Happy CFMA New Year
A Note from the Incoming President: Michelle Walker, CCIFP, SPHR

Hello and happy June! I can't believe it's already time for the CFMA National Conference, it is so exciting to think that this weekend nearly a thousand of our fellow members from across the country will be here in Phoenix. I hope that you are one of the over 100 VOS members who will be attending with us, as it is sure to be 5 days of great learning and networking opportunities. If you're not signed up but don't want to miss out on the fun, be sure to register and come out to the Happy Hour on Monday night, June 5th.

Read the entire piece here.

Construction Executive of the Year
Recap by Diana Bujnovsky

Thank you title sponsor Lovitt & Touché
The Construction Executive of the Year dinner and awards event was held on Thursday, May 4th at the beautiful Montelucia Resort.

Dave Pratt was the master of ceremonies for the 7th year in a row. As always he brings a lot of laughs to the event. He especially enjoyed poking fun at a few of our members: Marj Weber for her love of a good adult beverage, Tony Hakes for being a work-a-holic (who else needs a 17-Hour energy drink?), and Brian Eto for his reversible prom jacket.

The 2017 Construction Pioneer Award went to John Ames of Ames Construction. Since 1963, John has helped their family's small earthwork company expand into all of North America, employing over 3,000 people. What really came across in his video is his love and caring for others as showcased in the charity work that he and his wife, Sharon, support and are personally involved in. John could not make the event due to an illness so his son accepted the award in his place.

Our four amazing finalists were Angie Ziegler of General Air Control, Inc., Brandon Bell of Bell Steel, Inc., Wayne Bell of Ace Asphalt, and Casey Cartier of Jokake Construction Services, Inc.

And the winner is Casey Cartier! Casey has been President and CEO of Jokake for four years. In that time revenue has increased 50% and net income has improved 300%. While these numbers are impressive, the true value Casey brings is his leadership. Casey encourages and supports personal and professional growth for each employee. He also works to elevate Jokake's reputation as a sophisticated builder and player in the commercial real estate market. Casey deals with the present with poise and professionalism and is always looking ahead, creating the vision of where Jokake can go.
The 2017 Best Under the Sun general member is Lisa Sullivan of McCarthy Construction. She was there to accept her award just one week before her daughter was due! (See below for baby pics and info) Lisa works very hard for the CFMA and our events are certainly brighter when her smiling face is present.

The 2017 Best Under the Sun associate member is Brian Eto of Beach Fleischman. Brian chaired the committee that puts together the CEOY banquet and did an amazing job with planning the event. He is based in Tucson and still comes to the CFMA VOS board meetings every other month at 7:30am. Talk about dedication!

As a CFMA VOS president makes their way from residing president to past president, they have the option to give what is known as the President's Award. This is completely at the discretion of the president and is not brought to a vote. It is designated for someone who the president feels has gone above and beyond for the CFMA through their energy, their innovation and their heart. This year Lynne Pace awarded this honor to Michelle Walker, our current chapter president. Michelle deserves this award not only because of her passion and drive for our Valley of the Sun chapter - she also represents our chapter nationally as well. Michelle chairs the National Construction Industry Alliance for Suicide Prevention.

At the event, Michelle was also bestowed the honor of having Donnie (known as David James to polite company), write a poem for her:

There once was a CFMA dudette,  
Who traveled a new road without regret;  
She merrily came exploding out of her shell,  
And yes indeed, her name was Michelle!

With a passion and incredible vision,  
She took on suicide prevention as her mission!  
To spread the word both far and wide,  
Proclaiming to all, "this movement will be quite a ride";

The CFMA Alliance will be the key,  
And for Michelle and all who believe,  
This key will open doors and set many who struggle free....

By Donnie; aka Edgar Allen Shakespeare

Congratulations Michelle!
Baby News!

Lisa Sullivan brought a beautiful baby girl into the world on May 11, 2017 at 7:58am! Her name is Alice Rose Sullivan and she weighed 7lbs 11oz and was 20.5 inches long. Alice was welcomed by her mom, dad and sweet big brother, Brogan.