2007 is here - WOW still hard to believe. Hope you had a great holiday season!

Our children are at the stage where the holidays are becoming much less hectic at our house and so this year I had a bit of time to think, relax, and enjoy. It got me thinking about how busy work/life can be.

My advice - try to enjoy the chaos – yeah right! But seriously, one of the things I’ve recently learned is that some days can be so busy, at times skirting the edge of chaos, and seemingly out of control. Later when you do get control of everything, the days can become downright boring.

As facilities professionals hopefully we try to continually improve processes and procedures. Sometimes, because we are so busy, we don’t notice that we are taking small steps to improvement. Never forget that over time, those small steps pay off. So embrace the craziness, try to keep your sense of humor, and get comfortable with the chaos. (It may be part of the reason some of us are drawn to the facilities profession).

A special thank you to Chuck Gifford, Rick Kurz, and Laura Huttner! We really appreciate all the work they did to provide such a wonderful time to all at the annual IFMA Holiday party at Capital Brewery on 12/12/2006. It was a blast, and we also collected a lot of items for the food pantry – thanks to all who donated.

Hope to see you all in January at one of the great IFMA functions coming up.
Happy New Year!
Sheri Rose, CFM
This month’s member profile is Sean Hyland, Facilities Manager at Mentor Biologics.

How long have you been involved with IFMA?
On and off for a total of three years.

Brief history of work experience:
Navy for four years, Amgen in California for eight years, PowderJect Vaccines in Madison for four years, Baxter in Maryland for one year and Mentor Biologics for 1 1/2 years.

Hobbies/interests:
Home remodeling (recent accomplishment – rebuilt daughter’s bedroom/bathroom), cycling (use to cycle about 175 miles/week), now family and work has reduced that significantly.

Family/home life:
Adopted my wife’s daughter about a year ago, Kyla, who is now 11 years old. Had a recent addition to our family of Zoë Jane in November.

A funny story:
On board an aircraft carrier, there are about three thousand standing crew members with another three thousand that support the air crew. Sea cruises are always long and boring so to break up the monotony, jokes are often played on each other. Most of the people on board the aircraft carrier are aware that the ship is nuclear powered but they don’t know much about nuclear power. Bored one day, some of my fellow nuclear cohorts (notice that I am separating myself) thought that it would be fun to play a joke on some of the other crew members. They located some emergency glow sticks, broken them open and covered the exposed part of their body with the glowing goo. Next, the breaker for the lights on the mess deck were located and turned off creating a state of confusion amongst the guys eating lunch. My coworkers, now glowing and dripping goo emerged from the emergency hatch (which is in the middle of the mess deck floor) screaming in pain. Panic ensued as the people that were eating lunch thought that something must have gone terribly wrong with the reactors and left the mess decks in terror. Within an hour’s time,
the principal people involved with this little stunt were explaining their actions to a rather less than impressed Captain.

**Something that few people know about you:**
I was a DJ in High School performing at weddings/parties/etc.

**Your idea of a dream vacation:**
A month’s driving tour of Ireland/Scotland staying at various small town hotels/castles.

**The thing you appreciate most about being an IFMA member:**
The people make this a great organization to belong to.

**Most interesting facility related problem or solution:**
Currently, I am working on the design of a new facility. The challenges are: Available resources since this type of facility is new to Madison, the timeline is very aggressive, and trying to supply upper management with the preliminary information in order to move forward. Should prove to be an exciting challenge!

**Favorite IFMA memory:**
The first meeting as a returning IFMA Member to the Madison Chapter. It was great to re-establish old friendships as well as making new friendships.

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**Holiday Party Another Success**

The IFMA Holiday Bash on December 12th at the Capitol Brewery was a huge success! The tables were full with people enjoying Chuck Gifford’s deep fried turkey and Rick Kurz’s white chicken chili and tons of other great gourmet dishes. There was standing room only in some areas with FMers and their guests talking business, I’m sure....... Thanks to Chuck, Rick, Sheri, Gene, and Laura for getting this all together! If you missed this event, you might want to make sure this event is on your list of important things to do next year! Plus a huge thank you to all the folks who brought non-perishable food items. Over 10 bags of groceries were donated to the Lakeside Lutheran Food Pantry. That says a lot about the charitable hearts of IFMA Madison members.
IFMA Madison Chapter Calendar of Events

January 2007
9  Executive Board Meeting
16  Luncheon Meeting - Common Window Mistakes
20  Tour - Cardinal Float Glass Tour

February 2007
13  Executive Board Meeting
20  Luncheon Meeting - Energy Management for Facility Managers
??  Tour

February Newsletter Deadline
Friday, January 26, 2007

Please submit materials to Matt Darga at mdarga@twallproperties.com (as an attached WORD document)