical and actionable approaches to apply the concepts and foster belonging in the workplace as did the attendees based on some of the feedback we received.



*In October, continuing the theme of Belonging, we are soliciting your input about DEIB!*

The DEI team would like to know the diversity in our member base, and understand your interests and needs to establish the DEIB programming baseline.

Please be on the lookout for an email inviting you to complete a short anonymous survey in October (please check your spam and junk folders).

It should take about 5 minutes of your time, request you to please respond at your earliest.

Thanks in advance for your time and input. This will prove to be invaluable to us as we strive to tailor DEI programming to the interests and needs of our members.

Happy Fall to you all!

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## Celebrating Diversity, Strengthening a Culture of Belonging

**By: L'Tanya Reyes**

October is a month of multiple observances of global and national concerns, and sources of pride for several cultures and individuals. A few examples are Global Diversity Awareness Month, National Disability Employment Awareness Month, Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and National Polish American Heritage Month.

A Project Manager can demonstrate they care about diversity and are committed to creating an inclusive environment and fostering a sense of belonging by acknowledging and honoring special observances. The awareness months provide an opportunity to educate and share experiences leading to greater understanding, respect, and empathy among team members.

Examples of activities to bridge our experiences, cultures, and visions:

- Organize a cultural fair to allow team members to share their heritages and experiences.
- Attend cultural events in your community.
- Diversity and inclusion training for your team.

- Promoting awareness of health and cancer screenings and resources.
- Raising funds for a specific cause or activity.
- Host a speaker to educate team members on the value and importance of history and culture.
- Support minority-owned business products and services.
- Promote awareness of mental health resources in your company and community.

<b>October 9</b>	<b>Indigenous Peoples' Day</b> celebrates and honors the immense contributions of Indigenous Peoples, and commemorates their history and culture.
<b>October 10</b>	<b>World Mental Health Day</b> unites people and communities to increase knowledge, raise awareness, and drive actions that promote and protect everyone's mental health as a universal human right.
<b>October 14</b>	<b>Defender of Ukraine Day</b> honors and pays tribute to all those who have fought and continue to fight for the independence of Ukraine.
<b>October 17</b>	<b>Spirit Day</b> aims to create awareness for the bullying and harassment the L.G.B.T.Q. community experiences.

Recognizing and celebrating these events can create a more inclusive and supportive work environment for all team members. Please share other ways you and your project team celebrate and acknowledge diversity, equity, and inclusion in your workplace.



For more information on all of the Chapter course offerings on CAPM, Foundations and PMP and to register (once registration is open) go to: <https://pmi-dvc.org/earn-certifications-overview>



## Current Postings

The Chapter offers members a listing of open positions posted by recruiters or companies seeking Project Managers, Program Managers, Portfolio Managers, or similar roles. The positions are posted for 30 days only. Log in to access the [Job Board](#).

## Did You Know?

The Job Posting Board Team offers a semi-regular Newsletter, Career Connection: <https://pmi-dvc.org/career-advice-features>.

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## From PMI-DVC's AI Interest Group

Did you catch the exciting update from PMI's President & CEO, [Pierre Le Manh's recent announcement](#) on LinkedIn? It's all about PMI's Strategic Initiative, PMIXAI, and how it's going to revolutionize the way we approach project management.

In this and future newsletters, we're going to show you how you can dive right into this AI-driven transformation journey with these actionable steps:

### **Step 1: Enhance Your Skills with Generative AI**

Start your journey by enrolling in [Generative AI: Overview for Project Managers](#) - A free online course, developed this summer with professionals from our PMI Global community. Not only will you gain valuable insights, but you will also earn 5 PDUs to boost your professional development.

### **Step 2: Get AI-Ready with the [AI Resource Hub](#)**

The AI Resource Hub, titled AI Impact: Transforming the Future of Projects is your go-to source for content, resources, and insights on how to harness the power of AI. Whether it's for your projects, your teams, or your career, this hub has you covered. It's time to embrace AI as a game-changer!

### **Step 3: [Project Mastery with AI Tools](#) - Birds of a Feather Event**

Register for and mark your calendars for an exciting event, hosted by PMI-DVC's Frank Recknagel. Join us on Tuesday, October 24, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm. Please note the date change from October 10th to the 24th. This event is not only enriching but also offers 2 PDUs, and best of all, it's completely free!

### **Step 4: PMI-DVC's AI Interest Group Upcoming - Birds of a Feather Events**

Mark these dates on your calendars! Details to follow on PMI-DVC's Event Calendar.

**Tuesday, November 14, 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm**

PMI-DVC's AI Interest Group will take you on a tour of our collective "AI Resource Guide" to date. What a great chance to start building your toolbox!

**Thursday, December 7, 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm**

[Kim Essendrup, CEO of RAIDLOG.com](#) and co-host of the [Project Management Happy Hour Podcast](#) will host this event. RAIDLOG (Risks | Assumptions | Issues | Decisions) incorporates AI into its platform and helps identify risks and provide mitigation strategies. RAIDLOG can identify 75% of a project's risks with one click and in minutes saving you and your team hours.

