

Dear IMA Chicago Chapter Members,

I write to you as your Chapter's new President and want to take this opportunity to formally thank each of you for the support you show the Chicago Chapter everyday as we work to ensure we meet all of members' needs.

It was very inspiring to see many of you accepting the challenge to become more involved with the Chicago IMA by indicating your interest to serve on our Board of Director's for the 2013-2014 year. We have had many interesting and qualified individuals complete our Board of Director interest form. However, we still have slots available for filling by members who wish to help lead our ever-growing Chapter. Time is running out though (March 8th)! To complete the interest form please visit our website at: <http://chicago.imanet.org/membership/volunteer-opportunities/>

On another exciting note, as the March event draws near I want to encourage all to RSVP for the night of networking, food, and the thought-provoking topic it is sure to be. The Chapter is pleased to welcome Rick Myrland, Special Agent with the IRS Criminal Investigation Unit. For more information on the event, Special Agent Myrland, and to RSVP, please visit our website at: <http://chicago.imanet.org/event/the-f-word-fraud/>

Again, I want to thank each of our members for their continuing support and look forward to seeing each of you at our March event.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at the information below, or any of the board members listed on the Board Members & Contact Info page at the end of the newsletter.

Kind Regards,
 Chase A. Thompson
 IMA Chicago Chapter, President, Secretary & Webmaster
 Ph: (616) 460-6462
president.chicago.ima@gmail.com

CHICAGO CHAPTER

THE ASSOCIATION OF ACCOUNTANTS & FINANCIAL PROFESSIONALS IN BUSINESS



THIS MONTH



IMA Chicago Presents

**The "F" Word:
 FRAUD**

Join us...and bring a partner in Crime....

Guest Speaker: Special Agent Rick Myrland
 IRS Criminal Investigation

Where: The Carleton Hotel of Oak Park
 1110 Pleasant Street • Oak Park

When: March 21st, 6:00-8:30PM

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MARCH 2013

IMA CHICAGO PRESENTS:



The “F” Word: Fraud

March 21st, 2013
6:00-8:30PM

CPE: 1

Guest Speaker: Special Agent Rick Myrland, IRS Criminal Investigation

Where: The Carleton Hotel of Oak Park • 1110 Pleasant Street • Oak Park, IL

Join the IMA Chicago Chapter for a night of tasty hor d'oeuvres, drinks, and FRAUD. The chapter is pleased to welcome Rick Myrland, Special Agent for the IRS Criminal Investigation Division. Special Agent Myrland will be speaking on one of the accounting world's most taboo and interesting topics, **fraud**.

More about Special Agent – Rick Myrland:

He has been a Special Agent with IRS Criminal Investigation since 2005. Since then he has been appointed Public Information Officer and served in various acting supervisory roles in field offices around the Midwest. He launched his law enforcement career in 1987 serving as a Police/Fire/Rescue Dispatcher. Later, as an Investigator with the Wisconsin Department of Justice Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, he specialized in government-funded health care fraud. Now, with IRS Criminal Investigation, he leads a variety of white collar and task force narcotic investigations in addition to his PIO duties.

Rick holds a B.A. in Business Management and an M.B.A. in Finance. He attended hundreds of hours of specialized training in his field of work. He is a former Adjunct Professor on Fraud Management, was an instructor at Milwaukee Area Technical College Law Enforcement Academy, and has delivered countless presentations on financial crimes and investigations.

We look forward to seeing you at this exciting event! Please plan to arrive at 6:00PM for hor d'oeuvres, drinks, and networking followed by Special Agent Myrland's presentation at 7:00PM. As a courtesy to our guests there will be **NO** charge for this event.

Please RSVP through the newly created IMA Chicago website by visiting <http://chicago.imanet.org/event/the-f-word-fraud/>. Each guest that RSVPs at least 1 week in advance will receive tickets for two free drinks from the hotel's wide selection of wine and beer.

At the March 21st Chapter meeting: Members will also vote on....

