Presidents Corner

Come join the party...

Your West Michigan Chapter of IFMA is joining forces with IFMA national to build our membership. IFMA just announced that it was offering a promotion to its members who bring in people who join. The guidelines are as follows:

Professional Members:
1 new member – Receive a thank you gift and a letter of appreciation
3 new members – Entry into a grand prize drawing for a trip to WWP in Salt Lake City in October 2004
5 new members – a $25.00 gift certificate to the IFMA book store

Associate Members (recruiting professional members)
1 member - Thank-You gift and letter of appreciation
10 members – 3- month vertical banner on the IFMA website
25 new members – Half page full color ad in the Facility Management journal and FMJ on line.
50 new members – One free use of the IFMA mailing list
100 new members – One 10 X 10 booth at the IFMA WWP Expo in Salt Lake City or a sponsorship package.

Your West Michigan chapter is going to sweeten the pot as well. Recruit 1 member and receive a $10 gift card at Rivertown mall. Recruit 2 members and receive a $20 gift card at Rivertown. Recruit 3 members and receive a $20 gift card and an IFMA West Michigan polo shirt. Recruit 5 or more members and receive a $50 gift card from Rivertown along with an IFMA polo shirt. Our intent is to grow the chapter by 20 people, but we can’t do that without you. Plan now to join us for a celebration luncheon to be held in September for the prizes to be awarded.

You can sign up people either on line at http://www.ifma.org or fill out the hard copy available from Marilyn Gould. Let’s make this a great membership campaign.

dave kuiper
**Winter Programs in Review**

We had a cold winter and I’m sure all your utility costs showed the impact. It may have been cold outside, but inside our meetings this Winter things were warming up.

In January we kicked off our LEED education with an introductory level presentation hosted at Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber. Keith Winn, FTC&H, gave an informative presentation on the basics of LEED Certification and the scoring criteria for qualifying as a Green building.

In February we had the pleasure of touring one of West Michigan’s premier LEED certified facilities, Herman Miller’s The Marketplace. Before the tour we were given a fantastic presentation by the project manager, Len Pilon, Director of Workplace Strategy & Facilities at Herman Miller. One of the project architectural firms was West Michigan’s very own Integrated Architecture. A cool building and great educational experience.

The final Winter event was the Annual Awards Banquet at the newly opened DeVos Place Convention Center. The event was co-sponsored by Jones, Lang Lasalle and Earhardt Construction who donated the hors’douvres and room rental. Several awards were presented including: Member of the Year, Jill Wendorp; Associate of the Year, Todd Staskiewicz; Special Achievement Award, Janice Kitchen; and, EverReady Award, Wayne Veneklasen. The final award was the Student Scholarship. The $1500 check was presented to Joe Klein from Ferris State University. After the awards, guest speaker Jim Gray shared stories about the DeVos Place project, of which he was the Owners Representative. As always Jim was quite informative and very entertaining. After the speech, we were given a back-room tour of the facility and learned even more about the Place from the FM who manages the facility, Ken Dahlman.

Rick VandeKerkhoff

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**Spring Events Planned for 2004**

On April 21st we are heading south to visit our members in the Kalamazoo, Battle Creek and Benton Harbor area. Whirlpool Corporation will be hosting a tour of several of their newly remodeled facilities in downtown Benton Harbor. These are in a Renaissance Zone and in the tour all the benefits of such a project will be explained.

May 19th we will be back in Grand Rapids for a panel discussion on Workplace Metrics. In this meeting we will have several well-respected FM’s describe the tools they use to monitor and manage their facilities. This will be a good opportunity to ask questions and learn from other FM’s.

Our June topic has not been finalized as of this newsletter, but based upon last years survey a topic we were asked to focus on is Facility Audits. More information will be provided in early June.

As always, if you’d like to provide a topic, speaker or tour, I’m open for suggestions. Just call or email me!

Rick Vande Kerkhoff
IFMA 2004 Golf Outing is Coming

Get your clubs ready for the 2004 IFMA West Michigan Golf Outing to be held at Boulder Creek Golf Club on Thursday, August 19th with a 7:00 AM registration and 8:00 AM Tee Time.

The 2003 event raised $2,100.00 to fund the student scholarship for Facilities Management. This was also a great networking event as many West Michigan companies participated. Fun was had by all and at least 3 golfers were spotted in the water searching for the “Pink Lady;” she’ll be back again this year so start practicing!

Our goal is to raise $3,500.00 for the student scholarship Facilities Management program; network and have fun. So strap on your golf shoes and join us for 18 Holes of Golf, prizes and lunch. Sponsorships are available and we could use 5 non-golfing volunteers for the day of the event. Registration forms will be mailed in April, you can also find the forms on the IFMA West Michigan web site www.ifma-wm.org. Contact Jill Wendorf 616-262-9517 or Carson Cooper 616-638-4228 if you have any questions.

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:

Kenneth Barnes - Tower Pinkster Titus Associates
Tom Dekker - Huntington National Bank
Jim Faber - Maintenance Resource
Eric Frede - ADAC Plastics Inc.
Jack Freyling - Triangle Associates Inc.
Sara Taylor - Structured Health Resources

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 2003-2005

Past President Wayne Veneklasen wvenekla@comcast.net
President Dave Kuiper dave_kuiper@hermanmiller.com
Secretary John Morrison jmorrison@grofficefurniture.com
VP Finance/Treasurer Mike Johnson michael.johnson@priority-health.com
VP Membership Marilyn Gould mgould@ameritech.net
VP Public Relations Jim Corby jcorby@steelcase.com
VP Programs Rick Vande Kerkhoff richard.vandekerkhoff@gm.com

New West Michigan Logo Shirts

With the chapter adopting a new logo, we had to get new shirts made up to help advertise our support of the chapter. 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.

A great shirt at a great price. Buy one today and show your support of the West Michigan Chapter!

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Jim Watrous 616.490.4781 or Wayne Veneklasen 616.890.8211
Board Member Elections

There will be three board member positions coming up for election in June 2004. All current board members will be running for re-election, but we are open for nominees for these positions:

VP of Membership: Marilyn Gould
VP Programs: Rick Vande Kerkhoff
VP Public Relations: Jim Corby

If you are interested in learning more about the duties involved with these positions or would like to add your name to the ballot, please contact Wayne Veneklasen.

Monthly Meetings

April 21, 2004, 3:30-6:00pm, Kalamazoo or Battle Creek, MI
Topic: Renaissance Zone Projects

May 19, 2004, 3:30-5:00pm, Grand Rapids Community College Applied Technology Center
Topic: Workplace Metrics Panel Discussion

June 16, 2004, 3:30-5:00pm, Grand Rapids Community College Applied Technology Center
Topic: TBA

July 14, 2004, 3:30-5:00pm, 5th/3rd Ballpark
Topic: Whitecaps Game (details to come)

August 19, 2004, 8:00AM - ???, Boulder Creek Golf Club
Topic: 2nd Annual IFMA West Michigan Golf Outing
(find more details on our web page)