



The Association of  
Accountants and  
Financial Professionals  
in Business

## In This Issue

March 2021

[President's Message](#)

[Welcome New Members](#)

[Blockchain Webinar](#)

[ORC Workshop](#)

[Upcoming Board Meetings](#)

[Board Slate](#)

[Meeting Schedule](#)

[Comic](#)

[CMA Mentoring Program](#)

[Internet References](#)

## Quick Links

[Akron Chapter Website](#)

[IMA Global Website](#)

[Ohio Council Website](#)

[Meeting Recordings](#)

## Employment News

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

**Dear Akron IMA,**

Is our six more weeks of winter up yet? Hope everyone is able to join us at our upcoming events. See you soon!

Please forward newsletter items to: [IMA Newsletter](#).

Thanks!  
Kelly Heil

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## President's Message

Greetings to everyone!

We have quite a varied slate of speakers scheduled for the upcoming months – all events are online and are provided at no cost. Please invite friends or colleagues to our webinars; guests are always welcome at no cost.

I wanted to call your attention to the chapter's March 2021 event on March 17, 6:30 – 8 pm Eastern. Eric Cohen will be the speaker on "Emerging Accounting Technologies, featuring Blockchain: Futures, Fads and Fallacies." This session should be really useful – Eric has a wealth of knowledge about these topics and speaks in plain English about these often-complex topics. Among other things, he will be talking about how the people from "Reddit" pumped up Game Stop and other stocks. See an article later in this newsletter for Eric's impressive biography – I am really excited that we are able to host Eric for this webinar – he has a wealth of firsthand knowledge.

If you are interested in serving on the Akron IMA chapter's 2021 – 2022 board, please let me or another board member know right away. We are preparing the slate of officers for next year.

All chapter events for March – May 2021 are online due to the continuing pandemic. I am truly thankful that the technology exists for us to stay connected and learning. Even though it would be nice to get together in person, we are able to continue with chapter activities. Eventually when we have in-person events again, I know I will be most appreciative of something I used to take for granted.

As always, stay safe and take care.

*Wendy Tietz, 2020-2021 Akron IMA Chapter president*



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## Welcome New Members!

| DATE JOINED | NAME                    |
|-------------|-------------------------|
| 01/29/2021  | Melissa Davanzo         |
| 01/03/2021  | Katelin Fetzer          |
| 01/27/2021  | Eddie Sanchez Rodriguez |
| 01/30/2021  | Miss Emily Yurchison    |
| 02/19/2021  | Andrew Altenos          |
| 02/17/2021  | Dominic Rodino          |
| 02/08/2021  | Steve Theil             |

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### Emerging Accounting Technologies, featuring Blockchain: Futures, Fads and Fallacies: Webinar on Wednesday, March 17 at 6:30 pm

From **6:30 - 8 pm Eastern on Wednesday, March 17**, the Akron chapter is hosting a webinar entitled “Emerging Accounting Technologies, featuring Blockchain: Futures, Fads and Fallacies.” Presenting will be **Eric Cohen**, Proprietor of Cohen Computer Consulting.

“May you live in interesting times.” As Robert F. Kennedy offered that phrase 45 years ago, it was a time of great danger and uncertainty, but one more open to creativity than any before. With the pandemic and work from home, with social media market manipulation, with cryptocurrencies and blockchain, we face challenges and opportunities. However, it’s difficult to keep up with changes impacting the profession when the conflicting information we receive is simplified at best, misleading at worst, and the results around us seem illogical. In this session, accounting technology futurist Eric E. Cohen will provide an update on the world of accounting, audit and tax technologies, with a special focus on cryptocurrencies (digital assets) and blockchain technology. If you are like me, your neighbors are saying, “Who let the DOGE out?” and wondering if the people from “Reddit” know what they are doing pumping up stocks. Learn more at this session.

Eric E. Cohen is the proprietor of Cohen Computer Consulting, a consultancy focused on emerging accounting and audit technologies, including audit data standards, Blockchain, continuous audit, robotic process automation, sustainability and XBRL. His practice has focused on helping growing businesses cope with, and benefit from, information technology.

