

Dear IMA Chicago Chapter Members,

You are part of a community that is creating positive change for our future leaders! We are empowering students and creating new opportunities for our community to seize.

DePaul Senior, & Client Experience Analyst @ Grant Thornton, Chase Thompson, will be joining our board as Secretary. Chase understands the value of IMA and is currently leading the formation of DePaul's 1st IMA student chapter.

We are also welcoming DePaul ASK (Alumni Sharing Knowledge) Mentor, Janice Bratt, CPA onto the board as Director of Young Professionals. Janice has held Controller positions and utilizes her experience to help guide current students & alumni by providing mock interviews, resume guidance & sharing her invaluable hiring experience.

Our board has seen a lot of change over the past few months. Seasons, such as fall, remind us change can be beautiful. It's up to each of us to embrace change with open arms and continue to develop as a community. The transition from one season to another creates new beginnings. New beginnings open our minds & hearts to welcome the unknown. By welcoming the unknown we cherish our past, embrace the future & seize the opportunities gifted to us by each new sun rise.

Kind Regards,
 William T. Kernan
 IMA Chicago Chapter, President & Director of Student Activities
 Ph: (312) 636-6480
president.ima.chicago@gmail.com

"Today a new sun rises for me; everything lives, everything is animated, everything seems to speak to me of my passion, everything invites me to cherish it." - Ninon de Lenclos

**Welcome to our IMA
 Chicago 16 New Members!**

Dayna Anderson, Meng Chen,
 Christopher Allen Clark,
 Yun HU, Zaiqiu Huang,
 Wei Kong, Tony Purkal,
 Christopher Koralik, Yawei Wang
 Ixchel Mendoza, Kyle Patrick,
 Daniel J Overstreet, Geraldine Vo,
 Lavonya Sandlin, Nathan J. Spang,
 Edward Sullivan

Keep your eyes out....
 Coming soon, our next Member Survey
 on "Events".

Your opinions are important to us!

In this Issue...	
Message from the President	1
October Event	2
November Events	3
Article: Check the Connection on Your Staff Communication	4
CMA News	5
Educational Opportunities (CPE)	6
Board of Directors	7





CHICAGO CHAPTER



THE ASSOCIATION OF ACCOUNTANTS & FINANCIAL PROFESSIONALS IN BUSINESS

OCTOBER 2012

JOIN US - THIS MONTH !!

IMA CHICAGO EVENT

TOPIC - Building Your Resume for Success

Thursday, OCTOBER 18, 5:30 - 7:30 pm

Strategically place your resume in the right hands & land your dream job. Join us and learn the truth about resumes, what companies are looking for and why the CMA accreditation helps position you for success.

Guest Speakers:

Michael Hirsch, Director of Financial Staffing, Accountable Search, a Smart Resources Inc. Company
William T. Kernan, Founder, WTK Management, LLC... recently interviewed for the book "The Vault Career Guide to Accounting."

Michael is a Director of Financial Staffing for Accountable Search & the Director of Member Acquisition for IMA's Chicago Board. He has over 15 years of experience connecting thousands of job seekers and hiring managers. Michael has been a top producer throughout his career by specializing in Accounting & Financial placement. Michael understands the importance of building relationships & has used his leadership experience to grow offices in Chicago, Florida & Massachusetts.

William is Founder of WTK Management, LLC & the President/Director of Student Activities for IMA's Chicago Board. He has over 10 years of experience developing and implementing effective policies and procedures to increase efficiencies in operations and accounting. William has generated over \$1.5 million in revenue for stakeholders by establishing internal controls & uses his experience to educate entrepreneurs & mentor students through their career process.



Where: The Palmer House, Potter Lounge
17 East Monroe Street, Chicago (LOOP)
Phone: 312-917-4933
<http://www.potterschicago.com>

What: Small bites/appetizers & drink ticket + networking & speakers.

*****A special recognition night for our 2012 newly certified CMAs.**

Fee: IMA Members \$20, Non-members \$30, Students \$15.
Attendees may pay @event w/credit card, check, or cash.

