



## President's Message

Dear PMI Tallahassee Members and Friends,

As the leaves begin to change and the temperature drops, I'd like to take a moment to appreciate the importance of change and transformation. I am proud to say that our chapter has hosted insightful workshops, engaging webinars, and networking events that have allowed us to stay at the forefront of project management trends.

As we look ahead, I am excited to share some key initiatives and events that we have planned for the coming months:

***Invitation for Sponsors:*** We have embarked on a fresh initiative to secure sponsors for funding PMI events and chapter meetings. As a sponsor, you'll gain a platform to present your company and hiring needs. Moreover, depending on your sponsor tier, you may enjoy complimentary access to our chapter meetings. For more information, please contact our board, at [pmiboard@pmith.org](mailto:pmiboard@pmith.org).

***Professional Development Workshops:*** We will be organizing a series of workshops and webinars featuring industry experts and thought leaders. These sessions will provide valuable insights, tools, and techniques to enhance your project management skills.

***PMI Tallahassee 20th Anniversary:*** We are excited to announce that plans are well underway for our anniversary celebration, Mark your calendars for Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup> from 5pm to 9pm!

I am excited about the opportunities the future holds. We will continue to expand our educational offerings, provide valuable resources, and create a supportive community for project management professionals in the Tallahassee area. I encourage all members to actively participate, share their expertise, and help shape the direction of our chapter.

I also want to express my gratitude to the hardworking volunteers who make PMI Tallahassee the thriving community it is today. Your dedication is truly commendable, and we couldn't achieve our goals without your contributions. Thank you once again for your dedication and support. I look forward to working with all of you in the months ahead.

Warm regards,

*Shajil K Kalathil*

PMI TLH President

## Board Election Results

Thank you for all who voted in the PMITLH online election process and for all the candidates who ran for office. The chapter is stronger because of your participation.

The election results are:

- **First Vice President - Frank Pugh**
- **VP of Administration - Deidra Jones**
- **VP of Communications - Michelle Webster**

These candidates will serve in their elected board positions beginning January 1, 2024.

Since there were no stated candidates for VP of Programs at the time the ballot began, beginning January 1, 2024, the chapter president will be able to appoint this position. If you have an interest in serving in this capacity, please contact the PMITLH board at [pmiboard@pmith.org](mailto:pmiboard@pmith.org).





### Upcoming Chapter Events

#### Learning and Networking: Tallahassee International Airport Expansion 3300 Capital Circle SW October 18 @ 5:30-7pm

The Project Manager for the expansion of the Tallahassee International Airport, Heather Nelson, PMP, will familiarize attendees with how she is managing this large-scale project. [Register here](#) and receive 1 PDU for attending this amazing (and FREE) learning & networking event!



#### Book Club: *Start with Why*, by Simon Sinek Eastside Public Library

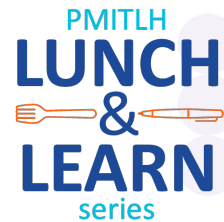
November 14 @ 6-8pm

[Register here](#) to join the PMI TLH book club for our final book and receive 1.5 PDUs for attending this FREE event! If you have questions, please feel free to contact Lisa Cashulette directly at [Lcash2005@comcast.net](mailto:Lcash2005@comcast.net) using the subject line *PMI Book Club*.



#### Lunch & Learn: Energy Leadership Virtual November 16 @ 12-1pm

Karen Schnur will share the **Energy Leadership Index™**, the seven levels of energy, and how you can harness your energy for increased success and happiness, both professionally and personally! [Register here](#).



### 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

Where were you and what were you doing in late 2002? Sixty newly chartered members of the Tallahassee chapter of PMI braved inclement weather to meet for the first time on December 9, 2002.

To celebrate that meeting and our official recognition as a chapter in February 2003, we are celebrating our 20th anniversary as a local chapter. Come and enjoy food and drink provided by La Florida, network with colleagues, and hear from past presidents and founding members on the history and growth of our organization.



