THE PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE...

IFMA Richmond,

As we trudge through another hot and humid RVA summer, it’s a nice reminder that fall and cooler weather are quickly approaching. Getting in that last vacation before school starts is on the minds of many this August.

As we start to wind down the summer months, it is helpful to remember as of June 1, we have entered hurricane season in Virginia. Most of the forecasters have predicted a “near average” hurricane season for the area. That typically consists of 12 named storms, half of which develop into hurricanes. Remember, now is the time to start your preparations both at home and at your facility. As they say, “it only takes one” to disrupt business and family life.

We had a nice turnout for the July meeting at 1717. IFMA first visited the venue back in August of 2018 when the facility had just been completed. It was a great collaborative meeting with CoreNet. We had an excellent speaker, Stephen Smith, fill us in on the nuances of an evolving workplace culture and its impact on planning for work spaces and commercial real estate.

As we look forward to our August meeting, at the almost complete, Drury Hotel, we are excited to see what the moderately sized chain brings to the Richmond hotel scene. Based in Missouri, Drury Hotel chain is a private family owned and operated business. They own 150 hotels across 25 states. It will be interesting to see what they have to offer above and beyond many corporate owned hotel chains in the area. That meeting will be held August 13th; we hope to see you there!

Blake Bishop, FMP

Visit our Local Chapter Web Site
www.ifmarichmond.org

MEETINGS

August 2019 Membership Meeting
Date: Tuesday, August 13, 2019
Time: 5:30 pm
Place: Drury Plaza Hotel
Program: Tour
Cost: Certified Member $15 Member $25 Non-Members $50
RSVP: By Thursday August 8, 2019

Next Board Meeting:
Date: Tuesday, September 3, 2019
Time: 4:30 pm
Place: Magellan Health, 11013 W Broad 5th Floor

Next Membership Meeting:
Date: Tuesday, September 10, 2019
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Having just been at The Diamond in June, it was great to see what an outstanding job Parney and his team did with the Eastern League All Star Game and all the special events they surrounded it with in making a big week of it, and really raising the bar for the team that will host the event next summer. I was impressed to see that they had involved the Richmond Raceway in their long list of activities with a big Country Music concert at RIR’s amphitheater, which I have always felt has been a great venue that has been under utilized by the raceway. I add my praise to the long list of plaudits Parney and the Squirrels have received for doing RVA proud with this event, despite the fact that their team on the field is short of talent this season. Hopefully, that success will help to keep things moving toward a new Stadium, with VCU leading the way, an objective the Squirrels have constantly been working toward in all the ten years they have been here with us.

Also receiving lots of praise is Theater Rep for their current presentation of “The Wiz”. My wife, who is noted to be a very tough critic, states that “it might be the best presentation of a stage show she has EVER seen”, and that goes back quite a ways, and includes a number of shows on Broadway. All the major cast members have great voices and handle their parts well; the music from down in the pit is very well done; as usual at the Rep, the sets and lighting are of Broadway caliber; and the whole production comes off seamlessly. The play still runs a little longer, so I would strongly recommend it to you, if you are the theater going type and haven't seen it yet!

Not such upbeat news coming from the long anticipated Institute for Contemporary Art at VCU which we visited last November. Generally known as the ICA, it has indeed been a striking, iconic building at the corner of Broad & Belvidere, while apparently not attracting the attendance that had been hoped for. The first casualty was the closing of the snack bar by Ellwood Thompson, their food service partner, followed by the recent layoffs of a third of their 27 staff. Although they have booked some concerts into their very nice auditorium with its steeply raked seating, their limited parking hasn't helped them (although some patrons have discovered the lot at the RiteAid diagonally across the intersection), and I think many who visited there once are unaware that there is now a completely different collection of exhibits throughout the building. If you haven't been back a second time, you should do so, and it will be interesting to see whether any other changes are forthcoming as the Museum goes forward.

