President’s Corner

Greetings and welcome to our new “Normal”. IFMA Hampton Roads is dealing with the challenges posed by COVID-19 alongside our members and the larger community. While we continue to hold meetings (remotely!) and provide educational experiences for our members, we have had to make several changes to incorporate the CDC recommendations for Social Distancing and the requirements of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Our March event was supposed to be a tour of the newly completed Dollar Tree Headquarters, in Chesapeake, Virginia. Dollar Tree Vice President of Facilities & Special Projects, Bob Gantt, was kind enough to facilitate a teleconference in the wake of the pandemic, highlighting the timing and techniques of CDC-approved deep cleaning in facilities to help flatten the curve. We have rescheduled the Corporate tour for November 2020.

Our April event changed from a lunch seminar to a conference call about Enhancing Energy Efficiency through the Dominion Rebate Program.

Our annual golf tournament in May will be postponed; we are considering rescheduling it for the Fall. In its place, we are hosting a virtual Happy Hour, to gather informally in a relaxed, social setting. We hope to talk some about our work in Facility Management during these times, but also just want to check in with members, and see your faces (and what you bring to drink!).

The COVID-19 pandemic has thrown all of our lives into confusion as we sort out what this new “Normal” looks like. As we struggle through this together, take solace in the fact that it will not last forever, that we will come out of this stronger and wiser, and that while we are in it, we are in it together. Let us know how we can help and support you, our members, during this challenging time. Like all of you, I look forward to being able to socialize again, go out in public without fear, and get back to doing what I enjoy. In the meantime, I will continue to serve as your president and lead IFMA Hampton Roads to the best of my abilities.

Please take care of yourself, and each other.

Michelle Gold, FMA, CFM
President, IFMA Hampton Roads Chapter
To Recap...

**November 2019 Chapter Meeting**

Seminar: “Millennials in the Workplace”

On November 19, 2019 the IFMA Chapter convened to discuss “Millennials in the Workplace.” Donna Hawker, and her mother Elizabeth Duncan-Hawker presented, both of Red Hawk Strategic Solutions. Drawing on years of consulting expertise along with a wealth of research and institutional study, the well-paced and informative presentation highlighted challenges and suggested solutions for accommodating the performance styles of the Millennial workforce.

We discussed the growing influence of Millennials in the workplace and the varied ways in which they generally prefer to receive information, handle critique, and work. Interesting counterpoints were made regarding ways in which Millennials need to be an active participant in the process and, in some cases, modify their own behaviors to better work alongside Boomers and Generation X.
Members in attendance had an opportunity to network with colleagues before the event, enjoy a delicious lunch, and pose for a group photograph at the end. By the end, everyone learned a little something about the constantly changing and evolving workplace of the modern era.

December 2019 Holiday Social

December brought IFMA Hampton Roads’ annual Holiday Social. The venue for this festive gathering was the top floor of Dominion Enterprises, where guests enjoyed views of the evening lights of downtown Norfolk. A delicious meal was prepared by Rustic Gourmet Catering. Food and drink gave way to the presentation of gifts to winners of the annual raffle.

A big Thanks to Dominion Enterprises for graciously allowing use of this accommodating space.
January 2020 Chapter Meeting
Seminar: “Roof Restoration – A Sustainable Solution”

On January 21, 2020, the IFMA Chapter convened for a presentation on Sustainable Roof Restoration, led by Mr. Stephen Lamm, CDT, RRO of TREMCO Roofing and Building Maintenance. Mr. Lamm discussed some of the newer products available in the marketplace that allow building owners to restore or renew their roof, while maintaining or extending their warranty, rather than taking on the time and cost of a full replacement.

The process starts with a thorough inspection of the existing roof in order to determine if some or all of the existing roofing can be salvaged. Many building owners will default to a full roof replacement when the warranty expires or when roof leaks appear, but many times a roof restoration can suffice - an option both environmentally- and economically- sustainable for the owner. By seminar’s end, we were all convinced that the ability to restore a roof rather than replace it is a viable option that owners should consider for their long-term hold properties.
February 2020 Chapter Meeting
Tour: How CBN Cuts Energy Costs with Ice Stores

On February 18, 2020, the IFMA Chapter was allowed a tour of the Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN) Ice Storage Plants. Kenny Snell, Director of Facilities for CBN, started the discussion by presenting data showing the site’s energy usage over the previous twenty years.

A close examination of the data showed that while total square footage increased from just over 1 million square feet in 2000 to nearly 1.5 million square feet today, the total energy usage in kilowatt hours decreased from 33.5 million in 2000 down to 29.1 million in 2019. CBN realized an overall energy reduction of 14% while increasing the square footage by 50%. Put another way, the kWh/Sq ft usages dropped from 30.96 in 2000 to 19.6 in 2019, representing a reduction of 37% over that time.

This tremendous reduction in energy usage was made possible by utilizing a networked series of ice storage facilities located throughout the campus. These facilities work together to make and store ice during the overnight hours when energy costs are the lowest, then uses that ice throughout the day as needed to cool equipment, computer server rooms, and occupant spaces.
CBN’s HVAC Controls Manager, Dashwan Means, and HVAC Maintenance Manager, Clint LeMaster, then took the group on a tour of the main control room and one of the ice storage locations. The tour concluded with the understanding that when the right combination of technology, controls, maintenance and dedication can be brought to bear on a problem, environmentally-friendly growth can be achieved while realizing cost savings, and without sacrificing occupant comfort. It’s a great story to tell, and IFMA appreciates CBN for opening their facility and sharing it with us.