January 2020 Issue

THE PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE...

IFMA Richmond-

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a wonderful time with your families and friends over the Christmas holiday.

We had a great Christmas party in December with a solid turn out. I hope many of you got to come out and enjoy the party. Thank you from all of us on the board to Jeff Sechrest and Luck Stone for hosting this event again this year. It was nice to be able to have the event in such a well maintained and beautiful facility. Also big thanks to Michael and Groovin’ Gormets for a fabulous meal and a well-stocked bar. Connie and Buckingham Greenery for the beautiful flower centerpieces. The entertainment was top notch as well. A great evening for all who attended.

As we look forward to a new year, the board is excited for all that we have lined up for all of our members in 2020! Stay tuned to see what we have coming up for you next!

I hope that 2020 brings all of you good cheer and success!

-Blake

MEETINGS

January 2020 Membership Meeting
Date: Tuesday, January 14, 2020
Time: 5:30 pm
Place: FeedMore
Program: Facility Tour
Cost: Certified Member $15   Member  $25   Non-Member $50
RSVP: By Thursday Jan.9, 2020

Next Board Meeting:
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2020
Time: 4:30 pm
Place: Fast Signs—2361 Greystone Ct,
           Rockville, VA 23146

Next Membership Meeting:
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2020
Time: 5:30 p.m.

Visit our Local Chapter Web Site
www.ifmarva.org
Economic Development types at both the state and Hanover county level all doing high fives as the governor announces that Rochester, NY based Wegmans will be building a million sq. ft. (in 3 buildings, one each for dry groceries, refrigerated perishables, and frozen foods) distribution complex to support their southern expansion program. Construction is scheduled to begin in the Spring with the complex fully operational by the end of 2022. Wegman’s presently has 101 stores (most of them north of here, with 12 in Virginia, 2 of which are in our area.) Their 218 acre site sits off the Atlee/Elmont exit of I-95, east of the Hanover Airpark, along Sliding Hill Rd. and all the way up to Ashcake Rd. Of the Hanover Supervisors, only Faye Prichard voted against the project, citing her concerns about the capability of the roads in the area being able to handle the traffic, which the residents of Foxhead and Millstone are due to see for themselves in due time. Naturally, the prospect of 700 new jobs and increased tax ratables carries the day, as this area wins out over North Carolina’s proposal by offering a state grant of $2.35 million matched by an identical amount from Hanover county.

Not as big a deal, but significant none the less, as Henrico county answers the long debated question of what will happen to the Belmont golf course, along Hilliard Rd. near Lewis Ginter botanical garden by announcing an arrangement whereby First Tee will take over, and continue to operate, the course. Many had worried it would fall into the hands of a developer and become a residential development, but First Tee, a non-profit supported by the entire golf industry with a mission of attracting young, non-country club golfers into the sport, will close the facility for a time while they make some modifications, after which it will re-open. Purists are not thrilled that they plan to operate as only a 12 hole, championship type course plus a 6 hole, short course (not pitch and putt) rather than the full 18 hole layout as it has always been. Most, however, are supportive of the plan which is a much better outcome than many had feared.

Also on the golfing front, we see that Top Golf, who’s high netting we have seen for some time along the west side of I-195 with an address of 2308 on Westwood Ave. has recently opened and has just expanded their offerings by also opening a 14 hole miniature course on the same site. Since we met at their smaller competitor, Golf Shack, in September, I’ve been keeping my eye out for Top Golf’s opening so I could visit it and learn what the 57 location leader in that industry has to offer. I haven’t gotten around to it yet so look for a comparison of the two operations in an upcoming column as soon as I do.

Another big event, this one in the City of Richmond, as Kehinde Wiley’s “Rumors of War” statue is acquired by VMFA and brought down here from Times Square in New York City to be installed along the Arthur Ashe Blvd. entrance to the museum. Despite a rainy day, about a thousand turned out for the unveiling of the statue on 12/10, which had a bit of drama added to the ceremony when the tarp covering it got hung up.
A gloomy, drizzly day on the tenth, punctuated by heavy rains in mid-afternoon, just as they were uncovering the Rumors of War statue at the Art Museum. Despite the unfavorable weather and GRA-CRE having their holiday party down at the Jefferson Hotel on the same evening, we still had a decent turnout of 45, with Bob Borchers again making the trip down from Charlottesville. Michael Calkins' Groovin' Gourmets did their usual excellent job with the hors d'oeuvres and liquid refreshments and Buckingham Greenery, represented by both Connie Hom and Beth Gay, provided some beautiful floral centerpieces for the tables (not poinsettias this time, but a pretty combination of pink & white hydrangea blossoms with red gerbera daisies and red roses, an interesting and unusual grouping that resulted in a number of favorable comments). Big thanks to Connie & Buckingham Greenery for once again making our holiday gathering festive!

Guitarist Matt Waller, who had provided the music at Program Chair Ashley Hawks Medlin's wedding, was set up in lonely fashion way down at the other end of the long room, while we were all at tables near the food and bar up at this end. With excellent amplification, and his own accompaniment on the guitar and vocally, he rendered continuous numbers of recorded music that was well known to most of us, ranging from Elton John, to John Denver, Johnny Cash, and all points in between. An excellent and very unusual entertainer who's selection of music we all enjoyed, and whose website is mattwallermusic.com should you want to find out more about him and perhaps book him for a party or other event of your own.

At a suitable point in the program, Matt took a break while President Blake Bishop and Program Chair Ashley made a few announcements including the fact that who the charitable recipients of the proceeds of our Golf Tournament would be will be announced and then receive presentations at our January meeting. Then they drew the numbers for the winners of the two door prizes which were Gift Cards in the amount of $100 each, with the lucky winners being Laura Small from Willow Oaks Country Club and Jared Cramer from Johnson Controls.