He is perhaps best known as “the XBRL Guy”, a co-founder of XBRL and chief architect of XBRL’s Global Ledger Taxonomy Framework (XBRL GL). As an ambassador of XBRL, he has worked in cooperation with virtually every other standards work attempting to standardize accounting and audit data, including a long cooperation with United Nations CEFAC in the Accounting and Audit Domain.

Mr. Cohen is a prolific author and willing speaker, teacher and trainer, having written or contributed to numerous books, including the foundational *The Accountant’s Guide to the Internet* (John Wiley), and hundreds of articles for the business, professional and academic press. He is a contributing editor to the online resource for financial professionals, ThinkTwenty20.com.

He enjoys a long partnership with the academic community, cooperating with many professors in research and curriculum building on XBRL, continuous audit, information security and related areas of interest, and serving as an adjunct professor focused on emerging technologies.

His current focus is “preparing blockchain for accountants and accountants for blockchain”. He serves on the NYSSCPA Digital Assets Committee, as well as acting as a national expert to ISO/TC 307 Blockchain and Distributed Ledger Technologies and ITU-T’s Digital Currency Global Initiative. He was the primary technical author of the COSO thought leadership paper, “Blockchain and Internal Control: The COSO Perspective”.

This event qualifies for 1.0 CPE hour. There is no cost to members or to non-members for the event.

See the Akron chapter IMA portal at this [link](#) to register for this event.

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## Ohio Regional Council Leadership Training Workshop to be held online May 6

Save the date! The Ohio Regional Council Leadership Training Workshop (LTW) will be online this year and held on Thursday, May 6, 2021.

LTW will consist of two one-hour sessions as follows:

### Session 2: Ohio Regional Council - IMA: What, Why, Who, and How

**Thursday, May 6, 12 – 1 pm Eastern**

In this session, we will be talking about what the Ohio Regional Council (ORC) is and why it exists. We will talk about the positions and roles on ORC and how IMA members can get involved with ORC. Various ORC board members will share their experiences during this session and there will be a Q & A. The target audiences for this session consists of ORC members who perhaps want to get involved with ORC but are not sure what it involves – and experienced ORC current and past board members who have a wealth of information to share. During this session, we will also play a fast-paced trivia game that will serve to highlight some things about ORC and IMA. We anticipate a couple of takeaways from this session: (1) a recording that can be shared with new board members as an introduction to ORC; and (2) a review of the various ORC board positions. This recording can also be shared with ORC members who were not able to attend the LTW to help spread the word about getting involved with ORC.

### Session 2: Lessons Learned from Online Chapter Operations

**Thursday, May 6, 6 – 7 pm Eastern**

While we are looking forward to having in-person chapter events again at some point, some aspects of online chapter operations have worked well and should probably be retained once we return to normal life. In this session, we will be talking about what has worked well for ORC chapters in the online environment. We will also be talking about what has not worked well. We will have an exchange of ideas aimed at improving and recharging our individual chapter operations, both in the short-term and in the long-term. The target audience for this session is any ORC chapter leader or member who is interested in helping their chapter evolve and move forward over the next year. This session will be structured around a few key areas and will be interactive and collaborative.

Save the date for these sessions. Registration information will be forthcoming.

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## Board meeting schedule for 2020 - 2021

All Akron chapter IMA board meetings for the 2020 – 2021 year will be online.

Here is the schedule of the Akron chapter IMA board meetings:

| Date                      | Time (EST)     |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| Wednesday, April 14, 2021 | 6:30 - 7:30 pm |
| Wednesday, May 5, 2021    | 6:30 - 7:30 pm |

All Akron chapter IMA members are welcome at the board meetings. Register for the board meetings through the Akron IMA portal at this [link](#). Once you register, you will receive an email with event information and links about 24 hours before the event.

