Please join FEI and KPMG for a seminar to discuss adding value in the finance function. This forum will cover the following topics:

- Close, Consolidation and Reporting – including drivers in the marketplace, how the financial close is no longer just about closing the books, and potential improvement opportunities/benefits
- Business Intelligence – what it is, common challenges, and the benefits achieved through successful implementation
- Governance – finance organization structure alignment, controls embedded within operations to drive efficiency and effectiveness, processes to support a strong control environment

The presentation is designed for accounting and finance personnel with responsibility or oversight in the financial accounting area, including controllers, vice presidents of finance, and chief financial officers. The topic is of intermediate level. We encourage you to bring issues for discussion to this audience-interactive session. The objective of this course is to provide an understanding of key challenges facing organizations, potential areas for improvement and the benefits that can be achieved.

Thanks to KPMG for providing our speakers for this valuable session. They include...

**Mitch Siewert, Manager**
Mitch has over 20 years of functional and technical experience in financial accounting, process transformation, and business intelligence optimization. This includes business intelligence vision and strategy, governance and communication, performance reporting, statutory reporting, IFRS reporting, report scorecards, monitors and dashboards. 3 CPE Credits are available for attending this seminar. There is no advance preparation or prerequisites for this course.

**Meeting ANNOUNCEMENT**

Thursday, April 24, 2008
8:00 - 11:45 am
East Bank Club
Riverside Room (main floor)
500 N. Kingsbury Street
Chicago

Indoor parking at East Bank Club
$5.25 with validation

No Charge for FEI Members, Their Guests, and Prospective Members

**RSVP by Monday, April 21**
by calling FEI at 312-263-1661, or by email at feichi@aol.com
From The President

Transitioning Into Spring

After experiencing the first winter in years that lived up to the reputation of a Chicago winter, I suspect all of us are excited to move into April and its unmistakable signs of spring. April also marks a transition in the FEI calendar as well. We move away from our dinner meeting format for a few months and offer a variety of opportunities for you to advance your career and have some fun too. Our Career Management meetings continue on the first Thursday of each month. The Chapter’s first Power Leadership Breakfast will be held in four locations on April 4 and on April 24 FEI and KPMG will present a half day seminar on Value Preservation to Value Creation. May events include the FEI National Summit in Phoenix on May 4 through 6 and the Chapter’s major social event of the year on May 17. June features a breakfast meeting on the 20th to welcome new members to the Chapter and our annual golf outing on June 27. You will find more details about all these events in this newsletter and subsequent issues. I encourage you to participate in as many of these events as you can. With its mix of professional development opportunities and the top notch networking connections available to you, your FEI membership can give you an immense edge over your peers who are not members. But that edge cannot come without your involvement, so take full advantage of your membership.

As you can imagine, these high quality programs do not just happen automatically. This Chapter is fortunate to have a number of supportive sponsors and a group of volunteers dedicated to bring the chapter alive to assist you in your career. At March’s meeting we elected these officers for the 2008-09 fiscal year:

John Trakselis, Executive VP (and president elect for 2009-11)
Sara Sirotzky, VP of Membership
Marty Ross, VP of Programs
Richard Steele, VP of Chapter Services
Byran Stewart, Treasurer
Joan Mazaurek, Secretary

I congratulate these individuals on their election to these key roles and I am excited to work with them as I move into the second year of my term. Working with us is a group of committee chairs and members who dedicate a few hours of their time monthly to provide the many events and offerings which make this Chapter so successful. Your contributions are greatly valued. I encourage more members to join a committee. You will find it to be an excellent networking tool and a rewarding experience for a nominal investment of time. Please contact me or any of the officers or committee chairs for more information.

Phil Maughan
FEI Chicago Chapter President
PhIl_Maughan@notes.ntrs.com

In The FEI NEWS

UPCOMING CAREER MANAGEMENT WORKSHOPS
April 3, 2008: Creating Positive Visibility
An integral part of career success is creating positive visibility both inside and outside your workplace. Please join us for the Career Management Group workshop on April 3rd, where Jane Pigott of R3 Group LLC will lead a discussion exploring ways in which you can create positive visibility through activities such as citizenship within your organization, internal and external leadership positions, and civic activities. Jane also will discuss coordination of your positive visibility activities with your career development plan.

