



IMA Chicago



Hello IMA Chicago Members:

Hopefully by now you've received the membership survey that we emailed out. If you're anything like me, you see a survey email and your first instinct is to hit the delete button. Well hopefully this time around you recognized who the email was from (us!) and you took the time to complete the survey.

Your board members are adamant about the fact that this is YOUR chapter. We truly want to represent your will, and the only way we can do that is to solicit and respond to your input. What would you like to get out of your membership? How do you feel about events? Take a few minutes and help determine our direction for years to come.

Once we've collated and assimilated all the survey input, we'll be following up with results and a road map for 2012.

Check out the latest news from IMA headquarters on page 7.

Happy Holidays!
Your president,
Jeff LeVant

FUN CHICAGO FACTS!

Do you know what the symbolism is within the Chicago flag?

The Municipal Flag of Chicago consists of three White stripes separated by two stripes of Blue with four Red six-pointed stars on the center stripe of White.

Part 2 - The Blue Stripes Stripes:

- The top stripe in blue represents the north branch of the Chicago River and the Lake Michigan
- The bottom stripe symbolizes the Great Canal and the South branch of the Chicago River



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DECEMBER EVENTS

Date/Time	CPE	Location	Topic	Speaker	Comments
12/8 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM CST	1.5	Webinar	Workplace Bias	IMA Leadership Academy	Free to IMA members
12/8 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM CST		Wildfire 159 W. Erie St. Chicago	Cocktails & Connections Illinois CPA Society Women’s Initiatives Task Force	WITF	1-800-993-0393 Course #S577
12/8 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM CST		James R. Thompson Center 100 W. Randolph Assembly Hall Concourse Level Chicago, IL	Federal & State Tax Seminars	IDOR	http://www.irs.gov/businesses/small/article/0,,id=127820,00.html
12/14 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM CST	1.0	Webinar	The Need for Speed: How to Get Data to Make Great Business Decisions - Fast	Inside Talk - Webinar Series	Free to IMA members
Outside of Chicago area					
12/1 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM CST		LLCC Capitol City Training Center 130 W. Mason St. Lower Level Meeting Room Springfield, IL	Federal & State Tax Seminars	IDOR	http://www.irs.gov/businesses/small/article/0,,id=127820,00.html or at the IRS site
12/15 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM CST		SIU Edwardsville Morris University Center Hickory/Hackberry/ Oak/Redbud Rooms - 2nd Floor Edwardsville, IL	Federal & State Tax Seminars	IDOR	http://tax.illinois.gov/TaxProfessionals/2011-Illinois-Fed-State-E-File-Seminars.pdf



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Leadership Academy Webinar Program Title: Workplace Bias Thursday, December 8, 2011 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m., CST

Presenters: C. S. "Bud" Kulesza, CMA, CFM, Dean Emeritus, IMA Leadership Academy
Antoinette Spina, Manager, Bailey, Carr & Co., CPAs

Workplace bias has a significant negative impact on individuals, organizations and society by creating additional costs and lost opportunities. In some instances this is legal. In other instances where it is illegal, bias or discrimination, often takes subtler forms. Bias and discrimination may occur intentionally or unintentionally, implicitly or subtly. Whether legal, or not, bias does not have a positive impact on individuals or organizations. In global organizations it can be particularly problematic as differing cultures add greater complexity to the issue.

The purpose of this webinar is to heighten your awareness of workplace bias.

- Define workplace bias
- Identify the cognitive reasoning contributing to workplace bias
- Identify the primary common focuses of workplace bias
- Identify the types of workplace discrimination
- Identify the effects of workplace bias
- Identify ways to reduce workplace bias

For more details or to register: http://www.imanet.org/programs_events/leadership_academy/details/11-11-15/Workplace_Bias.aspx



The Illinois CPA Society presents this
Women's Initiatives Task Force Event
Cocktails & Connections

Mix and Mingle with the WITF!

Join the Women's Initiatives Task Force at a Chicago hotspot to relax after work and learn the secrets of great cocktails.

Enjoy delicious appetizers, cocktails and a fun drink-making lesson from Wildfire's expert bartenders. We'll learn how to pull together fabulous drinks just in time for the upcoming entertaining season all while networking with fellow women in the accounting and finance profession.

What better way to learn how to make your next get-together a hit!

We look forward to seeing you there!

