

President's Message Winter 2003

My Fellow Members

We closed out the 2003-year with a "Taste of Gold" at our December's first annual "Winter Faire." Our special guest and keynote speaker was Brian Goodell, two-time Gold Medallist swimmer at the Montreal Summer Olympics in 1976. Brian's motivational presentation on "Going for the Gold" was an inspiration to all that attended. Thanks to Jennifer Corbett-Sharmo, Bill Tucker and the Associate Relations Committee for making this a memorable event. (Visit our website at www.ifmaoc.org for a recap)

As we begin the 2004-year, it is not without the accomplishments and dedicated time of our volunteers. As the president and leader of your chapter, I have experienced the professionalism, and dedication of a highly devoted, interactive and motivated team. This team is composed of both "professional members" (facility managers), and "associate members" (now referred to as: "**strategic partners**") who have brought forward some new and exciting innovations to keep our chapter moving. (Get to know them... visit our website)

"Click on the icons." With the help of Charlie Brown, our Communications Chair, the website has been modified to bring, to you, *"the ease of navigating for information"* on upcoming events as well as recaps on programs, education, best practices (roundtable discussion) and special events. We also have downloadable pictures of the golf event at Coyote Hills, World Workplace 2003, and other memorable moments.

Anita Ciminesi, our past president has been working closely with Charlie on our new downloadable "Newsletter" for which most of our members have been asking. *Look for the first issue in February.*

Reflecting back on what has been accomplished in 2003 shows me that we did a lot! Some notable accomplishments were:

- Dick and Cookie Currier, our **Golf Committee** Chairs raised over \$16,000 for the chapter, (that is more that we have ever accomplished for this event)
- Lila Grant, **Programs** Chair and her committee continue to bring quality FM related programs (interactive) with venues of interest.
- Cindy Bongiovanni, our **Hospitality** Chair and her 7 committee members are continuing to enhance our program events by bringing a "hospitality friendly environment" for our attendee's by greeting, checking in, introducing and overall... making everyone feel "welcomed."
- Our tabletop sponsors have enjoyed greater company exposure of their products and services by having attendees stop by their display table to enter in the free \$25 raffle encourages attendees to visit the sponsor tables. (*I'd like to thank Fred DeMaria, our Sponsorship Chair for coordinating with our strategic partners... tabletop sponsorship and all of our sponsorship activities*)
- Bill Conley, our **CFM Study** Group Chair and Anita have developed an on-line curriculum at (www.cfmstudy.com) to help facility managers get their CFM designation.
- Joe Soter, our **Career Development** and **Job Search** Chair (through his advise and counseling) have helped many of our once "unemployed" facility managers with career development and job placements.
- John Secor, our **Education** Committee Chair and his involvement with teaching at UCI, brings IFMA exposure and recognition to UCI, Cal-Poly Pomona and to the local community colleges with his devoted efforts.

- Ron Moyer, **Roundtable Discussion** Chair who brings unique and "real life" discussion topics (in the round and with call-in teleconferencing) to help FM's do their jobs more efficiently and effectively...

I can go on and on... Thanks to all the Orange County volunteers who continue to make a difference, those mentioned and the many others who have worked diligently to bring about excellence at the chapter level.

From the ***International level***, we have several special individuals from our chapter who have been awarded the highest recognition for volunteer work: Jennifer Corbett-Sharmo has been recognized as an "IFMA Fellow" at last year's World Workplace in Dallas. This is the highest designation that can be accomplished for one's contribution. She joins Phyllis Meng, our chapter Council Chair and IFMA Fellow. Also, Bill Conley, was recognized by IFMA International as "Distinguished Member of the Year" the second highest designation by IFMA. *Great job... we are all proud!*

Looking to this year, our Programs Committee will continue to bring the membership quality, relevant programs such as: the return of "FM Feud" a game show format developed around "core competencies" for our February program; the return of the second annual St. Patrick's Day Mini-9 hole golf tournament; in April the topic of "Getting FM's to the Board Room" and in May "FM plus Real Estate Knowledge = \$250K plus" how to enhance you facility management career. *(Look for details on our website)*

Membership is growing ...! Our newly appointed Membership Chair, Ken Matthews and his committee, since December, has brought on 12 new facility managers and 3 new strategic partner to our chapter. Our Membership Committee has been revamped and is full of energy and ideas for 2004. Watch out for them...their drive is 75-25 and new members of 60 by end of June... what a goal! On February 5th, the committee will have their 1st of the year New Member Luncheon, at P.J. Abbey in Orange.

Our annual Awards Night and Chapter Celebration is planned for June 24th. Get ready to go "Polynesian." Karen Copeland our Awards Committee Chair is putting together a relaxing atmosphere of *Aloha*. She has a big surprise in store for this year's event. *Don't be left behind!* Please plan on coming out and celebrating with us.

As you can see, the Orange County Chapter has a lot to offer you, our members. Although my time as President is coming to an end on June 30th, the upcoming activities have been designed for your education, networking opportunities; resource and most of all... building a stronger relationship between the Chapter members.

That is our goal and we hope that you find it... *significant*. We invite you, indeed challenge you to join our vision.

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