

FRONTBURNER

Welcome to the June edition of *The FrontBurner*! As many of you are aware, we surveyed our members a couple of months ago to see how big of an appetite there is for having an in-person Forum in 2021. We needed to gauge whether there is enough interest for us to be able to host a successful event at the level you all have come to expect...and deserve. One with some relevant, high-quality education, some excellent networking opportunities, and, of course, some fun as we look for a respite from all things COVID.

The feedback was very encouraging and we are “all systems go” for an in-person event in August. As such, we are dedicating this month’s *FrontBurner* content to a sneak peek of what’s to come at Forum’21. We enjoyed offering a Virtual Education Symposium last year, but we are really thrilled to get everyone together this year for a premier in-person event. With that, I hope you enjoy a little preview of what’s to come in this month’s edition of *The FrontBurner*. SEE you in August!



Jeff Merry, President/CEO



COME TOGETHER AT FORUM’21 And Celebrate 40 Years With VolCorp

With the fast and frantic pace of our jobs and the to-do list that never seems to end, it is far too easy to forget to take time to celebrate our milestones along the way. It can be challenging to celebrate and recognize success when you are too busy in your daily routines. While we at VolCorp are guilty of neglecting to celebrate as often as we should, we are looking forward to rectifying this as we **Come Together** for our 40th anniversary with our members at Forum’21.

Here’s what you can expect at Forum’21:

The Venue

Everyone loves to visit Nashville. We return to Nashville this year and will be at the Loews Vanderbilt Hotel. The staff at Loews Vanderbilt Hotel didn’t invent Southern hospitality, but some might say they have elevated it to an art form. You will experience their special brand of graciousness from the moment you check in.

The Event

Our goal with every Forum is to show our members just how much we appreciate them. We try to pack as much as possible into our three days together, while at the same time giving you the opportunity to meet with fellow credit union colleagues. With that in mind, our agenda for

Forum’21 will be filled with captivating speakers, relevant information, and some fun mixed in.

The Pre-Conference Happenings

Wednesday morning starts off bright and early for golfers as we begin the day at Gaylord Springs Golf Links for the annual VolCorp golf tournament. Breakfast is served at 7:00 a.m., followed by a shotgun start at 8:00 a.m. Lunch and prizes will finish out the day on the links.

If you think axes are just for chopping wood, you have it all wrong! Join us Wednesday from 11:00 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. as we step out of the ordinary and have some fun with axes at Bad Axe Throwing in Nashville. No experience or athletic ability is needed.

The coaches at Bad Axe Throwing will teach you how to be a pro in no time!

We invite everyone to attend VolCorp’s Annual Membership Meeting on Wednesday afternoon beginning at 4:00 p.m. in the Symphony Ballroom at Loews Vanderbilt Hotel. You will hear about VolCorp’s accomplishments for this past year, our future direction, and board election results will be announced.

Continued...



The Speakers

We have designed this year's speaker lineup with our members in mind. Each session is intended to help credit union professionals better lead their organizations.

- As credit unions manage their balance sheets today, will their choices lead to positive results tomorrow? Leading off on Thursday morning, VolCorp's own Christina Adkison and Phillip Cochran discuss the ***Pitfalls and Perils on the Balance Sheet in Today's Environment***.
- Patrick Goodwin, CEO with Strategic Resource Management, talks about how examining expenses as yields decline can benefit your organization in his presentation, ***Controlling Expenses with Vendor Contract Negotiation***.
- VolCorp's Senior Leadership team facilitates a roundtable session, ***Issues Facing Today's Credit Unions***. Learn what your peers are experiencing in today's unconventional economic climate.
- Rounding out our Thursday morning sessions, Karen Clabough gives members a glimpse into VolCorp's future with the presentation, ***VolCorp After 40***.
- Our first Thursday afternoon presentation will be delivered by Jon Petz. Organizations today want teams who are engaged, passionate, and purposeful in their work. Jon's presentation, ***Deliver Significance – In Simple Moments***, will inspire mindsets and strategies to help you identify, appreciate and deliver simple moments.
- Cybersecurity expert Jim Stickley has stolen credit cards, hacked Social Security numbers, robbed banks, and created fake ATMs. He's an identity thief, but he's no criminal. Jim finds security flaws before the real criminals do and educates people and organizations on how they can protect themselves. Mr. Stickley will show how seemingly insignificant actions can lead to complete and total compromise.

- Culture is important. Everyone knows that. But what exactly is it? How can we tell if it's a good fit? How do we change it if it's not? Friday morning's opening speaker, Col. Casey Haskins, will speak on the topic, ***Sparking a Culture of Innovation***.
- Forum'21 will close with Timothy Alexander who will provide tips about how to transform your circumstances with his presentation, ***The Timothy Alexander Story***. Timothy's emotional and inspirational story will make you laugh and it will make you cry...a lot. But one thing is for sure – Timothy's smile and his attitude are infectious.

The Activities

We are kicking off Forum'21 on Wednesday night beginning at 7:30 p.m. with a special 40th Anniversary party! You are cordially invited to join us in celebration for an evening of cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. The party will take place in the Symphony Ballroom of the Loews Vanderbilt Hotel, and entertainment will be provided by Rock & Roll Pianos. ***Come Together*** with the VolCorp staff and several of your closest credit union friends as we celebrate the first 40 years of VolCorp!

Thursday night, we're hitting the links...sort

of. Make plans to attend Forum@Night with us at Topgolf Nashville. ***Come Together*** to have some food, play some games, and take in the amazing views of the Nashville skyline from Topgolf's rooftop terrace. Even if you're not a golfer, you will have fun. Experience the energy, the excitement, and the atmosphere.

Online registration for Forum'21 is open now at volcorp.org/forum21/! Mark your calendars to join us August 18th through the 20th in Nashville at the Loews Vanderbilt Hotel. We will be providing more information via Twitter and our website in the coming weeks. We look forward to seeing you there!

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