Slate of candidates for the 2013-2014 Board of Directors



MARCH 2013

OTHER EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES – THIS MONTH

Date/Time	CPE	Location	Topic	Speaker	Comments
3/6 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	1.0	Webinar	Your Role in Managing Incentive Compensation – Driving Success and Becoming a Strategic Partner Incentive compensation management and variable pay-for-performance programs are often one of the largest operating expenses an organization has. As a strategic partner and provider of financial and operational information, management accountants need to closely monitor this variable expense to stay within planned budgets.	Inside Talk – Webinar Series	Free to IMA members https://event.on24.com/eventRegistration/EventLobbyServlet?target=registration.jsp&eventid=571393&sessionid=1&key=54C64F66D4CFB34CEEC6B0A2B8E599F7&sourcepage=register
3/12 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM	1.5	Webinar	Interpersonal Communications This engaging webinar will help you enhance your ability to effectively communicate with others, by showing you how to identifying your own style of communication, and understand how your style relates to other styles.	Leadership Academy – Webinar Series	Free to IMA members https://event.on24.com/eventRegistration/EventLobbyServlet?target=registration.jsp&eventid=588279&sessionid=1&key=BBAA32BC10162EB8E33EF2CAB29B6C34&sourcepage=register
3/28 6:00 Networking 6:30 Dinner	1.5	Emmett's Ale House 110 N. Brockway Palatine 1-847-359-1533	Microbrewery Tour	Andy Burns, CEO, Emmett's Ale House	Hosted by the NWSC Chapter ** RSVP by March 21st to bill.decker@rht.com

** For NWSC/Chicago Event – Payable in check or cash at the door:
 Advance Registration - IMA Members: Regular \$30, Retired or Unemployed \$20. Nonmembers \$35
 At the Door - IMA Members \$35, Nonmembers \$40, Students \$10

PLANNING AHEAD, FUTURE DATES & LOCATIONS...

April 19, 2013	Mid America Council Annual Leadership Training session	@ NIU Outreach Center Rockford, IL
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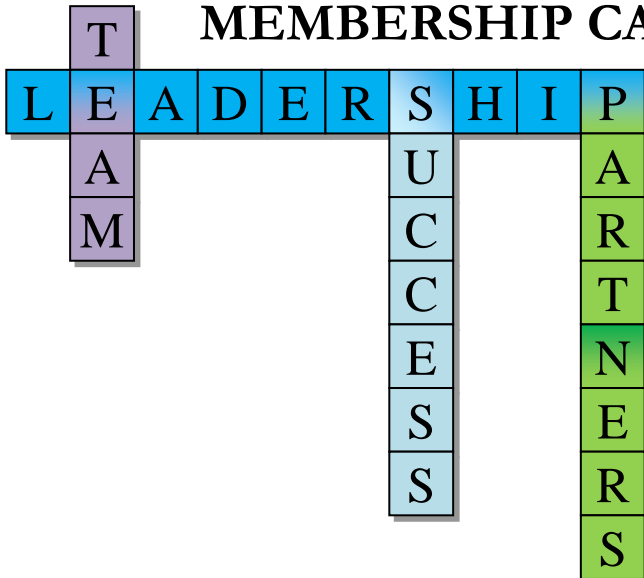
This one-day workshop focuses on leadership development of IMA members. The majority of the day is geared toward professional leadership and current accounting issues. These programs provide practical information that attendees can use on the job or in their community leadership positions.

*** We sent out a very short, but important, EVENTS survey to your email inbox. ***
 Please help your chapter BOD to understand your membership needs - let us know what you're thinking.
This is your chapter so make it work for you!



MARCH 2013

MEMBERSHIP CALL: BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Looking for Growth Opportunities?

Calling all leaders...

Are you looking to enhance your leadership abilities, or take on a new and exciting challenge this year to elevate your professional game?

How about increasing your networking circle for future career opportunities?

We have the answer! Join our 2013-2014 IMA Chicago Leadership team!

Each year there are new opportunities for professional growth outside your company. Your chapter's Board of Directors is responsible for the management and successful operation of the chapter. This includes planning, coordinating and conducting chapter activities to ensure members of the chapter are provided maximum service.

IMA Chicago is actively seeking enthusiastic and energetic members for the following important Board of Director positions for the term of June 1, 2013 to May 31, 2014.

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| President (Officer) | Director of Student Activities |
| Secretary (Officer) | Director of Young Professionals |
| VP Membership (Officer) | Director of CMA Programs |
| VP Finance & Admin., President-Elect | Director of Member Acquisition |
| Director of Meetings | Director of Retention & Membership |
| Director of Member Attendance | Director of Community Service |
| Director Newsletter | Director of Public Relations |
| Director of Educational Meetings/Seminars | Webmaster |

We have some remarkable chapter members that have the potential to fill these roles, we just need to hear from you!

If you are interested, please complete the volunteer application on the next page, or apply online via our new website <http://chicago.imanet.org/membership/volunteer-opportunities/>



MARCH 2013

BOARD OF DIRECTORS – Brief Descriptions

THE PRESIDENT: The President of a chapter, as its chief administrative and executive officer, ensures that the board meets regularly, functions effectively, and that officers and directors understand and perform their duties adequately.

