

# FEI Connections



## President's Letter:

FEI Columbus Members and Sponsors:

Happy 2024! The turning over of the year always affords an opportunity to reflect on what positive changes have taken place in the past year, and also on what one's opportunities and goals are for the coming year.

Here is that snapshot for FEI Central Ohio.

In 2023,

- **We added three new board committee members**, as I mentioned in previous newsletters – Brandy Raabe, Mike Sedlock, and Chris Watson. Each comes with years of experience, and I am grateful to them for their willingness to lead and add their unique perspectives.
- **We had turnover in our chapter sponsors.** This evolution is at the same time (a) inevitable, (b) sad for the relationships that have changed, and (c) an opportunity to develop new and deeper relationships. To those points, since January 2023, we have added Footprint Capital, FocusCFO, and Huntington Bank as chapter sponsors. The reasons for these new sponsors aligning themselves with FEI Central Ohio are unique to their firms and the changing nature of our chapter. Of note is that Huntington was a sponsor previously, and decided to re-engage. And members of FocusCFO have been affiliated with the chapter for years. To all three of these newer sponsors, we welcome your deeper involvement in making FEI Central Ohio a great place to network for all involved. In that same time, Key Bank, Schneider Downs, and BMO Harris made the decision to stop sponsoring the chapter. Each situation was also unique, a result of leadership transitions and changes in firm operations. We miss their involvement and of course wish them nothing but success.

## President's Letter Continued:

- **Chapter finances remained on solid ground.** We don't often talk about finances, but as we turn the year I want you to be confident that the Board continues to ensure the chapter is fiscally sound and able to continue its mission. We ended the year with a cash balance that approximates a year's worth of expenditures for events and administration. This is right in line with our goals, and compares with recent high and low points of 0.5 to 2.0 times that figure. You may recall the during COVID we built up a cash cushion as live events were shut down, and that in response to that we deferred chapter sponsor invoicing for 6 months to burn off that cushion. We ended 2023 right where we want to be.

Our 2024 goals remain similar to what they have been:

- **Grow Membership and Engagement.** We want to continue growing our membership ranks. You may not be aware, but our chapter is a few years into a pretty significant generational turnover in membership, with many long time members retiring out, while we slowly add new members. We want this to continue and gather steam. Equally important, we want to have that membership engaged by attending meetings/events and interacting with each other and sponsors. Engagement could also take the form of additional members stepping up to get involved with the board.
- **Put on excellent programming.** The type that makes people want to attend in person. We continue to look for opportunities to make programs more engaging, focusing less on technical educational content and more on fun open networking. The Hylant Risk Landscape and Bourbon Tasting from October 2023 is a good example of this. We're looking forward to more of this. And as always, your ideas are welcome!

That's really it. We could add a proliferation of different goals. But we are really focused on those things that most directly impact the core mission of FEI Central Ohio – making this a great place for engaged financial leaders to thrive.

We welcome and encourage **YOUR** engagement in 2024. Our next few sessions are highlighted elsewhere in this newsletter. Why not sign up and come join in the fun?

Regards,

Steve Markosky

President – Financial Executives International (FEI) Central Ohio

Where engaged financial leaders thrive



(614) 499-0647

[Steve.Markosky@outlook.com](mailto:Steve.Markosky@outlook.com)

**BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS  
2023-2024**

Steve Markosky,  
Chapter President  
Principal,  
Partners in Results

Bob Brewster,  
Chapter Membership  
Director  
Vice President,  
Hylant

Steve Ley,  
Chapter Director  
Retired, MedVet

Rich Martorano,  
Chapter Treasurer  
FocusCFO

Brandy Raabe  
Chapter Membership  
Committee  
Controller,  
Ohio Education  
Association

Mike Sedlock,  
Chapter Program  
Committee  
Director of Finance,  
Avaap

Derik Staufenberg,  
Chapter Academic  
Director  
Finance Professor,  
The Ohio State  
University

Analisa Trares,  
Chapter Administrator  
Office Manager,  
Lazear Capital  
Partners

**Upcoming Events Continued:**

**FEI and Ice Miller**  
**Tuesday, April 16, 2024 5:30-7:00 pm**  
**Topic and Location TBD**

Save the date for the FEI and Ice Miller program on Tuesday, April 16, 2024 from 5:30-7:00 pm. The topic and location are being confirmed.