Please note that the April session will be held downtown, at the East Bank Club (500 N. Kingsbury Street, Chicago). Registration will be required. Please contact the FEI office (312-263-1661, feichi@aol.com) if you plan on attending.

May 1, 2008: Bare Knuckles Job Search Tactics
Are you doing everything you need to be doing in your job search? And are you doing enough of it? What are you doing about your “un-comfort zones”? Are you using weekly metrics in your job search? Have you formed an “Opportunity Search Team”? Please join us for the Career Management Group workshop on May 1st, where Larry Kowalski of The Mentor Group will help you assess the effectiveness of your job search tactics.

Career Management breakfast workshops are open to all chapter members. Workshops are held at 7:30 a.m. on the first Thursday of every month. We hope to see you at one of the upcoming meetings! If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Walton (847-291-5727, swalton@laneind.com).

SAVE THE DATE: WOMEN’S NETWORKING BREAKFAST
MAY 15, 2008, 7:30 - 9:00 am
Mark your calendars for the Chapter’s first Women’s Networking Breakfast! Please join us to network with other women chapter members and provide input on future women’s events. Watch your e-mail and the May FEI newsletter for additional details!

NEW MEMBER BREAKFAST
The Chicago Chapter recently held a new member breakfast at The Metropolitan Club, located in the Sears Tower. More than 30 members attended the breakfast which offered the opportunity to meet and network with the newest members of our Chapter as well as other FEI members, officers and board members. Thanks to Robert Morgan, co-founder and CEO of MorganFranklin Corporation for sharing his thoughts on building and maintaining a high-energy, dedicated and driven workforce in a high-stakes, high pressure environment.

Our next new member breakfast is scheduled for Friday, June 20 at The Oak Brook Marriott. We will again offer networking opportunities, a delicious breakfast and a guest speaker from Marsh who will lead a discussion on Directors’ and Officers’ Insurance in a volatile environment. More details will be sent to members. We hope you can join us!
SOCIAL EVENT AT THE SHEDD - SATURDAY, MAY 17

FEI Chicago hosts its Annual Social Night on Saturday, May 17, 7:00 pm at The Shedd Aquarium. The evening’s mission is for members to get to know each other better in a social, relaxed setting, while enjoying this Chicago institution and what it has to offer. We begin the evening enjoying cocktails and hors d’oeuvres in The Oceanarium, while we admire the grace of the Pacific White Sided Dolphins, the playfulness of the Sea Otters, and the intelligence of the Beluga Whales. Then we move upstairs to The Caribbean Reef Rotunda for a delicious dinner while surrounded by a dazzling array of tropical fish and aquatic life. A diver presentation takes place during dessert and then members are free to view exhibits at their leisure until 10:30 pm.

We encourage all FEI Chicago Chapter members to join us for this very special event and to invite a guest to share in the fun! An invitation with additional information (guest pricing, parking and entrance instructions, etc.) is included with this newsletter. RSVP deadline is May 12, so send in your reservation today!

NEED FINANCE TALENT?
If you have a need for the best in financial talent, the FEI Career Management Group offers top-notch and proven candidates who possess a wide range of financial skills and are available for project and full time work. If you have an opening at your company, please contact the FEI office (Fei@fbi@aol.com) or Sharon Walton (swalton@laneind.com).

SAVE THE DATE FOR A GREAT DAY ON THE LINKS!
Mark your calendar for FEI Chicago’s 2008 Golf Outing scheduled for Friday, June 27 at White Deer Run Golf Club. Built on the famed Cuneo Estate in Vernon Hills, White Deer Run offers the essential ingredients to an enjoyable day on the golf course. Mix in the company of FEI members and their guests and you have a great day! More information will be sent to members. Please save the date.
April 2008

Thursday, April 3
Career Management Group Meeting
7:30 am
“Creating Positive Visibility”
R3 Group LLC
East Bank Club, 500 N. Kingsbury St., Chicago
(Reservations required)

