

Building Connections

Bimonthly Newsletter of Chicago CFMA



February, 2016

President's Letter



Welcome to the inaugural newsletter for your Chicago CFMA chapter! We hope this will keep you better informed and provide useful information from a local perspective. Since my term as Chapter President ends in March, I'd like to take the opportunity to thank you for allowing me to serve as your leader. This has been an incredibly rewarding experience, both personally and professionally. Thank you to our Past President, Chris Budris, for being my advisor, to Deb Hypke, our administrator, for making things happen, and our outstanding executive committee, board, and all the committee members who donate their time, expertise and energy.

Lastly, let's keep our sponsors top of mind (Listed here). Their support is so important to our Chapter's success. And for those of you wondering if you should get more involved, the answer is yes, and you will not regret it! Ultimately, what you get out of CFMA is proportional to what you put into it. I look forward to acting as Past President to support the new team in the future.

Kathy Cole
Chapter President

In This Issue

Welcome New Members

Useful Links

2016 Build Chicago Awards

**Thank You 2016
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 **Assurance**

 **CliftonLarsonAllen**

THIS WEEK!

An Inside Look at the Claims Process

February 17, 2016

Join us as we take a closer look at how a contractor's financial manager can best take control of the claim process.



Presented by:

Ryan Hiss

Partner, Lyman & Nielsen, LLC

Scott Hollingsworth

Vice President, The Kenrich Group, LLC - Chicago

Location: Maggiano's Little Italy, Oak Brook

4:00 p.m. Check-In & Networking **4:30 p.m.** Program

\$50 Members/Member Companions, \$75 Non-members

[Learn More & Register Here](#)



Welcome New Members

**Donté
Huemiller Evans**
Chubb

**Angela Drexel
and
Shon Harris**
LiveWire Electrical &
Construction, Inc.

Bill Toliopoulos
Laurie & Brennan LLP

Anthony Magnafici
BKD, LLP

Patrick Hannigan
Zurich

Christine Mundle
Comdata

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Hot Tech Today and App- tastic Updates for You and Your Business

March 17, 2016

How are you keeping up with the technological advancements that impact your job and career? This session reviews what's new in technology, including the latest information about critical smart phone and iPad/tablet apps to improve productivity.

Speaker: James Spellos

Location: Doubletree Hotel, Oak Brook, IL

7:30 a.m. Check-In & Breakfast

8:00 a.m. Annual Meeting, Board Election and Program

\$50 Members/Member Companions, \$75 Non-Members

[Learn More & Register Here](#)

Featured Platinum Sponsor



Benchmarking Data Offers Strategic Insights for Construction Industry

by Craig Olsen and Mike Prigge

How does your company compare to the competition? How can a company that is smaller than yours be so much more profitable? How do your competitors continue to grow when your company has leveled off? These are the questions the leaders of construction companies routinely ask themselves - but how often do they get solid answers?



For three years, CliftonLarsonAllen construction and real estate professionals have been compiling financial data from our construction companies across the United States to try to provide some answers to the financial questions that construction owners always seem to have on their minds.

[Read the complete article here.](#)

CFMA Chicago Intern Program Now Accepting Applications for 2016

The CFMA Chicago Intern





The Chicago Chapter of CFMA will join forces with *Rebuilding Together* on National Rebuilding Day, Saturday, April 30th, to make improvements to a home in Blue Island.

Tasks will include painting, landscaping, clutter removal, minor plumbing and carpentry repair work.

Interested in helping? Contact [Shawn Erickson](#) or [Mike Pohl](#) for more information.

2016 Build Chicago Awards Luncheon



May 12, 2016 University Club Chicago

Congratulations to Courtney Hartnett on being named the General Member of the Year and Michael Harris for the Associate Member of the Year. Construction Executive of the Year will be announced soon. Mark your calendars!

Award Program Makes a Difference in a Student's Educational Experience and Career Planning. Recipients receive a stipend up to \$2,000 to cover the cost for an intern. The application deadline is February 29, 2016. [Learn more and apply today!](#)



Mark your calendar for the **2016 Midwest Regional Conference** to be held on **September 27th** at the Hyatt Lodge on the McDonald's Campus in Oak Brook.

Participating chapters include Chicago, Fox Valley, Madison, Milwaukee, Southwest Michigan and Western Michigan. Request for program submissions will go out soon. Visit the chapter's website to keep up to date on speakers, topics and participation opportunities.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP



CFMA provides educational programming and services designed to increase knowledge, strengthen skills and grow professional networks; all aimed at building your bottom line.

Here are just a few benefits of CFMA membership:

- Industry & Professional Connections
- CFMA *Building Profits* & Electronic Publications
- Free Webinars
- Monthly Educational Programs, Networking and Social Events
- Midwest Regional Conference
- National Conference & Exhibition
- Professional Certification & Continuing Education

Membership renewals are due March 31, 2016.

Members who renew their national and local dues by the deadline, will be entered into a drawing to receive a full refund of their 2016 national and local dues.

[Renew Today!](#)

Are You a Proud Member of CFMA?

The Construction Financial Management Association (CFMA) is the only organization dedicated to bringing together construction financial professionals and those partners serving their unique needs. Let others know that you belong to this influential group, and promote CFMA at the same time.



Thank you to our January Program Champions Michael Harris (far right), The PrivateBank and Jon Schroeder (far left), Arthur J. Gallagher & Co., for coordinating an informational Update on Cyber Crime. Both are pictured here with the program panelists: Mark Eich, CliftonLarsonAllen; Laura Zaroski, Socius Insurance Services; and Christopher Arehart, Chubb & Son.

The Membership Committee is encouraging members to add a tagline to their email signature:

A proud member of The Construction Financial Management Association - www.chicagocfma.org

We hope to see this signature in your email soon! Want to add the chapter logo to your signature? Email [Deb Hypke](mailto:Deb.Hypke) for a signature that includes the logo.

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