“HAPPY NEW YEAR” everybody—2016 is here!! I truly wished that everyone had a safe and wonderful holiday season. Last month we had a very successful holiday social event showcasing our two charities and giving back to the community. Also we celebrated 3 December birthdays as well with one being our very own Karen Frebert. Overall we can say that 2015 had its challenges but we made it through with lessons learned.

In the world of Project Management, after a successful or not so successful project typically there’s a close-out meeting to discuss the project as a whole “the good, the bad and the ugly”. Whether you’re a Project Manager or not this holds true for all professions. We all can look back on 2015 and recall “the good, the bad and the ugly” but the challenge is what you will do with that information.

2016 is a blank canvas for us all and we have clean new brushes and fresh new paint. Some of the challenges as a Professional Member you’re facing (but not limited too) is doing more with less. This could mean reduced resources such as personnel or shrinking budgets. As an Associate Member you may face clients who are scaling back on projects or difficulty in securing the next big deal. So the question we must ask ourselves is “what have we learned from 2015?”.

In June of last year our current board members all accepted the position we hold now with a core value of understanding to continue to make this Chapter great. That includes a plethora of tasks such as monthly meeting locations, exciting topics, and educational programs. This
AS I DO EVERY YEAR AT THIS SEASON, I MAKE IT A POINT TO CATCH THE CHRISTMAS CONCERT OF THE HENRICO POPS CHORUS. ONCE AGAIN, AN EXCELLENT AND SOLD OUT EVENT (NO CHARGE, BUT YOU HAVE TO GET AN ADVANCE TICKET FOR THE CULTURAL ARTS CENTER AT GLEN ALLEN). A BIG SURPRISE FOR ME AS I FIND FOR THE FIRST TIME THAT JOE STANKUS IS FEATURED IN IT AS SANTA CLAUS. CHAPTER OLD TIMERS WILL REMEMBER JOE WHO WAS ACTIVE IN OUR EARLY DAYS WHEN HE WAS WORKING AT MORTON G. THALHIMER.

In recent years, as a hobby, he has become one of the most authentic Santa Clauses in the area. No fake whiskers for him, as I think he shaves after Christmas each year and then in the Spring starts a new beard, so that by this time of year he looks like the real thing. Catching him after the show, he said to remember him to the Chapter veterans and to tell them he’s in good health and enjoying retirement, particularly when he’s playing Santa.

Some sad news for those of us who are Best Products Alumni as we note the passing of our former President and CEO Robert E. R. Hunteley at the age of 86 up in Lexington where he had come to us from after long stints at Washington & Lee as Dean of the Law School and President of the University. A really personable and competent guy, who all of us thought highly of!

Talked to Chapter Past President Sam Jennings (2003-04) at our Holiday Social and learned that his current project at VCU was a new building for the Engineering School (where we had toured the original one back in Sept. of ’98). Then I read that another Past President (1992, and Newsletter Editor for several years after that) Hal Downing and his KOP Architects have been awarded the job to handle the $7.5 million renovation of the Ackell Residence Center, where 350 students are housed, in the Broad St. block just to the east of the Siegel Center. Seems to be a never ending stream of projects going at VCU, if not new buildings, then renovations like this one.

Also never ending is the list of Craft Breweries, as new ones spring up faster than I can get around to check them out. Two more to put on my list, as Three Notch’d Brewing from Charlottesville is setting one up at 2930 W. Broad (a short walk from both Ardent & Isley) that should be ready to open in April as will Kindred Spirit Brewing on West Creek Parkway out in West Creek (close by to the Capital One campus and the new Hardywood Park facility now underway). Interesting plans announced for the mosque-like Hofheimer Building in the next block east of the Three Notch’d where Peter Chang’s will be going in down below while the owners plan to rent out the roof top as “Event Space”. Sounds like a good place to check into for our Spring social if we don’t go back to the Diamond. Looks to be way beyond my definition of a Craft Brewery, but whatever it is, the Stone Brewing project is really moving along. Hourigan seems to be re-writing the definition of a “Fast Track” project, as they prepare to turn it over to the owner this month.

(Continued on page 3)
Some big buildings (and big money) changing hands downtown as Gateway Plaza (which we just visited in August) is sold by Chicago-based Clayco for $104.5 million to New York’s Lexington Realty Trust; while the Bank of America Center at 1111 E. Main, the Williams Mullen Center at 200 S. 10th (where Claude Harrison hosted us in Nov. of ’10), and both Riverfront Plaza towers, are all reported to be under contract by the buzz along the Real Estate Brokers grapevine, but no one is saying who the buyers are.

