Supporting Our Troops

The following press release was distributed to the local media in early August 2007...

Support for troops comes in all shapes and sizes... Construction Financial Management Association to donate 80 boxes of supplies to troops.

In a show of support for the men and women serving our country overseas, the Construction Financial Management Association of Western Michigan (CFMA) will today donate 80 boxes of personal supplies to the local Marines for distribution to local troops stationed abroad.

Who?
- Construction Financial Management Association of Western Michigan
- United States Marine Corps
- Miller Johnson
- Smith Haughey

What?
- Ceremony to officially donate 80 boxes of supplies for local military serving overseas
- Remarks from CFMA and Marine officials
- Group photos

When?
Thursday, August 9, 2007 from 10:00 to 10:30 a.m.

Where?
Owen-Ames-Kimball
801 Century SW
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
(Century is located on the west side of US-131, just south of Franklin)

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Background:
Members of CFMA will officially hand over the 80 boxes of supplies to local Marine officials at a 10 a.m. ceremony today, Thursday, August 9, 2007 at Owen-Ames-Kimball’s supply yard, located at 801 Century Avenue in Grand Rapids. Following the donation ceremony, CFMA and Marine officials will transport the 80 boxes for shipment overseas. CFMA and Marine officials will make remarks starting at 10:15 a.m.

“At a time when public support for the war is divided, the support for the troops is still strong,” says CFMA Board President Anita Rathbun. “It is evident with the contributions received,” she adds. “In addition, we’ve received feedback from troops that the supplies we’re sending them are very much appreciated.”

“The idea of collecting items to send to American troops stationed overseas started at a monthly CFMA board meeting in 2006, as part of the group’s effort to give back to the community,” says CFMA Promotion Committee Chairperson Theresa Sickles. “Board members voted to take this initiative on as a year-long program after receiving a tremendous amount of support from CFMA members,” Sickles adds. Members started bringing items to the monthly meetings, using a needs list provided by the West Michigan Military Family Support Group, the group that coordinates such volunteer efforts for local groups.

The donation effort, now called “Support the Troops, has already collected and shipped 15 boxes prior to this recent shipment. CFMA member Owen-Ames-Kimball had opened their facility for storage and sorting of the supplies. Some of the items collected include personal hygiene items, clothing, magazines, CDs, and other household supplies that are hard to come by overseas.

CFMA member companies, along with individual donors, contributed the majority of the supplies for the 80 boxes. However, a recent challenge between two member companies, the law firms of Miller Johnson and Smith Haughey, helped CFMA collect enough supplies to fill 25 large boxes. The local law firms challenged each other to see which firm could collect the most supplies.

“All of us at Miller Johnson were so grateful to have this opportunity to participate in CFMA’s ‘Support the Troops’ effort,” said Jeff Ammon, managing member of the firm, and chair of Miller Johnson’s construction practice group. “The men and women who are serving us overseas deserve our sincerest gratitude, and this is the least we can do. Our thanks to CFMA..."
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for organizing this important effort.”

ABOUT CFMA Western Michigan
Established in 1989, and maintaining 130 local members, CFMA of West Michigan is the source and resource of construction financial management in West Michigan. It unites individuals having financial responsibilities in the construction industry. CFMA of West Michigan provides a forum through which the association’s members can meet to network and exchange ideas. The organization promotes and encourages leadership within the construction industry, as well as within CFMA. The local organization develops and coordinates educational programs dedicated to the purpose of improving the professional standards of the industry and enhancing the value of construction financial managers to their respective companies.

The organization is involved with several charitable activities. Aside from the troop donations, CFMA is active with the annual Toys for Tots effort and Walk for Life, to name a few.

The CFMA of West Michigan website is www.cfma-wmi.org.

The event was picked up by WOOD-TV Channel 8, WOOD AM 1300 radio, and the Grand Rapids Business Journal. This project has been a spectacular success for our chapter and something we can all be proud of!

