

CFMA VoS Chapter News

May 2019

A note from the incoming President Karl Kortman, CCIFP!

2019/2020 Season



I am truly looking forward to serving as the President of the CFMA Valley of the Sun Chapter this year. I am motivated and encouraged by our chapter and its commitment to learning and changing with our industry, providing educational opportunities for its members, providing scholarships and resources for our future leaders, and giving back to our community.

Throughout my time as a member and as an officer, I have witnessed our members

dedicating themselves to serve on committees, past leaders staying committed within the chapter and on the national level, and young leaders setting vision for our future while being engaged in the moment. Through all of these commitments and engagements, collaborations have brought about productive outcomes, and genuine and caring relationships have developed.

As your President for this year, I thank our committed members for making this responsibility one for which I am excited. For our past presidents, thank you for the leadership and continued support. My experiences over the last few years have brought new perceptions to the role of leader and I look forward to coming alongside you to serve in this capacity.

2019 CFMA VoS Construction Executive of the Year Banquet Re-Cap!

May 3, 2019

On Friday, May 3rd, the Valley of the Sun CFMA hosted 150 attendees at its annual Construction Executive of the Year event. In it's 19th year, the event continues to draw the finest in Arizona construction and never fails to tell the compelling stories of industry leaders.

Guests were treated to a show-stopping view at the cocktail reception held on a rooftop terrace at Mountain Shadows resort with Camelback Mountain as the backdrop.

Following an enjoyable networking time, attendees moved to the ballroom to enjoy the program along with a delicious dinner.

The evening was hosted by emcee Carey Pfeffer and the program was kicked off with a welcome from chapter president Karl Kortman.

Distinguished guests at the event included Arizona State Treasurer Kimberly Yee and Registrar of Contractors director Jeff Fleatham. In addition, CFMA National Chairman Michelle Eastman attended from Indiana.

Each year the chapter recognizes two outstanding "Best Under the Sun" members. This year it was our honor to celebrate Elise Thorpe of Lovitt & Touche as our BUTS Associate Member, and Jennifer Hopper of DPR (and past chapter president) as our BUTS General Member. It was great to see these two talented, generous ladies be thanked for their service to our chapter. And, now we know that Elise's favorite movie is the Sound of Music!

Another member recognition this year was the Legacy Award given to Dave James. This award was established last year to recognize founding chapter member who have stayed engaged in the chapter at their retirement. Dave wasn't able to attend but thankfully his evil twin brother, Donnie, was there to accept on his behalf. We aren't sure what is more disturbing - Dave having an alter ego Donnie, or how much Dave

Miller enjoys playing that alter ego? Either way, he does deliver an entertaining acceptance speech.

The highlight of the evening is always hearing the stories of the night's Executive of the Year award recipients. This year did not disappoint. The crowd was captivated by Emerging Leader Justin Martin, of Corbins Electric, and his rise to success (while raising 7 kids!); inspired by Barry Chasse of Chasse Building Team, our General Contractor of the year, and his philanthropic drive and care for people; and in awe of Jeff Johnson of Trafficade, this year's Subcontractor of the year and his story of starting his business while in high school! Topping off the night was hearing Jeff Whiteman talk about his grandpa, Jack Whiteman, and how Empire Southwest got its start trading mules for equipment. Each award recipient shared their thoughts on leadership and expressed gratitude with a shared humility and admiration for others in the industry.

An event that many eagerly anticipate each year, this year's Construction Executive of the Year event did not disappoint. We would like to thank the committee volunteers for helping to make the event a success, and all of our sponsors, especially title sponsor Beach Fleischman.

We hope to see many of you there next year as we celebrate the 20th Anniversary of our signature event!















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