**Presidents Corner**

**Take the Time to Write**

This past month, your West Michigan Chapter Board held its annual planning session, an all day meeting at the beautiful Marigold Lodge. The focus of this meeting is to review our accomplishments from last year and compare that to our strategic plan from last year and see if we accomplished what we had hoped. Unfortunately, we can never complete everything on the plan due to other personal and professional commitments, so we take this and other information and build the plans for the next year. We have a few fresh new faces on the board, and everyone pitched in and built a great roadmap for 2006-07.

There are a couple items from the plan that I want to highlight. First, our membership goals are very optimistic. We plan to grow our membership 10% and retain 95% of our current members. With our West Michigan economy, that will be tough, but we need to bring the chapter back to a membership level it has not seen in ten years. To help us achieve membership growth, our VP of Membership and a small committee will be finalizing a chapter marketing video this fall. I hope all of you took the opportunity to contribute a quote to the video. Another important topic we discussed was preparing to nominate our chapter for IFMA Awards of Excellence. In particular, we will look at preparing to nominate the chapter for Chapter Newsletter - Small Chapter, Small Chapter of the Year, and for a repeat on Chapter Web Site - Small Chapter. Lofty aspirations for the year, and they will definitely keep us very busy.

Another important topic in our meetings is the review of the Annual Member Survey. I wish to thank all 67 members who responded...double the response rate from past years! The board reviews ALL your scores and comments and uses this as input to our planning process. One specific use of this feedback is to focus the educational programs and tours. Based upon this year’s feedback, there is a need to host another CFM exam prep course in West Michigan. There were 19 people who responded who asked for this specific educational offering. As in the past, we will plan to host this special event in addition to a monthly educational program or tour. I was pleased to see that so many of our professional members are planning to advance their careers by planning to attain the CFM credential. Look for more details later this year on our web site and in monthly emails, and plan to take the CFM exam in 2007!

Those are a few highlights from our seven-hour board planning session. If you would like to review the member survey results and our annual plan, those documents are available on our web site under the Membership page. Remember, plan for your future as an FM!

Jim Corby, CFM CFMJ

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**Monthly Meetings and More**

**October 18th, Metro Health Center Tour**
Location: North of M-6 on Byron Center Avenue
Time: 4:00pm - 5:30 pm

**November 9th event**:  
Event begins at 6:00 pm, see attached flyer for details. Reduced dinner cost to IFMA members is $12.50.

**December 6th, Toys For Tots Luncheon**
Location: Pietros (28th and Breton, Grand Rapids);  
Time: 11:30pm - 1:00pm, please bring an unwrapped new toy, lunch is free.

Stay tuned for Upcoming 2007 Events from our New Program Chair, Kathy Wischmeyer, Milliken Carpet and committee members: Bob Mihos - Kent County. Matt Larsen - Wolverine Building. Mel DeVries - Century Floorspace
July Whitecaps Baseball Outing - Whitecaps vs. Peoria

It was one of those perfect summer evenings despite the Whitecaps were not the winners - much fun was had by all ages at our annual baseball event. We had great seats together at the second base infield area. The dogs, the brats, and the burgers made-up our picnic dinner—a perfect companion to the evening. We ate on the balcony overlooking the stadium - so didn’t miss a play! This IFMA event is unique because you get to meet "the other half", the spouses, as well as the kids, and friends in a casual setting. Our feature sideline show this year (as we winched in our seats!) was the contortionist squeezing himself into a suitcase. Yikes! Please join us next summer for the fun, the food, and the game.

Did you know.....Fifth Third Ballpark Trivia

Team: West Michigan Whitecaps
Affiliate: Detroit Tigers
Year Opened: 1994
Seating Capacity: 10,071
Dimensions: LF 327, CF 402, RF 327
Notable Former Players: Francisco Cordero, Jeff DaVanon, Brandon Inge and Mike Rivera.

Located on the banks of the Grand River, this ballpark has increased its capacity five times since it opened. Privately funded, it opened as Old Kent Park, when the naming rights were sold to Old Kent Bank, a local financial institution. The Ohio-based Fifth Third Bancorp financial institution, acquired the Old Kent Bank in 2001 and rebranded the facility Fifth Third Ballpark. The six million dollar stadium was the result of a ten year effort by two local businessmen to bring professional baseball back to Grand Rapids, after a 40 year absence.
August Golf Outing at Scott Lake

The 3rd Annual IFMA-WM Golf outing was a huge success. It was
down to the last minute getting all 81 golfers off the tees, after the
ominous rain delay. All the golfers were upbeat during the rain
delay, taking the time to network with other Facility Managers,
enjoy the coffee, and stocking up on Mulligan 50/50 raffle tickets
and of course, getting the coolers ready to go.
Scott Lake Country Club was in excellent condition, their company
put on a great outing, and provided great service to our
organization. The big winners (and losers) of the day are:

