



## **2008-9 IFMA ATLANTA ANNUAL REPORT**

**The past 2008-2009 fiscal year in review for the Atlanta chapter of IFMA is best summarized by its progress. As it is in most organizations, much of the work goes on behind the scenes. The whole of our chapter's success in the past year is made up of the sum of its parts. These parts are made up of the following dynamic groups:**

### **OUR COMMITTEES**

#### **Sustaining Patrons**

Ed Brownlee, Turner Broadcasting has led the Sustaining Patron Program in creating a more flexible Sponsorship system that provides more benefits to the Sustaining Patrons for their support dollar. A major job, not easily achieved in any circumstance, but the challenges are exponentially increased in today's economic conditions. The Sustaining Patrons Committee has risen to the challenge by meeting every goal and filling all the obligations of meeting the financial needs of the chapter and providing the service and feedback to our important corporate partners.

#### **IFMA Foundation/Sponsorships and Special Project**

Led by Joyce Roper who this year reviewed the new IFMA Operations Manual, Chapter Bylaws, and revision of Chapter Standing Rules to facilitate chapter operations.

1. Continued support of the IFMA Foundation:
  - ▶ \$2,500 unrestricted contribution
  - ▶ \$3,000 scholarship, plus expenses, to attend World Workplace to receive the award and attend educational seminars.
2. Continued support of IFMA Atlanta Professional members:
  - ▶ Two \$1,500 sponsorships to attend World Workplace.
  - ▶ Two \$1,500 scholarships to Georgia Tech graduate students sponsored by **Flood Brothers** and **DeKalb Office Environments**.
3. Continued IFMA Atlanta support of Georgia Tech's Masters Program in Integrated Facility and Property Management:
  - ▶ Contribution of \$10,000.

## **Associates**

Karen Howard, CWC led her committee in informing the Associate Members on "How to get most out their IFMA membership".

1. They hosted the Dos & Don'ts of IFMA Etiquette session held in January
2. Implemented and printed Dos & Don'ts Etiquette cards
3. They initiated a campaign to compile and email Associate members & interested potential associates

## **Membership**

Led by Lynn Schneider, Corporate Environments. Lynn's committee was the lynch pin to achieving the goals set forth by our chapter president to increase Professional membership. When most chapters across the country are dramatically shrinking due to budget cut backs and layoffs. Our chapter has had positive growth in Professional Membership.

1. Created and Printed a New Member Brochure for Professionals
2. Started our New Members Table at monthly Luncheons
3. Promoted (3) month Membership Drive for Professionals.
4. Hosted New Member Orientation for Professionals and Associates utilizing partner members to host the event, saving the chapter over a \$1,000 per meeting.
5. They created a "New Member Highlight Email"

## **Website**

Kenneth J. Bryson led the Website Committee to produce this chapter's best and most interactive internet tool it has ever known.

1. Kept the calendar up to date - most of the time.
2. Added social networking features to take advantage of the new Social Media tools like blogging, Facebook and Twitter.
3. Expanded our FM resources library with sustainability features.

## **Newsletter**

Meaghan Baker led the Newsletter Committee, the hardest job in IFMA. Most people earn a good living doing what she and her committee does for us for free.

1. The newsletter committee completed a monthly 8 page full color newsletter. These newsletters included educational articles, CFM study questions, member profiles and information regarding past and future events.
2. By joining forces with the Website committee they built a photo gallery for all events and assisted with the growth of our social media which now includes a chapter blog, Facebook page and Twitter option.
3. The committee re-built itself by more than doubling its size to 11 members strong. This allowed for more presence at events for reporting and photography coverage.

## **Community Services**

Christy Jellets, Atlanta Botanical Gardens chairs the largest and probably the most popular Committee. Community Services is the chapter resource to facilitate donations to community partners by IFMA members including moving services, flooring, landscaping services, HVAC, electrical assessments, furniture and furniture installation.

1. Held monthly committee meetings for the purpose of mentoring our 5 Community Partners:
  - ▶ The Atlanta Community Tool bank
  - ▶ Our House of Georgia
  - ▶ The Child Development Association
  - ▶ The Family Life Restoration Center
  - ▶ The Elaine Clark Center for Exceptional Children.
2. Hosted quarterly educational sessions, including a full day Facility Summit, serving 69 participants.
3. They recorded **744** hours of volunteerism by chapter members  
What can I say, Community Services Rocks!



## **Programs Committee**

Led by Tom Haslach, Trilogy FM. This committee has had some difficult tasks. One of which was taken up by the Sub Committee Chair, Neely Kolsch, Munters who formed a strong committee to pull off a collaboration for this Fall's Atlanta Work Place.

1. Formed a series of FM only breakfast meetings
2. The Sustainability subcommittee was established in October 2008 under the direction of Lani Terry of Energy Ace and Tom Haslach.
3. CFM Review Class January 2009, which has graduated over 10% of its attendees to CFM status.

## **Education Committee**

Keith Mathison led this committee and they were pleased to have been involved in the following activities:

1. Hosting a tour of the *Design for the Other 90%*, a traveling exhibit at the CDC presented by the Cooper-Hewitt Museum of the Smithsonian Institute.
2. The Career Management Sub-Committee to support the CFM Exam Review and study group to encourage more Facility Professional to obtain Certified Facility Management credentials.
3. Participated in hosting the inaugural meeting of the FM Job Club networking group supporting the out of work professional in sharing contacts and career search strategies.



## **OUR ADMINSTRATIVE TEAM**

Our **Treasurer**, Pat Dingles. Despite health issues, Pat was instrumental in keeping us on good financial standing.

Our **Secretary**, Monte Townsend. Monte's job was to keep the board on course and record it's progress.

Our **Vice President of Professional Development**, Tom Haslach. Tom was extremely active in overseeing the Professional Development silo, consisting of Programs and Education committees.

Our **Past President**, Andrea Noland. We have greatly benefited from her experience and drive to achieve many of this year's goals.

Our **Vice President** and President Elect, Joanne Cole. Joanne is the ultimate "Over Achiever". I honestly think she must have 28 hours in her day. She has been successful in researching the "Balance Score Card" that we will hear more about in her upcoming administration.

Finally, our **President**, Chris Vest. Chris has kept her vision clear, despite dealing with the effects of the worst economies since the great depression.

Obviously, these conditions have shaken many of the initial plans and budgets of our chapter, as well as our facility management community. Chris has risen to the occasion. Her leadership has been rigid in its goals yet flexible in the means to reach them.

In my opinion, she has been one of IFMA's most successful presidents in utilizing the talents of her team. Chris doesn't believe in "micro management. She inspires her teams to be independent and think outside the box. Her administration has kept goals of Professional Growth in view from day one to today. We thank her for many hours of dedication and steadfast guidance.