

# NI In the News

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## December 2, 2014—Cantigny

### Northern Illinois IFMA Holiday Gala

Come celebrate the holiday season with your fellow IFMA members!

Bring a \$25 gift card for our gift exchange!

Northern Illinois member event only!!! Spouses and significant others welcome!!

Dinner choices are:  
Roast Prime Rib of Beef  
Chicken Vesuvio  
Margherita Pasta (vegetarian option)

Drinks and appetizers begin at 5:00 with dinner at 7:00.



We are also looking for nonperishable food items to be donated to the Chicago Food Depository.

\*\*Please note that cash or check is accepted at the door or credit card via Cvent. No IOU's will be accepted!

\*\*Reservations must be received by November 24th.

\*\*All no shows will be billed.

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# From the President....



The final month of the year is upon us and it is a time of reflection and planning for the new year. It is also a time to give thanks to everyone in our Chapter, especially to our Committee Members, Executive Board, our outstanding Administrator, and the sponsors of IFMA NI. It is because of all of you that this Chapter has great programs and we receive phone calls and e-mails from people saying they have heard about our Chapter and are interested in membership.

At the last two meetings I have encouraged everyone to pass the word on IFMA and give one of our new brochures to a potential member. I believe it is important to share the good experiences of an organization you have passion for and I am sure everyone has at least one or two people that would find value in IFMA. If you don't have time to reach out, tell a Board Member and we can reach out on your behalf.

Our Annual Holiday Party is coming up on December 2 at Cantigny in Winfield. We have a new venue this year and if you have not been to Cantigny come out early and walk the grounds. It is a beautiful place, even on a crisp December afternoon. Festivities start with drinks and appetizers at 5pm and dinner to follow shortly after 7pm. And because we like to give back at this time of year, I encourage you to bring nonperishable food items to be donated to the Greater Chicago Food Depository.

We will also have a \$25 gift card exchange among the members that night so be sure to bring one from your favorite restaurant or store and wrap it so we can have some fun interaction.

See you on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. May the upcoming holidays be happy and safe for you and your family!

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## Facility Mangler

My friend appears to be in a Holiday mood. See what you think.

.....

You know the tune, so sing your jingle bells off.

### On Each Day of Christmas

On the twelfth day of Christmas my FM gave to me

Twelve building software fixes

.Eleven lease renewals

..Ten reconfigurations

...Nine furniture upgrades

....Eight ergonomic options

.....Seven sustainable enhancements

.....Six happy vice presidents

.....Five points toward LEED

.....Four budget numbers

.....Three POs

.....Two completed projects

And a clean, safe place for employees.



Don't that just warm your innards for the Holidays?

Spread the good cheer ... and pour me some, too.

Facility Mangler

## Career Services Corner

For the past year or so, Dianna and George have met with you or your fellow FM'ers at Coffee Planet to assist in your search for a new or better position. We enjoy helping – and we've celebrated good news with more than a few happy people. We continue to be available to you, but differently.

If you are between positions, would like resume editing assistance, or want to talk about the current job market, email either Dianna or George to get started. We will respond.

No more 8AM meetings at Coffee Planet, though you're welcome to stop by for a great cup of coffee. (Always worth the commute.) And did I mention the pastries ...? As always, we are here for you.

Dianna Rudd – [dianna@ruddsearch.com](mailto:dianna@ruddsearch.com) George Gogola – [george.gogola@comcast.net](mailto:george.gogola@comcast.net)

## 4 Lawn Care Tips for Rejuvenating Turfgrass

There are some things in life that just make sense. For instance, getting started early on dinner results in it being done on time to feed a hungry family. And putting the children to bed always goes best when there's a bath, a bedtime story and a regular routine.

Proper planning and routines are also comforting for other living things, like plants, trees and turfgrass. On your Illinois commercial property, when the landscape is properly "put to bed" before winter, it typically better withstands all the snow and ice and cold temperatures that Mother Nature throws its way. This is especially true with commercial turfgrass. A lawn that is well-maintained in late fall will result in a more lush and lively lawn that is the envy of neighboring commercial property managers come spring.

**Here are some of our best lawn care tips to ensure your Chicagoland commercial turf comes back better than ever next spring.**

### Aeration Clears The Air ... And The Thatch

Fall is one of the best times of year for aeration of commercial turfgrass.

Thatch is made up of turf leaves, stems and roots—dead and living—that lies on top of the soil in a tightly woven layer beneath visible turfgrass blades. Thatch is normal and contributes to lawn health by keeping the turf plant from losing water while decreasing soil compaction, insulating the plant and helping it tolerate foot traffic, particularly in busy areas. A half-inch layer of thatch is healthy, but more than that—3/4 an inch or more—usually means it's time for aeration to help break up some of that thatch layer.

Aeration is the process of removing plugs of turf via an aerator. It relieves soil compaction, helps water penetrate into the soil more easily, reduces water runoff and encourages a more deeply rooted lawn. In the end, that turf is much healthier come springtime and better able to withstand disease and insect stress, as well as drought stress.