The announcement from SMBW about the moving up of Will Scribner to an advisory capacity brings back some memories as the Chapter has had a number of connections with the firm over the years. Foremost among them is that the B in the firm’s name stands for Shelli Brady, who was our Newsletter Editor for several years back in the late '90s prior to Ranny taking over. Old timers in the Chapter will also remember that the M in SMBW came from Becky Messer, who died far too soon a number (Continued on page 6)
26th ANNUAL RICHMOND IFMA GOLF TOURNAMENT

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Monday, SEPTEMBER 16, 2019
Registration & Lunch at 10:30, 12:00 Shotgun Start
Hermitage Country Club

We need your help in selling the 10 remaining Sponsorships for the Tournament. Please put your arm around a great customer, vendor, or facility professional to help fill this Tournament. Help us by asking the question because it’s important to our Charities and our Chapter’s success.

Contact Tim Hume at 804-240-0018
or e-mail timh5427@gmail.com

regarding 2019 sponsorship availability. All sponsorships are $850 by check, or $875 if paying by credit.

Sponsorship includes golf and cart for 4 players, 5 drinks, lunch and dinner meals, signage, your company will be recognized throughout the tournament day, PLUS FREEBEES!!

JOIN IN THE FUN & REGISTER EARLY!

❖ Registration begins at 10:30 a.m.
❖ Lunch and Dinner with Fabulous Food and Dessert Bar
❖ Captain’s Choice Format
❖ Prize Holes, Including Hole-In-One, Long Drive, Closet to the Pin
❖ Mulligans $5 each, $2 per foot string & packages for foursomes
Welcome to our newest member!

Caleb LePard
Bedford County Nursing Home
clepard@bedfordcountyva.gov

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

Jordon Crespi
BAE Systems
jordon.crespi@baesysems.com

Gib DeShazo
Emerald Construction Co
gdeshazo@emeraldconstruction.com

Tim Hume
Retired
timh5427@gmail.com

Stephen Pancham
McDonough Bolyard Peck, Inc.
spancham@mbpce.com

Glenn Custis
Draper Aden Associates
gcustis@daa.com

Jerry Howard
Solar Film
jerry@solarfilmva.com

Klaus Illig
Henrico County VA
ill001@henrico.us

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

Words of Wisdom

When you're stressed, you eat ice cream, chocolate and sweets. Do you know why?

Because the word “stressed” spelled backwards is “desserts”.

A typical 90 degree day on the 9th as 36 of our Chapter members found their way to the 1717 Innovation Center, next door to Bottoms Up Pizza on Cary St., where we had previously met last August shortly after the building had opened. As is the building’s policy whenever alcohol is being served, we were greeted by two off duty Richmond Police officers and directed up to the 6th floor where we joined approximately 60 members of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of CoreNet Global, most of whom appeared to be corporate real estate types from Northern Virginia, who were already present. The combined group made for a larger than normal assemblage at one of our meetings for this time of year, and gave us a chance to meet some interesting folks from similar fields, which we did during a lengthy social period, with a nice assortment of hors d'oeuvres and liquid refreshments provided by Groovin’ Gourmets.

After being called to order, and welcomed, by the Program Chairs of the two groups, Ashley Hyman of CoreNet, and just returned from her Caribbean honeymoon Ashley Hawks (now Medlin) of our Chapter, our golf tournament chair Tim Hume was recognized, who made a strong appeal for our members to contact their vendors and anyone else who might be interested in an effort to fill out the foursomes that are still open for the September 16 event at Hermitage Country Club.

Then, for the evening’s program on “The Data Driven Future of Corporate Real Estate” CoreNet’s Ashley Hyman from AgilQuest here in Richmond, introduced Stephen Smith who carries the title of Head of People Strategy for his WPA firm (which stands for Work & People Analytics) who had been contacted and invited to be with us by the CoreNet group from the WPA office in Iowa. A native of Louisiana and a graduate of La. Tech, with a background in both Psychology & Human Resources, Stephen presented unamplified while moving around in front of the group with his PowerPoint notes projected on the screen behind him.

