

CPM TENNESSEE VALLEY (CPMTV) CHAPTER QUARTERLY MEETING – MARCH 3, 2015

By Norman Dean

The CPMTV chapter held its spring quarterly meeting on Tuesday, March 3 in Huntsville, Alabama. Over 20 individuals attended the meeting with representation from industry, government and education. The meeting was graciously hosted by ClearPlan and Defense Acquisition University (DAU) with ClearPlan providing speakers and refreshments and DAU providing the meeting space at their training facility. The meeting was emceed by Bob Wasser of BCF Solutions with presentations by Josh Garvey, Brad Duval, and Jon Fleming.

Bob Wasser welcomed everyone to the meeting, discussed CPMTV being incorporated into the national chapter and encouraged those in attendance to consider volunteering for CPMTV officer positions. Bob also asked for sponsors and speakers for future meetings and stated that potential speaker topics can be from a wide variety of program management fields.

Josh Garvey, President of ClearPlan, began the meeting with an enlightening presentation entitled “The Art of Planning” in which he discussed successful project management from a planner’s point of view. In his talk Mr. Garvey highlighted 3 keys to successful program planning and emphasized the importance of utilizing a well-crafted integrated master plan and schedule.

John Fleming, Project Management Specialist at NASA’s Marshal Space Flight Center (MSFC), followed with an interesting presentation “The IBR: Your Insurance Policy for a Sound Baseline”. In this presentation Mr. Fleming discussed the purpose of an Integrated Baseline Review (IBR), presented a timeline for the four phases of an IBR, noted the documentation needed to conduct a proper IBR, and gave some useful best-practices and NASA “rules of thumb” from his years of experience with IBRs.

Brad Duval, Program Manager with Northrop Grumman, and Josh Garvey then partnered for an educational talk “Agile Software Development & EVMS”. Highlights of their discussion included giving a brief introduction to Agile SW development, presenting their expert take on managing Agile software development utilizing an Earned Value Management System (EVMS), and summarizing the latest industry and government discussion on this topic.

Bob Wasser wrapped up the meeting by thanking the presenters, ClearPlan, and DAU. He also reminded meeting attendees to let himself or Julie Curns know if they are interested in speaking at or sponsoring a future CPMTV meeting.

The next CPMTV quarterly meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 2nd from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and is being sponsored by Deltek. More details will follow.