**December 8, 2023, from 5-9 pm**  
TCC Center for Innovation  
300 W Pensacola St., Tallahassee  
Parking is available at Kleman Plaza



To support our local community and our mission of Giving Back, we are asking attendees to bring a gift or gift card to benefit the Guardian ad Litem Holiday Gift Drive. The event is free but limited to 100 attendees. Don't miss out! Event registration is open! Follow this link to register → [20th Anniversary Registration](#). Come and Celebrate!



### Congratulations to Chapter Member Joseph Flanders!



Joseph was recently awarded a PMI scholarship to continue his pursuit of a degree in project management! Over 350 people applied for one of 19 scholarships and Joseph was awarded a Dr. Harold Kerzner scholarship.

Joseph joined the Tallahassee PMI chapter and went beyond simply joining the group and attending meetings virtually. He drove **two hours** from Valdosta, Georgia to Tallahassee to attend meetings and networking events in person, meeting others, asking questions, and seeking mentorship.

Earlier this year Joseph volunteered to speak to a group of students at Valdosta State University about project management and why he is pursuing it as a career. Joseph shared that he had not done a lot of public speaking and was nervous but accepted the challenge to step outside his comfort zone. He did an outstanding job. In fact, the professor has asked him to join a virtual discussion with students this summer in a project management class being offered.

He is already embracing “Giving Back” to the community and others as he seeks to increase his project management knowledge and experience. He has been a welcome member of the Tallahassee chapter and represents the next generation of project managers.

This is another benefit and opportunity provided by your membership in PMI. Are you ready to take the next step in your project management journey? The PMI scholarship program offers a unique opportunity to fuel your aspirations. Learn how to secure your chance for one of the prestigious awards for 2024.

The scholarship application cycle for 2024 will open in March. Whether you're a passionate student or a dedicated professional, the PMI scholarships are designed to foster growth and innovation.

Discover the steps to success by visiting the dedicated page on how to apply for scholarships in 2024. You will find information from eligibility criteria to the application process.

[Learn more about the application process](#)

### PMI TLH In The Wild – TalTech Annual Conference

Three Board members were able to attend the Tallahassee Technology (TalTech) annual conference, a vibrant event showcasing excellent collaboration opportunities and fostering valuable networking connections. With participants spanning various industries, including government, the private sector, and educational institutions, the conference serves as a dynamic platform for sharing insights and innovations in the rapidly evolving technology landscape. Lonna Peterson (VP of Volunteers) and Karen Scott (Past President) excitedly served on a panel discussion to discuss the local PMI chapter and all it has to offer the community while Deidra Jones (VP of Administration) supported from the audience.





### Guardian ad Litem Holiday Gift Drive

As part of our Giving Back mission, we are supporting the Guardian ad Litem Holiday (GAL) Gift Drive to benefit abused, neglected, and abandoned children in Franklin, Gadsden, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, and Wakulla counties. The drive will take place in November with donations being collected at locations around Tallahassee, culminating at our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration on December 8<sup>th</sup>. We are asking everyone that attends that event to bring a gift or gift card.

We will deliver items brought to our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary event to GAL for their distribution.

If you have an office or location that can accept donations, please contact Lonna Peterson at [vpvol@pmith.org](mailto:vpvol@pmith.org) or 850-264-4897. Guardian ad Litem volunteers will pick items at your collection location on December 7<sup>th</sup>.