TREASURER: Responsibility for the control of chapter funds rests with the chapter board in accordance with provisions set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Institute. The chapter Treasurer, as custodian of chapter funds, is responsible for financial records, reports, and all moneys handled by the chapter.

SECRETARY: Assures communications with the IMA office, IMA officers, chapter members and other chapters, are handled properly; issues notices of board meetings; cooperates with the President to prepare board meeting agendas; maintains records of board meeting attendance; prepares and distributes board minutes; maintains up-to-date record of names/addresses of all members affiliated with the chapter and notifies IMA office of any changes that need to be made. Coordinates the reporting of a number of Directors and guides the development of their activities.

VICE PRESIDENT OF MEMBERSHIP: Makes all physical arrangements relating to meetings and chapter gatherings, works with various other directors to maximize member engagement and participation through effective communication channels. Coordinates the reporting of a number of Directors and guides the development of their activities.

VICE PRESIDENT OF ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE, PRESIDENT-ELECT: Acts as the Chief Executive Officer in the absence of the President, and works on special projects for the President to help insure the long term success of the chapter. President-elect helps to provide continuity between one year and the next, and builds the team that will execute planned activities during his succeeding term as President.

DIRECTOR OF MEETINGS: Social functions or professional development meetings (PDMs) are activities consistent with the educational and fellowship objectives of the Institute. Makes all physical arrangements (locations, space, menu, equipment) relating to meetings and chapter gatherings, including educational programs.

DIRECTOR OF MEMBER ATTENDANCE: The purpose of this activity is to encourage active participation of members in meetings and other activities of the chapter. This position plans and carries out effective methods for contacting members in order to encourage their active participation in chapter activities and provides the Team Member of Meetings with information on the number who plan to attend the meeting.

DIRECTOR OF NEWSLETTER: Produces monthly written communication to members, which may be in the form of a newsletter. Helps make other directors aware of their duty to cooperate in providing effective communications with all members. These may be mailed or e-mailed.

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICE: Organizes the expertise, energy, and willingness of the chapter members in offering needed and worthwhile services to the community and accounting education to nonmembers; also provides counseling and training for small businesses.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS: Initiates and implements ways in which the nature, purpose, and programs of IMA locally and globally become known to the general community and especially the business community. Community service and educational programs are especially publicized.

WEBMASTER: Establishes and maintains chapter web site. Coordinates with other board members and IMA to insure site is appropriately linked and contains material that is current and of interest to the chapter and community.

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATIONAL MEETINGS AND EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS: Executes current year's program. Arranges for and assures presence of speakers or panels. Plans next year's educational programs, sees that topics and speakers reflect members' interests. Each chapter must provide its members with at least 4- Hours of Professional Education.

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES: Promotes student membership and productive activities. Plans and executes a wide range of educational projects, enabling members to share their expertise with fellow members, college groups, and the business community.

DIRECTOR OF YOUNG PROFESSIONALS: Engages IMA professional members under the age of 33 and stimulates ideas to propel the future of the organization. Works to bridge the gap between the seasoned professional and the young professional (YP) to meet the YP's developmental needs.

DIRECTOR OF CMA PROGRAMS: Publicizes and promotes the CMA program. Plans and/or promotes CMA review course. Arranges for awards and presentations to recipients.

DIRECTOR OF MEMBER ACQUISITION: Seeks out all persons in the area served by the chapter who can benefit from the services provided by the Institute and enrolls them as members.

DIRECTOR OF RETENTION & PARTICIPATION: Welcomes, indoctrinates, and activates new members; maintains the interest and participation of active members; contacts past-due and terminating members to ascertain reasons and initiate remedial action.



MARCH 2013

Proactive Recruiting

Always being on the lookout for talent helps ensure your firm will have quicker access to skilled candidates when the need arises.

As more businesses expand their accounting and finance teams to help support growth objectives, many are regretting that they didn't maintain a pipeline of talent in previous years when they were not in a hiring mode. If they had, they'd likely be able to fill key positions sooner. They'd also have an edge over their competitors in a market where more than half of employers report they're encountering challenges recruiting skilled candidates.