Cocktails & Connections
Thursday, December 8, 2011

Wildfire Chicago
159 W. Erie Street
Chicago, IL

Check-In: 6:00pm
Event: 6:30pm - 9:00pm

Cost: \$45 Members | \$50 Non-Members

Register online or call 800.993.0393 and refer to course code S577.

THE WOMEN'S INITIATIVES TASK FORCE (WITF) provides opportunities for social, educational and professional interaction among women CPAs and offers valuable programs and networking events to assist in personal and professional growth.



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2011 Federal & State Tax Seminars (9am-1pm)		
THURSDAY, Dec. 1 <i>SPRINGFIELD</i>	THURSDAY, Dec. 8 <i>CHICAGO</i>	THURSDAY, Dec. 15 <i>EDWARDSVILLE</i>
LLCC Capitol City Training Center 130 W. Mason St. Lower Level Meeting Room	James R. Thompson Center 100 W. Randolph Assembly Hall Concourse Level	SIU Edwardsville Morris University Center Hickory/Hackberry/ Oak/Redbud Rooms - 2nd Floor

These seminars will deliver information on federal and state tax, e-file and procedural updates. Additionally, the IRS's Director, Collection Midwest Area will provide a presentation on the Collection's Fresh Start Initiative.

For more details or to register visit IDOR's site at: <http://www.irs.gov/businesses/small/article/0,,id=127820,00.html>, or at the IRS site <http://tax.illinois.gov/TaxProfessionals/2011-Illinois-Fed-State-E-File-Seminars.pdf>

IMA's Inside Talk -Webinar Series
Program Title: The Need for Speed: Get Data to Make Great Business Decisions - Fast
Wednesday, December 14, 2011
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., CST

Presenters: Michael Huzinec, Director, Business Analytics, Baker Tilly
 Alex Ortiz, Director of Product Marketing, Host Analytics

CFOs often have too little AND too much information at the same time. What they need is the data to make a great business decision fast. CFOs tell us they're not getting enough (or timely) information from their enterprise systems. Simultaneously, they're drowning in data from their customers or suppliers with even more information in the offing. Unfortunately, the tools that support great decision-making have been lacking. How does the finance executive of 2011 sift through an exponentially growing pile of internal and external data to determine the best way to integrate and channel information to the right decision makers, at the right time, while maintaining appropriate controls over critical enterprise data?

In this session, we will explore some of the current trends in information management and enabling technologies, how these are impacting the finance organization, discuss some examples of what companies are doing, and identify ideas you may be able to take back to your organization.

- Define how to utilize mass data (internal and external) for better decision-making
- Make better-informed decisions by comparing your financial performance against relevant peers
- Use leading indicators to anticipate changes in your company's environment
- Reduce time and increase accuracy of recurring processes requiring external data, like currency translation

For more details or to register:
http://www.imanet.org/programs_events/webinars/details/11-10-17/Interviewing_Strategies_Every_Manager_Should_Know.aspx



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PLANNING AHEAD, FUTURE DATES & LOCATIONS...

THE WOMEN'S INITIATIVES TASK FORCE (WITF) provides opportunities for social, educational and professional interaction among women CPAs and offers valuable programs and networking events to assist in personal and professional growth.

Make sure you put your best-dressed foot forward.

WITF Dress for Success Event

Thursday, January 12, 2012
Macy's at Woodfield Mall
5 Woodfield Mall
Schaumburg, IL

Registration: 5:30pm
Event: 6:00pm - 8:30pm

Cost*: \$45 member / \$50 non-member

Register online or call 800.993.0393 and refer to course code S575.

The deadline for registrations is January 9 and no registrations will be taken at the door.

*Includes a \$25 Macy's gift card

Since being in fashion never goes out of style, the WITF is again hosting an evening of fashion to keep you on trend and provide an opportunity to connect with your peers in finance and accounting.

Join us for dinner and a fashion show at Macy's featuring the most current professional styles hand-picked by the WITF's complimentary personal shopper, Cindy Weinberg.

As part of your participation, you'll receive a \$25 gift card good to use at Macy's during our event, or make an appointment with Cindy for a later date, to flex your knowledge of the tips and trends.

Please note that the deadline for registrations is January 9 and no registrations will be taken at the door.

CALL FOR DONATIONS:

We are asking for attendees to bring any gently used, clean women's professional items, including accessories, that you would like to donate to Bottomless Closet, a Chicago not-for-profit organization that provides suitable interview attire for women on assistance to help them achieve self-sufficiency and succeed in the workforce. Learn more at www.bottomlesscloset.org.

