



## The Real Lord of the Flies, the Pandemic and CoreNet

By Paul Garvey, Cushman & Wakefield

In his 1951 book, "Lord of the Flies," William Golding illustrates the darkest depths of mankind. After a plane crash, 30 boys find themselves alone on an island paradise. The fictional account portrays a society they assembled on the first day devolving over the course of a year into chaos. The book ends with three of the boys dead and the island a smoldering wasteland.



The six boys later in life became crew for Peter Warner

As we all know, this story did not happen. Golding's negative view of human nature was formed in the aftermath of the Second World War, in which he was a participant. He suffered bouts of violence, alcoholism, and depression. He described himself in a private journal as "a monster in deed, word and thought."

The real world "Lord of the Flies" occurs in 1965 and 1966 in the Tonga archipelago. Peter Warner was sailing in the South Pacific and decided to take a detour to a small rocky island named Ata. The island had reportedly been deserted

for over a hundred years. When approaching the island however, he spied a boy who was naked and had hair down to his shoulders. The boy was then joined by five other boys hailing Warner and swimming toward his boat. The boy identified himself as Stephen and said they had been on the island alone for 15 months.

Fifteen months earlier, the boys, aged 13-16, had hatched a plan to escape from a Catholic boarding school in Nuku'alofa by appropriating a boat and setting sail for Fiti. Their adventure turned into survival mode after a storm at sea left them half swamped with a shredded sail and a broken rudder. Eight days later they drifted ashore on Ata.

*continued on page 4*

## Volunteer Spotlight

### Erin Costello

Senior Account Executive,  
COFCO Office Furnishings

Volunteer Position:  
Secretary



### I chose to join CoreNet because...

I have been a member for over 15 years. I really enjoy the content and the people I have met and BECOME friends with over the years.

### The 2020 CoreNet event I am most looking forward to is...

At this point I'll take any event that means I can be with people! I also really enjoy the Summer Social.

### When I'm not at work or at CoreNet events, you'll find me...

At home watching Star Wars or rollerblading with my four crazy kids, my dog and my husband or at a concert with friends!

### I am originally from...

Hagerstown, MD.

### The best piece of advice I ever received is...

Do it for love, not for money.

*continued on page 5*

## Welcome New Members

Naomi Rudd • Verizon Communications Inc

Phil Share • CBRE

Anthony Sims • HNI Global

Jennifer Sullivan • Mohawk Group

Brian Young • Cushman & Wakefield



## What Can CoreNet Mean for YOU?!!

The Greater Philadelphia Chapter is an essential forum to bring peer colleagues together from all real estate functions... from end users to service providers and economic developers. Being a member helps to create lasting, value-added relationships in a casual environment. We urge you to consider this opportunity to enhance your professional well-being through Connecting, Growing, Learning and Belonging! Join or renew your membership today!

JOIN NOW ▶

TIME TO RENEW? ▶



## Executive Committee

Greater Philadelphia Chapter

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**David Kontra** • GE

Vice President/President-Elect:

**Lea Ann Molinuex** • Verizon

Treasurer:

**Jay Joyce** • Savills

Secretary:

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**Ken Zirk** • CBRE

CoreNet Global

133 Peachtree Street, N.E., Suite 3000

Atlanta, GA 30303

## Letter from the President

Dear Fellow Chapter Members,

On a recent webinar I noted how change management has become a constant across all aspects of our lives. Daily interactions involving work, family, education, and society have changed dramatically over the last few months as we've persevered through stay at home orders with the hope we could soon return to normal. As the Philadelphia region continues to progress through our phased re-opening, a key question may be "what's the new definition of normal?" I've been watching, reading, and learning, curious to see how others are experiencing these shifts as people are thinking about "what comes next?" Many, including me, will begin to test the waters and see what's comfortable for them based on their own personal risk assessment. I've started to think more about what I'm comfortable doing... and what I might wait to do out of caution. The challenges for our city seem to get greater by the day, but while the short-term may be rough we'll get through this, we always do. As we say during tough times at GE, we press on.

While 2020 will be remembered by the challenges brought on by COVID-19, it will also be known as a critical turning point for our industry as we look ahead to the future of corporate real estate. Space utilization, distributed work, autonomous workplace, shared amenities, healthy offices and social distancing are just a few of the key issues that will drive investment decisions in a post-COVID-19 world. How will work get done, where will work get done, what will companies need to provide to ensure their most valuable assets, their people, feel safe and productive in the office? CoreNet Global was quick to organize the recent Hackathon series where over 1,000 of our peers participated in virtual roundtable discussions focusing on some of these very topics. I urge you to review these [results](#) and a wealth of other material that can be found at the [CoreNet Global website](#).

The Philadelphia Chapter has persevered and adapted to the new confines as virtual meetings and webinar programs have dominated our calendar since March. I am grateful to the members who led the drive to organize webinars and to the many individuals who have served as panelists. As we continue to plan for the remainder of the year, we're looking for new opportunities to engage members and provide networking opportunities (and possibly be a little creative in the process!) We'll continue to assess when and how to hold in-person events with a focus on safety while adhering to guidelines provided by CoreNet Global and state & local officials. We're stepping up our game on social media, so please give us a follow to stay connected with the chapter and see what's going on within our region.



