Hello Everyone and Happy February

I am very excited about our February 1st seminar on Financial Statements, presented by Anthony R. Stagliano, CPA, CCIFP, CBIZ/MHM, and wish to thank our Co-Sponsors, CBIZ Insurance Services and CBIZ (Taxation). The registrations have been coming in steadily and it is great to see new attendees, some that we have not seen in a while, and of course, many of our regulars! Thank you everyone for your support and I am sure you will find this seminar very informational and timely.

Our March 1st Seminar will be very timely as well. Cyber-Security – What to Expect in 2017. We all know the hackers are always one-step ahead of our IT systems. What can you do to be pro-active in 2017, to train your employees on what they can do to prevent attacks, and to ensure you have proper backups if you are attacked? Take a break from our hectic time of year and come out for some great education, networking, dinner, and drinks!

April 1st is coming quickly, and as many of you are aware, it is time renew your membership. Please renew prior to March 31st so you are counted in our Chapter Size as we submit our Chapter of the Year application for 2016-2017 in early April.

In addition to it being time to renew, April 1st is also a time to think about getting more involved in CFMA. I have been a member of CFMA for 11 years, and involved for 13 (beginning with the Philadelphia Chapter). While I started by attending seminars and using CFMA for continuing education, it was not until I started getting involved in committees and becoming more active behind the scenes that I realized how much CFMA truly has to offer. Since 2008, I have been active with the CFMA South Jersey Chapter (while retaining my membership in Philadelphia and attending as many events there as possible), and it is an experience I would not trade! We have great people in our chapter, and I am excited to see it continue to grow.

Let us not forget our mission statement: **CFMA South Jersey is committed to bringing its members the best educational programs available and to promoting mutually beneficial partnerships resulting in the growth and advancement of construction professionals and the construction industry in South Jersey.**

So far, our members have done a great job in promoting this mission statement and meetings its standards. Thank you to everyone for their part!

*Kimberly A. Hullfish, CCIFP*
February 2017

The word “February” is derived from the Latin word Februarius, from the Latin februa meaning to “Purify” or to “Explate” (unfold). In ancient Rome, this was the month of purification, and people dedicated their time to living honorably, being virtuous. February was actually the last month of the year, and February 5th marked the first day of spring, a time of new beginnings.

We make our New Year's Resolutions on January 1st and by February 1st, many of us have not only fallen off the path we set, but have forgotten what our resolutions actually were. Some people have stopped making them altogether.

For many of us, February is a time to finalize our financial statements, and stress over making it the best it can be, as we have to live with this document, this one snapshot of time, for a full year. For some others, it is time to begin auditing our clients or to start our clients’ tax returns, working six days a week to get everything done by deadlines established by banks, bonding companies, and of course, the IRS. It is a time that we can lose track of ourselves, our families, our pets. We eat on the run, we say we will exercise tomorrow. We may even forget to kiss our spouse goodnight as we fall asleep on the sofa.

So instead of worry about New Year’s Resolutions made 31 days ago, let us take a page from the Roman’s and make February a month of purifications, a month of new beginnings. As we stress about correcting W2’s or calculating bank covenants “what if’s” as we think about distributions and over/under billings, find a corner to close your eyes and meditate.

The soul has been given its own ears to hear things mind does not understand.  

- Rumi -

Skip the potato chips in the break-room and have a glass of lemon water. Set some family time on Sunday where everyone puts down their electronics for a few hours – maybe make a family game day and bring out those old board games. Take your dog on a long quiet walk.

Establish a new resolution focusing on “purification” – purification of body, mind, and / or soul. What do you love to do that you have not done in a while? What will be the one thing you can do this year to de-stress, de-clutter, and just make your life simpler?

I plan to set time aside a few times a week to take long walks again. I will attend my book club meetings again after missing the last 3 months, and I plan to give my dog a little more playtime when I get home from a hectic day at work. Most of all, I will do things to make my soul happy.

What will February bring you?

~~Kimberly A. Hullfish, CCIFP~~

**Membership Corner**


Did you know?
Sharing the knowledge and networking CFMA brings to you is a great reward in itself!

**Members can bring **

A Contractor new to CFMA for free!

Contact membership and help spread the knowledge that is SJ CFMA!

***** Contact Mike Viens, Chair of Membership @ mviens@kmco.com Or Joe Artale, Co-Chair @ jartale@cabbonizio.com *****
Our Programming Year is going strong! Thank you to Nia Coombs and her committee for putting together a great year!

February and March were presented in this month’s President’s Message—save those dates, February 1st and March 1st and learn about Advanced Accounting—Preparing for your Audit, as well as CyberSecurity—What to watch in 2017.

On April 5th, Louis Lessig will bring us HR Minefields! He is currently putting a panel together and you won’t want to miss this!

Save the Date: May 3rd (Managing Insurance Costs) and June 7th (Sales Tax Issues)! More detail to follow!!

Note: We are considering changing our June 7th Seminar as it coincides this year with the National Conference—watch for details!

As we begin to set our fall schedule, let us know: 1st Wednesday of the month still the best date? Topics you want to see? Want to participate on a panel or present a topic?

Contact Nia Coombs with any ideas or to volunteer!
ncoombs@captialbanknj.com

Book Club Corner—What are you reading?

I have to admit I am very much behind on my reading list! Thus my February Purification Promise of finding time for my Book Club again, finding that minute in the corner to read.

For two years I have written about the books I have read or that have been recommended to me. We have compiled quite the book list from our speakers as well.

What do you read when you have the opportunity? Do you grab a “business” type book to keep up on your career? Do you grab the latest Stephen King or Steve Grissom book? Or maybe e magazines are more your style. You may also be part of the group that has not picked up a book since high school or college.

I am asking our readers to send me a book on their “if I were going to be on an island for one month, the book I would take is…” I would love to compile a list for the March Book Club Corner.

Send your suggestions to:
Khullfish@cabbonizio.com

Have fun reading!

Save the Dates:
National Conference: Phoenix, AZ, June 3—7, 2017
CCIFP Exams—On Demand, Electronically! Visit www.iccifp.org for information!
CONSTRUCTION FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH JERSEY

The 18th Annual CFMA Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference
September 24 and 25, 2017
Wyndham Hotel and Conference
Gettysburg, PA

We are just in the planning stages, but we already know this year will be just as fun as last! Great education, great networking, and the 2nd Annual Hall of Flame Awards!