- Longest Drive-Men-Steve Frozley
- Longest Drive-Women-Tracy Gutek
- Closest to the Water on #3 White - Kevin Dickevers
- Closest to the Pin - Eric Boender
- 1st Place team-Matt Larsen, Tim Gray, Steve Hansma, Dan
  Wert.
- Last Place team - Karen Stauffer, Jenny Tole, Jackie Neerken
  & our own Kathy Wischmeyer

Thanks to the generous support of our sponsors and individual
golfers, this event had a net profit of $5200. This money will be
used to fund 2 scholarships this year. $1500 will be presented to a
Ferris State University FM student this Fall, and $2500 will be
donated to the National IFMA Scholarship Foundation, which is
presented to a student of our chapters choice at this year's World
Workplace. Our Board under the direction of President Jim Corby,
selected Patrick McKown to receive our Chapters Scholarship.
Patrick is a Senior at Ferris State, graduating this may, and Patrick
is getting an all expense paid trip to World Workplace to receive
his well deserved scholarship check. The remaining $1500 will be
deposited in the Jim Hickey Memorial Scholarship fund, on behalf
of our Chapter. This fund was recently set-up by the IFMA
Foundation to pay tribute to Jim Hickey's long and esteemed
service to IFMA, Steelecase, and the overall advancement of the
Facility Management Profession. These great accomplishments
could not have occurred without each golfers support, especially
our sponsors.

Gold Sponsors $500
- Canteen Services
- Century Floor Space
- Hurst
- Interactive Studio
- Interphase Office
- Milliken Carpet
- Moss Telecom
- Parkway Electric
- Progressive Building Services
- Quality Air
- Research and Engineering
  Solutions
- United Commercial Services
- Work Squared

Silver Sponsors $250
- Absolute Document
  Destruction
- Allied Electric
- CSM Services
- Custer Office
  Products
- Kent Companies
- Mcready and
  Associates
- Priority Health
- Triangle Associates

Bronze Sponsors
- Robert Grooters
  Development
- Structure Tec

Next Years Outing will be at a new course on August 2,
2007. Please contact Kathy Wischmeyer our Vice
President of Programs for volunteer and sponsorship
opportunities.
August Meeting

Sustainable Design Webinar

Our August meeting featured the preview of - "Greening Your Organization", presented by Meghan Carter, GCA Services.

The meeting was hosted by Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber, Inc. at their main headquarters in Grand Rapids.

The presentation is a beginners basic education of the principles of sustainable design. The energy and waste management segments were of interest to our group; other "green" talking points included in the Webinar are a general overview of sustainability, current statistics, sustainable practices, what a sustainability manager’s role in the project is, and the overall implementation process of being a green steward to the environment.

If you couldn’t make the meeting you still have an opportunity to view this Webinar - it is available for loan through our Chapter's Library.

Please contact Wayne Veneklasen, our chapter Sergeant at Arms for more information on our current library and to "check-out" a Webinar.

If your company is interested in hosting a Webinar networking event for our chapter, that would be terrific!

We are in the process of building an educational-based Webinar library, we envision the library to be an excellent resource for our chapter members for continuing education, networking and professional development. Please feel free to suggest topics you are interested in learning more about, visit www.ifma.org/learning/audio for the complete list of the IFMA LIVE Webinars for purchase.

IFMA Bookstore

Clearance Books, while supplies last!

Go to: IFMA bookstore for pricing and ordering information: www.ifma.org/bookstore.

BOOK LIST

- Environmental Issues in the Workplace II, Research Report #14
- Organization Development for Facility Managers: Tracing the DNA of FM Organizations
- Our Common Journey: A Transition Towards Sustainability
- Fire and Life Safety in Health Care Facilities
- Emergency Response Planning for Corporate and Municipal Managers
- Integrative Facilities Management
- The Metering Guide for Managers
- Zero Breakdown Strategies
- One-Day MBA in Marketing
- Physical and Biological Hazards of the Workplace

IFMA's Leadership Institute

Specifically designed for FM leaders with 8 plus years of experience, CFM's, and fast-track mid-to-senior level managers.

Influence Those in the inner circle

Contribute to the bottom line

Further your career & optimize your team’s contribution to your organization

Leverage your network as a valuable resource of information & best practices

For more information - and to apply/register go to: www.ifma.org > Learning > IFMA Leadership Institute
September Meeting with Dr. Dean T. Kashiwagi, Ph.D., P.E.  
Arizona State University

Best Value Public & Private Procurement - A New Efficient Paradigm.

Our September meeting had a record attendance, thank you to all that attended! A special thank you to Steelcase Corporate for the use of their theater which provided a first class location for our presentation.

Dr. Dean Kashiwagi introduced the topic of innovation value base and best practices concepts/strategies in the delivery of construction/maintenance/other services. Most procurement processes transfer risk from one party to another and do not actually reduce or minimize it. We were educated as to how to identify the risks upfront before contractor or vendor selection, and not after the fact. Dr. Dean Kashiwagi attests this procurement method has proven results of 98%.

We thoroughly enjoyed Dr. Kashiwagi’s lively stage presence, and we left the meeting with our heads brimming with new ideas for optimizing construction performance.
**Order your new Chapter Pin Now**

Check-out our New Chapter Pin; cost is only $2.00. So, don’t wait to add it to your existing collection of IFMA pins!