#### Suggested Gifts

<b>Activity Mat</b> <b>Blankets</b> <b>Teething Toys</b> <b>New Stuffed Animals</b> <b>Puppets</b> <b>Stroller Walker</b> <b>Art/ Musical Toys</b> <b>Tricycles/ Riding Toys</b> <b>Leap Frog/ V-Tech systems</b> <b>New Stuffed Animals</b> <b>Puzzles</b>	<b>Baby Dolls and Accessories</b> <b>Disney Jr Stuff</b> <b>Creative Play Toys</b> <b>Play Kitchen</b> <b>Activity Sets</b> <b>Bikes/ Scooters</b> <b>Lego Sets</b> <b>Board Games</b> <b>Princess Items</b> <b>My Little Pony Items</b> <b>Barbies</b>	<b>Cloth Dolls</b> <b>Push/ Ride-On Toy</b> <b>Little People Set</b> <b>Board Books</b> <b>Books</b> <b>Animal Toys</b> <b>Science Kits</b> <b>Trains</b> <b>Remote Control Cars</b> <b>Diapers and Wipes</b> <b>Developmental Toys</b>
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#### GIFTS WE CANNOT ACCEPT

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Toy Guns</li> <li>• Toy Swords/ Knives</li> <li>• GI Joe Toys</li> <li>• Wrestling Toys</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Used Toys/ Clothing</li> <li>• Pop Guns/ Water Guns</li> <li>• Make-Up</li> <li>• Costumes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mature Rated Toys/ Video Games</li> <li>• Graphic Music and Books</li> <li>• Sling Shots</li> <li>• Boxing Gloves</li> </ul>
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- Please **DO NOT** wrap gifts.
- Teens will receive a gift card(s) valued at \$100. We recommend a gift card valued at \$100 or in denominations of \$25 from stores like Target, Kohls, Walmart, etc.



## Board Member Spotlight

### Meet our Vice President of Membership, Troy Gilyard!



Troy was raised in Quincy, Florida, and has been a resident of Tallahassee for 17 years. Troy has 28 years of Government and Private Sector experience. He has been managing projects, programs, and contracts for over 15 years.

Troy is currently a Senior Program Manager for GuideWell Source leading their Business Continuity Program and Asset Management Programs. He participates in and helps lead IT related projects and Disaster Recovery Exercises and trainings. Troy also serves as backup to the Director of Corporate Services and Risk Management on the Emergency Response Team (ERT), and Enterprise Operations Committee (EOC).

Prior to joining GuideWell Source, Troy was a Business Operations Manager/Project Manager for FBMC Benefits Management Inc. where he managed corporate projects, technology vendor contracts, IT projects, the Emergency Response Plan, Business Continuity Plan, the Disaster Recovery Plan, and managed all Assets for the organization.

Troy has also served as Program Manager for the Florida Office of the Attorney General where he provided project planning, contract management, daily oversight, advisory and leadership for the National Conference on Preventing Crime, and the Human Trafficking Summit Programs. Troy is also an Adjunct Instructor for the Tallahassee Community College, an OPS Special Agent for the Florida Lottery, a retired Police Captain from the Quincy Police Department, and a veteran of the United States Air Force.

Troy has an MBA from Columbia Southern University, a Project Management Professional Certification (PMP) from Project Management Institute, a Certified Business Continuity Professional (CBCP) from the Disaster Recovery Institute, a Florida Certified Contract Manager (FCCM) from the State of Florida, and a Law Enforcement Certification from the State of Florida.

## Membership Minute

### New PMI Certifications

**Congrats to our newest PMI certification holders!** Jeffrey Munn, PMI-ACP; Kathryn Nelson, PMP; Elliott Fitzgerald, PMP; Antonio Davis, PMP

### New Chapter Members

**Welcome to our newest chapter members!** Jaime Briggs, Elliott Fitzgerald, Sharonda Perkins-Davis, Charles Buterbaugh, Laurie Williams, Christopher Sella, Rose Alexandre, Jean Calixte, Ruth Brandvik, Lisa Graganella, Melanie Hooley, Nicole Acosta, John O'Neil, David Norton, James Hines, Charles Barber, Justin Hughes, Tavares Lowery

### Join PMI Tallahassee Chapter with a complimentary membership!

The [Guest Pass Program](#) covers the cost of chapter membership for the remainder of your PMI membership cycle. For more information, please email [vpmemb@pmith.org](mailto:vpmemb@pmith.org)

## CONNECT with PMI Tallahassee!

*Follow us on social media for news, upcoming events & job postings!*