RSVP: Please contact William @ 312-636-6480 to register in advance or email president.ima.chicago@gmail.com



OCTOBER 2012

COMING NEXT MONTH....

IMA's 13th Annual Student Leadership Conference San Antonio, Texas NOVEMBER 1 – 3

Think differently and create your own opportunity for career success. In this age of social networking, there is nothing online that has yet to replace the importance of meeting people in person. Attend IMA's 13th Annual Student Leadership Conference and start your career off on the right path!

Choose between diverse educational sessions to help you increase your competitive advantage when looking for a job. Session topics include management accounting career opportunities, the value of the Certified Management Accountant (CMA®) certification, ethics, business etiquette, leadership, job search techniques, and more.

Meet potential employers and share a copy of your résumé; learn about graduate school opportunities; find out about certification review courses; meet association staff; enter for a chance to win great raffle prizes!

Don't miss out!

<https://www.imastudentconference.org/index.cfm>

Fox River Valley Chapter Technical Meeting TOPIC: Economic Forecast NOVEMBER 15

Networking 5:30 PM
Dinner 6:15 PM
Speaker Presentation follows.

CPE Credits 1.5

St. Andrews Golf & Country Club, 2241 Rte.59
West Chicago
630-231-3100

Guest Speaker:
Mike Walschot

Northwest Suburban Chpt. Technical Meeting TOPIC: Tax Law Update NOVEMBER 29

Networking 6:00pm
Dinner 6:30pm
Speaker Presentation 7:15pm

Emmett's Ale House
110 North Brockway Street
Palatine, Illinois 60067
847.359.1533

Guest Speaker:
Herb Johnson, Jr. CPA, MBA
Clifton Gunderson, LLP

Our annual Tax Law Update on current tax laws for both individuals & corporations, and how results of the Presidential election will impact taxes.

TOPIC – "History is Hott" Tour + Networking NOVEMBER 17 12:30 - 2:00 pm

Where: The Palmer House
17 East Monroe Street, Chicago

What: History Tour
(<http://www.lockwoodrestaurant.com/history.aspx>) + 3-course lunch & glass of wine

Fee: IMA Members \$55

A 2-hour long historic luncheon and tour begins with a 45-minute lunch inside Lockwood, the property's modern American fare restaurant. A prix-fixe menu will be prepared featuring a salad and entrée along with the hotel's world-famous brownie and a glass of wine "to go" - serving as the ideal accompaniment for the tour afterwards. IMA & ACCA guests will have the opportunity to meet and mingle with each other prior to the tour.

After lunch, guests will meet Ken Price, Director of Public Relations for a 45-minute tour featuring the historic hotel's art-deco lobby, grand ballrooms, guestrooms and vintage artifacts showcased throughout the famed property. These sites aren't typically open to the public, so guests on the tour will have an exclusive insider view.



OCTOBER 2012

Check the Connection on Your Staff Communication

How would you rate the quality of communication between you and your staff? Like many managers, you're probably confident that the ongoing dialogue you have with your team is, for the most part, constructive. After all, you're exchanging information with them constantly through emails, texts, memos, phone calls and meetings, and things are getting done.

But since quantity is not always a measure of quality, the connection you have with your employees might be more tenuous than you think. In a [recent survey](#) by Robert Half, more than 40 percent of senior-level financial executives said that lack of communication is the most frequent misstep they make in managing their teams.

To check the strength of the connection between you and your team, consider these questions:

Do I discuss the “big picture” with my team often enough?

The hectic pace of business and the distraction of 24/7 electronic communication can prevent you from focusing on anything more than whatever message is popping up on your computer/tablet/smartphone screen at a given time. But it's important to slow down and unplug occasionally to inform or update your employees about major initiatives the company (or the department) is involved in.

Be sure to keep your team apprised of company happenings that affect them and their responsibilities. Take care not to overload them with more detail than they can absorb at once, however. And if employees ask questions you're unable to answer immediately, listen to their concerns and requests and then follow up personally as soon as you can.

Do I need to check in more often with my employees individually?

