



President's Message

Dear Tallahassee PMI Members,

Very recently we had the sad duty of informing the Tallahassee PMI Chapter members and friends about the loss of Shajil Kalathil, our President. In composing that message, and through multiple conversations with members and friends alike, we confirmed a strong consensus that Shajil's most significant contribution to our cause was his commitment to service. In his honor, we want to make this contribution a lasting chapter legacy. We are doing this by creating the Shajil Kalathil Commitment to Service Award. This yearly award will be given to the PMI Tallahassee Chapter member who best exemplifies and carries on Shajil's commitment to service to our profession, chapter and the community at large. This award will confer a donation to a non-profit cause of the winner's choice, and a place in the public record of so honored members (via our Website and a publishable e-certificate.)

We have also decided that the theme of our next chapter meeting will be "Commitment to Service." Per our by-laws, we will deliver a short progress report on our chapter's efforts to serve the project management community in the local and surrounding area. Also consistent with service, we will formally announce the candidates for the four open Board seats, kicking off the 2024 elections. The open Board seats are VP of Membership, VP of Volunteers, VP of Finance, and VP of Professional Development. The candidates will have an opportunity to address our membership with their vision of how their office and associated committees would carry forward volunteer work over their terms. As an outcome of the elections, the successful candidates will be our future volunteer Board members for the next two years.

Finally, we will conduct a round table discussion amongst several Tallahassee super-volunteers who inspire us with their vision of giving back to the community. We have many such volunteers who live among us and engage in countless hours of unpaid philanthropic service. Their reward is the certain satisfaction of doing good work for their community, and the realization that helping those in need is a high calling indeed. Their message is one of universal giving back, not just to the ones closest to us, but also to those who are in need and are often not seen and not heard. There are also volunteers who provide services to the community at large, filling a gap where private industry and government lacks the motivation or resources. We find these volunteers in community theaters, art galleries, libraries, hospitals, and city and county supported recreation and activity centers. They staff crisis call centers, run addiction recovery programs, help people fill out applications and tax forms, and comfort those who have lost loved ones.

We know that many of you are time crunched and cannot attend in person. This meeting will be an extraordinary one and we would love to see you on our teleconference. For the opportunity to waive the virtual event fee, read the article about our diaper drive!

~Your PMI TLH Board



Upcoming Chapter Events

Annual Chapter Business Meeting, Board Election Kickoff & Professional Development

Our annual business meeting includes the kick-off for our board elections, as well as other updates regarding the state of the chapter, followed by our Commitment to Service roundtable.

October 7 @ 5:30pm-7:30pm

In-Person at Parkview at Cascades & Virtual

[Registration open now!](#)



Professional Development: WoW Bake Off

National High Magnetic Field Lab

October 19 @ 9am-3pm

Please join us for a day of games and learning in our Way of Working (WoW) Bake off where we will bring together professionals from many different backgrounds to compete and and have fun. Subjects covered in game formats will include ways of working (predictive vs. adaptive), change management, risk planning and more.. [Register here!](#)



Book Club Series: Culture Code

Bruce J Host Northeast Branch Library or Virtual

November 14 @ 6pm-7:30pm

Please join us for our second **hybrid** book club meeting of the year. The Culture Code by Daniel Coyle explores how highly successful groups are the deliberate result of a conscious effort to tap into the motivating factors of culture and shared values. As always, we encourage but do not require that you read the book. Come join us and be prepared to discuss and learn. [Register here!](#)

PMITLH



Book Club Series

Cast Your Vote: 2024 Board Elections – October 7-17

October 7 kicks off our annual board election process. Candidates will have the opportunity to address the chapter at our October 7 chapter annual business meeting, and all chapter members will receive an emailed electronic ballot from PMI on that date. Voting will be open through midnight Oct. 17. Please check your email and spam folder.

Please vote! Your participation in our chapter election is important!





Giving Back: Calling All Volunteers!

Diaper Drive

Did you know that September 23-29 is Diaper Needs Awareness Week?

In 2021 we collected a MOUNTAIN of diapers and wipes. It's time to do it again and exceed our previous collection of over 18,000 diapers and 26,000 wipes!!



Our Diaper Drive is kicking off to benefit the babies and toddlers of Leon and other counties served by Guardian Ad Litem and the WEE Diaper Bank. We need volunteers to place a flyer or collection box at your office, church, or local business. Let's canvas the city!