Starting with some historical context, he mentioned that there were a total of 8 Billion mobile devices in use in 2016, with 50 Billion projected to be in use in 2020; he stated that you must collect data since you can’t manage what you can’t measure, and you must be able to differentiate Needs from Wants. And since data must be Crowd Sourced, and representative, there is no better way to gather it than by doing surveys, which may account for the fact that we are all constantly being asked to complete one every time we purchase something. After giving examples of Zillow and airbnb, and challenging us to think of other applications using this type of data (Trivago, Expedia, Home Advisor, etc., etc.) he cautioned that you must be able to differentiate between actionable data and just information, making sure it is behavior based and representative, and have the Commitment to take the long view, citing Target as a firm that has done so, if you are going to predict and Shape the Future.

Along the way, Stephen gave some great examples of firms who did (Netflix, Amazon) a good job of predicting and shaping the future and some who didn’t (Blockbuster, Borders). In the second category my mind wandered back to two of my alma maters (Best Products and Circuit City) that I would add to the list as excellent examples, although I would have to give CC’s Rick Sharp credit for having founded CarMax, before his successor brought in from Best Buy effectively destroyed CC’s electronics business by making one atrocious decision after another.

Closing with an example to apply directly to our field, he cautioned us not to overlook the fact that more and more work is being done from outside the traditional office setting (note the dramatic increase in mobile devices as mentioned earlier) so as not to end up with lots of office space with no one in it. All in all, a very interesting, timely, and thought provoking topic presented very nicely by Stephen Smith.

Many thanks to CoreNet for bringing him back here from Iowa, and sharing him with us. Thanks also to Ashley Hawks Medlin for agreeing to join the CoreNet Chapter in sharing the meeting with them! It worked out very nicely and we should strongly consider cooperating with their chapter again in the fu-
of years ago. Will himself many of us remember as he spoke to us in the SMBW offices back in the early 2000’s as the Convention Center project was in it’s early stages, as well as several times subsequently on other projects. We wish him enjoyment and satisfaction in the twilight of his memorable career.

Another trip down memory lane for me as I was watching TV on a recent evening, and on comes a local ad for Hope Realty, showing a female agent helping a couple make a decision about a home they are buying. Turns out the agent’s name is Tara Ulisse, who Chapter old timers will remember as Terri with the same last name, when she was with Chasen’s (who were so active in the Chapter back in the day under the leadership of Larry Giancaterino). I’m waiting to hear if any of the rest of you saw the ad and recognized Terri.

And here we go for the 2nd time around as Colonial Downs resumes live horse racing, after a hiatus of almost a decade. Hope they can keep it going this time, with the help of the players betting on the “historical” races.

And, as one of those who has been waiting what seems like an awful long time while repeatedly hearing that the price of silver is bound to go to the moon, I note that it has closed above $16 an ounce for the first time in a long while, so something may yet be happening.

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(Continued from page 2)

ture. Thanks also to Groovin’ Gourmets for their usual nice job with the refreshments, and for keeping them staffed until 8 p.m. so both chapters could continue their socializing after the conclusion of the formal meeting.

(Continued from page 5)
Sisk turns to robots in bid to increase productivity on Wembley project

Sisk is working on its latest project at Wembley Park (Wembleypark.com)
Sisk turns to robots in bid to increase productivity on Wembley project

9 June 2019

Contractor Sisk is set to become the latest contractor to embrace robotics and is planning to trial block laying at Wembley Park where it is building 743 new homes to rent for developer Quintain.

The £211m contract will deliver Canada Gardens, which comprises 743 new build-to-rent homes across seven buildings and will be Sisk’s ninth project at Wembley Park.

Stephen Bowcott, CEO of John Sisk & Son, said the move to bring robot technology to sites for block, brick and manual handling is intended to improve productivity. He is reported as saying that the firm has already increased productivity by 15% by investing £4m in digital systems.

