President's Letter

Thankful....

I know Thanksgiving is behind us, but having just been in that season where the focus is on gratitude, combined with celebrating a milestone birthday earlier this week (no comment on the actual number, let's just say I've now aged out of the YCFP group...) that caused me to really look at all I have to be thankful for - I wanted to take this time to express my thanks to many who make our chapter great and something that we can ALL be thankful to be a part of.

I am thankful for the great relationships that exist between our members - relationships that allow us to pick up the phone, call a trusted colleague, and get invaluable advice and input. This is the #1 reason that I give people when they ask what the benefit of CFMA is - the amazing network that can be built of resources (and friends!).

I am thankful for the amazing volunteer leaders. Leaders like Dave Miller, who put on an AMAZING golf tournament, and who represents us at the national level on CFMA's Executive Committee. Leaders like Bryan Eto, who works tirelessly to put together a fabulous Executive of the Year event that showcases our organization in the construction community. Leaders like John Corcoran, Dave James, Marj Weber, Jim Bracy, Tom Lawless, Kevin Burnett, Lisa Autino - who, long after their terms as president - stay involved and active in making our chapter great. Leaders like the amazing officers, board members, and committee chairs that I have the privilege of serving with.

I am thankful for the incredible up and coming leadership that our chapter has to look forward to. Our Young Professionals group is a model program for other CFMA chapters and the level of talent, energy and great ideas that is coming out of this group now and will be for years to come is exciting and encouraging that Valley of the Sun will continue to shine bright for many years to come!

I am thankful for all of our members who make each event memorable. I am thankful for the support of our chapter for starting the Suicide Prevention movement that has become an industry and life changing initiative. And, let's be
real, I'm thankful for the current economy that makes it so easy to feel gratitude (although, I would be even MORE thankful if hiring was easier!).

I hope that each of you are in a place of gratitude as well. Wishing each of you the happiest and safest of holiday seasons!

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2017 CFMA VoS Golf Tourney Recap
by Dave Miller

November 8, 2017, VOS chapter of CFMA hosted its 27th annual golf extravaganza at the Orange Tree Golf Resort.

I joined 144 of my closest friends for a beautiful day of golf and fun. Yes, we had a full sell out, 36 foursomes.

Back by popular demand was the golf ball launcher and beat the pro holes. The pace of play was really good for a fully booked tournament.

Lessons I learned while chairing the CFMA 2017 Golf Tournament:

- Golfers do not like "dry" bagels .... "Gimme dat cream cheese!!!"
- The golf ball launcher is a blast ... the engineer I was playing with spent the rest of the round sketching a drawing to build one himself.
- The beverage cart was "out of vodka" at 9:15 am ... whaaaaaat ???
- Sue Hammontree can gather some swag, man she has lots of connections.
- The generosity of our member companies and people is overwhelming!
  - We had record participation in the golf ball launcher and beat the pro holes raising over $2,000 in those events.
  - We sold over $2,600 in raffle prizes day of the event.
  - Several of our members gifted back their prize money, thanks Jim Bracy's group.
  - A couple of our member firms gifted back the foursome that came with their sponsorship which allowed us to sell an additional 4-some, we see you Haydon Building.
  - Several of our sponsors are long, long time sponsors including:
  - And we added several newer sponsors to our list of sponsors and we are very grateful for their generosity:

- The more Fireball whiskey shots the better my game ... at least it appeared so
- C.N.A. Surety always auto corrects to CAN Surety : /
- Fact to bore your friend with : Cliff Spickler once ate a dozen chicken wings in 1 minute 22 seconds ... that's right, 1 minute 22 seconds! No comment on the condition of the white shirt he was wearing at the time.
- Construction Financial Professionals can play some golf

We grouped our golfers by flight and the big winners were:

1st Flight
1st place with a score of 55  Ross Dietrich, Steve Kiesel, Brandon Serchen, Brandon Cox
2nd place with a score of 57  Tom Lawless, Josh Phillips, Matt Johnson, Amanda Neuheisel
3rd place with a score of 57  Jim Bracy, Scott Manning, Chris Lindstrom, Kieth Gordon (Scott, Chris and Kieth must be really good)

Thanks for gifting back your winnings Jim, Scott, Chris, and Kieth!

2nd Flight
1st Place with a score of 63  Justin Read, Jennifer Jaeger, Garey Bryant, Michael Tissaw
2nd Place with a score of 64  AJ Jain, Tim Wilson, Chris Case, Dave Miller (SEE THE FIREBALL WORKED !!)
3rd Place with a score of 65  Mike Specht, Andrew Atkinson, Cliff Spickler, Jessica Grant

3rd Flight
1st Place with a score of 72  Tracy Hughes, Chris Lutes, Ryan Evans, Scott Bourdo
2nd Place with a score of 72  Gary Brouwer, Todd Hatch, Rob Scherer, Tony Mata
3rd Place with a score of .... You guessed it 72  Eric Begman, Jeff Schafter, Jorge Enamorado, William Johnston

Longest Drive Men #13 - was Justin Read
Long Drive Ladies #2 - Melanie Clark
Closest to the Pin Men - Chris Lindstrom
Closest to the Pin with the Ball Launcher - Kris Newman - Nice shoot'n Kris!
Longest Putt #18 Josh Phillips

The biggest winners are the scholarship recipients, we netted approximately $22,000 from the event.

Thank you to all of the sponsors and the volunteers!!

The volunteers showed up early to make sure we were ready to roll. Great group of people to work with, Karl Kortman, Michelle Walker, Sue Hammontree, Stephanie Weadock, Jeff Byers, Cliff Spickler, Tom Lawless, Julieanne Wheeler, Elise Thorpe, Christine Kettlekamp.

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**Member Interview - Bryan Eto, CCIFP**

by Gayle McClellan, AFSB

Gayle had the opportunity to connect with Bryan Eto, CCIFP at the November 17th luncheon event and ask him a few questions about himself and his engagement in CFMA VoS chapter.

Bryan is a Shareholder at Beach Fleischman. He travels from Tucson to attend the VoS chapter meetings and other events.

Bryan feels the drive is worth it because CFMA is such a great organization, and supporting it is very important to him. In addition, the November presentation on the Valley Metro Lite Rail Expansion Plan was of interest to him, as are many of the other topics presented at the monthly meetings.

Bryan is organizer of CFMA meetings in Tucson.

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**Member Spotlight**

*Cord D. Armstrong, CCIFP*  

*Cord* has been a member of CFMA since 2005 and currently serves on the Program Committee.

*Cord* is a CPA and Managing Director at CBIZ MHM, LLC. He has been with the firm since 2000. Before that he worked for his Father's firm Walker & Armstrong, LLP.

*Cord* and his wife Barbara have been married for 29 years and live in the Coronado Historic District in Downtown Phoenix. Cord, Barbara and their kids, Brent and Alejandra are all ASU graduates. Their son is living in Los
Angeles and works for a production company and their daughter is currently working for 12 News here in Phoenix. This summer they all took a trip to Europe and spent one week in London and one week in Paris.

Cord enjoys playing golf and watching mostly all sports including ASU Football, D-Backs Baseball, Oakland A’s Baseball and Tottenham Hotspur of the British Premier League.

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