**Have a new product or service to share?**

**How about an innovative way for solving a facility problem?**

**Win any awards lately?**

**We are always looking for articles for our newsletter!**

**Please share with your fellow managers and associate members items of interest in your field.**

**Article Guidelines:**

**Article length between ½ page and 2 pages-can include pictures.**

**Written in Word format-no PDF.**

**Make sure you include credit information at end of article.**

**Submission due by the 20<sup>th</sup> BEFORE the month the newsletter is printed. For example, March newsletter needs articles by Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>. Otherwise, we will hold for following month.**

**Any ???Please contact Jan Wemple, Newsletter coordinator at:**

**[jwemple@moorelandscapes.com](mailto:jwemple@moorelandscapes.com) or 847-774-1250.**

**Or Kathy at: [chapteradministrator@ifmani.com](mailto:chapteradministrator@ifmani.com)**



## Lawn Care Tips

### Fall Fertilization Is A Must Before A Long, Cold Winter

No one can forget the Polar Vortex and many days of below-zero temperatures combined with icy winds and abundant snow that Chicagoland endured last year. The area picked up more than 80 feet of snow, only the third time in history our area has seen such an amount.

These continually falling temperatures are great for the bluegrasses, perennial ryegrasses, fescues and tall fescues used in the Chicagoland area. These turfgrasses actually experience a peak in growth as temperatures start to cool. That makes it the perfect time to deliver a fall fertilization treatment, helping to repair any rough areas with the proper nutrition turf needs at this time.

### Seed The Bare Spots

Fall is also a great time to seed a commercial lawn. Grounds temperatures are still warm even though air temperatures are cooling. Nightly dew keeps seeds moist, so they will germinate more quickly and without a lot of competition from weeds.

Seeding now refills any bare spots in commercial turf at an optimum time so those spots won't be an eyesore once the snow melts in the spring

### Time For A Lawn Checkup

Want a green and hardy lawn come spring? Follow these tips, and you'll be well on your way.

Article submitted by:

Brie Rasmussen of Sebert Landscaping

# Do you know Me?



**What are your favorite hobbies?**

Travel, fantasy football, poker

**What is your favorite book?**

"Unbroken"

**What is your favorite food/cuisine?**

Pizza, BBQ

**Favorite restaurant?**

Clara's (Woodridge)

**Describe your family growing up and now:**

Two older brothers. Married, no children.

Hometown: LaGrangePark Current residence:

Ottawa, IL

**What is your favorite sport to play or watch?**

Baseball, Football

**Favorite team?**

White Sox

**Are you a morning or night person?**

Night

**What would you do if you won the lottery?**

Travel

**What three words would you use to describe yourself?**

Loyal, Active, Honest

**What is your favorite movie?**

Saving Private Ryan

**TV Show?**

Justified

**What is one thing that no one in IFMA knows about you?**

My wife is a doctor (Psychologist)

**What is one goal that you would like to accomplish during your lifetime?**

See a game at every major league baseball park

**Who is your hero (or influential person in your life)?**

My father

**What is your favorite thing to do in the summer?**

Swim in my pool

**If you could visit any place in the world, where would it be & why?**

Rome, because of its history

**What is your favorite city to visit?**

San Francisco

**What is your favorite vacation spot?**

St. Petersburg, FL

**If you could be anyone besides yourself, who would it be?**

Paul Konerko

**What songs(artists) are on your iPod/phone?**

Cold Play

**If you had access to a time machine, where & when would you travel to?**

U.S. Civil War era

**What are your pet peeves?**

People who do not return phone calls



## Head of Facilities

**Position Summary:** Lead the maintenance and care of buildings, grounds, outdoor facilities, and equipment. Develop long-range plans and capital outlay requirements for new and renovated facilities and equipment. Purchase and systematize the maintenance of the equipment used in facilities maintenance, horticultural maintenance operations, and vehicle fleet. Position start date is February 2, 2015.

**Qualifications:** Bachelor's degree in Facilities Management, Engineering, or related field required. 7+ years experience with similar job functions including demonstrated experience in a supervisory position required. Prior experience in a museum or university environment preferred. Current Professional Engineering (PE) license or nationally recognized facility management or engineering certification preferred. General working knowledge of electrical systems, mechanical systems, plumbing systems, structural, civil structures (roads, bridges, drainage), equipment systems, and environmental and safety codes (OSHA, ADA, EPA, and NFPA) required. Prior budget experience required. Must possess a valid driver's license, which is subject to insurability and an annual Motor Vehicle Record (MVR) report. Proficiency with Microsoft Office Suite, experience with software used for facilities and project management and planning, and Gmail and other Google applications beneficial.

**Success Factors:** Ability to plan, organize, and monitor direct reports according to priorities, established schedules, and deadlines. Ability to select and oversee the work of consultants, contractors, and vendors when necessary. Knowledge of sustainability practices and conservation. Ability to analyze, interpret, and evaluate problems and provide practical cost-effective solutions. Ability to handle multiple priorities. Customer service oriented individual with excellent oral and written communications skills to work with staff, contractors, and the visiting public of diverse ages and backgrounds.

**Physical Demands and Work Environment:** The physical demands and work environment characteristics described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform these essential functions.

