

Dear IMA Chicago Chapter Members,

With May here and the IMA year coming to a fast close feelings of both melancholy and anticipation come to mind. Melancholy for the two dedicated members of the chapters Board of Directors' stepping-down to pursue other endeavors (one for new family additions) and anticipation for new individuals stepping-up to help lead the chapter in another prosperous year.

It has indeed been a wild ride for the IMA Chicago this year with board turnover and numerous new members, but it is undeniably certain that the changes we have seen have been for the better. As the new year approaches your incoming board will be hard at work planning a year full of interesting and relevant events with you, our members in mind. I am pleased to announce you can look forward to more frequent events presented earlier allowing ample time to plan and a greater variety in topics. Your feedback has been invaluable in helping us plan the 2013-2014 year to meet your needs and we encourage you to keep providing any feedback you feel will help create a stronger chapter.

Before we close the book on the 2012-2013 year we still have our May 23rd event, ZAP the GAP, which is sure to be a great event to attend. We have had numerous members RSVP and we hope to see more. For more information about May's event see the flyer within this month's newsletter. I look forward to seeing those who attend on May 23rd. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me or any of the other board members listed on the last page of the newsletter.

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

CHICAGO CHAPTER

THE ASSOCIATION OF ACCOUNTANTS & FINANCIAL PROFESSIONALS IN BUSINESS



JOIN US – this Month



IMA Chicago
 Presents:

**ZAP...
 the GAP!**

That would be the “Gen Gap”.
 Join us...and bring your generation along,
 for a conversation about communicating
 across multiple generations in the workplace.

Where: DePaul University

When: May 23rd, 6:00-8:00PM

More details on Page 2.

NOTICE: The Chapter will not publish a June newsletter due to summer vacation, and pending event planning by the new Board of Directors during June/July for the 2013-2014 fiscal year.

In this Issue...

Message from the President	1
IMA Chicago May Event	2
Educational Opportunities (CPE)	3
Article: No Sweat: Tips for Overcoming Presentation Jitters	4
CMA & Other Chapter News	5
Board of Directors	5



MAY 2013

IMA Chicago & IMA DePaul Proudly Present

ZAP

the

GAP

What happens when multiple generations work together in a department or on a team but they don't know or understand the generational values of their colleagues? BAM! Sparks fly, and production may implode. Join us as Amber McCulloch, Senior Associate of internal Communications with Grant Thornton LLP, helps to bridge this ever-growing gap between multiple generations in the work force today. Amber will discuss how each generation communicates and how to utilize tools and techniques to effectively communicate across each.

Date: May 23rd

Location: DePaul University Student Center Room - 324
2250 N. Sheffield Avenue - Chicago, IL 60614

CPE Credit: 1.5

Cost: FREE

To RSVP or view more event info visit our May events page

<http://chicago.imanet.org/events/2013-05/>

Select "ZAP the GAP"

Networking & Hor D'Oeuvres: 6:00PM

Tribute to retiring Chicago Board members: 6:45PM

Introduction of the 2013-2014 Board of Directors: 7:00pm

Speaker: Amber McCulloch: 7:15PM

Questions: Please contact Chase Thompson, President & Webmaster at president.chicago.ima@gmail.com



MAY 2013

OTHER EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES – THIS MONTH

Date/Time	CPE	Location	Topic	Speaker	Comments
5/2 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	1.0	Webinar	<p>Best Practices in Financial Reporting</p> <p>Are you looking for ideas on how to improve your corporate reporting? This webinar will discuss how to improve communication to the markets or your management team through your financial reporting package, and will touch on how the cloud is being utilized to enhance this critical process.</p>	Inside Talk – Webinar Series	Free to IMA members https://event.on24.com/eventRegistration/EventLobbyServlet?target=registration.jsp&eventid=605641&sessionid=1&key=224ABEF0D439BDAC698EA599E2398502&sourcepage=register
5/7 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	1.0	Webinar	<p>Integrated Reporting: The Language of Resilient Business</p> <p>The IIRC has convened investors, businesses, accounting firms, standard setters and regulators to advance the corporate reporting agenda. The Consultation Draft of the International Framework is available for public comment between April 16 and July 15, 2013. This webinar will explain the basics of Integrated Reporting, explore features of the Consultation Draft.</p>	Inside Talk – Webinar Series	Free to IMA members https://event.on24.com/eventRegistration/EventLobbyServlet?target=registration.jsp&eventid=609101&sessionid=1&key=56A8E76269A2488ED34FB617EED9BD3F&sourcepage=register
5/14 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	1.0	Webinar	<p>Fitting Your Business Intelligence Solution to Your Enterprise - Four options, one right decision</p> <p>People throughout your organization are called upon daily, if not hourly, to make decisions that affect your business performance. Who could blame you for wanting them to make the right decision and make it quickly? But no matter how experienced and dedicated your employees are, they'll only consistently make the right decision if they consistently get easy access to clear, accurate, and actionable information. What can you do to help them—and your company?</p>	Inside Talk – Webinar Series	Free to IMA members https://event.on24.com/eventRegistration/EventLobbyServlet?target=registration.jsp&eventid=613642&sessionid=1&key=641A861EB89E0681261F4830F51F5AC0&sourcepage=register
5/21 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM	1.5	Webinar	<p>Goal Setting and Career Planning</p> <p>What level do you want to reach in your career, or what do you want to achieve? The process of goal setting and career planning is an effective way to help you choose what you want to achieve.</p> <p>The Goal Setting and Career Planning program will help you discover your personal vision and what motivates you. You can then use these discoveries as a guiding tool to set career goals.</p>	Leadership Academy – Webinar Series	Free to IMA members https://event.on24.com/eventRegistration/EventLobbyServlet?target=registration.jsp&eventid=609100&sessionid=1&key=744C0B19EF4CF7537E65D0F41902C414&sourcepage=register
5/29 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	1.0	Webinar	<p>Managing Risk in the Office of Finance</p> <p>As a finance professional, chances are that you're working to streamline and consolidate the multiple risk and compliance programs in your organization. Increasingly the office of finance is being asked to improve transparency into enterprise-wide risk information and to use risk and compliance metrics to assist in decision making and planning.</p>	Inside Talk – Webinar Series	Free to IMA members https://event.on24.com/eventRegistration/EventLobbyServlet?target=registration.jsp&eventid=613449&sessionid=1&key=342C1692C6A2674F432806AFDC8A729E&sourcepage=register