And as our thanks, we are waving the virtual event fee for the October meeting to those who make a contribution to the diaper drive. Make your contribution using the QR code to the right, then use I-DONATED as a coupon code when registering at www.pmitlh.org.

NOTE: You must have the PayPal app downloaded onto your phone;



Military Outreach Committee

Separately, we have a group forming a Military Outreach committee.

If you'd like to join either group, or have any questions, please contact Lonna Peterson (vpvol@pmitlh.org).

This is your chance to practice your project management skills and do something great for the community!

Big Bend Crime Solvers Golf Tournament

The Big Bend Crime Solvers are hosting their inaugural golf tournament on October 11, 2024, at Hilaman Golf Course in Tallahassee, Florida. They are seeking volunteers to assist with various tasks, including event setup, registration, greeting guests, spotters, scoring, and awards, along with other behind-the-scenes support. If you'd like to get involved, please contact Tammy Anderson at steelehop@yahoo.com.



Committee Spotlight

This month we're highlighting the PMI TLH Tech Committee!

The Technology Committee serves the information technology needs of the PMI Tallahassee chapter board and members. The committee was created to pool technical talents from volunteer members, amplify chapter technology capabilities, and create a deeper bench for coverage and succession. The technical landscape for our chapter has evolved into a more complex enterprise with mature web event management, adaptive email and chapter data management functions. Our team brings diverse capabilities and perspectives to issue management as well as solution design, development, and implementation. All of us have system administration as well as requirements analysis and testing experience. Above all, we keep our eye on what our members need in the moment, and on the horizon. Below is a brief bio for our current four committee members:

Aaron Chern



Aaron Chern has over 15 years experience working for the State of Florida in hardware and software support, contract management and external web communications. He is eager to continue honing his project management skills while collaborating with team members to implement project management software, streamline communication tools, and ensure smooth operations for club initiatives.

CK (Chandrakanth Nagaraj)



CK has been a Tallahassee resident since 2009. He has been working for Florida state agencies and currently serves the Florida Department of Health as a Lead Applications Analyst. With over 20 years of experience in the IT field, CK is on the Tech Committee because he loves contributing to the community—it gives him a sense of fulfillment and allows him to connect with great people. Being part of this team lets CK use his skills in a meaningful way, while also learning and growing alongside others who share the same passion for making a difference.



Committee Spotlight (cont'd)

Frank Pugh



Frank Pugh, First VP, chairs the Technology Committee for the PMI Tallahassee chapter. Frank has spent most of his career on data management projects of one sort or another. As such, he sees the committee as an opportunity to put that experience to work in providing the best Web, Email and A/V (and more) services to our members. We employ many of the way of working (WoW) techniques and tools that PMI champions (e.g., we use a Kanban board). In the coming months, we plan to bring improvements to the registration process and also to give our Website a fresh new look featuring local architecture and the beautiful flora and fauna from our area.

David Davis



David Davis has been an active member of the PMI Tallahassee chapter since 2009, holding various leadership positions, including VP Communications, First VP, President, and Past President, and currently serves on the Tech Committee as the chapter's webmaster. He is an accomplished project management professional with broad experience across project management, system administration, and software development. Davis has successfully led complex initiatives across multiple industries, including healthcare IT, transportation, law enforcement, finance, and insurance, focusing on team management, application development, and infrastructure management and deployment. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and certifications as a Project Management Professional (PMP) and Certified Scrum Master (CSM).

Membership Minute

New PMI Certifications

Congrats to our newest PMI certification holders! Sophie Perlmutter, PMP; Megan Dicks, PMP; Christina Keyser, PMP; Preetha Gurusankar, PMP; Patricia Atchley, PMP; Scott Fennell, PMP; Jessica Rogers, PMP; Jonathan Ouzts, ECC; Tracy Newsome, PMP; Keenan Jenkins, PMP; Eric Mason, DASM

New Chapter Members

Welcome to our newest chapter members! Senthilkumar Kandampalayam, Michael Braun, Preetha Gurusankar, Charles Guy, Craig Doyle, Stephanie Fish, Sherry Pappas, Lisa Strauss, Brittaney Katz, Winston Maxwell

CONNECT with PMI Tallahassee!

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