Construction Financial Management Association
Troop Donation Campaign

Without the donations of supplies, time and monetary gifts, this campaign would not have been made possible. Thank you to all of the contributors to the drive, including:

- Andy J. Egan Company Inc.
- Beene Garter LLP
- CD Barnes Associates Inc.
- Crowe Chizek & Company LLC
- Franklin Holwerda Company
- Kent Companies Inc.
- Miller Johnson
- Owen-Ames-Kimball
- Parkway Electric Communications
- Plante Moran LLP
- Smith Haughey Rice & Roegge PC
- Sobie Company Inc.
- Steel Supply & Engineering Company
- Triangle Associates Inc.
- Many generous individual donors
17th Annual CFMA/ASPE Golf Outing

Thanks to all who attended the 17th Annual CFMA and ASPE Golf Outing at Railside Golf Club on June 6th. We had a great turnout with 17 teams participating. The weather was wonderful that day, as was the golf, networking, and cookout!

Prizes were awarded for Longest Drive, Longest Putt, and the 1st and 2nd Place teams, along with several door prizes and a 50/50 raffle. The longest drive competition on hole #7 was won by Jennifer Murphy and Scott Adams. Shanna Reynolds and Ken Jansen sunk the longest putts on hole #18.

There was a tight competition for first and second place. Second Place went to the team consisting of Rick Kuiper, Bob Jenkins, John Weeber, and Jim Faber who shot a 57. Leading the day with a 56 to take First Place were Bart Austhof, Ken Jansen, Kevin Vachon, and Tom Gombar.

Congratulations to all our winners!

Thanks to all who golfed and contributed door prizes to help make this year’s golf outing another success. Proceeds from the golf outing are used to fund scholarships for the National Convention and the CCIFP Exam.

We hope to see you all out on the course again next year!
In 1957, John Vander Laan Sr. set out on his own and established Kent Concrete, Inc. The name “Kent” came from the banker. At that time, there were three John Vander Laans pouring concrete in West Michigan and each John Vander Laan had a wife by the name of Margaret. So to simplify things, the banker suggested Kent Concrete, Inc. and the name stuck. John specialized in pouring integral garage floors with walls, meaning he poured frost walls and garage floors in one pour. Over the years his business grew to pouring concrete for light commercial projects. In the early 1980s, John’s oldest sons Allen and Roger bought the company from their father.

With the ever changing construction market, Al and Roger saw the need to be “specialized” or “unique” in the concrete industry. Thirty plus years ago Kent bought their first concrete pump and brought the concrete pumping service to the West Michigan market. Now, most concrete contractors have their own concrete pumps.

In 1984, the Gyp-Crete group was formed. At that time Gyp-Crete (a poured in-place floor underlayment) was used for fire and sound control in apartments and hotels. Today Kent is not only pouring regular Gyp-Crete, but also higher strength Gypsum and Portland products including a thin coat Portland topping that can be stained for a finish concrete look.

In 1988, Kent brought Mudjacking to West Michigan. Mudjacking is a process of lifting up sunken concrete slabs with a sand/cement slurry. Holes are drilled through the top of the concrete and with hydraulic pressure, the slurry is pumped underneath, raising the sunken concrete back in place. This group has grown to not only pumping up sunken concrete but also lifting and supporting entire structures from homes to large commercial buildings with a Helical Pier system.

Under the leadership and guidance of Al and Roger, the company continued to grow and diversify. In 1990 Kent Concrete, Inc. changed its name to Kent Companies, Inc.

Today Kent has offices in Detroit, Lansing, Traverse City, and northern Indiana. All this growth provides better service to our customers and opportunities for our stakeholders. Kent Companies continues to grow and today employs over 300 people.

Kent’s largest venture to-date is pouring the 34-story Riverhouse project in downtown Grand Rapids. This project showcases Kent Companies’ value in the Design/Build process of the construction industry.