Friday, April 4
Power Leadership Breakfast
7:30 am
Open forums with facilitations at four different locations
Deerfield Hyatt, Deerfield
Marriott Suites O’Hare, Rosemont
Oak Brook Marriott, Oak Brook
The Metropolitan Club, Sears Tower, Chicago
Choose your location

Thursday, April 24
Professional Development Seminar
8:00 - 11:15 am
“Value Preservation To Value Creation”
KPMG
East Bank Club, 500 N. Kingsbury St., Chicago

May 2008

Thursday, May 1
Career Management Group Meeting
7:30 am
“Bare Knuckles Job Search Tactics”
The Mentor Group
Marriott Suites O’Hare, 6155 N. River Rd., Rosemont

May 4-6
FEI Summit 2008
Arizona Biltmore
Phoenix, AZ
visit www.financialexecutives.org for more information

Thursday, May 15
FEI Women’s Networking Breakfast
7:30 - 9:30 am
The Metropolitan Club, Sears Tower, Chicago

Saturday, May 17
Chapter Social Event
7:00 - 10:30 pm
Shedd Aquarium
1200 S. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago

Call the FEI Office at (312) 263-1661 to register for any of these meetings

FEI Meeting attendees are welcome to wear business casual attire to all meetings.
**FEI Chicago Chapter Social Event**

**An Evening at The Shedd Aquarium**

FEI Chicago hosts its Annual Social Night on Saturday, May 17 at The Shedd Aquarium. We begin the evening enjoying cocktails and hors d’oeuvres in The Oceanarium, while we admire the grace of the Pacific White Sided Dolphins, the playfulness of the Sea Otters, and the intelligence of the Beluga Whales. Then we move upstairs to The Caribbean Reef Rotunda for a delicious dinner while surrounded by a dazzling array of tropical fish and aquatic life. A diver presentation takes place during dessert and then members are free to view exhibits at their leisure until 10:30pm.

We encourage all FEI Chicago Chapter members to join us for this very special event and to invite a guest to share in the fun!

**Saturday, May 17, 2008 from 7:00 - 10:30pm**

**John G. Shedd Aquarium**

**1200 South Lake Shore Drive, Chicago**

*Enter South Side of Aquarium, Registered Group Entrance (Not Main Entrance in Front of Museum)*

**Special Parking Arrangements**

**Soldier Field East Museum Lot - $15 per car**

Parking Lot Opens to FEI Members at 6:00pm

7:00 – 8:00 pm – Cocktails/Hors D’Oeuvres in The Oceanarium

8:00 – 9:00 pm – Sit Down Dinner in The Caribbean Reef Rotunda

9:00 – 9:30 pm – Diver Presentation During Dessert, Dinner Ends

9:30 – 10:30 pm – Rest of Evening at Leisure to View Shedd Exhibits

We will serve a dual entrée of chicken and salmon. Please let us know if you have any dietary restrictions.

No Charge for FEI Chicago Chapter Members to Attend

1st Guest - $75 per person; Each additional Guest - $190 per person

To register, please complete the form below and send in with any guest payment by May 12 to:

FEI Chicago

216 W. Jackson Blvd., Suite 625

Chicago, IL 60606

Phone: 312-263-1661, Fax: 312-750-1203, feichi@aol.com

*Registration is Required by Monday, May 12! Guest Payment Required to Hold Reservation!*

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Registration for FEI Chicago’s May 17, 2008 Social Event at The Shedd Aquarium

Member Name: ____________________________________________________________

Phone: ________________________  Email: _________________________________________

No Charge for FEI Chicago Chapter Members

First Guest - $75 per person; Additional Guests $190 per person

I will have _____ Guests  Total Due and Enclosed: _______________

Guest Name: ___________________________________________________________________

Additional Guest Names: __________________________________________________________
John G. Shedd Aquarium
Special Evening Events
and Registered Group Entrance

Guests enter the Oceanarium’s South Door
Registered Group Entrance
The Museum Campus
FEI Parking Map
May 17, 2008 Social Event

Over For Map to FEI Entrance to Shedd Aquarium Social Night