Following the drawing, the group continued socializing as Matt resumed providing the music, and no one seemed to be in a hurry to depart as the bar remained open and there was plenty of food still available.
Welcome to our newest members!

Vlad Bugger  
BWS Landscaping  
vlad@bwslandscaping.com

Sunny Hobbs  
sunny@ibica.com

Charles Meade  
cmeade2261@gmail.com

Michaell Stroud  
UVA Darden School of Business  
stroud.mj@gmail.com

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

Vaughn Harris  
ICMA-RC  
vauqhnhr6@gmail.com

Nick Maiolo  
YMCA of Greater Richmond  
maiolon@ymcarichmond.org

*New and renewing members listed since previous publication. Current as of the time of writing.

IFMA Richmond Chapter has a Facebook page.  
Check us out at https://www.facebook.com/IFMA-RVA-1930276183920194/ and like and follow us for all the latest info on our Chapter.
in the rider's hair and wouldn't drop off until a workman climbed a ladder and got it un-
snagged. Now you'll see it as you drive by on the Boulevard and I know you'll check it out 
more closely the next time you are entering or leaving the museum in decent weather.

Got a pleasant surprise on 12/12 when at a Wrestling Tournament at Hermitage HS to 
watch my grandson who was wrestling for Hanover HS when Chapter member Wendy Fun-
derburk, who I hadn't seen for a while, came over and sat down beside me in the stands. 
Seems she was there to watch her son wrestle for Godwin. Both my grandson and her son 
won their matches with pins and I was surprised to see that girls were on several of the 
teams that were competing and were wrestling with the boys. I'm not thrilled to see that de-
velopment and was pleased that my grandson didn't have to wrestle with a girl although he 
said it wouldn't have bothered him to do so. Wendy said she had been missing in action at 
chapter meetings due to a course she's been taking, but that it was almost finished, after 
which she'll be back with us regularly at meetings.

Another one missing in action recently was Steve Weeks who I talked to at the Holiday 
Meeting. He's still at Amsted Rail down in Petersburg, where they make parts for rail cars, 
but he has a new position which has caused him to miss some meetings while he gets up 
to speed in it, but he expects to be back with us on a regular basis from now on.

Pleased to see Sherwood Cosby and his wife Cindy at the meeting, which took me back 
about 25 years into the 90's when Sherwood, Allen Hurt and I were all at Circuit City. Sher-
wood is in charge of maintenance for the area branches of Bank of America while working 
for an out placed firm, but so far my efforts to get him to join us in the chapter have been 
unsuccessful.

Also was happy to see Jeff Sechrest at our Holiday Party and to find out what the medical 
problem was that was keeping him from attending our meetings recently. Turns out it has 
been a disease affecting his inner ear which has severely affected his balance when it has 
flared up. Was happy to learn that he seems to be getting the situation under control and 
that he may be able to get back with us before too much longer. In any case, we are indebt-
ed to him for making it possible for us to again have our party at Luck as he has done sev-
eral times in the past with a variety of meetings.

Got a chance to ask Michael Calkins how Trolley House’s new restaurant in the Linden 
Row hotel is doing, to which he replied “nicely for breakfast (mostly hotel guests) and lunch 
(lots of workers from the area), but so far light attendance for dinner. Looks like we'll have 
to get down there to try it out and see for ourselves, which I'm sure Michael would appreci-
ate.
2020 PREPAID MEETING INVOICE

CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL MEMBER: $240
PROFESSIONAL OR ASSOCIATE MEMBER: $300

NAME
________________________________________

ADDRESS
________________________________________

________________________________________

PHONE NUMBER
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Payment Options:

Remittance by Check:
IFMA RICHMOND CHAPTER
ATTN: Barbe Shaffer, IFMA Chapter Administrator
P.O. Box 808
Richmond, VA 23218

Signup Genius:  Go to www.ifmarichmond.org
Click on the SignUp Genius Button
Select 2019 Pre-Paid Membership Meetings
and follow directions

PREPAID DUES ARE NON-TRANSFERABLE
Feedmore—Networking & Tour! January 14, 2020

Where: FeedMore
1415 Rhoadmiller Street
Richmond, VA 23220

Please join us for networking and a facility tour of FeedMore! Between their community kitchen, Meals on Wheels, and their distribution center, FeedMore serves meals to hungry people in 34 surrounding counties and cities in Central Virginia. FeedMore helps to provide communities with the most important necessity in life: nourishment. Come see their new expansion and hear from their Executives how they’re continuing to grow and serve our community. Groovin’ Gourmets will be providing appetizers and beverages—so come kick off the New Year with us! Feel free to bring some canned goods to donate if you are able. See you in the New Year!

Time: 5:30-7:30pm
RSVP by: Thursday, January 9, 2020

RSVP to Barbe Shaffer at ifmarichva@gmail.com or register on our website at www.ifmarva.com and click on Sign-up Genius and pay by credit card or at the door

Cost*: Certified Members*: $15
Members: $25
Non-Members: $50

* Registrations are required. An additional $5 will be charged at check-in if you have not registered prior to the event
* Credit card payments accepted at the door
* Certified members hold the IFMA designations CFM, FMP or SFP

Thanks to our Annual Sponsors

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Mark your Calendar Now

January Meeting

FEED MORE
1415 Rhoadmiller Street
Richmond 23220

5:30 PM
Tuesday January 14, 2020
Details on Page 7

www.ifmarva.com
Here is your Registration Link:
Sign Me Up — Click Below or Copy and Paste in your Browser

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C4DADA72AAAFE3-january5