- **Physical Demands:** Requires some physical activity: limited lifting and carrying (up to 20 lbs.), standing, walking and/or sitting for prolonged periods, and traveling by vehicles.
- **Work Environment:** Work is performed primarily indoors, but requires moving between all Arboretum buildings and locations.
- **Equipment:** General office equipment, two-way radio, Arboretum van or pick-up truck.

If interested, please forward cover letter, salary requirements, and resume or application, to The Morton Arboretum, Human Resources, 4100 Illinois Route 53, Lisle, IL, 60532-1293, or email to: [jobs@mortonarb.org](mailto:jobs@mortonarb.org).

jc

**The Morton Arboretum is an equal opportunity employer committed to achieving a diverse workforce.**

# Do you Know me?

How long with IFMA: **Several months.**

What are your favorite hobbies?

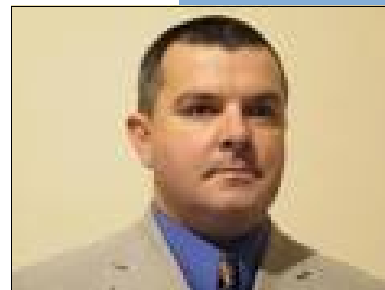
**Reading magazines and books, hiking.**

What is your favorite book?

**For Whom the Bell Tolls, by Ernest Hemingway.**

What are you currently reading?

**Steve Jobs by Walter Isaacson**



What is your favorite food/cuisine? **German, Polish.**

Favorite restaurant? **Texas de Brazil in Schaumburg.**

Describe your family growing up and now: **As the only child I grew up in southern Poland.**

**My family has been struggling during the 70's and 80's but we had each other to support and count on. Now some of my folks live here in the States and some in Poland.**

Hometown: **Krakow (Cracow)**

Current residence: **Des Plaines, IL**

What is your favorite sport to play or watch? **Soccer, which we call the Real Football.**

Favorite team? **I don't have one but I like to watch teams from Africa and South America for their enthusiasm, engagement and noncommercial approach.**

Cubs or Sox?...I'm a **Chicago fan.**

Are you a morning or night person? **Definitely a morning person, I get up at 5am.**

What would you do if you won the lottery? **I would start a foundation for kids who want to learn but don't have resources to do so, and also I would study languages and cultures while travelling throughout the world.**

What three words would you use to describe yourself?

**Family, Loyalty, Work.**

What is your favorite movie? **"A River Runs Through it", directed by Robert Redford.**

TV show? **I like European shows about politics, social matters. Here I like Charlie Rose's show.**

What is one thing that no one in IFMA knows about you?

**I'm afraid of heights.**

What is one goal that you would like to accomplish during your lifetime?

**I'd like to be a respected and liked by people.**

Who is your hero (or an influential person in your life)? **Pope Francis.**

# Do you Know me?

What is your favorite thing to do in the summer? **Gardening and walking in the forest.**

If you could visit any place in the world, where would it be & why? **Galapagos – to see all the animals that don't exist anywhere else, and how all this began.**

What is your favorite city to visit? **Paris – because "it is a movable feast".**

What is your favorite vacation spot? **Mountains – anywhere.**

If you could be anyone besides yourself, who would it be? **A person who lives in the ancient Rome during PaxRomana times.**

What songs(artists) are on your iPod/phone? **I like Julio Iglesias, Roy Orbison, The Queen, Toto Cutugno, EnnioMorricone.**

If you had access to a time machine, where & when would you travel to? **To the beginning of the Universe, to make sure if the current theories are worth anything.**

What are your pet peeves? **Ignorance.**



## Welcome New Members!!!

Hans De Schaaf—Graebel Van Lines

James Distasio—M&J Asphalt

William Karmell—Icon

Brandon Kirby—Lincolnshire Marriott Resort

Bernard Layton—Stanton Chase International

Phil Ortiz

Thomas Spears—Trinity National Accounts

# December 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## Schedule of Events

- December 2—IFMA NI Holiday Dinner

### Directions to Cantigny:

#### From Chicago

Travel west on the Eisenhower Expressway (I-290). Exit I-290 at the East-West tollway (I-88) west interchange. Take I-88 west and exit at Winfield Road. Travel north on Winfield Road approximately three miles. The park entrance is on the right side of the road before Roosevelt Road (Route 38).

#### From the Northern Suburbs

Take Route 53 south to the North-South tollway (I-355). Take I-355 to the East-West tollway (I-88). Go west on I-88 and exit at Winfield Road and travel north approximately three miles. The park entrance is on the right side of the road before Roosevelt Road (Route 38).

Do you know me???

Page 8—Kevin Padera, Midwest Regional Sales Director of ENECON

Page 10—Wojciech Gracz, Facilities manager of Archdiocese of Chicago



**IFMA™ Northern Illinois Chapter**  
International Facility Management Association

**To provide exceptional education, networking, career development, and leadership opportunities that support and advance the Facility Management profession in Northern Illinois.**

**Sponsorship opportunities are available, please contact our chapter administrator at the e-mail listed to the left for complete details!**

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