FMP AND CFM’S CERTIFIABLE?

Our own president, Pete Burke says he’s certifiable! Pete proudly grinned as he shared that he had been the “first on the block” to receive IFMA’s “Facility Manager Professional” designation shortly after the program was announced last fall. The FMP is the perfect stepping stone to achieve the CFM. The FMP provides course work via text or lecture in many of the disciplines testable for the CFM. The final exam for the FMP is a practical hands on project which requires the application of these disciplines in a real life work setting. As a side note, IFMA requested to use Pete’s final exam project as a case study/teaching tool for future FMP candidates studying for the final exam. Congratulations to Pete!

IFMA launched the FMP program in October 2004. It is for managers with less than 5 years experience or transitioning professionals with related experience in similar fields.

The FMP designation provides a means to hasten the progression from novice to specialist and is an ideal catalyst for early candidacy to the CFM.

IFMA-HR has seven Certified Facility Managers, Larry Larue, Scott Herrington, Robert Souders, David Callins, Charles Franklin, Donald Labonte, and John Sprouse. There are many benefits that come with this level of achievement, not the least of which is that certified CFM’s receive an average of 13% more annually in salary than non-certified counterparts!

Next time you see one of our CFM’s at a meeting ask them about how they did it and what it has meant to them.
A mid-day blizzard and ensuing traffic snarls may have daunted a few attendees but overall, our first vendor show came off with few hitches. (Forgetting a camera to record the event being one of them!)

We had 37 vendors and 85 attendees. Our vendors felt that the attendees were sincerely interested in their product offerings. The attendees felt that there was a full range of products and services on display, including many for which they previously had no reliable source. As a side note, there were at least 20 happy recipients of door prizes ranging from A to V (artwork, gift certificates, product samples, to even a vacuum cleaner—donated by Beach Chemical). We want to give special thanks to Kirk Baldwin at Hoffman Beverage, as they provided pens and tote bags for all attendees. If you want to have another Vendor Show next year, please let your IFMA officers know. If you have ideas on ways to improve on this year’s event, let either Al Veeck or Bud Schlademan know so that the planning can begin now!
The IFMA Hampton Roads Chapter would like to welcome all of the new members and would encourage you to invite fellow property/facility managers and vendors to attend our monthly meetings. Your support and participation throughout the year will be greatly appreciated. We would like to also recognize and thank all members for their renewals and continued support.

We would like to thank all of the IFMA Associate Members (Contractor/Vendors) who participated in the Annual IFMA Hampton Roads Vendor Show held on March 8, 2005 at the Lake Wright. We extend a special Thank You to our sponsors.

Please take advantage of the IFMA Hampton Roads website (IFMAHamptonRoads.org). This site provides information about our monthly meetings and articles pertaining to previous meetings and upcoming events.

NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

Lisa Zawacki, Facility Manager
lzawacki@roseandwomble.com

Lisa Zawacki joined IFMA—Hampton Roads in December and is the Facility Manager for the Rose and Womble realty group. She is responsible for approximately 15 facilities which range in size from 1500 sf to over 16,000 sf. She states her primary responsibility “appears to be the education of our owners and board of directors regarding potential savings of having the facilities properly managed.”

While wearing many hats, including equipment and supply ordering, supervising admin staff, and managing couriers, she manages to do it all with an infectious smile and positive attitude. Lisa stated that she is in a “continual learning mode” and implementing lessons learned is a regular occurrence. When asked what was her funniest or most unusual facility request or situation Lisa said, “I think the funniest thing about this job is how all 600 people I deal with daily think they are the absolutely most important concern. Anybody willing to take second or third place?”

In addition to her responsibilities at Rose and Womble, Lisa spends the rest of her free time managing a husband and four children. She said she learns most of life’s critically important lessons from her children. Between work and family Lisa squeezes in a little time for her love of music (ask her about the rock band!) and is an avid reader.

Lisa said the most important thing to her about her job is the opportunity it affords her to positively impact the people around her. She is looking forward to getting to know other IFMA members and has been amazed by the scope of knowledge of those she has met. (She did not say whether she had been introduced to Pete yet!)
IFMA's 2005 Spring Symposium

This is the mid-year educational event, so add it to your calendar now. IFMA understands the budgetary concerns of its members and has designed the symposium to provide the most value for your money. Don’t miss out in the opportunity to invest in:

**Increasing Your Industry Knowledge** With the addition of the new technology competency course and the workshop on sustainability, the symposium will give you the information to move forward in the FM profession. Experienced instructors will provide fresh and practical ideas that you can implement to improve your business throughout the year.

**Reinforcing Your FM Skills** Take advantage of the opportunity to learn from experts and colleagues who face the same issues that you do every day. Learn how to avoid missteps and smooth project management. Soak up common-sense ideas and solutions you can apply the day you return to the office.

**Improving Your Industry Radar** Planning effectively requires predicting and understanding new trends in the industry. Gain the future perspective you need to act profitably.

**Networking for the Future** Seek out new contacts in your industry and add valuable resources to

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**PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

Spring has arrived and so has a new set of challenges for the facility manager. The “Spring Fever” that we all suffered from as children in school still afflicts adults in today’s workplace. As the weather warms up and the thought of outside activities increases, so does workplace injuries as employee mind’s seem focused on other things. As facility managers walk their properties, be ever vigilant for the forgotten trip hazards and left open file drawers that always seem to reach out and grab someone.

The Spring also announces the upcoming end to our year of Chapter Activities. As we approach conclusion in June and annual elections of Board Members, if you have any interest in supporting the Chapter as a member of the Board or a committee, please contact one of the current Board or fill out the nominations form in this newsletter and send to ifmahr@aol.com. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer see one of the board members for more details.

*Pete Burke, President, HR Chapter IFMA*