See you there!

Save the Date!

The **Mid-America Council** will hold its annual Leadership Training Session **Friday, April 20, 2012** at the Northern Illinois Outreach Center in Rockford, IL

LTS 2012 is not just for incoming chapter officers & directors. It will offer 8 hours of CPE that anyone can use whether it be in their chapter, their career or their personal life.

A very impressive array of speakers will help you build and refine your skills in interpersonal communications, team building & succession planning. Breakout sessions will be offered for both new and returning chapter officers & directors, and the day will conclude with a presentation by Dr. William Miller, CPA, winner of the 2011 *Carl Menconi Ethics Case Competition*.

Your council is holding the cost of LTS at \$20, an absolute bargain for 8 hours of CPE!

So mark your calendars Now! and plan to attend LTS on Friday, April 20, 2012.

Any questions? Contact Bruce Hamilton MAC President-Elect, at hamiltoncpa@sbcglobal.net.

See you there!



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Help Us, Help You

IMA Chicago Chapter Members - You should have received a very short, but important, survey via your email inbox.

We believe that the only way that we can be successful as a chapter is to support and carry forth the wishes of the membership. To that end, we need to know what you're thinking.

Please take the time to provide your thoughts and ideas – this is your chapter so make it work for you!

CMA Certification

The CMA (Certified Management Accountant) is the advanced professional certification specifically designed to measure the accounting and financial management skills that drive business performance. The CMA is tailor-made for finance professionals at all levels, whether you want to enhance your value to your current organization or expand your career potential. The CMA credential is the gold standard of achievement in accounting and financial management. Holders of a CMA can earn over [\\$22,000 higher total compensation](#) than their noncertified peers. To participate in the CMA program, candidates must be members of IMA.

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Job posting: at the request of an IMA Fox River Valley Chapter member.

New Financial Analyst II position.

Chamberlain is a private company and "a great place to work", located in Elmhurst.

Position will report to my manager and work with me. If you or someone in the chapter knows of someone that might qualify, please provide the information to me at the contact information below. Their information will be forwarded to the HR person assigned to this position for follow-up.

Please contact Larry Erickson at: 1-602-571-2037
Larry196768@hotmail.com or larry.erickson@chamberlain.com



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Here's the latest from IMA headquarters;

IMA – Playing a Leadership Role in Global Talent Development by Jeffrey Thomson

Hi All - After trips over the past few months to U.S. chapters and last month to the Middle East, earlier this month I visited China where IMA has doubled its membership each of the past two years, with exponential growth in CMA exam candidates. Why this growth? We have a great staff and partners who give us a local view into the market rather than a Montvale, N.J. view of local needs. IMA has translated many of its publications into Simplified Chinese, as well as the 4-part exam. The 2-part exam is in the process of being translated. While we are trying to find the right balance between local service innovation and shared service support from the head office, in any event we must have an unwavering focus on delivering a greater volume of relevant local services that enrich careers, organizations and societies/economies. Finally, IMA as a non-profit with a clear societal mission has been in China for several years building and nurturing relationships and relationship management is key to success (e.g., governmental agencies and other valued partners).

But, the big "aha" is the central government and MNC emphasis in China on talent development....

And this is where IMA can continue to be a leader around the globe. The CMA exam certifies competency in critical management accounting skills. IMA's Leadership Academy helps to develop leadership skills in many facets. Webinars, conferences, publications, research, and other educational programs all help fill in the gaps identified by governments and companies - gaps in leadership and influencing skills, planning, budgeting, risk management, decision support and more.

One might conjecture that the talent management gap in the U.S. (a well developed economy) is insignificant, but it is a challenge there as much as in emerging/growth economies. Simply put, there exists a gap between what accounting educators teach (emphasis on financial accounting topics such as tax, regulatory reporting, audit and compliance) and the critical additional skills also needed in practice (e.g., planning, M&A, performance management, decision support and much more).

The coming year promises to be an exciting one for IMA as it continues to grow in size, relevance and influence. We intend to be part of the solution (if not leading the solution) in the talent management gap so stay tuned for exciting announcements in the coming year. Simply put, greater competency in management accounting means that organizations and economies are able to achieve sustainable growth while protecting investors and other stakeholders.

