



## The Philadelphia Chapter

### Message from the New President

Hello to my fellow Philadelphia Chapter members,

In 1983, I was a senior in high school. Ronald Regan was President and *Dallas* was the top rated show on network TV. The Sixers won the NBA Championship however the Phillies came up short in the World Series to the Orioles, the Flyers were swept in the first round of the NHL playoffs, and the Eagles had yet another disappointing season. In 1983 there was no internet, no cell phones and therefore no social media. Back then, if you wanted to keep up with your friends and family you actually called them on the phone and talked to them. Things have changed dramatically in our lives since that time. We all know that the Eagles finally won the Super Bowl back in February and the other Philadelphia teams are on the upswing now, too. Today, we can't really live or work without internet access, everyone including children have smartphones or an iPad, and some people can't go fifteen minutes without posting to Facebook or Instagram. The skyline of Philadelphia was completely different in 1983 as well. Back then, no building was taller than William Penn's hat which sits atop of City Hall. Today, there are numerous skyscrapers already built and more on the way.



In 1983, a group of professionals here in Philadelphia formed the first chapter of a new organization called the Construction Financial Management Association. CFMA was dedicated to bringing people together who had a something in common. They were financial professionals who were either working directly for construction companies as controllers or CFO's or the advisors who had clients in the construction industry including accountants, bankers, surety agents and lawyers. For the last 35 years, the Philadelphia Chapter of CFMA has remained strong and relevant to the construction industry in the Philadelphia region.

Every construction project needs a sound foundation and I am proud to say CFMA's foundation is built on education and networking. For the last 35 years we have strived to provide our chapter members with the best educational sessions to assist them with their personal career growth. We have also brought our members together to network and make lasting friendships and business relationships. Our chapter is also a proud sponsor of the Ronald McDonald House as well as Laurel House. Over the last several years, we have also awarded significant scholarships to college students in the Philadelphia area.

To me all of this comes down to one word: *opportunity*. For 35 years, the CFMA Philadelphia chapter has given all its members a tremendous opportunity to improve their knowledge base, to meet people and make friends, to help people who are truly in need and to support the next generation of construction leaders. My sincere hope is all of you take full advantage of these opportunities. I did and I have benefited from it both personally and professionally. Come to a meeting. Get involved. Introduce someone you may know who is not yet a member of the Philly chapter to CFMA so they can see what opportunities are available to them.

On November 30, 2018, we are going to hold an event at the Museum of the American Revolution to celebrate our chapter's 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary so please look for more details as they are finalized.

Finally, I would like to say a very big thank you to my predecessor, Joe Buckley of Allen Myers, who was chapter President from April 2016 through March of 2018. Joe did a great job as our chapter President and I'm proud to call him a friend. I look forward to working with our extremely talented Board of Directors who will continue to bring to you, the chapter members, the opportunities I mentioned before.

Thank you,

Jim McGettigan  
President, CFMA Philadelphia



To my fellow members of CFMA Philadelphia:

Where has the time gone? It seems like only yesterday that I was writing my incoming President's message, it was a quick 2-years. It was my honor to serve as your President. I would like to thank all the committee chairs and committee members for their hard work and dedication over the past two years. I would also like to thank the board of directors, both past and present for their commitment to CFMA and to the chapter's growth. Especially the executive committee in my last year, Vice President Jim McGettigan, Treasurer Joe Gravenstine, Secretary Matt McCloskey and Immediate Past President John Bieber.

As President I focused on education and networking. We strive to provide programming on the relevant topics that effect our industry. I feel that through my presidency we have continued to provide the very best proqraming with great topics each month ranging from human resource to information technologies to finance and accounting. I believe we have a great team of leaders on the board and will continue to improve our chapter and move us into the future. I look forward to our incoming president Jim McGettigan's vision for the next two years. Jim has been an invaluable asset to CFMA and our chapter over the years and his leadership will help CFMA Philadelphia to continue to improve and grow. I truly believe that the more you put into CFMA the more you will get out of it, **CFMA can be as great as you make it!** I encourage you all to get more involved in the chapter by attending a meeting, joining a committee or reaching out to a board member and asking them more about CFMA.