Show your support of the West Michigan Chapter by wearing and using our logo items. We have BicClic pens, lapel pins, gray T-shirts, black polo shirts, deluxe travel mugs, and the chapter baseball caps. The pens are $1, lapel pins $2, T-shirts $5, travel mugs $5, polos $20, and the caps are only $8 (check www.ifma-wm.org under Chapter Chatter for pictures of all the items)

To order your chapter logo items contact Jim Corby at 616.246.9748 or by email at jcorby@steelcase.com. He’ll need to know the item name, quantity and sizes you would like and will coordinate payment (check or

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**Welcome Kenzi Harris,**  
**our new Chapter Liaison**

Kenzi is at the IFMA Headquarters and can assist with the chapter operations and questions. Kenzi graduated from the University of Houston this past December with a bachelors degree in Management and Marketing. Kenzi can be reached at 717.623.4362 ext 162, or email at kenzi.harris@ifma.org

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**Welcome**  
**New Chapter Members**

- Brian Green, Herman Miller, Inc.
- Dan Meekhof, Pleune Service Co.
- Robert D. Potter, Ferris State University
- Aaron H. Way (sponsored by Frank Rhodes)

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**Congratulations! Bill VanSkiver,**

from Dan Vos Construction on his Certified Facilities Management achievement earlier this year.

**Congratulations to**

**Ferris State University Chapter!**

FSU led the month of September for our region with new chapter membership growth of 33 percent.

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**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.

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We’re on the web!  
**www.ifma-wm.org**
Total Facility Commissioning
Thursday - November 9, 2006

Announcing a Joint Meeting for West Michigan’s Construction Related Organizations

Where: The Pinnacle Center – 3330 Highland Road, Hudsonville, Michigan

When: Thursday, November 9, 2006
6:00 PM    Social
6:30 PM    Dinner
7:00 PM    Program

Robert Gengelbach, PE, LEED AP
General Manager – Grand Rapids Office
Byce Consulting Engineers

Robert Gengelbach graduated from the University of Buffalo with his BSME in 1987 and has been a registered Professional Engineer in the State of Michigan since 1990. Mr. Gengelbach has been a practicing mechanical engineer in the West Michigan area since 1988.

Mr. Gengelbach has been an active member in the West Michigan chapter of ASHRAE for the last eighteen years. He is a past president and current Historian and Golf Committee chair for that society. Mr. Gengelbach is also a member of the Building Commissioning Association, American Society of Plumbing Engineers, Michigan Society of Professional Engineers, and Association of Facility Engineers.

Mr. Gengelbach has been an active participant in the commissioning process for the last six years. He has been involved in the commissioning process for a wide variety of projects including industrial, healthcare, laboratory, housing and educational facilities.
Topic: Electrical Commissioning
John Eberly, III P.E. RCDD
Senior Electrical Engineer
Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber, Inc.

John is a graduate of Michigan Technological University (BSEE 1983), a licensed professional engineer, and a registered communications designer. John has over 20 years of experience in facilities engineering and consulting. He is responsible for management, design, construction, and commissioning of electrical systems for educational, industrial, institutional, and municipal facilities.

Topic: Commissioning of Facilities
George Bourassa, PE, LEED AP
National Director of Commissioning
Senior Vice President
Carter/Burgess

Mr. Bourassa serves as a program manager in the Carter & Burgess Facilities Division. In this role, he leads in commissioning of facilities, the systematic process of verification, through testing and documentation, that building systems perform according to the owner's requirements. His comprehensive experience in high technology, industrial, medical and educational facility projects and related utility service engineering has equipped Mr. Bourassa to understand the owner's requirements. He participates in the design process to verify those requirements are effectively met, during various stages of new design, performance improvements of building systems or system upgrades for continued proper operation. He is also a LEED Accredited Professional.

Mr. Bourassa has recognized skills and experience in managing inter-disciplinary teams of engineers and facility operators in successfully meeting strict schedule challenges on commissioning assignments, which also involve interfacing with Owners, contractor and engineering design team members, who typically comprise commissioning teams on projects.

In addition to extensive project management skills, Mr. Bourassa has a solid background in master planning, infrastructure analysis, central energy plants and facility operations. Strategizing with clients, he delivers innovative project solutions that meet budgetary considerations while offering long-term value and reliability. He has contributed his expertise on projects throughout the United States and Canada, as well as numerous international projects. His projects have included central energy plants, which ranged up to 20,000 tons of cooling, with associated chilled water distribution. He has provided design and project management for several significant boiler plants for medical and institutional facilities.

Register via Newsletter, Web Site, fax to (616) 453-1467, or email taber_csi@yahoo.com

Joe Taber, CSI, CDT
Programs Director
Grand Rapids Chapter of the
Construction Specification Institute
www.csigrandrapids.org

This meeting is free of charge to Grand Rapids Chapter members, Guests will be charged $25.00