Thanks, and I always look forward to your feedback!!



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Miscellaneous CMA facts about the Chicago Chapter?

We currently have 451 non-student chapter members;
38.0% of which have their CMA, and 7% have both their CMA and CFM.

Membership classification and certification is as follows:

- Academic Members (18 total) - 44% have their CMA
- Young Professional Members (66 total) – 41% have their CMA
- “Regular” Members (290 total) - 46% have their CMA
- Retired Members (12 total) - 8% have their CMA
- Other Members (65 total)

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

The following Chicago Chapter members celebrate an IMA anniversary (based on IMA's join date of record) in December. Congratulations to all!

Solway Firestone - 68 Years	Mark Hosfield - 21 Years	Karen Burlingame - 3 Years
J Shoemaker - 67 Years	Irene Ayers - 18 Years	Lisa DeGori - 3 Years
Herbert Neander - 65 Years	Barti Joshi - 15 Years	Korey Rutherford - 3 Years
K Brunsman - 63 Years	Bimal Keshari - 14 Years	Patrick Stegman - 2 Years
Bruno Weglarz - 62 Years	James Shaughnessy - 14 Years	Robert Konkel - 2 Years
Arthur Hutton - 62 Years	Laura Martinez - 13 Years	Shahid Saleem - 2 Years
William Crusoe - 61 Years	Alexandre Ouchakov - 12 Years	Steve Moseley - 1 Years
Daniel Daniels - 59 Years	Donald Goodfellow - 10 Years	Brian Graczyk - 1 Years
Raymond Nergaard - 58 Years	Taosong Ai - 8 Years	John Wilkin - 1 Years
Charles Beckwith - 57 Years	Paul Freidel - 8 Years	Kyle Rimkus - 1 Years
Austin Rohrman - 42 Years	Jensen Jacob - 8 Years	Colin Zimmerman - 1 Years
Leonard Spacek - 38 Years	Wael Nawar - 7 Years	Andrew Burgess - 1 Years
Howard Allenberg - 38 Years	Dharmesh Jha - 7 Years	Robert Howard - 1 Years
Rodney Liddle - 30 Years	Kristina Guobuzyte - 7 Years	Ryan Johnson - 1 Years
Joseph O'Leary - 26 Years	Matt Gribas - 5 Years	Ciyonna Jackson - 1 Years
Jerold Graff - 26 Years	Paula Pouliot - 5 Years	
Dale Stinton - 21 Years	Sheela Chandrasekhara - 3 Years	



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2011-2012 BOARD MEMBERS & CONTACT INFO

POSITION	NAME	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
President	Jeffrey LeVant	(312) 980-4914	jeffrey.levant@experis.com
VP Admin & Finance	Ciyonna Jackson	(331) 826-7296	ciyonnaelmore@gmail.com
Secretary	Azam Azeem	(630) 818-7105	azam_azeem@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Cathleen Suhling	(773) 456-1988	suhlingc@yahoo.com
Director of Meetings	Open		
Director of Special Activities	Don Klink		dklink@dfpartners.com
Director of Member Attendance	Stephen Craig	(708) 508-4568	scraig@hdhwine.com
VP of Communications	Dana Riess	(847) 937-0083	imachicagocommunications@gmail.com
Director of Community Service	George Letten	(630) 753-3170	George.Letten@Navistar.com
VP Professional Education	Jensen Jacob		jkjacob2@gmail.com
Director of CMA / CFM Programs	Ambareen Ahmed		ambareen25@gmail.com
Director of Student Activities	Open		
VP Membership Development	Jeff Goodfellow		djgoodfellow@yahoo.com
Director of Member Acquisition	Michael Hirsch	(312) 377-8883 Ext #206	michael@accountablesearch.com
Directors @ Large	Bob Dustin Jim Doyle Cheri Rankin	n/a n/a (312) 374-9455	robert_dustin@hotmail.com james.doyle@cna.com crankin@tawani.net
Past President	Joel Vander Weele	(312) 486-1484	jvanderweele@deloitte.com
Mid-America Council President	Michele Reagan	(815) 229-1900 Ext #202	Michele.Reagan@cliftoncpa.com
Mid-America Council Regional Director	Sheryl Elliott	(630) 801-4688	sheryl.elliott@vfvllc.com

Visit us online for the latest news and more!



Chicago IMA Chapter Website

<http://chicago.imanet.org>