



IMA Chicago



Hello IMA Chicago Members:

Well, the holidays are over and the middle of winter upon us; although you wouldn't know that based on the temperatures!

As your Chapter Board, we've been working diligently over the past several months in anticipation of 2012.

Although we received quite a number of surveys responses, there are still Chicago Chapter members out there who have not sent us feedback. We kept the survey open, and we hope now that the busy holiday and year-end accounting closes are done, that you will take the time to complete the survey. We truly want to represent your will, and the only way we can do that is to solicit and respond to your input.

Please, take a few minutes and help determine our direction for years to come.

VP of Communications,
Dana Riess

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 3 - The 4 Red stars on the Center White Stripe represent something (key event) as well as each of the points on the stars themselves:

- The First Red Star represents Fort Dearborn (added in 1939).

The Points of the First Red Star Signify:

Transportation, Labor, Commerce, Finance, Populousness, Salubrity



IMA Chicago



JANUARY EVENTS

Date/Time	CPE	Location	Topic	Speaker	Comments
1/11 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM CST	1.0	Webinar	Salary Isn't Everything	Inside Talk - Webinar Series	Free to IMA members
1/12 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM CST		Macy's @ Woodfield Mall, Schaumburg	Dress for Success Event Illinois CPA Society Women's Initiatives Task Force	WITF	1-800-993-0393 Course #S575 Must RSVP by Jan. 9
1/18 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM CST	1.0	Webinar	Automating Financial Reporting & Disclosure Management	Inside Talk - Webinar Series	Free to IMA members
1/18 5:30 PM Dinner 6:15 PM CST	1.5	Gaslite Manor 2485 Church Rd. Aurora, IL 630-851-2300	Income Tax Update	Yolanda Ruiz IRS	Hosted by the Fox River Valley (FRV) Chapter * RSVP by Jan. 13 th to Sheryl.Elliott@vffllc.com
1/19 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM CST	1.5	Webinar	Essential Team Skills	IMA Leadership Academy	Free to IMA members

*** For FRV Event - Current prices are: Members & Retirees \$32, Non-Members & Guests \$40, Unemployed Members (Regular & Associates) \$16, Students \$10**

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

REQUEST FROM the Chapter President of the Des Moines, IA chapter: The student chapter at AIB College of Business is planning a trip to Chicago in late May, early June. Their academic sponsor would like to set up some tours for them to do while in the area.

If you are interested in offering a **company visit or plant tour**, please send an email with your contact information to: imachicagocommunications@gmail.com



IMA Chicago



IMA's Inside Talk -Webinar Series

Program Title: Salary Isn't Everything - Looking at What 2012 Has in Store for Businesses and Talent Acquisition Reporting

Wednesday, January 11

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., CST

Presenter: Trent Beekman, Senior Vice President, Accounting Principals

In today's workplace, companies are doing more with less. We hear this every day, but how is this affecting your workforce? And, what happens when companies start hiring again? Is your company doing enough to ensure that employees are satisfied with their current employment situation?

It takes more than just money to keep top talent. Employees are looking for the whole package before joining an organization. Join us as we discuss how to retain your highest performers and attract the best new talent in 2012.

Through participation in this webinar, you will be able to:

- Explain how the economic environment is impacting the way employers are hiring
- Recognize the most sought after positions in the industry
- Understand how retaining talent can help your company's bottom line
- Identify what attracts new talent to an organization
- Describe the best practices for performance management to ensure effective evaluation of top talent

For more details or to register:

http://www.imanet.org/programs_events/webinars/details/11-12-16/Salary_Isn_t_Everything_-_Looking_at_What_2012_Has_in_Store_for_Businesses_and_Talent_Acquisition.aspx

Program Title: Automating Financial Reporting & Disclosure Management

Wednesday, January 18

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., CST

New disclosure requirements and e-reporting mandates here in the U.S. and around the globe are causing many organizations to struggle to comply with new disclosure requirements. Today, Finance & Accounting organizations over-rely on hundreds of spreadsheets and risky manual processes to collect data, prepare/edit and certify critical financial & statutory reports. However, new purpose-built disclosure management solutions can automate each step in the financial reporting and statutory reporting process (including integrated XBRL tagging), ensuring timely and accurate financial and statutory reports.

Learning Objectives: Through participation in this webinar, you will be able to:

- Understand the benefits/value of automating error-prone, manual financial reporting processes
- Summarize the XBRL filing requirements for all SEC filers depending on their accelerated-filer status
- Identify how automating financial reporting can reduce risk of material errors in reports, enhance ICFR and provide new levels of audit trail reporting not available using spreadsheets and email

For more details or to register:

http://www.imanet.org/programs_events/webinars/details/11-12-22/Automating_Financial_Reporting_Disclosure_Management.aspx



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Leadership Academy Webinar Program Title: Essential Team Skills Thursday, January 19 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m., CST

Presenters: Lee Bertrand, CMA, CFM, Dean, IMA Leadership Academy
V. Marcine Johnson, CPA, CFO and President, Accounting and Tax Advisory Service, Inc.

Team building is an extremely important part of organizational leadership and critical to both an individual's and organization's success. Through the use of teams we:

- increase effectiveness, efficiency and productivity
- improve the quality of decisions, plans, and solutions to problems
- develop greater creativity at higher levels of thinking
- develop people to their maximum potential and compete more successfully

Through participation in this webinar, you will be able to:

1. Define a team and how a team differs from other kinds of groups.
2. Identify characteristics of the ideal team.
3. List benefits of team building for the individual and the organization.
4. Identify underlying principles that contribute to effective team building.
5. Describe how the characteristics of collaboration facilitate team building.

