

Presidents Corner

Surveys.... So what good are they?

Have you ever asked that question? I know I have. Sometimes I get the feeling that I am being surveyed every which way. Recently your board sent out its annual survey which gives us input for planning the next year. First of all I would like to say thanks to all the brave souls that took the time to answer the questions and send the survey back. The data provided was invaluable for us as we plan around your preferences. This year we learned that Wednesday afternoon continues to be the best time for meetings. Personal development ranked the highest for programs that our members would like to see, so you can expect to see some education sections around that issue. It showed us that most of our members have gone to the website with the calendar page the most accessed. Everyone seems to like the newsletter and the positive changes made this past year were noticed and appreciated. The audio seminars new this year does not work for the majority of our members. Wrong time of the day was the main reason. We had some members that have stepped forward this year by volunteering for committee membership. We are very happy to see this as it shows that our members see value in serving as a chapter committee member. As you can tell, we get a lot from the information that is shared. Thank -you to all who took the time to fill the survey out. We will use this information to enhance your experience as a member of the West Michigan Chapter of IFMA. A copy of the entire survey results document can be found at the chapter website <http://www.ifma-wm.org/ChapChat.htm> under West Michigan Chapter News.

Dave Kuiper



A Board Member Moves On

One thing that is constant in life is change. As some of you may have known, our IFMA West Michigan Secretary, John Morrison, was between jobs this summer. Well, he recently found a new position, but it is with a company in Mt. Pleasant. John has moved up there and has been commuting the past several weeks to attend IFMA functions. This has been a little trying for John so he has decided to move to a new IFMA chapter which is closer to home and his new job. John has resigned his Secretary position on the board and will be transferring his membership to the Mid-Michigan Chapter. I think John deserves a special note of "thanks" from the board and the membership for his years of service on the board as Secretary and Treasurer. Good Luck John and stay in touch!



Northern Illinois Offers CFM Review

Each year the Northern Illinois Chapter hosts a CFM Review session for their chapter and other nearby chapters. Their review session is led by Mark Kischner, CFM, the same individual who came to Grand Rapids to lead our CFM Review session. The session will be two consecutive Saturdays, October 30th and November 6th. The cost is \$125 for IFMA West Michigan members. Everyone attending both days will receive a complimentary copy of the CFM handbook and over forty pages of handouts to help with your studying for the CFM exam. The event will be hosted at Sony Corporation in Itasca, IL. For more information contact Mark Kischner at mkischner@comcast.net

Whitecaps Game Recap

The Annual Whitecaps Outing was our featured event in July and we decided to add something special to celebrate...FOOD! This year we arranged reserved seats along with burgers, brats and other refreshments for anyone who attended. It was great! Besides having the reserved seating, we could enjoy the game from the deck on the 1st base side of the field as we enjoyed our "all you can eat" meal. Many members brought family members, giving them the opportunity to meet and greet. Frankly, I can't tell you who won the game, but the evening was enjoyed by all. Thanks to everyone who attended.

Rick VandekerKhoff

Fall Programs Have Started

Can you believe that Fall is already here? I don't remember Summer even showing its' face, do you? Anyway, we did have great weather for our two events this Summer, the Whitecaps Game and the Golf Outing. Our first Fall event was hosted at GRCC ATC on September 15. We held the Appreciation Luncheon for new members and their sponsors as well as an open invitation to all members. 22 members attended and enjoyed a BBQ buffet with some fantastic deserts. After lunch, Dave Kuiper, Chapter President, held the "swearing in" of the four new board members. This is the first time we have officially done this with the membership present. It was then announced that our membership drive, which began in April 2004, has brought in eleven new members, five of which are listed in our Welcome section on Page 3 of the newsletter. As part of the membership drive, those members who sponsored members were eligible for gifts certificates and prizes. We awarded \$10 gift certificates to three members who helped sponsor new members. Those receiving the gift certificates were Bob Mihos, Jill Douglas, and Larry Tebelak.

After the awards, we had a guest speaker talk about Workplace Ergonomics. The guest speaker is a West Michigan Chapter member, Sara Taylor, from Structured Health Resources. She did a fantastic job explaining ergonomics and ways that we can support our end users with the proper tools and training. I work for a furniture manufacturer and thought I knew a lot about ergonomics, but I walked away with a few more ideas for improving my staffs work environment. A great program and well worth attending. Be sure to attend our upcoming October and November events when the details are announced.

