

Akron Chapter IMA Newsletter

The Summit Report

January 2017

Dear Members:

Please join your fellow IMA Members for Social Networking Night on January 18, 2017 at the HILTON GARDEN INN, 1307 E. MARKET ST., AKRON, OH 44305

Check In is at 5:30 pm.

Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. and the Technical Session begins at 7:10 p.m.

A free drink ticket is included for all attendees (over 21) purchasing dinner.

Cost for Members is \$25.00. Non-members pay \$30.00.

For every Pre-Technical or Technical Session that you attend, you earn 1 CPE towards your CMA or CPA requirements.

Remember, members are always welcome at meetings. Even if you're on a diet or don't feel like eating - come to hear the speakers anyway.... there is NO charge if you are not eating!

Please forward newsletter items to: [IMANewsletter](#). Thanks!

Kelly Heil

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President's Message



Fellow IMA Members,

Winter is here in full swing, the holidays are behind us, and hopefully year end close is wrapping up for you all as well.

Our first 2017 IMA Akron Chapter dinner meeting will be our Social Networking Night. It is on Wednesday, January 18, 2017. Networking begins at 5:30 pm at the Hilton Garden Inn. Dinner is at 6:30. We will have one speaker that night, Ken Klika, Partner at Sikich LLP, who

will speak to us on "How IT Trends are Impacting Small and Medium Businesses". Join us early for networking to meet new people and bring your business cards.

Lots of things going on in January. Along, with the dinner meeting, we have the opportunity to join a CMA Part 2 preparation class on Sundays at KSU, beginning on January 22. This course will keep those studying on track as well as provide study buddies and expert advice from our own Wendy Tietz.

After some hard studying, take a break on Friday, January 27 for Bowling with the Professionals at Kent Lanes.

Read below articles for more information and welcome to IMA in 2017!

Follow us on Twitter for announcements and information @AkronChapterIMA.

Hope to see you at the events, drive safe, and keep warm, my IMA friends!

[Linda Garrison](#)

President

Akron Chapter IMA

2016/2017

Technical Session - "How IT Trends are Impacting Small and Medium Businesses"



January 18, 2017
Hilton Garden Inn
Social Networking Night

KEN KLIKA

Partner, Sikich LLP (formerly BCG Systems)

"How IT Trends are Impacting Small and Medium Businesses"

Ken Klika is a partner in Sikich LLP's IT Solutions team and has worked in the industry since 1987. Ken specializes in IT strategy, cloud computing, Microsoft technologies, licensing and mobile computing. He serves a variety of industries, such as public accounting, manufacturing and distribution, legal, construction and engineering and not-for-profit. Ken is committed to finding the best technology solutions that will not only resolve business problems, but create additional opportunities for positive impact to further each client's unique organizational mission.

In addition, Ken is certified in technologies from Microsoft (MCSE), Cisco, Citrix and HP. He is also a frequent speaker on cloud computing, mobile computing and IT strategy for organizations, including Microsoft, Ingram Micro, PrimeGlobal, The Association of Accountants and Financial Professionals in Business (IMA), the Ohio Society of CPAs, and more.

2016/2017 Meeting Schedule

Regular meetings for 2016/2017 will be:

January 18, 2017 - "Social Networking Night"
February 15, 2017 - "Young Professionals Night"
March 15, 2017 - "CMA./CFM Night"
April 19, 2017 - "Past Presidents' Night"
May 17, 2017 "Guest Night"

All monthly meetings will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn unless otherwise indicated above.

For meetings at Hilton Garden Inn check-in at 5:30 p.m., dinner at 5:45 p.m., pretech 6:10 p.m., and tech session at 7:30 p.m.

CMA Review Course at Kent State

I wanted to let everyone know that we are going to be having an informal CMA Review course for Part 2 here at Kent State during the spring semester 2017. Here are the details:

1) We are going to be basing the review course on the Wiley CMAexcel Review Course, so you would need to purchase the review course (to get the participant guide.) The link to Wiley's site is <https://www.efficientlearning.com/cma/>

2) The review course sessions will be held Sunday afternoons usually from 3 - 6 pm in the College of Business at Kent State.

3) The first review session will be on Sunday, January 22, 2017.

4) The review course will consist of 13 sessions; we will finish up in early May. There will be a few Sundays off due to exams, spring break, etc. A detailed course schedule will be available in early January.

5) I am leading the overall course. Students will rotate "teaching" the review sessions week by week; the best way to learn anything is to teach it. However, I will be involved in every review session.

6) There is no cost for the course (beyond the cost of purchasing the Wiley CMAexcel Review materials). However, a small donation of \$50 for our student IMA chapter would be appreciated if you participate.

7) If you want to sign up for the Part 2 CMA review, just email me at wtietz@kent.edu. We would love to have you; feel free to share this information with interested colleagues.

8) If you have any questions, please let me know.

*Bowling with Professionals Night at Kent Lanes - Friday, January 27,
6 - 9 pm*

- 9 pm. Kent Lanes is located at 1524 S. Water Street, Kent, Ohio (right on Route 43.) There will be unlimited bowling for three hours plus appetizers. All IMA members are welcome. Please RSVP to Dr. Wendy Tietz at wtietz@kent.edu before January 20, 2017, if you are going to attend. We hope to see you there!