Sisk is said to be close to moving forward with plans to buy in small-scale bricklaying robots after searching worldwide for the right technology.

The contractor is also now tagging assets for BIM as it plans to expand its build offer to include five-year maintenance services.

“This will involve fitting sensors to buildings to make them cognitive so we can closely monitor when they are feeling sick or breaking down,” Bowcott said.

The embracing of robots has been picking up pace of late. Neil Thompson, director of digital construction at engineering consultancy SNC-Lavalin Atkins, said: “It’s amazing the sheer spectrum of applica-
tions today, where before robots were reserved for large industrial processes like tunnel-boring machines and autonomous plant in mines.

“Manufacturers are focused on creating easy-to-use interfaces so that robots are easy to program, which makes it easy for innovators to build a credible business case to implement robotics in our sector.”

There is also the potential to link robots with digital models, so they do not need pre-programming by humans.

“Our current focus is connecting our CAD systems to robotics, so the robot can understand and have the autonomy to execute tasks itself,” said Felipe Manzatucci, innovation director at Skanska. “The right data capture from the CAD systems will be an enabler of AI. That link is an important step in making digitalisation an enabler of industrialisation.”

“Robo-tech” has hit the headlines over the past few years. The bricklaying robot Hadrian X showed last November that it could build the shell of a house in just three days. Its creator, Australian firm Fastbrick Robotics (FBR) recently formed a 50/50 joint venture with building materials supplier Brickworks to start building homes in Australia.

TyBot is the creation of US-based Advanced Construction Robotics, which automates tying of steel reinforcement bars. The system uses a robotic arm rigged to a gantry crane to locate rebar junctions then tie them together before a concrete pour. Its inventor says TyBot can match the speed of a team of about six to eight site workers with only one worker required to supervise.

Kier is one of three international contractors that have trialled a robot designed to trundle around sites at night to automatically capture daily progress. The four-wheeled machine, developed by Scaled Robotics, manoeuvres around obstacles and records detailed 3D survey scans and panoramic photos. Online software compares the as-built information against BIM to identify any discrepancies, helping contractors keep tabs on quality and progress.

Robotics and advanced automation remain nascent technologies that face technical challenges and barriers to market. For example, large-scale 3D printers remain far from compliant with EU building codes and are prohibitively expensive. Sites are also unpredictable environments and robots are not yet intelligent enough to work seamlessly alongside human counterparts.

The use of cobots – machines that work alongside humans – could become the most likely scenario, said Thompson: “Just as the industry progressed from using screwdrivers to power drills, in the future it will progress from power drills to the use of cobots. Skilled trades will not be lost, they will instead gain the skill of programming cobots to help them with the bulk of their tasks.”

Understanding how robotics will affect site processes is one aim of a partnership between Balfour Beatty and Kelvinside Academy in Glasgow, where it is building a campus. It will provide space for students to work with academics and experts on a range of robotics projects, and is part of Balfour’s vision of reducing onsite activity by 25% by 2025.

Reprinted from PlanGrid
Please join SMBW in extending a heartfelt thanks and best wishes to our founding Principal, Will Scribner, as he transitions from his full-time position at the firm to an emeritus advisory role, beginning August 1st.

Will has been an invaluable contributor to the Richmond community throughout his 48-year career, and a committed mentor to every staff member of this company since it was founded 28 years ago. Over the years, we have all benefited deeply from his wealth of knowledge, sensitive eye for modern design, and talent for storytelling.

Will summarizes his own thoughts and reflections on his career in the following letter. The rest of the SMBW family is delighted to see what projects he will embark on in this new chapter!

A TIME FOR REFLECTION

8:30 AM on June 7, 1971 found me sitting on the stoop of the carriage house behind the Ellen Glasgow House at the corner of Foushee and Main streets. A week after leaving UVA I had arrived for my first day at the start-up firm of Glave, Newman and Anderson. I had been assured that business began promptly at 8:30. When no one had arrived by 8:45 I began to think that perhaps I was the patsy in an elaborate practical joke. But Jim, Bill and Pete eventually turned up and I began the first day of what would be a forty-eight-year career. I could not have asked for a better set of mentors.