Meanwhile, LeClairRyan has moved into their new offices on the top three floors of the SunTrust Building, having come over from the Riverfront Plaza East Tower; the State Economic Development Partnership and Tourism Corp. are both coming over from Riverfront Plaza to One James Center (with Commonwealth Architects designing the new space); while CarMax (where we toured in Feb. of ’06) is said to be bursting at the seams out in their 250,000 sq. ft. West Creek building and looking for additional space downtown (with the WestRock Building frequently being mentioned) to support their continued growth as their store count is now up in the mid-150’s. And, as new groceries continue to be built all over the area (even faster than craft breweries), Martin’s announces plans to close three of their former Ukrop’s (Stony Point, Bell Creek, & Crater Road) by next summer, as their leases run out.

With all that going on, we’ve got some changes at the top of one of our very largest real estate brokerage firms as Paul Silver moves up to Chairman and Lee Warfield replaces him as CEO at Cushman & Wakefield/Thalhimer.

The City moving forward with some new projects even as Kanawha Plaza sits there unfinished. Most notable is the Main St. Station train shed stripped of its metal roof and sides to be re-roofed and replaced with glass walls. They will be illuminated at night to provide another visual landmark to motorists on I-95 (although that’s not a real good stretch for the driver to be doing anything but paying attention on). SMBW is the lead architect and Taylor & Parrish the GC on the project, which is designed to make about 90,000 sq. ft. available for retail. This seems like where I came in back in the 80’s. Maybe this time it will work out. Heated discussions continue over how the area around the Diamond should be developed. A committee with some respected names on it comes forth with a mixed use plan around upgrading the existing Stadium, which is received with little enthusiasm by the Mayor. Hard to tell what the City would really like to see here, but one thing is certain and that’s that they are not giving the Squirrels much encouragement over them getting a new or upgraded home out of it.

Meanwhile, plans for the Westhampton Theater are moving right along, calling for an additional two floors on top and more setback from the street to accommodate retail and restaurant usage after the Theater closes some time next summer.

Lots of action on the topic of drones as they continue to proliferate. FAA announces new regulations requiring them to be marked with identification and registered. Amazon continues to move in the direction of delivering parcels via drones by conducting tests at a secret location in Canada. And, always on the lookout for some new business, personal injury lawyer Geoff McDonald sets up a new practice focused on liability for injuries caused by drones. Can’t wait to see the first drone come down my street delivering a package and see how it navigates its way around the trees.

Note that the Marine Corps Museum along I-95 up by Quantico will be closing right after New Years through the end of March to install some new exhibits involving a dive bomber and a helicopter. At the same time, construction continues on an adjacent 117,000 sq. ft addition. If
question has been asked to the board and I’d like to ask you as well, “what have we learned from 2015”? I have stated this before, but it’s important to me to know that our members are getting the best ROI for being a member of IFMA and IFMA’s Richmond Chapter.

In 2016 let’s have those conversations. What are the trending topics, or new technology that’s peaking? Who has an inside contact for that new project or renovation under way. Remember in years past we’ve had a bus tour meeting where we will meet in a local Richmond parking lot and travel by bus to places such as UVA, W&M, and Fort Lee. Let’s have those conversations. These items amongst others will keep 2016 fresh and exciting.

In closing, I would like to directly thank all of our 2015 annual sponsors, meeting sponsors and facilities who sponsored and hosted our monthly meetings. This all has been possible with your contributions. Last but not least to our Chapter Membership for renewing your membership in 2015…THANK YOU! So please join me here in 2016 in the continued success of this great IFMA Richmond Chapter!!

“Don’t watch the clock; do what it does. Keep going”

Sam Levenson

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(Continued from page 3)

you’ve never stopped off to visit this Museum, you really ought to do so once it reopens. It’s exhibits are high quality, right up there with the Smithsonian and they should be even better after this project. (and free of charge)

Not getting much press up here yet, but the Rio Olympics is only 7 months away, and the host country is in turmoil. They are having a severe recession, their President is being impeached, a huge corruption scandal involving the state run oil company Petrobras is being investigated, and the water in Rio’s harbor is so fouled with sewage that organizers are trying to figure out where to conduct the start of the Triathlon, the Sailing, and some other water events. On top of all that, construction on some venues is running behind, as happens every four years. Sounds like a job for Hourigan, and their fast track team. Let’s see how this event comes off.
In the spirit of giving with your IFMA Community. Please don’t forget to budget for the Golf Tournament Sponsorship payment this year. We need our remarkable 36 Golf sponsors to return in 2016. Budget $875 for 2016 and we’ll do our best to hold the cost to $850.00 again. This is just a reminder in case you need to run it up the ole’ flag pole.