To all members and sponsors, thank you for your continued support and stay safe!

Sincerely,

David Kontra, GE  
President, CoreNet Global Philadelphia Chapter

## Find Us on Social Media



# Why Multi-Sensory Experiences are Critical Now More than Ever

How can multi-sensory experiences influence and reinforce health-conscious behaviors as part of a holistic, long-term wellness strategy in a post-COVID world? This interactive dialogue will go beyond friendly signage reminders, refillable hand sanitizer stations, and sneeze guards. Panelists and participants will discuss how light, sound, temperature, texture, smell and more, can work as a system to offer subtle, yet integrated, behavioral cues that promote comradery and wellness while also enhancing culture and brand. Hear how we can begin to weave these psychological hints into spaces for an immersive experience and begin to answer not just how do we go back to the office, but why.

## EVENT DETAILS

**June 11, 2020 • Time: 2:00pm – 3:00pm**

Fees: Free for Members,  
\$10 for Non-Members

**Register Today!**



**Michael Villegas**

Senior  
Designer

**IA Interior Architects**



**Jessica Stoffers**

Senior Experiential  
Graphic Designer

**IA Interior Architects**



**Rosalind Edwards**

Global Workplace Strategy  
and Change Lead  
**Vanguard**



**Jeff Palmer**

VP Global Real  
Estate Workplace  
**Chubb**

## 2020 CoreNet Global Summit North America Update

The 2020 CoreNet Global Summit |  
North America that was scheduled to be held  
in Washington, DC has been canceled.

**There will be a virtual Summit held  
October 26-27.**

More information to follow





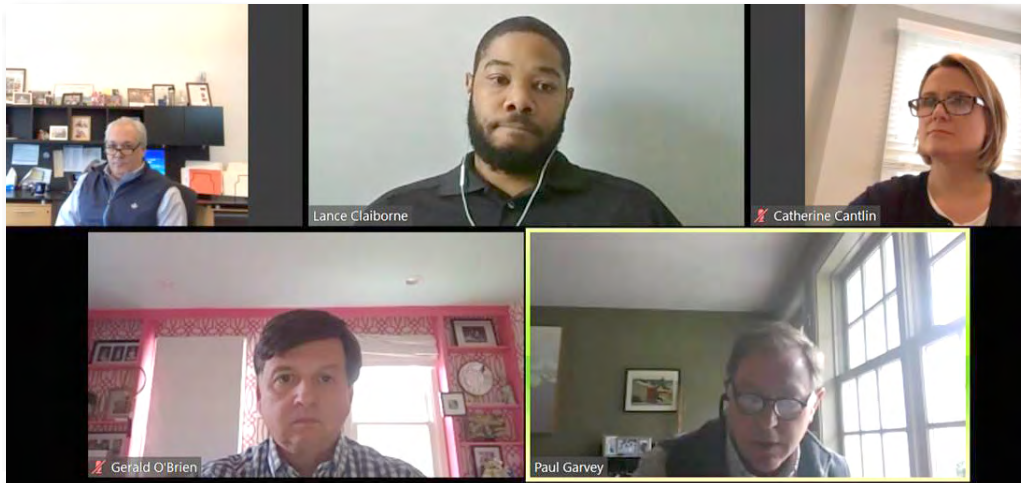
# CoreNet Philadelphia Goes Virtual

Soon after the country began shutting down due to the pandemic, the Chapter took to the web in an effort to educate its members, while helping the community stay connected. The series of virtual events began on April 14th with a webinar entitled, "COVID-19 and the Impact on Philadelphia Real Estate," which attracted more than 70 chapter members. Since then the chapter has been busy with the continued virtual event series including:

- April 16: **Young Leaders Virtual Happy Hour**
- April 28: **End User Happy Hour**

- April 30: **The Human Factor in the Post COVID-19 Workplace**
- May 12: **After the Blip: U.S. Economic and Office Market Outlook in the COVID-19 Era**
- May 19: **Change Management – A Customized Approach**

Thank you to our sponsors, leadership, and members for sharing their expertise as webinar presenters and hosts. If you are interested in hosting a webinar, or have a topic/speaker suggestion [let us know!](#)



April 14 speakers from top left:

**Jeff DeVuono**, Executive Vice President and Senior Managing Director, Brandywine Realty Trust

**Lance Claiborne**, Director of Industry Relations, General Building Contractors Association, Inc.

**Catherine Cantlin**, Director, Project Management, Macro, A Savills Company

**Gerald O'Brien**, Vice President Real Estate, Comcast Cable Communications

**(Moderator) Paul Garvey**, Senior Director, Cushman & Wakefield

## The Real Lord of the Flies, the Pandemic and CoreNet *continued from page 1*

The boys faced the challenges presented by their situation at Ata as a community. They worked as teams of two, divided the chores, collecting water, gardening, setting up bird pens, fishing and hunting. Their days included music, prayer and sports – including a crude form of badminton. When Stephen broke his leg, they set the leg and divided his tasks amongst the others until he was well again. They faced a trying drought during the summer months and persevered through more communal effort. When Captain Warner found them they were healthy, not dead, and their home village in Nuku'alofa rejoiced as their funerals had already been conducted.