Welcome New Members

Please welcome the following new members to the IMA Akron Chapter:

Date Joined	Name	Employer	Sponsor
12-21-16	Mahmoud Hassan	Student - YSU	-

Message from the Employment Directors

Please contact [Bob Shapiro](#) if you have a job available or are looking for an employment opportunity.

Annual Program Book Update

The Board of Directors has decided to stay with the pdf online format of the Annual Program Book and, thus, hard-copy Annual Program Books will not be mailed to members with email addresses. Instead, members can view/download the book from the website address www.yodergraphics.com/ima/2016_ima_roster.pdf. The password is "ima2016". The website was accessible after October 1. Members without an email address will still be mailed a hard-copy Program Book. Members who attended the September 21 tech session meeting at the Hilton Garden Inn also received a Program Book. If you need a hard-copy of the Annual Program Book, please contact Linda Garrison at Linda_Garrison@goodyear.com.

Internet Reference Page

Dinner Reservations: imadinner@hotmail.com or 330-904-7986

Newsletter articles: ima_newsletter@yahoo.com

Employment service: rshapiro@socius1.com or 330-703-9195

IMA insurance: R_Showarter@hotmail.com or 330-688-7670

Akron chapter website: www.akron.imanet.org

IMA National website: www.imanet.org

Login : enter user name (your IMA account number)

Enter password (last name, unless you changed your password)

Ohio Council website: www.ohio.imanet.org

Online Program Book: www.yodergraphics.com/ima/2016_ima_roster.pdf

Password is ima2016

Access online recording of chapter meetings:

To register, contact Roy Howarter at 330-688-7670 or R_Showarter@hotmail.com

Get the password from Roy

Come to a Board Meeting

If you would like to go behind the scenes and learn what it takes to put on monthly tech session meetings and run the chapter, why not attend a Board meeting? The next meeting will be on January 25 at 6:15 PM at the Enclave, 3800 Rosemont Blvd., Fairlawn 44333. Come in off Cleveland-Massillon Road to Rosemont Blvd. Go west on Rosemont Blvd. all the way to the end (one exit beyond the entrance to Rosemont Country Club). Turn right at the last right before the gates blocking entrance to Rothrock Road; clubhouse is the first building on the right. Free pizza and soft drinks; see your Board leaders in action.

AFWA Tax Update

The AFWA Akron chapter has disbanded. Therefore, the joint Tax Seminar scheduled for January 10 has been cancelled. We are trying to reschedule it for January 26. If you are interested in attending the rescheduled seminar, please send an email to IMADinner@hotmail.com with the subject line "Tax Seminar". If we can get enough reservations and a speaker, we will contact you with meeting information.

December 9 PD Seminar Recap

The December 9 PD Seminar on what's new and trending with the alphabet soup of regulatory agencies (the DOL, ACA, tax compliance rules, and the BWC) was very successful. We had 14 chapter members and 9 guests (including one person from Cleveland IMA chapter) in attendance. Kudos to Diane Saulino for arranging the whole thing.

CMA Mentoring Program

The Akron chapter IMA is proud to offer its members a mentoring program to assist CMA candidates with strategies to pass the CMA exam. The Akron IMA CMA Mentoring Program will encourage networking and provide career development opportunities designed to help CMA candidates (mentees) and other members (mentors) in our chapter to form valuable mentoring relationships. The success of this program will rely on volunteers to serve as mentors. Mentoring can take place online, by phone, or in person at Akron chapter events or other locations.

The CMA DesignationThe CMA (Certified Management Accountant) is the advanced professional certification specifically designated to measure the accounting and financial management skills that drive business performance. Achieving the CMA credential demonstrates your mastery of financial planning, analysis, control, and decision support, as well as professional ethics.

The CMA credential is:
Focused - On the critical skills you use in business
Respected - Leading employers seek to hire and promote CMAs
Valued - CMAs on average, earn higher compensation than noncertified professionals
Convenient - CMA exams are offered

electronically in hundreds of locations worldwide

The CMA Mentoring ProgramThe accreditation process leading to the CMA designation can be a rigorous experience requiring great energy and effort. The CMA candidate will have questions regarding exam content, study materials, test taking strategies, and much more. Without somebody to guide and mentor them, the candidate may become discouraged and abandon the certification program. However, through the Akron IMA CMA Mentoring Program, candidates will be able to seek and obtain the support and guidance of fellow chapter members who have earned their CMA designation.

Mentees and mentors will be matched based on the needs of the mentee and the availability of the mentors. The ideal mentor for this CMA focused program would be an individual who has obtained the CMA certification and / or who has recently passed one or both parts of the newer two part CMA exam structure. All individuals who are currently enrolled in the CMA program and studying for the CMA exam are encouraged to enroll as a mentee. In addition, individuals who are undecided about obtaining the CMA certification and would like additional information or guidance are encouraged to enroll.

If you would like more information, please contact:Jeff Falter jfalter@roadrunner.com

Quick Links...

- [Change of Address](#)
- [Update your IMA Profile](#)

email: imadinner@hotmail.com

web: <http://akron.imanet.org>