Waiting to locate and evaluate talent until your organization has a job opening can touch off a negative cycle of events. First, the more time it takes your firm to fill critical roles, the longer you must lean on existing personnel to cover staffing shortfalls. And if workloads continue to increase at a rapid pace, your core team will soon become overburdened. You then may feel pressure to quickly extend an offer to the first promising candidate you find. However, snap hiring decisions can lead to a poor choice that ultimately creates more work for you as a manager — and further erodes your team's morale.

While you can't anticipate every future hiring need, you can probably identify several roles in your organization that may need to be filled sometime soon. For example, are there certain positions or departments prone to turnover? Are any employees taking on different roles or planning to retire? Are large projects or expansion plans on the horizon? Are you thinking about creating new positions to support specific business initiatives?

Once you determine where your firm might need to add or replace personnel in the coming months, start searching for potential candidates. Even if you're not ready to hire just yet, you can start making connections. Some strategies include:

- Leveraging professional networks. Online or offline, your professional networks can yield leads to both active and passive candidates. LinkedIn, for example, is a convenient way to research professionals' abilities and experience, and find out which of your contacts may be able to make an introduction. And don't overlook your "network" in your own firm — your team members and colleagues can be a great source of referrals.
- Agreeing to informational interviews. If a talented professional reaches out to your firm when you're not hiring, take time to set up a quick phone call or in-person meeting so you can learn a little more about them. (Just be sure to make it clear up front that no positions are currently available.) Fielding applications and inquiries year-round and keeping detailed notes on each person you speak with lets you build a "go to" file that you can reference when a position needs to be filled.
- Reach out to a staffing specialist. Reputable firms will have access to a wide range of talented financial professionals in your local market — including candidates not actively seeking a job, but willing to consider a new opportunity. Building a relationship with a staffing specialist will also provide you with a source for temporary talent when workloads demand extra support for your core team, but not permanent hires.

A final tip: When you do need to add staff, try to take a long-term view of your company's needs. Strive to hire candidates with transferable skills and flexible attitudes that may allow them to take on additional responsibilities or move easily into other roles should the need arise. That way, you can ensure you'll have a pipeline of talent to tap within your organization as well.

This article is provided courtesy of Robert Half Management Resources, the premier provider of senior-level accounting, finance and business systems professionals to supplement companies' project and interim staffing needs. The company has more than 150 locations worldwide and offers online job search services at www.roberthalfmr.com. Follow Robert Half Management Resources at twitter.com/roberthalfmr for workplace news.



CHICAGO CHAPTER



THE ASSOCIATION OF ACCOUNTANTS & FINANCIAL PROFESSIONALS IN BUSINESS

MARCH 2013

CMA NEWS...

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, for those that want to enhance their value to a current organization or expand career potential.

Earning the CMA will make you part of a network of over 20,000 credentialed peers worldwide. To participate in the CMA program, candidates must be members of the IMA.

The IMA® Chicago Chapter is pleased to announce that in January only **1** chapter member earned the Certified Management Accountant (CMA®) credential.

CONGRATULATIONS – Audrey B Conley, CMA, CPA!



Welcome 15 New IMA Chicago Chapter Members (January)!

Catherine Bowers
 Lorin M Burte
 Xiaoqi Chen
 Alma Hundiak
 Chegezo Kilahala I

Donghyup Kwak
 Venus Meng
 Matt Muckerheide
 Jeffrey Daniel Perrotta
 Thach Pham

Jiayi Qi
 Megan Taylor Ryan
 Yue Wang
 David A Winkler
 Yanan Zhang

Next month, at the March 21st Chapter meeting: Members will vote on....

Slate of candidates for the 2013-2014 Board of Directors

2012-2013 BOARD MEMBERS & CONTACT INFO

POSITION	NAME	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
President & Secretary	Chase Thompson	(616) 460-6462	president.chicago.ima@gmail.com secretary.ima.chicago@gmail.com
Treasurer	Cathleen Suhling	(773) 456-1988	treasurer.ima.chicago@gmail.com
Director, Member Attendance	Stephen Craig	(708) 508-4568	dirmbrattendance.ima.chicago@gmail.com
VP, Communications	Dana Riess	(847) 937-0083	ima.chicago.vp.communications@gmail.com
Webmaster	Chase Thompson	(616) 460-6462	webmaster.ima.chicago@gmail.com
Director, Young Professionals	Janice Bratt	--	yp.ima.chicago@gmail.com
Directors @ Large	Jeff Goodfellow Cheri Rankin	-- (312) 374-9455	directoratlarge1.ima.chicago@gmail.com directoratlarge.ima.chicago@gmail.com
Past President	Joel Vander Weele	(312) 486-1484	pastpresident.ima.chicago@gmail.com