Our global community is facing challenges brought on by the pandemic. The experience and behavior of the boys from Tonga illustrate how we act when faced with challenges. We see momentous acts of generosity and kindness every day. We witness healthcare workers, despite risks to their own health, care for those stricken with the virus. Much like after 9/11 we have pulled together as a community and society with many people making sacrifices on a day-to-day basis. We also know that sometimes members of our society exhibit some of the negative traits of mankind depicted in Golding's book. We hear of the 30-year old being accosted at Wegman's during "senior" shopping hours. The aggressor does not stop to think that the woman may be

immunosuppressed or perhaps she is a healthcare worker. We also know that in journalism "bad news sells." We rarely hear of the random acts of kindness. The good that people are doing far exceeds bad behavior exhibited by a few.

Our CoreNet community needs to face the challenges presented by the pandemic as a community as well. Sharing best practices has never been more important as we endeavor to return the workforce safely back into the workplace. Cooperation, coordination, and communication will be critically important as we strive to implement new policies and procedures in our buildings and workplaces. Some of our colleagues may be permanently laid off as a result of this downturn in the economy. Please reach out to them and provide support, advice, and direction. By helping each other navigate this unimagined pandemic situation, we will be stronger as a community and succeed together.

*Additional reading: Rutger Bregman incorporates Peter Warren's tale in his new book, "Humankind: A Hopeful History" where he presents the thesis that our innate goodness and cooperation have been the greatest factors in humanity's success. Warren describes his account of and with the lost boys in his self-published memoir, "Ocean of Light," [available here](#).*

# CoreNet Global Hackathon: A Covid-19 Virtual Ideation Experience

The corporate real estate community came together to respond to the challenges posed by COVID-19 and ideate with peers from across the globe to develop collective solutions for the immediate crisis – and beyond. More than 1,000 members participated in CoreNet Global's COVID-19 Hackathon with representation from 35 countries in 90+ teams. [Click here](#) for more information and to view the results.



## Make the Most of Your Membership... Volunteer Today!

The Philadelphia Chapter is looking for members to take advantage of their membership by joining one of eight committees. Active members of the chapter will tell you that peer-to-peer networking and gaining value from the chapter starts at the committee level. There are many opportunities to participate no matter how much (or how little) time you have to give, [click here](#) to read more about our committees and [contact us](#) to get started today!



### Volunteer Spotlight *continued from page 1*

#### **My favorite thing about Philly is...**

The mussels from Monk's Café.

**If I had to take a tourist to one Philly area destination, it would be...** To run up the Art Museum stairs, then high five the Rocky statue!

**Growing up, I wanted to be...** A Christian singer.

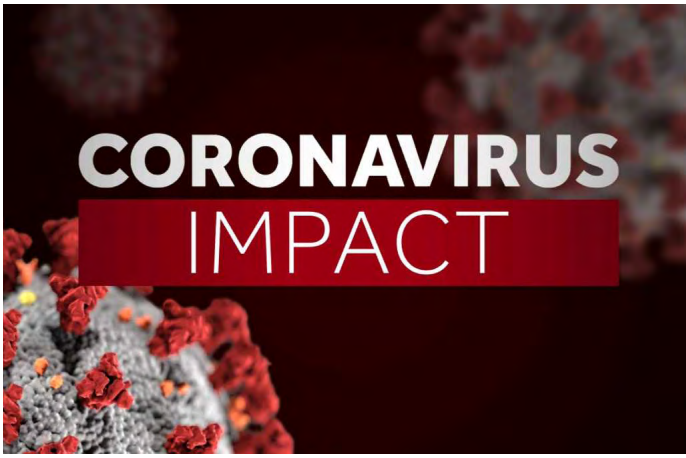
#### **My favorite vacation destination is...**

Rodanthe, NC (in the Outer Banks).

#### **The best book I've read is...**

Tuesdays with Morrie.





## Chapter Message: COVID-19

As the concerns associated with COVID-19 continue, so does unease in our community. If you are in need of support - you have it. Now is a great time to leverage relationships as we work to determine the best possible solutions for the challenges. Our CoreNet Chapter is a community, and we continue to encourage connecting with each other on our growing social media pages, [LinkedIn](#) and [Twitter](#). We look forward to bringing you an array of in person programs as soon as it is safe to do so. In the meantime, we will continue to bring our community together online via virtual meet ups and education sessions. For additional information, visit the CoreNet Global [COVID-19 Resources Page](#).

### Don't Miss These Events!

June 11:

#### Webinar

**Why Multi-Sensory Experiences are Critical Now More than Ever**

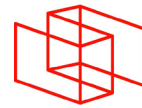
Oct. 26-27:

**CoreNet Global Summit | Virtual**

Visit the [events section](#) of the chapter website for more information and to register.

## Thanks to Our Sponsors

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