

Building Connections

Bimonthly Newsletter of Chicago CFMA



June, 2016

President's Letter



Summer has finally arrived in Chicago! For many of us summer represents family vacations, kids home from school, backyard barbecues and outdoor activities. For CFMA it means National's Annual Conference, interns, golf and a full schedule of events.

CFMA's 2016 Annual Conference, "Building it Forward," takes place June 25 - 29 in San Antonio, Texas. The Annual Conference & Exhibition is an amazing opportunity to discover and implement ideas that deliver results. In addition to the continuing professional education, you have countless opportunities to make valuable connections with like minded financial professionals and industry

thought leaders. This will be the first year I have missed in a long time. Unfortunately I couldn't get the cruise line to change the dates for our Alaska trip. I am hoping you get the opportunity to attend and look forward to hearing what I missed.

Locally, the Chicago chapter has a full schedule this summer beginning this week with the *Millennials: Burden or Blessing* breakfast program. If you haven't registered, it's not too late to join us for this program. Our Summer Social will take place on July 28th at Wrigley Field for the Crosstown Classic. Tickets are sold out but we are accepting names for the wait list. As the Intern Program enters its ninth year, we are pleased to again provide six employers of CFMA general members with support and financial incentive to employ a college student in a financial capacity during the summer months. The Intern Program is funded each year by proceeds from our Annual Golf Outing. Please mark your calendar to join us on September 1st at Bowes Creek Country Club for this year's outing. We look forward to celebrating the end of summer every year at this fun event.

More information about these events can be found in this newsletter and on our chapter website. I look forward to seeing you this summer!

Mary Davolt
Chapter President

In This Issue

Welcome New Members

Useful Links

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"Build Chicago" Photos

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Featured Platinum Sponsor



Commercial Cards Leading the Charge

by Christopher Brown, Associate Managing Director,

Treasury Management Card Specialist, The PrivateBank



Welcome New Members

Jennifer Ryan
MTH Industries

Courtney Scott Bennett
Crowe Horwath LLP

Jeff Chorba
Industrial Steel Construction

Kelvin Owens
PMI Energy Solutions

Aaron Jackowski
Peter Baker & Son Co.

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The Commercial Card industry has significantly evolved over the last decade.

Commercial Cards have historically been used for travel and entertainment payments and to reduce the cost of accounts payable transactions. Compared to other methods, such as checks, commercial cards generate administrative cost savings of about \$74 per transaction^[1]. Even though cards have been around for decades, between 2011 and 2013, overall Purchasing Card spending in North

America grew from \$196 billion to \$245 billion. The predicted Purchasing Card growth rate is expected to be 10.8% per year average over the next five years. What's driving the growth in cards over this period is a host of innovations that are providing organizations new efficiencies and cost savings. Leading the charge now are three capabilities that have expanded card usage into new areas: virtual cards, information management improvements, and enhanced risk management.

[Read the complete article here.](#)

[1] Source: 2012 Purchasing Card Benchmark Survey Results; Richard Palmer & Mahendra Gupta, RPMG Research Corporation

Join Us Tomorrow!

Millennials: Burden or Blessing

June 8, 2016 7:30 a.m.

Maggiano's Little Italy, Oak Brook

Millennials are now the largest single demographic in our workforce and will soon represent up to 75 percent of all workers. And yet many companies continue to recruit and manage this new multi-generational workforce like it is business as usual.



Guest Speaker:

Dr. Ira S Wolfe President, [Success Performance Solutions](#). Dr. Wolfe is a renowned thought leader, popular speaker and writer on talent acquisition and employee selection.



There is still time to join us!



The Chicago Chapter of CFMA joined forces with *Rebuilding Together* on National Rebuilding Day, Saturday, April 30th, to make improvements to a home in Blue Island. Thanks to all who volunteered to help!



[Learn more and register here!](#)



Register Today 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. Visit the chapter's website to keep up to date on speakers, topics and participation opportunities.

[Register Here!](#)



**2016 Sage Summit
July 25-28, 2016**

**CFMA Special Price \$99
with Code CFMAPROMO**

25 Celeb Entrepreneurs
50 Insightful Workshops.
300 Product Sessions
Network with **15,000** business owners, thought leaders and influential industry leaders.



Front L-R: Ruth Stockdale, Shawn Erickson, Tamara Kilty, Courtney Hartnett. Back: Co-chairs James Preuss (far left) and Kirk Liskiewitz (far right)

2016 "Build Chicago" Awards

More than 150 CFMA Chicago Chapter members and guests attended the "Build Chicago" Awards Luncheon on May 12 at the University Club of Chicago. Thank you to the planning committee, pictured above with the keynote speakers Jacob Goldstein and David

Kestenbaum of NPR.



Chapter President, Mary Davolt, presents Courtney Hartnett with the General Member of the Year Award.



Committee Co-Chair, Kirk Liskiewitz, presents IHC Construction with the Contactor of the Year Award.

**Welcome 2016
CFMA Interns!**



CFMA member company representatives with their 2016 Interns at Pinstripes.
2016 Interns enjoyed a social outing at Pinstripes following a morning of education to help orientate them to construction accounting.



Michael Harris accepts the Associate Member of the Year Award from Chapter President Mary Davolt.



CFMA National President & CEO Stuart Binstock, addressed the crowd.



2016 Golf Outing

Mark your calendar for CFMA
Chicago's Annual Golf Outing.

Join us Thursday, September 1st at Bowes Creek
Country Club in Elgin. Proceeds from the Annual
Golf Outing support the Chapter's Summer
Intern Program. **Register For Golf Today!**
Information on sponsorship opportunities
coming soon!

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