MAY 2013

No Sweat: Tips for Overcoming Presentation Jitters

You've been asked to give an important presentation at a company-wide meeting. You don't like speaking in public; in fact, you've never before faced an audience as large as this. So, you're feeling very nervous - and frankly, wondering if there's some way you can get out of the gig.

Hold on: Before you try to bail out, consider the potential impact that doing so may have on your career. Today's employers expect accounting and finance professionals to possess more than just stellar technical and financial abilities - solid "soft" skills are also essential, and that includes oral communication.

Yes, you have "the jitters." But begging your boss to let you off the hook could limit further opportunities at your company. For example, it could earn you a reputation for not being a team player. It also may undermine your value to the organization because your lack of confidence could cause others to view you as a person who can't rise to a challenge. The best course is to steel up and start preparing. Here are some tips for overcoming your nervousness:

- **Embrace your role as an authority.** First, stop and think: If you've been asked to speak on a particular topic, it's likely because you're considered to be a subject-matter expert in that area. You're responsible for imparting information and insights to the audience that perhaps only you are qualified to provide. Now, doesn't that knowledge give your confidence (and ego) at least a little boost?
- **Plan out your "story":** If you're nervous about presenting, you might be tempted to just "wing it" and hope for the best. However, if you don't prepare, more than likely you'll be setting yourself up for a speaking disaster. The number-one tip for overcoming nervousness about public speaking, according to Toastmaster's International, is to know your material. Even though you may be considered an authority (see previous point), you have to organize your information and present it in a compelling way. It may help to think of your presentation as a form of storytelling. Start by figuring out what your audience should take away from your presentation. Then, build the "backstory" and the "plotline" that will help give the audience historical perspective on your topic, what it means to them right now, and how it might impact them in the future.
- **Find your voice:** Rehearsing your presentation thoroughly is essential to helping you keep jitters in check on the big day. When you practice, speak aloud and in a strong and clear voice. Figure out the best places in your presentation to pause and take a breath. This will help you to relax once you're in front of the real audience - and will prevent you from rushing through the information. Consider practicing in front of a trusted colleague to get feedback on your delivery. You may even want to engage in a mock Q&A session with that person, so you'll be prepared to speak off the cuff in case your real audience has questions.

Lastly, remember that your audience doesn't want you to fail because they're eager to be informed - and to a degree, entertained. Their expectations do add pressure on you, of course, but they can also help to give you purpose. And even if you never grow comfortable with public speaking, knowing how important it is to your audience - and perhaps, to your career - can give you confidence to face the crowd every time.

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.roberthalfmnr.com. Follow Robert Half Management Resources at twitter.com/roberthalfmnr for workplace news.



CHICAGO CHAPTER



THE ASSOCIATION OF ACCOUNTANTS & FINANCIAL PROFESSIONALS IN BUSINESS

MAY 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 March two chapter members earned the Certified Management Accountant (CMA®) credential.



CONGRATULATIONS – Roberto A. Rivera, CMA & Joseph B. Terzo, CMA

Welcome 9 New IMA Chicago Chapter Members (March)!

*Emanuela Aioanei
Ewa J Bobula-Pruszyński
Maxwell Footlik*

*Amy Lynn Kaminski
Alexander Lass
Jason Michael Plowman*

*Chris Salomone
Greg Sipiora
Matthew Riley Peterson*

2012-2013 BOARD MEMBERS & CONTACT INFO

POSITION	NAME	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
President & Webmaster	Chase Thompson	(616) 460-6462	president.chicago.ima@gmail.com webmaster.ima.chicago@gmail.com
Treasurer	Cathleen Suhling	(773) 456-1988	treasurer.ima.chicago@gmail.com
Secretary	Lukasz Budolak	(312) 550-8758	secretary.ima.chicago@gmail.com
Director, Member Attendance	Stephen Craig	(708) 508-4568	dirmbrattendance.ima.chicago@gmail.com
VP, Communications (including newsletter)	Dana Riess	(847) 937-0083	ima.chicago.vp.communications@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