Thanks for Being an Integral Part of Our Effort!!!

Visit our New & Improved Local Chapter Web Site

www.ifmarichmond.org

Put it in your Favorites Folder right now

Thanks to Blaes Communications
A nice turnout of 78, including 31 guests, found their way out to Luck Stone's headquarters on Rt. 6 in Goochland on December 8. Doesn't seem that long ago to me, but the record shows that it was August of '08 when we first met out there shortly after the facility opened (We did return in May of '14 for Maureen Roskoski's program on Sustainability). Meeting in daylight at that time of year we saw their beautiful setting and view to the east, while this visit after dark took us down the steps on the outside to directly enter their nice dining room, where our usual duo of Barbe & Bernadette were checking us in. Festively decorated, this year with only a few poinsettias, but with beautiful arrangements of bowls of red roses on tables around the room as provided by Connie Hom's Buckingham Greenery. Andrea Huntjens' Sophisticated Soi rees had done their usual nice job of setting up the refreshments along the outside wall, the food table laden with a wide assortment. As I headed for it, someone gave me a tip to save room on my plate for the crab cakes, as "They are way down at the end, and delicious". A couple of people, remembering my past comments on Andrea's figs in a blanket, reminded me that she had them here tonight. Down at the far end of the long, relatively narrow, room the Big Gavel duo (Kyle Byrd & Todd Swain), which Connie Hom had originally recommended to us for our September meeting at Midnight Brewery, was providing the music, but not so loud that you couldn't hold a conversation, which everyone was doing.

A number in attendance we don't always see at our regular meetings, including several first timers like Roland Baugh & David Thomas of Chesterfield county based office furniture dealer Indoff. Bob Borchers made the trip down from Charlottesville, full of enthusiasm over the prospects for the Wahoos with their new football coach. Hadn't seen Sam Jennings in a while and learned that his current project at VCU is a new building for the Engineering School, while spouse Connie Blackwood is still working selling ads, mostly for the internet. Another Past President, Rick Hughes, explained why he has been missing in action since most of his work has been out of town, either in Northern VA, or more recently in Hampton Roads. Not complaining, but he wouldn't mind getting some work in this area to cut down his driving time and miles on his vehicle. Mike Maroney also getting a heavy load of work with his Contracting business and looking to cut back some as he approaches retirement. He seems to like the condition of being his own boss. Corine Harvey proudly reporting that her grandson the little point guard (now a junior in High School up in Maryland) has been offered a basketball scholarship by VCU, but is still weighing other offers. And Bob DeLille of Creative sporting the

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2016 PREPAID MEETING INVOICE

CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL MEMBER: $110
PROFESSIONAL OR ASSOCIATE MEMBER: $165

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PREPAID DUES ARE NON-TRANSFERABLE
MEMBERSHIP CORNER
Cameron Bridges and Scott Reed, Membership Committee Chairs

Welcome to our newest members!

Anthony Carter  
GCA Services  
Site Director  
acarter@gcaservices.com  
2916 Myster Macklin St.  
Petersburg, VA 23806

Juan Martir  
GCA Services  
Account Manager  
jmartir@gcaservices.com  
2916 Myster Macklin St.  
Petersburg, VA 23806

George Trusty  
GCA Services  
Account Manager  
gtrusty@gcaservices.com  
2916 Myster Macklin St.  
Petersburg, VA 23806

On behalf of the Chapter Board, “Thank You” to the following for renewing/rejoining this month

Jim Bowman  
UBMS  
Branch Manager  
jim@ubms.com

Scott Carson  
Collegiate School  
Director of Facilities Management  
scarson@collegiate-va.com

Steve Pancham  
MBP, Inc.  
Vice President  
spancham@mbpce.com

Guests are always welcome but member prospects will help us grow.

Please be advised that the Board has an established policy for anyone who would like to bring a prospective member to a meeting. If you let the Membership Committee place the RSVP for the prospective member, there will not be a guest fee charged for that attendee.

Again, the RSVP must be placed by the Membership Chair, Cameron Bridges bridgesca@cox.net or Scott Reed sreed@prologuesystems.com
nicest looking Christmas tie in the room.