Group meetings are more efficient in the sense that you have to communicate something only one time, but meeting one-to-one with each staff member regularly — and not just for an annual performance review — can make all the difference in enhancing the rapport between you and your workers.

Interacting with employees in this way can give you valuable insight into the communication preferences and personalities of each individual, so you can adapt your management style accordingly. When you meet with staff members for a check-in session, ask them:

- **Do you have what you need to succeed?** Verify that they have the resources necessary to perform their work effectively.
- **What challenges are you facing?** Workers are often hesitant to voice concerns when problems arise at the office — especially to their manager. It's essential for you to be proactive about asking if there are any issues and how you may be able to assist.

These meetings also will help you to gauge your employees' overall job satisfaction, and learn more about their professional aspirations. They also present an ideal opportunity to provide constructive feedback about a worker's performance, and to reiterate your expectations.

Do I praise my team as often as I should?

Professionals want to know that their contributions add value to the firm — and are appreciated. Praise should be given to an employee soon after his or her accomplishment and, if appropriate, other staff members should be made aware of the achievement. Calling attention to your workers' successes will show you're highly attuned to what's happening in the office and can help to further enhance communication between you and your team.

Accountemps, a Robert Half Company, is the world's first and largest temporary staffing service specializing in the placement of accounting, finance and bookkeeping professionals. The firm has more than 350 locations worldwide and offers online job search services at www.accountemps.com



OCTOBER 2012

IN THE NEWS: Employment of Accountants Expected to Grow 16% over Next Decade (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics); IMA Cites Certification as Competitive Advantage

Accounting continues to be a growing profession with steady employment projections. According to the newly released U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (USBLS) [2012-2013 Occupational Outlook Handbook](#), employment of accountants and auditors is expected to grow 16% from 2010 to 2020. Further, the report states that accountants with a professional credential should have the best prospects.

As part of its mission, IMA® offers an array of educational resources and advice for both new graduates and experienced professionals looking to succeed in the growing management accounting field. Of the USBLS count of 1.2 million accountants in the U.S., IMA estimates that the majority work in management accounting roles.

In support of USBLS projections, IMA's [22nd Annual Salary Survey](#) found that young professionals in the 19 to 29 age group who hold IMA's Certified Management Accounting (CMA®) designation earned 14 percent more than their noncertified peers. (Look out for IMA's *23rd Annual Salary Survey* which will appear in the June 2012 edition of *Strategic Finance*.)

As we celebrate the 40th anniversary of the CMA program, we're reminded of the tremendous career opportunity and earning power it presents for both young professionals and seasoned executives," said Brian L. McGuire, Ph.D., CMA, CPA, CBM, CITP, IMA Chair. "Beyond increases in salary, the comprehensive CMA examination ensures employers that candidates have the necessary management accounting skills in areas such as planning, budgeting, and forecasting."



The IMA® Chicago Chapter is pleased to announce that in August 6 members earned the Certified Management Accountant (CMA®) credential.

Yang Cui, Andrea R. Moore, Hallie Elyce Page, Zhe Wang, Rahul Suresh Wagh, & Siyuan Zhao

CONGRATULATIONS !!

Did you know?
... 35% of IMA Chicago members are CMA certified, 5% are both CMA & CFM certified.



OCTOBER 2012

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Date/Time	CPE	Location	Topic	Speaker	Comments
10/16 5:30 Networking, 6:15 Dinner	1.5	Arrowhead Golf Club, 26W151 Butterfield Road (Route 56), Wheaton 630-653-5800	DuPage County Tax Topics	Gwen Henry, DuPage County Treasurer	Hosted by the Fox River Valley (FRV) Chapter * RSVP by Oct.8th to Sheryl.Elliott@vfflc.com
10/23 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM	1.5	Webinar	Emotional Intelligence: Foundation for your Future with Brent Darnell	Leadership Academy – Webinar Series	Free to IMA members

* For FRV Event – Payable in check or cash at the door: IMA Members (any chapter) & Retirees \$32, Non-Members & Guests \$40, Unemployed Members (Regular & Associates) \$16, Students \$10

