



**PLEASE WELCOME  
OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!**

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**PRESIDENT NEWS:  
GEN X: INVISIBLE FROM  
THE MIDDLE**



Picture in your mind a thin slice of cheese between two pieces of Texas Toast.

If you're a member of Gen X, you know what it's like to be that slice of cheese. News, discussions, trends, ads and politics center around millennials and boomers, while Gen Xers find themselves stuck in the middle, and often forgotten. Yes, I know...poor souls. Buck up. I get that. Lest you think this is just a rant to get some unnecessary attention, first of all, that's the millennial forte (touché). Second, let's remind ourselves of a certain recent election where the middle rose up to make a statement.

Born roughly between 1965 and 1980, there are approximately 66 million Gen Xers in the U.S. versus 75 million +/- each for the boomer and millennial generations. While that doesn't sound like a dramatic difference in the world of big round numbers, that 9 million person variance on both ends of the Gen X spectrum is driving a lot of disruption:

- Boomers delaying retirement
- Millennials bringing new skills and views to the workplace
- Companies struggling with ever rising healthcare costs
- Managers obsessed with attracting and retaining Millennials
- Age discrimination reaching ever lower age thresholds

Where is all this mayhem leading? Chatting with fellow Gen X chapter members recently, it was apparent we're a tribe even though we don't necessarily realize it. "Gen X is well positioned to assume the top leadership roles being vacated by retiring Boomers. We've been a bridge generation in terms of technology and social norms, and the same applies in the workplace", said Nick Mitrakis, VP Sponsorship, FEI New York City. And from Graziella Lamot, incoming VP Membership, FEI New York City, "The impact of different generations at work can be intense for finance professionals these days. Seeing it from the middle, both sides, is relatively unique for Gen Xers and we need to use that perspective to keep the focus on delivering high business performance."

Look, we all know change is rampant across many measures of work and society. And labels rarely tell a full story. But next time you run into a Gen X colleague at work, the gym or FEI New York City, give them a pat on the back and let them know they aren't invisible. At the end of the day, we're all in this together. And Gen Xers, brush up on your SQL and leave that tie in the closet a little more often.

See you soon,  
Matt

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