**FEI and Everhart Advisors**  
**Tuesday, May 21, 2024 5:30-7:00 pm**  
**Brookside Golf and Country Club**

Save the date for the FEI and Everhart Advisors program on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 from 5:30-7:00 pm at Brookside Golf and Country Club. The topic is being confirmed.

**Upcoming Webinars:**

**February 13, 2024 2:00 PM Eastern Time**  
**Lease Accounting Ramifications of the Evolving Real Estate Climate |**  
**CoStar**  
Webinar

**February 14, 2024 2:00 PM Eastern Time**  
**The Payoffs, Pain Points And Potential Of Generative AI: A Conversation**  
**with Deluxe**  
Webinar

**February 27, 2024 2:00 PM Eastern Time**  
**Optimizing Your Financial Back Office and Mitigating Risk with V.A.L.U.E.**  
**Driven Automation | Docuphase**  
Webinar

**March 12, 2024 12:00 PM Eastern**  
**Path to IPO: Creating an “Always Ready” Plan for When Opportunity**  
**Strikes | FloQast**  
Webinar

**March 13, 2024 1:00 PM Eastern**  
**Q1 2024 Quarterly Accounting Webcast | PwC**  
Webinar

**MARK YOUR  
CALENDARS**

Wed February 21, 2024  
5:30-7:00 pm  
Robert Half  
"Strategies to Succeed in  
the Current Tight Labor  
Market:  
Aubergine Private Dining  
Club

Thurs March 14, 2024  
5:30-7:30 pm  
FEI "Happy Hour"  
Crooked Can

Tues April 16, 2024  
5:30-7:00 pm  
Ice Miller  
Topic TBD  
Location TBD

Tues May 21, 2024  
5:30-7:30 pm  
Everhart Advisors  
Topic TBD  
Brookside Golf and  
Country Club

June 2024  
Topic TBD  
Location TBD

All FEI Chapter News  
and Events can be found  
on the FEI Website:  
[www.financialexecutives.org](http://www.financialexecutives.org)  
Choose Central Ohio  
Chapter

**Upcoming Events:**

**FEI and Robert Half  
Wednesday, February 21, 2024 5:30-7:00 pm  
"Strategies to Succeed in the Current Tight Labor Market"  
Aubergine Private Dining Club**



Join FEI and Robert Half on Wednesday, February 21, 2024 from 5:30-7:00 pm as Matt Prizinsky, Practice Director, discusses "Strategies to Succeed in the Current Tight Labor Market- Minimizing Churn and Hiring Well."

There will be networking, heavy appetizers and cocktails with additional time for questions and answers. Aubergine is a private dining club located in the middle of downtown Grandview.

Register at the link below:

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/a76up2f>

**FEI Happy Hour  
Thursday, March 14, 2024 5:30-7:30 pm  
Crooked Can**



Join FEI for a happy hour at the award winning Crooked Can Brewing Company on Thursday, March 14, 2024 from 5:30-7:30 pm. Crooked Can is part of the Center Street Market in Historic Old Hilliard. There will be local brews from Crooked Can and appetizers from the market.

Bring a guest and register at the link below:

[https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/rg5b54x?mode=preview&source\\_id=683aa7cd-bfc1-4e9e-86b0-cbcd46a43234&source\\_type=em&c=](https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/rg5b54x?mode=preview&source_id=683aa7cd-bfc1-4e9e-86b0-cbcd46a43234&source_type=em&c=)

**BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS  
2023-2024  
Continued**

Larry Walker,  
Chapter Program  
Committee  
Vice President,  
Commercial Business,  
Modular Assembly  
Innovations

Chris Watson  
Chapter Sponsor  
Committee  
Principal,  
WealthSource

Anyone with an  
interest in serving on  
the FEI Board of  
Directors, should  
contact President  
Steve Markosky at  
[Steve.Markosky@outlook.com](mailto:Steve.Markosky@outlook.com)

**Previous Events:****FEI and ACG  
“Summer Social”  
August 17, 2023  
Scioto Country Club**

FEI and ACG returned to the beautiful Scioto Country Club for their annual “Summer Social” on August 17, 2023.