Jim Corby

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IFMA Golf Outing a BIG Hit!

Thanks to all who participated in the 2nd annual IFMA West Michigan Golf Outing at beautiful Boulder Creek Golf Club. This year we raised approximately three thousand dollars for the scholarship fund. The weather was awesome and we had 96 golfers attend the outing. There were great prizes both on and off the course and a few "Pink Ladies" were left in the woods. Joe Klein, the 2004 IFMA scholarship recipient, attended the event and gave us a personal "Thank You" message. Its' great to see the efforts in this event helping make a difference. After the outing and the fantastic buffet luncheon, Jeff Holmes, Egypt Valley Country Club Grounds Maintenance, described what it takes to run a PGA event and shared some of his experiences in managing the Champions Tour event.

Thanks to the Golf Committee who put the event together, the hole sponsors and those companies and individuals who donated prizes. Without your support we could not have made this event such a big hit!

To see more spectacular photos of the event or to see the names of our event sponsors, visit our web site at www.ifma-wm.org.

Jill Wendorf and Todd Staskiewicz



The winning team poses for the camera. They look so calm under all that pressure.

New Board Member

As you have heard, John Morrison resigned as Chapter Secretary. A call for volunteers was sent out to the membership and several members stepped forward. After careful consideration, KC Mitchell, CFM from Frederick Meijer Gardens, was appointed as Secretary and will complete John's term which will expire in June 2005.



Welcome to the board KC!

Applied Industrial Ergonomics Seminar

October 26-27, 2004 – Ann Arbor, MI

Humantech's two-day course provides the tools and resources to make simple and effective ergonomic improvements in the industrial environment. The seminar is taught by full-time certified professional ergonomists (CPEs) and emphasizes hands-on problem solving methodologies to recognize, evaluate, and control ergonomic risk. An optional workshop, Awareness Train-the-Trainer, is offered on October 28. Visit www.humantech.com/seminars or call (734) 663-3330 x 222. A 15% discount is offered to IFMA members.

West Michigan Logo Shirts

I saw a few of the shirts on our members at the White Caps game and the golf outing. We also sold a couple at the golf outing too. Show your chapter support and purchase a shirt!.

The shirts are a cotton polo shirt available only in black. The cost is only \$20 per shirt. To order your shirt contact Jim Corby at 616.246.9748 or by email at jcorby@steelcase.com. He'll just need to know the quantity and sizes you would like and then will coordinate payment (check or cash) and delivery.



Welcome New Chapter Members

We are pleased to have you join us and look forward to your involvement and participation in the IFMA West Michigan Chapter:

Robert S. Dial, Delphi Automotive Systems

Bruce Fleisher, Falcon Waterfree Technologies

Doug Glazier, Mobile Air Inc.

Matthew J. Penny, Arrow Restoration

William G Van Skiver, Dan Vos Construction Company

Our Chapter Mission:

The West Michigan Chapter of the International Facility Management Association (IFMA) is a professional association to promote the advancement of the facilities management profession at the local level by providing opportunities for education and creating an environment that encourages its members to share knowledge and experiences.

West Michigan Board 2004-2006

Past President	Wayne Veneklasen	wvenekla@comcast.net
President	Dave Kuiper	dave_kuiper@hermanmiller.com
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Jim Watrous 616.490.4781 or Wayne Veneklasen 616.890.8211

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monthly Meetings & More...

October 13, 2004, 3:30-5:00pm
Location: Grand Rapids Press building in Walker
Topic: Building tour of the new facility

October 17-19, 2004,
Location: Salt Lake City, UT
Topic: World Workplace 2004
(find more details on the IFMA web page ifma.org)

November 17, 2004, 3:30-5:00pm
Location: GRCC-ATC
Topic: TBA

December ??, 2004, TBA
Location: TBA
Topic: Toys for Tots luncheon or dinner

IFMA West Michigan Chapter
7680 Whitburn Dr. SE
Ada, MI 49301

Place Stamp Here

We're on the web!

www.ifma-wm.org