One full year prior to any concrete being placed on the project, Kent Companies partnered with the owner, construction manager, and structural engineer to develop a cast-in-place model that would transform what was originally a steel frame structure into Michigan’s second tallest cast-in-place building. The building frame will contain more than 20,000 cubic yards of concrete, 1200 tons of reinforcing steel, and 750,000 pounds of post tension cables.

Kent Companies model of self-performing all facets of concrete construction will allow it to differentiate from competitors by providing customers with a single source for all their concrete needs.

Editors Note:
If you would like your company featured in the next issue of Extras, please contact Randy Brink.
West Michigan Chapter CFMA
Teamed Up For The Fight
Relay for Life of Byron Center
June 1st & 2nd

Our Chapter teamed up with the NAWIC Grand Rapids Chapter # 194 for this year’s Relay For Life of Byron Center on June 1st and 2nd. We challenged our members to see who could raise more money for this good cause – general members or associate members.

We raised just over $3,600 and 25 people came out to walk (11 of which were members of either CFMA or NAWIC). We won the award for “Highest Fund-raising On Line,” and we came in 4th overall for fund-raising (only the first three spots are awarded, so no certificate for that one...oh well, there’s always next year!)

As part of our effort, we sold about 48 Belgian waffles, which our team made on-site.

Congratulations on an INCREDIBLE job for our first year!

Thanks to everyone who helped out in this great effort!

the Results

And the final results of the challenge...drum roll, please?

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<td>NAWIC Members</td>
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And the winner is...the General Members!
Great job, everyone!
Ten of our members attended the 2007 Construction Financial Management Association Conference and Exhibition this past May in Phoenix. Attendance at this conference set a new record!

“Creating and Concluding Construction Joint Ventures,” “Bringing Out the Best in Every Generation,” “Additional Insured Basics in Today’s Insurance Marketplace” were just a few of the many informative general sessions and workshops at this year’s Conference and Exhibition.

Owen-Ames-Kimball Co. has given the entire conference, recorded on two MP3 CDs, to our Chapter. These CDs, as well as prior year CDs, are available to any member of CFMA (you can listen on a PC or MP3 player) by contacting Ellen at 616.456.1521 or by Email at ezierley@owen-ames-kimball.com after July 15, 2007.

Future conferences are scheduled in the following locations:

2008
Orlando, Florida

2009
Las Vegas, Nevada

2010
Waikoloa, Hawaii

2011
Grapevine, Texas
Welcome to our newest members since our last issue of Extras!

Thomas Warnhuis
Crowe Chizek
Referred by: Shanna Reynolds

Paul VanBeek
Lamar Construction

Welcome to both of you!

If you have any questions about membership, please contact any Membership Committee member listed below:

- **Mircea Dobre**
  R.W. Baird
  mdobre@rwbaird.com

- **John D. Koscielniaak**
  Walburg & Associates, PC
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- **Ann M. Plummer**
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  steveh@danvoscc.com

- **Sheri Wert**
  Accounting Etc.
  sheriwert@msn.com

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**General Membership Meetings**

All meetings will be held at the University Club on the tenth floor of the Fifth Third Bank building located at the intersection of Ottawa and Lyon in downtown Grand Rapids. Parking will be at the attendee’s expense.

Registration begins at 11:30 a.m., with lunch served at 12:00 p.m.

<table>
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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>September 27, 2007</td>
<td>Jonathon Bradford</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Inner City Christian Federation</td>
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<td>October 25, 2007</td>
<td>Ray DeWinkle</td>
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<td>The Right Place</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 15, 2007</td>
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As the source and resource of construction financial management in West Michigan, our Association unites individuals having financial responsibilities in the construction industry. We provide a forum through which the Association’s members can meet to network and exchange ideas. We promote and encourage leadership within the construction industry, as well as our Association. We develop and coordinate educational programs dedicated to the purpose of improving the professional standards of the industry and enhancing the value of construction financial managers to their respective companies.