Fox River Valley – Technical Meeting DuPage County Tax Topics October 16, 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Guest Speaker: Gwen Henry - CPA, CPFIM, Certified Public Finance Administrator DuPage County Treasurer

Gwen Henry has been the DuPage County treasurer since 2006 as is responsible for the custody and distribution of County funds along with paying bills for the County and other government entities. Prior to that, she served as the County’s Forest Preserve Commissioner for 4 years and has also held various positions on the DuPage County Board and Forest Preserve. As treasurer, Gwen focused on improving transparency and comprehension so that everyone involved has a clear and accurate picture of where the County stands.

Gwen is also a Principal/Partner at Dugan & Lopatka, CPAs, PC and is part of the Controllershship and Consulting Services practice. She specializes in financial consulting, tax and business planning for privately held companies and financial planning for individuals and families. She is a graduate of University of Kansas and is very active in the community. She has been the Mayor, City of Wheaton and has served in various nonprofit and government leadership positions.

Given her vast experience, this evening she would talk about implementing change in the process of tax and accounting and the challenges involved to employees and public. Discussion will also include developments in the real estate tax environment.

IMA’s Leadership Academy - Webinar Emotional Intelligence: Foundation for your Future October 23, 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m., CST

This program starts at the beginning and provides an intense focus on the concept of Emotional Intelligence. Here, Brent Darnell examines this concept’s importance, how it is measured, how it can be improved, and the powerful results it has on your company’s bottom line. Enlightening and entertaining, this program shows participants how to use relationship building skills to leverage the full power of their employees, both intellectually and emotionally.

For more details or to register:

<https://event.on24.com/eventRegistration/EventLobbyServlet?target=registration.jsp&eventid=513930&sessionid=1&key=F81A62FACFF4A8962D419FA31658E7E7&sourcepage=register>



CHICAGO CHAPTER



THE ASSOCIATION OF ACCOUNTANTS & FINANCIAL PROFESSIONALS IN BUSINESS

OCTOBER 2012

2012-2013 BOARD MEMBERS & CONTACT INFO

POSITION	NAME	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
President	William Kernan	(312) 636-6480	president.ima.chicago@gmail.com
VP Admin & Finance	Open		
Secretary	Chase Thompson	--	imachicagocommunications@gmail.com
Treasurer	Cathleen Suhling	(773) 456-1988	suhlingc@yahoo.com
Director of Member Participation & Retention	Open		
Director of Special Activities	Don Klink	--	dklink@dfpartners.com
Director of Member Attendance	Stephen Craig	(708) 508-4568	scraig@hdhwine.com
Director of Meetings	Open		
VP of Communications	Dana Riess	(847) 937-0083	ima.chicago.vp.communications@gmail.com
VP Professional Education	Open		
Director of Young Professionals	Janice Bratt	--	
Director of Student Activities	William Kernan	(312) 636-6480	president.ima.chicago@gmail.com
VP Membership Development	Open		
Director of Member Acquisition	Michael Hirsch	(312) 377-8883 Ext #206	michael@accountablesearch.com
Directors @ Large	Jeff Goodfellow Jim Doyle Cheri Rankin	-- -- (312) 374-9455	djgoodfellow@yahoo.com jimdoylechicago@hotmail.com crankin@tawani.net
Past President	Joel Vander Weele	(312) 486-1484	jvanderweele@deloitte.com
Mid-America Council Regional VP	Mary Strautmann	(414) 395-9250	mstraumann@wi.rr.com
Mid-America Council Regional Director	Sheryl Elliott	(630) 801-4688	sheryl.elliott@vffllc.com

The Chapter is looking for energetic and engaged volunteers to fill Board of Director positions.

Individuals must be willing provide active participation and get personally involved with the specific BOD position's responsibilities, including attending a minimum 9 of 12 monthly Board Meetings during the fiscal year.

If interested, please contact the Chapter President.

Visit us online for the latest news and more!



Chicago IMA Chapter Website

<http://chicago.imanet.org>