Twenty years later – almost to the day – Becky Messer, Shelly Brady, Bland Wade and I started SMBW Architects in a very small garage in Richmond’s Northside. This was the beginning of an odyssey that will come to an end on July 31. Now, as before, I have had the privilege of working alongside talented, committed people all bent on putting out the best architecture and interior design possible.

Many SMBW alumni have gone on to start new firms or to transform existing ones, bringing with them ambition, technical expertise and design excellence. I am proud of the work that this host of colleagues has done over these twenty-eight years and look forward to the work SMBW will produce in the decades that lies ahead.

Our work has spanned the state and includes projects of many types, and that will continue to be so. Of greatest importance to me is our having had a significant impact on Richmond itself. From the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts to the Convention Center; the Main Street Station Train Shed to high-fidelity Collegiate Gothic work at the University of Richmond; the National Organ Donor Memorial to the Virginia War Memorial, scores of inspired and talented architects – young and not so young – have brought meaningful work to bear on the city’s culture.

10:00 AM on July 28, 2019 will find me reading the Sunday paper on my back porch, reminiscing about the forty-eight years just past, and looking forward to an afternoon spent with grandchildren. I will continue to collaborate with my colleagues at SMBW and with our legacy project types and clients. I send a heartfelt thank-you to all who have made this journey possible and so very rewarding.

-Will
Will Scribner, FAIA
Principal + Architecture

Editors Note:
Will has been one of our IFMA invaluable supporters over the years.
Thank You.
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The complete course will be presented in 14 half-day sessions over the course of four months, which will allow everyone to participate easily throughout the US. The courses will be offered in hub locations to create connections with other members seeking to accomplish this practical and effective credential.

TO SIGN UP, GO TO IFMAPHoenix.ORG/EDUCATION

No Richmond IFMA sign-ups yet. Who’ll be the first?
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RICHMOND, VA BOC LEVEL I COURSE SCHEDULE:

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All in-person classes are held from 8:30am to 4:00pm.
Course descriptions are available online at www.theboc.info/course-descriptions/

HOSTED BY:
Department of Public Works
Theatre Row Building
730 East Broad St.
Richmond, VA 23219

COST: (includes all seven classes)
$1,895 per person
Certification Exam Fee (optional): $285

REGISTRATION:
Deadline: September 23rd, 2019
To register: Visit www.pct.edu/nssc/boc
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VISIT WWW.ASIDVA.GIVESMART.COM FOR EVENT INFO & TO REGISTER.

PRESENTED BY:

ALSO BENEFITING:

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF INTERIOR DESIGNERS VIRGINIA

Ronald McDonald House Charities Richmond
Membership Meeting – August 13, 2019

Where:
Drury Plaza Hotel Richmond
11049 West Broad Street
Glen Allen, VA 23060

Please join us for our August edition of the IFMA Richmond Chapter meeting at the new Drury Plaza Hotel in Innisbrook. The Drury Hotel is a brand new 8-story 217 room hotel and is the company’s first hotel built in Virginia. Come join us for networking and an opportunity to tour the hotel.

Time: 5:30-6:15 pm: Networking
6:15-6:30 pm: Chapter Meeting, Sponsors, Hotel Overview
6:30 pm: Hotel Tour

RSVP by: Thursday, August 8, 2019

Simply e-mail Barbe Shaffer at ifmarichva@gmail.com or register on our website at www.ifmarichmond.org 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. No Shows will be billed.

Credit card payments accepted at the door.

Thanks also to our Annual Sponsors

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August Meeting

DRURY PLAZA HOTEL
11049 West Broad Street

Tuesday August 13, 2019
Details on Page 13

www.ifmarichmond.org

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