Thanks,  
Joe Buckley  
President, CFMA Philadelphia

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| 6/16, 9/15, & 12/8 | <b>Ronald McDonald House Breakfast</b>  |
| 6/23/18 to 6/27/18 | <b>CFMA National Conference in Miami Florida</b>  |
| 7/30/18            | <b>28th Annual CFMA Golf Classic in honor of Barbara Mosteller</b><br>‣ <i>Waynesborough Country Club</i>   |
| 8/23/18            | <b>CCIFP Class</b><br>‣ <i>CBIZ in Plymouth Meeting (7:30am—4:00pm)</i>                                     |
| 9/30/18 to 10/1/18 | <b>Mid-Atlantic Conference in Annapolis, Maryland</b>   |
| 11/30/18           | <b>CFMA Philadelphia Chapter 35th Anniversary Celebration</b><br>‣ <i>Museum of the American Revolution</i> |

## Welcome New Members!

- Michael Anderson — American Global
- Mark DiLiberto — MJ Settelen Construction
- Louis Bensinger — Lockton Companies
- Anthony Biddle — Anthony Biddle Contractors, Inc.
- Kelly O'Neill — Anthony Biddle Contractors, Inc.
- Edward C McKeever — A&E Construction Co.
- Ryan Dreher— Vaughan Buckley Construction
- Laura Crouse—CRB Builders LLC
- Robert Dieterle—HKA
- David Mills — WSFS Bank
- Kevin Barry— XL Catlin
- Laura McGrath—Dale Corporation

**\*\*Members can bring a contractor new to CFMA for free! \*\***  
Contact membership and help spread the knowledge that is CFMA!

Contact: Carlo Ferri, Membership Chair at [CFerri@kmco.com](mailto:CFerri@kmco.com)

## CFMA Member Spotlight

# Jim McGettigan

### **Where did you grow up?**

I grew up in a little section of Abington Township called Ardsley which is kind of between Glenside and Roslyn. I usually tell people from outside our area that I'm from Glenside since they are more likely to know that.

### **What was your first job?**

My next door neighbor when I was growing up had a part-time job as a valet car parker so he was able to get me my first job as a valet. The company I worked for would get hired to valet for weddings or other kinds of events so I got to meet all kinds of people and I was able to drive a wide variety of cars, even as a 16 year old. In fact, as a 16 year old I got to drive a Rolls Royce with the steering wheel on the right side of the car like they have in Europe. Talk about being scared!



*Surely, you can't be serious?*

*I am serious, and don't call me Shirley.*

### **What do you think is the best movie ever made?**

That's a tough question because there are several. If you asked me what my favorite movies were that would be easier so I think I'll answer that. I have a wide variety that I like from Airplane, to It's a Wonderful Life, to Goodfellas, to Spaceballs, to Forrest Gump. Whenever I come across any of them on TV I just have to watch even though I may have seen them 17 times before.

### **How did you first become interested in construction?**

I was a year into my career after graduating from LaSalle University and the CPA firm I was at had just hired Tony Stagliano to start a construction practice within the firm. I was asked to join that group and it was the best decision I ever made, professionally.

### **If you could go back in time and give one piece of advice to your younger self, what would it be?**

Don't be afraid to step outside my comfort zone. I did not get actively involved in CFMA or other networking events when I first started my career. I considered that "marketing" and I did not want to think of myself a salesman. I came to realize that going to a CFMA or other networking event is more about meeting people and developing relationships. So my advice to any young person starting their career is to open up and to not be afraid to meet people, you never know where it could lead you.

### **What's the greatest benefit you see from your CFMA membership?**

The opportunity to learn a great deal about the construction industry and to meet some really great people.

### **Give an example of how your CFMA membership has improved your career.**

The knowledge I have gained mainly because of the wide variety of educational events I have attended through CFMA has given me the confidence to be able to talk to owners, CFO's and controllers of construction companies as well as to the bankers, sureties and attorneys they deal with about issues that face them every day.



### **What travel destination or activity is on your bucket list?**

I've been very fortunate to have been married to a travel agent for almost 30 years so we have traveled to some great places. But I would love to see the Swiss Alps, Iceland, maybe Australia but I don't think I'd enjoy the flight because it's too long.

### **What do you like to do when you're not working?**

When I'm not doing yardwork (it feels like a full time job itself sometimes), I actually still play ice hockey in a men's league. I also enjoy going to concerts, I love hearing a good band play.

# CONSTRUCTION FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION OF PHILADELPHIA

## CFMA Philadelphia Phillies Game April 26, 2018