For more details or to register:

http://www.imanet.org/programs_events/leadership_academy/details/11-12-20/Essential_Team_Skills.aspx

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.



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PLANNING AHEAD, FUTURE DATES & LOCATIONS...

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!

Raise the Anty: Join Us at IMA's 93rd Annual Conference & Exposition in Las Vegas!

Come join us in Las Vegas and build true professional connections during three days of continuing education and networking. Save the date for [IMA's 93rd Annual Conference and Exposition](#) that will be held at the [Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino](#) in Las Vegas, Nevada on June 23rd to June 27th, 2012. Early bird registration will open on **January 17th** for \$940, which is a savings of \$155.



IMA Chicago



Student Leadership Conference Recap

Attendance at IMA®'s 12th Annual Student Leadership Conference set an all-time record earlier this month, as more than 400 students and their advisors gathered in Cincinnati to learn about some of the most popular accounting topics and to gain skills that will help shape their future careers. The Conference also featured an exciting new mobile application, enabling participants to share their experience in real time with peers.

Conference keynote speakers included Lori Richey, controller and CAO of Chiquita Brands International, who delivered a talk entitled "Corporate Social Responsibility: Why Companies are Embracing the Challenge." Also making keynote addresses were Lisa Sperling, controller of Lincoln and NA Car, who spoke about "Life is a Highway: Creating a Global Roadmap for Success," and C.S. "Bud" Kulesza, CMA®, CFM, dean emeritus of the IMA Leadership Academy, who discussed "The Personal Leadership Difference" (see related story in this issue).

Between the keynote addresses, participants attended concurrent sessions on practical, timely topics such as International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), ethics, interviewing techniques, professional etiquette, and the value of the Certified Management Accountant (CMA®) certification. Some of the popular concurrent sessions were "CMA Survivor," led by Amy Ford, CPA, accounting instructor at Western Illinois University, and "So You Want to be a Finance Executive?" led by David Axson, partner at Accenture. The session "Landing Your First Job in Today's Economy," presented by Christine Lucy, national director of strategic partnerships at Robert Half International, left students lining up for one-on-one advice after the session. During the Conference, Cummins Inc., a premier sponsor, also held interviews with potential internship and entry-level job candidates.

This year's Conference saw the launch of a new mobile application that kept members of the IMA community connected before, during, and after the Conference. Attendees were invited to access an application on their mobile device (<http://eventmobi.com/slc>), allowing them to view the Conference agenda and session descriptions, a list of attendees, and live discussions on social media feeds. Attendees could also visit http://eventmobi.com/slc/attendee_edit/3740 to update their profile, plan their personal schedules, add contact information and social media links, and even upload photos. Details on the Conference were also available via [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [LinkUp IMA](#).

Said Jodi Ryan, CPA, IMA director of student and academic relations, "We're very pleased that our location and speaker lineup enabled us to attract a record number of students to this year's Conference. I believe our attendees came away with valuable career insights and information – as well as networking connections that I hope will last a lifetime."

As in prior years, the Conference included many fun – and educational – networking events. More than 300 attendees participated on Thursday night in an optional event at the Newport Aquarium, which was sponsored by the IMA Ohio Regional Council. On Thursday afternoon, attendees had the choice of three industry tours: the Hilton Cincinnati Netherlands Plaza hotel, the Federal Reserve Bank, or the Proctor & Gamble Corporate Archives. Friday evening was an opportunity for the attendees to let loose, play arcade games, and enjoy the night at Gameworks at Newport on the Levee.

Presentations from many of the sessions are now available on the IMA Student Leadership Conference website. Please visit www.imastudentconference.org to view.



IMA Chicago



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!

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

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

Gordon Williams - 59 Years Ants Lepik - 55 Years Otto Moll - 52 Years Melvin Peters - 51 Years Fred Frankston - 51 Years Henry Lapeza - 47 Years Wilson Ko - 46 Years Gerard Swick - 44 Years Richard Loeger - 40 Years W Ling - 37 Years Mark Hoffman - 31 Years Charles Brown - 23 Years Douglas Smith - 22 Years Frederick Getz - 20 Years	Sauvik Ghosh - 17 Years Jason Montgomery - 16 Years George Maul - 15 Years Lee Fennell - 15 Years Price Marr - 14 Years Michelle Dickerson - 11 Years Jason DeGroot - 11 Years Yi Gao - 10 Years Ankur Gulati - 6 Years Amy Hoops - 6 Years Tracy Polikaitis - 6 Years Hung-Ji Lin - 5 Years Cornelis Luijendijk - 4 Years James Doyle - 4 Years	Stephen Carlos - 3 Years Brian Gilligan - 3 Years Kaleen Martin - 3 Years Brian Gosell - 2 Years Cheri Rankin - 2 Years Mascelline Chibamu - 1 Years James Johnson - 1 Years Andrew Beilman - 1 Years Hector Rubalcava - 1 Years Michal Zuk - 1 Years
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IMA Chicago



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
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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
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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@vffllc.com

Visit us online for the latest news and more!



Chicago IMA Chapter Website

<http://chicago.imanet.org>