After an extended period of socializing, President Harvey Jones gave the duo the signal to take a break and, with some difficulty, got the attention of the attendees so he could proceed with the business of the evening. First up was the recognition of our host, Jeff Sechrest, a newly certified FMP, who is Facilities & Property Manager at Luck Companies, an excellent venue for this event. Next he called out our three Platinum Sponsors who were the exclusive sponsors for the evening, Dominion Service Company, represented by Renee McDowell; SERVICEMASTER Clean, represented by Past President Tom Wood, who also noted the presence of Paxton Whitmore of the firm, who is also the Chapter's Website & Social Media Chair; and SERVPRO, represented by Chapter VP Kathy Taylor, who also noted the presence of Zach Salisbury of that firm. Both Tom & Kathy followed Renee's lead of making a very brief statement about their firm, but be certain that the entire Chapter appreciates the strong support of the three firms who are sponsoring our programs at the Platinum level.

Then came Programs Chair Karen Frebert with the latest on upcoming programs as Hourigan's new downtown offices are up for January and VCU's Basketball Training Center for April, with February, March, & May not yet confirmed. June's Social also up in the air, as the Squirrels schedule has them on the road on our regular meeting night, so a different event is being considered, or a different night if we decide to return to the ballpark. Then Tim Hume on the Golf Tournament --- that it's not too early to get your entries in for next September's event to avoid getting closed out as some did this year. He's already had a few early birds contact him, so don't count on openings being available at the last minute.

Routine business concluded, it was time for the presentations, and Chapter Administrator Barbe Shaffer, in her long time role as the Chapter's House Captain for Rebuilding Together Richmond stepped up, bringing up with her Executive Director Mary Kay Huss. Having difficulty in keeping back her tears as she has been very emotionally invested in this project, Barbe presented the oversized check for $5,000 to Mary Kay, who accepted with appreciation as well as with great fondness for Barbe and her tireless efforts in behalf of our annual project, which this year was at Mrs. Mitchell's home in the Swansboro neighborhood. An additional challenge was offered this year as rain in the afternoon kept the work from being completed in one day, necessitating a comeback by a small team to finish up a couple of weeks later. As always, the homeowner was overly grateful and effusive in their praise for the “miracle” that had transformed their home, as Barbe was for the 21 who gave up their Saturday (and the small team that came back) to do the job.
Then it was Ranny Robertson’s turn (whose idea it had been a number of years ago to adopt Hanover Habitat as the Chapter’s first Charitable Recipient, when it had built only a handful of homes). Now with their number up in the 50’s Ranny is still doing the honors, this time to recently appointed Executive Director Linda Tiller, who gratefully accepted the Chapter’s check for $5,000. As both presentations were made, Tim Hume stood by like a proud papa, realizing that it was his efforts in large measure, resulting in our highly successful golf tournament, that enabled us to make the contributions of this magnitude to these two worthy causes.

Warm feelings all around, as Connie Hom & Harvey Jones came back up with the bag of tickets and began drawing and calling the lucky numbers for the prizes, most of which were for gift cards and certificates. Many happy winners hustled up to claim their prizes, checking to see what it was as they walked back to their places. Didn’t take long and then Big Gavel stepped back up to give us a little more music as the party wound down. Another great Holiday Social (this one at a new venue) goes into the book. Big Thanks to Karen Frebert for putting it together (and on her birthday, and that of Mary Kay Huss and Linda Tiller as well). Also to Luck Stone & Jeff Sechrest for hosting us. To Andrea Huntjens for her usual classy presentation of food and drink. To Past President Connie Hom and Buckingham Greenery for again providing the beautiful Holiday floral decorations. And to our three Platinum Sponsors, Dominion Service Company, SERVICE-MASTER Clean, & SERVPRO, for making it all possible. My only regret was that the first time visitors to this building were unable to see the rest of it, and its beautiful surroundings, in the light of day. I highly recommend it to all of you!

Merry Christmas, and for the New Year, as they say in the Bahamas at Junkanoo ----

“Spare us another year, O Lord"

In a highly unusual occurrence, both of our Charity Recipients share the same birthday as our Program Chair.

This was a surprise we did not know about until that evening.

Karen graciously split the cake three ways.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
Richmond Chapter Monthly Meeting
January 12, 2016

In August 2015 the headquarters of Hourigan Construction moved into a renovated office building in the heart of downtown Richmond. The new space was designed to create an optimal work environment for their growing multi-generational team. Hourigan’s “office of the future” sets a new standard for the ideal workplace in the construction industry. The open, creative space fosters team collaboration as well as focused concentration. The integration of technology enables workers to plug-in virtually anywhere, connecting the home office with the field, partners and clients. Please join us for an informative tour to learn more.

Thank you to our 2016 Annual Sponsors

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Steelcase
January Meeting

Hourigan Construction
411 East Franklin Street
Tuesday, January 12, 2016
5:30 PM
www.ifmarichmond.org