

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Second quarter 2008*

Turning to warm weather in Florida, start of rainy season... which usually means a few things.

At work, time to update the "hurricane" (or emergency office closing plan) and get everyone thinking about what to do in case of an emergency. We're feeling the effects of a slowing economy, as I'm sure many that deal in residential development and governmental industries are also. I'm spending more time "on the hoof", making sure the public spaces are in "guest ready" condition, and that all the tools we provide for our employees to be successful are working smoothly.

At home, plans for a cool vacation spot in August up north are in place (Canada this year).

And finally, my annual solo bike-camping tour around our beautiful state. This year I'm going out to Fort Cooper, Crystal River, and Homassasa Springs, 250 miles over 3 days, camping out self-contained. I do this for my health and to get some quality thinking time to take stock of priorities at home, work, and with IFMA.

At IFMA Orlando we're making great progress, (not without a few growing pains), as we reach a little to expand the quantity and quality of our educational and professional development offerings.

Monthly programs are going strong, and this will continue to be our featured monthly event. In addition, the monthly CFM roundtables enter their second year with steady attendance and good quality presentation by a variety of CFM's.

We're adding a CFM Exam review and giving away 2 trips to World Workplace. And, also trying to work in more social after hours, and there are those that have proposed more ½ day or all day seminars, like the LEED session presented at Leu Garden last fall.

Overall IFMA Orlando is getting to be known nationally as an up-and-coming chapter, looking to break into the large chapter (200 members) within the next few years and showing IFMA national and international members a great time next year when World Workplace comes to our home town.

You WILL see the annual survey coming out in the next couple days, promise.

In closing, I'd just like to thank all our volunteers that make this chapter run so well, and that put in the hours on top of their "day" job to make a difference in something larger than themselves. I benefit immensely being the "front man" and appreciate your support. We'll have a newsletter coming out shortly, and also a newly renovated website as examples, due to our talented and willing volunteers.

Still have everyone's email posted on the Board and Committee pages, any one of us would be happy to hear from you, your thoughts, or how we can be of service. Pick a name off the list and drop us a line!

All the best,  
Geoff