



Building Blocks

Construction Financial Management Association
Honolulu Chapter

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Sage Timberline

By Faith Baba Yamagishi

Hi fellow members! I wanted to share my experience with Sage Timberline since many members are users. Sage Timberline has different modules and service plans available. I find Sage Timberline software to be user friendly and has helped me to be very productive to do my job efficiently at Graham Builders, Inc. The service plan I would recommend is the essential care which includes unlimited phone support because you have the ability to call in and have unlimited help available. I especially enjoy the feature of Sage Timberline Office Support (go to assist), where they are able to come into your computer to assist you as needed.

The Report Designer module is great. This module allows me to create reports and can be tailored to what your company needs are for the different areas within your company. Sage Timberline report designer module can generate reports for anything from payroll, accounts payable, account receivable to job cost tracking.

The job cost module allows us to track through commitments, extras, and change orders. By tracking through a commitment one should be able to stay on top of the job and know where they are for budgeting purposes.

Faith is the newest Board member of the Hawaii Chapter and is the controller at Graham Builders, Inc. If you have a Timberline question you can reach Faith at 593-2808 or email at faith@grahambuilders.com.

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Mark your calendar:

**WHAT:
CFMA**

Golf Tournament

**WHERE:
Ewa Beach Golf Club**

**DATE:
Friday, August 29th**

President's Message

By Carl Williams

WORD OF HONOR

Soon after leaving Deloitte & Touche many years ago to form a new accounting firm I encountered a local business leader who balked at signing the standard engagement letter. We had already agreed on the financial reporting and tax services to be provided and the related fees, so that was not the issue. "The way I was raised," he said, "your word was your bond." I responded that I been raised the same way and tore the engagement letter to shreds. We shook

hands at that moment and have ever since enjoyed a strong business and personal friendship. Recent experiences have been quite different. Agreements made one month are rationalized the next month and violated soon after that. When questioned as to what had changed there was no answer. Only a blank stare. Or the shrug of the shoulders. I believe the most important characteristics as financial professionals to be our credibility and credentials. Lose one, you lose both ... make your word your bond!

Recently I formed CW As-

sociates, CPAs as the successor to the accounting and auditing practice of a local CPA firm I co-founded nearly 20 years ago. The new firm consists of 20 professionals, including four accounting, auditing, and tax partners. Together we will continue serving construction contractors and their owners, as well as nonprofit organizations and employee benefit plans. Your continued friendship is important to me - now more than ever. Please keep CW Associates, CPAs in mind.

You may contact me at cwilliams@cwassociatescpas.com.



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CFMA My Space

Clyde Sugawa

- Upon graduating from Aiea High School, I sporadically attended Leeward Community College and UH Manoa while working at Longs Drugs Pearl City. After eight years, I graduated with dual majors, Management Information Systems and Accounting. While Information Sciences was my primary interest, at the time there seemed to be more job openings in Accounting which is why I added a second major. After several unsuccessful interviews (I was a fish out of water in a coat and tie which was the uniform of the day way back then, especially with long bleached hair, imagine that!) with some of the Big Eight (yes, a long time ago the nationals were known as the Big Eight) and local CPA firms, I ended up as the controller for a general contractor / real estate developer. I still recall the shock, the difference between what you learn and do in school and what you do in the real world of work.

After seven years there, a downturn in the real estate market, a decision by the company's owners to sell off a major development and an opportunity to follow a VP who had departed, resulted in my move to Albert C. Kobayashi, Inc. in 1986 as a Project Controller. At the time, ACK was in the process of working on its first very large construction project, a renovation of the Hilton Hawaiian Village. It was an exciting time of growth for all of the employees and the Company. From that

point on, ACK was able to perform larger and larger contracts. In 1997, the Kobayashi brothers sold off their last block of stock to the Company's Employee Stock Ownership Plan, and ACK became a 100% ESOP owned company.

Favorites

- Restaurant—I do not really have one or even a few favorite restaurants. What is good on one day may not be so on another depending on a variety of circumstances.
- Place to shop—I do not like shopping, at all. It's a chore.
- Beach—Gave this up along with surfing many, many years ago. Did you know that one of the primary causes of wrinkling is photoaging?
- Music—As with restaurants, I have no favorites. Oldies (geez, even the 70's are now considered oldies), hard rock, Hawaiian, Japanese, classical, contemporary, hip-hop . . . it just depends on the mood.
- Website—No favorites, I get bored easily.

Did you know

- Fun fact—You would never guess this by the car I drive but I never lost my teenage interest in high performance cars.
- Hidden talent—None that I know of.

Other

- Like most about job—Solving problems and the opportunities to learn and do new things.
- Like least about job—Long hours, high volume of paperwork, never ending deadlines and new rules

and regulations that are not logical

- Long-term challenge—Keeping up with the constant change so I do not end up like the dinosaurs.
- Biggest problem in my industry—When I first entered the industry, my then President mentioned that the construction industry is full of inefficiencies that need to be eliminated. The challenge remains.
- Best ways to keep a competitive edge—Since this is a CFMA article, I'll first say that one should join and become active in CFMA. The collective wisdom of your fellow professionals can't be beat. Personally, never give up trying.
- Most important lesson learned—Keep learning, there is no such thing as reaching a plateau, you are either growing or declining.
- Issue that keeps me up at night—This list would be too long.
- Favorite stress reducer—I'm still looking. Maybe golf? I have not golfed for more than 25 years.
- Favorite way to spend free time—It depends . . .
- Where were you born and raised—Moved from Kalihi (housing was to be demolished to make way for the construction of Kuhio Park Terrace) to Waimalu in the middle of the first grade. I had the opportunity to attend many newly constructed schools. First Waimalu Elementary, then Aiea Intermediate, Aiea High and even Leeward Community College was only a few years old when I attended.

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CFMA Golf Tournament

Friday, August 29th, 2008

Sponsored by Travelers Insurance & Bank of Hawaii
Lunch provided by King & Neel, Inc.!!

Join us again for another "Fun" Golf Tournament with CFMA!! Members are welcome to invite guests, but we are limited to the first 40 players. Please complete the registration below and fax or e-mail to Wes Mikuni at 833-5971 / wes@rsinouye.com.

Date: Friday, August 29th

Time: 10:30 a.m. Registration & bento lunch,
in the carts by 11:45am
12:00 noon Tee-off, Mini shotgun

Place: Ewa Beach Golf Club (end of Ft. Weaver,
previously "Ewa International")

Fee: \$65.00 per player, \$250 per team of 4 –
includes heavy pupus after the round

• Door prizes would be greatly appreciated. Please send e-mail to Wes if you can contribute. Arrangements can be made to pick up donations if not playing that day.

• 4 members to a team. Each person plays their own ball. Two best balls on each hole will count for the team score. Maximum Handicap - Men 36, Women 40.

• You can either request your teammates or we will match you up.

Registration Form:

Name: _____ Handicap _____

Name: _____ Handicap _____

Name: _____ Handicap _____

Name: _____ Handicap _____

Total \$ _____

Please make checks payable to CFMA and mail to:
C/O KPMG (Attn: Sequoya Borgman), P.O. Box 4150,
Honolulu, 96812-4150

FOR INFORMATION CALL: Wes Mikuni – 839-9002.
MAHALO!



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Contact Jay Miyaki at jay@miyakicpa.com if you have any comments.