### **Step 5: Connect with PMI-DVC's AI Interest Group**

Are you passionate about AI projects, or perhaps you're already involved in them? Reach out to Ken Golkin, [kgolkin@pmi-dvc.org](mailto:kgolkin@pmi-dvc.org) if you want to join PMI-DVC's AI Interest Group. Share your experiences, network with fellow project managers, and take your AI journey to the next level.

These actionable steps are your gateway to embracing AI and unlocking its potential for your project work, your teams, and your career. Don't miss out on this opportunity to stay at the forefront of project management innovation!

Stay tuned for more exciting updates from PMI-DVC, and remember, the future of project management is AI-powered!



## Announcing the Volunteer of the YEAR!

The PMI Delaware Valley Chapter Volunteer of the Year was announced during the October 12th Volunteer Appreciation Dinner in Newtown Square.

The volunteer selected for this honor was Suzanne Dreitlein, who has been responsible for the remarkable resurgence of the Chapter's presence in Social Media outlets. Suzanne's invaluable support of the Chapter's activities is deeply appreciated.



## PMI-DVC - ILL ADVANTAGE PROGRAM

The October Newsletter from our partner, International Institute for Learning is now available and includes...

- International Project Management Day (live day is November 2, streaming access through February 5, 2024)
- *Mastering Hybrid Approaches for Projects* 50% discount (*offer ends October 15*)
- Brand New Free White Paper by Dr. Harold Kerzner
- Additional discounts off On-Demand Courses of the Month
- [Find out more](#)







*Each month, we recognize members who have reached important milestones. Congratulations to each of you, and “Welcome” to those of you who are new.*

## New Members – Welcome to the 45 New Members who joined the Chapter in SEPTEMBER 2023

Linda Borenstein, Jacob Cancel, Hallie Black, Shay El malhi, Maliha Muneer, Vimal Vincent, Michael Arevalo, Arundeeep Singh, Scarlet Matos, Angela Guldin, Lorenzo Smith, Matthew Tkacik, Rashi Thakur, Eric Marsh, Michele Burke, Anita Arunachalam, Samantha Acton, Tyler McNair, Stacie Maheurin, Puneet Lal Gupta, Lucille Alexander, Samara Washington, Ashley Bottari, Laura Clagett, Cortney Nicholas Gould, Suni Watkins, Joseph Petracco, Georgios Dourtmes, Michael Sturgis, Joanne Forsythe, David Reyes, Marichelle Rocha, Anusha Pavuluri, Becky Rivera-Pagan, Todd Selby, Michael Locurcio, Carole Marie Smyth, JAN OTT, Sarah Telson, GEORGE WELLS, Jeff Bethea, Prateek Bajpai, Melissa Hofmann, Allison Redfield, and Janet Harrison.

## Congratulations

### Member Certifications:

- Congratulations to our newest Certificate holders who achieved certifications in September 2023:
  - [CAPM](#) - Theresa Garcia
  - [CD-MC](#) - Sharon Weiss
  - [OTF](#) - Lauri Accardi, Lucas Temperan Gomez
  - [OTI](#) - Lucas Temperan Gomez
  - [PMI-ACP](#) - David Plunkett
  - [PMP](#) – Benjamin Eduful, Vimal Vincent, Rohit Vijayakumar, Michael Arevalo, Scott Kloss, Carrie Reininger, Meera Ponnappa, Puneet Lal Gupta, Valerie Mallon, Julie Edwards, Jessica Mergen, Kathleen Carr, Femi Olanipekun

## Member Anniversaries:

- Congratulations to our members who celebrated Chapter membership anniversaries in September 2023:
  - 20 Years – John Pando
  - 15 Years – Kristin Davis, Jamie Yates, John Kowalski, Mindy Clearfield, Elizabeth Brock, LaVonne France.
  - 10 Years – Jeffrey Heavener, Julie Jones, Melissa Bosak, Paulina Anderson-Dinitz
  - 5 Years – Vijay Veeramachaneni, Lisa Albertson, Kimberly Whitby, Adam Mariano, Sheane Diehl, Corinne Farneti, Kyle James, Erwin Stielow, susan beauchamp, Maria Della Valle, Ann Keane, Rebecca Stout, Tiwaun Portis, Akira Saitoh, Michael Harding, susan beauchamp, Jeanette Thompson, Peter Alberti, Cory Will, Daniel Petrillo, Garrett Gee, Jake McFarland

## Special Thanks to our Sponsors and Educational Partners

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### Gold Sponsors



### Educational Partners



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## 2023 Annual Plan Goals

*Increase membership in PMI and the Chapter*

*Promote Educational Outreach & Support Professional Development*

*Build lasting relationships through Volunteerism*

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