**Previous Events Continued:**

**FEI and ACG Continued**



**Previous Events Continued:**

**FEI and Crowe**  
**“Tax Overview of the Ohio Budget Bill”**  
**September 19, 2023**  
**Brookside Golf and Country Club**

Tom Niedzielski, Partner, Crowe, discussed the “Tax Overview of the Ohio Budget Bill” after Ohio Governor, Mike DeWine, signed Ohio’s Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Operating Budget bill into law at Brookside Golf and Country Club on September 19, 2023.

**FEI and Hylant**  
**“2023 Risk Landscape and Bourbon Tasting”**  
**October 18, 2023**  
**Hylant Office**

Bob Brewster, Vice President, Hylant, discussed the “2023 Risk Landscape” at the Hylant Columbus Office on October 18, 2023. After the discussion, attendees were able to sample a variety of top shelf bourbons.

**FEI and ACG**  
**“Holiday Party”**  
**November 30, 2023**  
**The Wells Barn**  
**Franklin Park Conservatory**

FEI and ACG enjoyed their annual “Holiday Party” at the Wells Barn at Franklin Park Conservatory on November 30, 2023. As part of the evening, they hosted a raffle benefiting “After School All Stars of Ohio.” After School All Stars provides free out-of-school programs that help children in underserved communities.





**Previous Events Continued:**

**FEI and ACG Continued**





### Previous Events Continued:

### FEI and ACG Continued



**CHAPTER  
SPONSORS**

Crowe LLP  
Julie Ward  
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Everhart Advisors  
Steve Murlin  
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FocusCFO  
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Hylant  
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om

Ice Miler  
Robert Ouellette  
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Robert Half  
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matt.prizinsky@roberth  
alf.com

**Thank You to Our Chapter Sponsors!**

## We welcome our newest Sponsors, FocusCFO and Huntington!



At FocusCFO, our fractional CFO's utilize a balanced approach that helps businesses take their organizations into the future. We work closely with you, helping business owners and leaders make critical decisions that will ultimately provide a clear vision for growth.

Our CFO services focus on key business systems that indicate financial health: cash flow, operations, internal accounting, and revenue. By having tools in place in each of these areas, businesses can operate at their highest level and achieve sustainable, transferrable value.



Huntington is more than checking, more than savings, more than lending. It's people who understand where you're coming from, with the know-how to get you where you want to be.

[\*\*Learn More\*\*](#)

### Sponsor Initiative Program

The Chapter Sponsor Initiative Program has returned- Chapter Sponsors can "gift" one year of executive category membership to qualified prospects. If you have a candidate, please contact Analisa Trares at [atrares@columbus.rr.com](mailto:atrares@columbus.rr.com) for an application.



## Join FEI Today!

<https://www.financialexecutives.org/Become-a-Member/join.aspx>

FEI National Dues Pricing Effective January 1, 2024:

Executive: \$299

Academic: \$299

In Transition: \$299

Military: \$299

Retired: \$299 Life Retired: \$1,500

Central Ohio Chapter Dues:

Executive: \$150

Academic: \$150- we are waiving chapter dues for Academics!

In Transition: \$150

Military: \$150

Retired: \$125 Life Retired: \$125

Should you have any questions about FEI's membership qualifications, please click on the link below:

<https://www.financialexecutives.org/Become-a-Member/ Membership-Criteria>

## Welcome 2023-2024 New FEI Members:

Andrew Croce, Guild Associates

Jennifer Harris, FST Logistics, Inc.

Jed Harsh, Bread Financial

John Moylan, Covetrus

Christopher Ross, Bread Financial

Jamie Schroeder, Big Lots

Ronald Weiner, OSU Finance

## Corporate Membership Program

The Corporate Membership Program provides each member of your finance staff with membership in both FEI and their local Chapter of choice. If you need assistance, please contact [Member Services](#) at 877.359.1070 or 973.765.1070.

Please review the corporate membership program tiers below:

5-10 Memberships Tier One Corporate Memberships \$3,700

11-20 Memberships Tier Two Corporate Memberships \$6,000

21-30 Memberships Tier Three Corporate Memberships \$10,500

31 Plus Memberships Tier Four Corporate Memberships \$14,500

<https://www.financialexecutives.org/Become-a-Member/Purchase-Corporate-Membership-Program.aspx>

**Thank you to our current Corporate Sponsor, Bread Financial!**