



Dear IFMA members:

Most facility managers and vendors have found 2020 to be a complete Roller Coaster Ride. We are stretching our knowledge and resources way beyond our comfort zone. It has been a trying year, and we are not sure what the remainder of this year, or for that matter, what 2021 will bring. As professionals, we are adapting as best as we can to get the job done; but it has not been easy.

Here at IFMA Orlando we are trying to serve our members as best as we can with the restrictions that are in place. Our goal is for you to continue to learn and connect even during this pandemic. Granted some of us are pretty “zoomed” out and longing for face to face interaction which will happen as soon as it is feasible to do. In learning from other IFMA chapters and other associations, as well (in Florida and other states), nearly all are holding virtual events for pretty much the remainder of the year. We continue to monitor conditions, follow CDC guidelines, and decisions in the best interest of our members.

Thus, since I could not share this with you in person, I did want to convey the following:

-Membership is holding steady at 220 members. Of these members, 62% are facility managers and 38% are associates (vendors). If you are having any issue with renewing (financially or otherwise), please let the IFMA Orlando office know so we can help with options.

-Planned virtual events with the other Florida IFMA chapters that all chapters can attend (primarily program events) have been extremely successful. Therefore, we may continue to alternate online events with face to face in the future. Our next online program is August 20, 2020. You will need to register.

https://www.ifmaorlando.org/august_monthly_event.php

- Our chapter is planning small happy hour face-to-face gatherings in locations where we can social distance. We did one in June and plan to do another in August.

- Chapter elections are coming up. You will be receiving a series of emails to place your nominations and your vote for your next executive officers. Please indicate if you are interested in serving as an executive, board member, or committee chair or volunteer. We have done well this year because of the commitment of you current officers, board, committees, and volunteers.

- The annual Golf tournament will take place on October 23, despite the pandemic. Turns out social distancing is easier on the golf course and all chapters have had encouraging outcomes. We have selected a new course that will offer more space to keep everyone safe.

-The chapter is financially stable and scholarships are available for you to continue your education/credentialing process. Please reach out to us if you are working toward either.

https://www.ifmaorlando.org/educational_scholarships.php

-The Florida Facilities Summit will take place August 4-6, 2021 at the UCF Rosen School of Hospitality near I Drive. It was pushed back a year due to the pandemic.

https://www.ifmaorlando.org/florida_facility_summit_2021.php



As we continue forward, my sincere hope is that our chapter continues to be a resource to you for information, education, and connections. If there is anything you feel we need to address that would be beneficial to members, please share that with us. We very much appreciate your support of the FM profession and the association.

Renee Ponik, CFM
IFMA Orlando Chapter President