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## Board Slate for 2021 – 2022

The board will be voted on by the membership in the 3/17/2021 chapter meeting.

| First name       | Last name | Board position                                           |
|------------------|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Pete</b>      | Dorff     | President                                                |
| <b>Wendy</b>     | Tietz     | Past President                                           |
| <b>Jeffrey</b>   | Falter    | Administration VP                                        |
| <b>Kelly</b>     | Heil      | Communication VP                                         |
| <b>Joseph</b>    | Richards  | Prof. Education VP                                       |
| <b>Kelly</b>     | Heil      | Membership VP                                            |
| <b>Shirley</b>   | Calvin    | Treasurer                                                |
| <b>Christine</b> | Niswender | Secretary                                                |
| <b>Kelly</b>     | Heil      | Webmaster                                                |
| <b>Linda</b>     | Garrison  | Webmaster                                                |
| <b>Russell</b>   | Tietz     | Director, Audit                                          |
| <b>Wendy</b>     | Tietz     | At-large, Speakers                                       |
| <b>Jeffrey</b>   | Walters   | Director, Speakers                                       |
|                  |           | Director, Employment                                     |
|                  |           | Associate Director, membership and competition reporting |
| <b>Karin</b>     | Petruska  | Associate Director, academic relations                   |
| <b>Sue</b>       | Arnold    | Associate Director, CPE reporting                        |

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## Meeting schedule for 2020 - 2021

Here is the schedule of the Akron chapter IMA events that are currently planned for the remainder of the 2020 – 2021 IMA year. More events may be added. All events listed here are online webinars or online meetings.

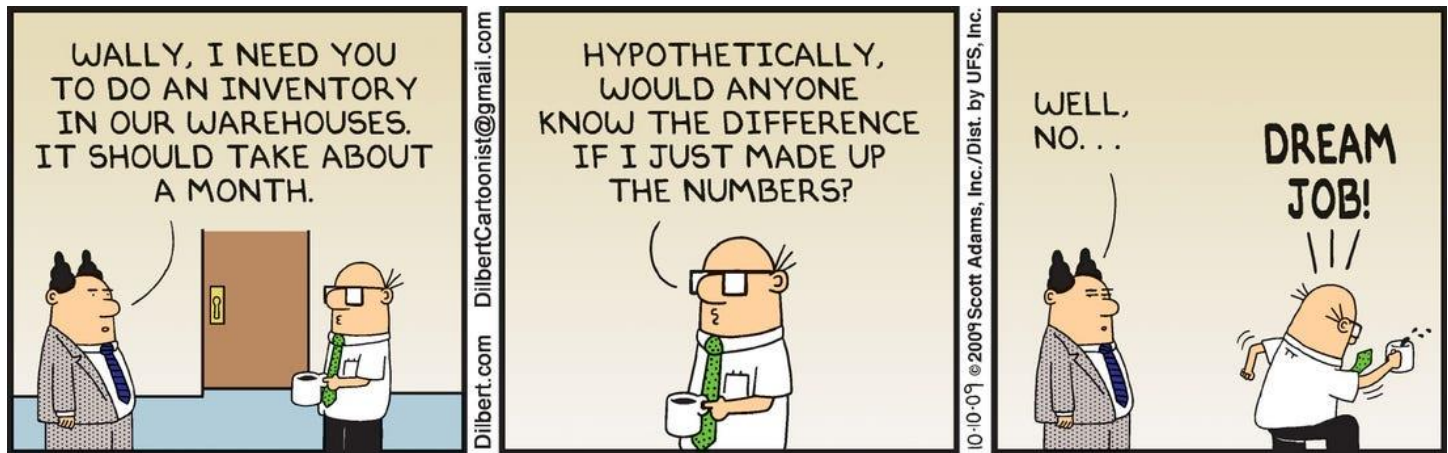
| Date                      | Time (EST)  | Theme or topic                                                                       | Format and tentative CPE hrs |
|---------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Wednesday, March 17, 2021 | 6:30 - 8 pm | Emerging Accounting Technologies, featuring Blockchain: Futures, Fads and Fallacies* | Webinar – 1.5 hr CPE         |
| Friday, April 16, 2021    | 8 - 9 am    | Federal Reserve of Cleveland: Basics of how the Federal Reserve of Cleveland works   | Webinar – 1 hr CPE           |
| Wednesday, April 21, 2021 | 7 - 8:30 pm | Mikaela Hunt, Breaking out of career comfort zones*                                  | Webinar – 1.5 hr CPE         |
| Wednesday, May 12, 2021   | 6:30 - 8 pm | Sales and use tax primer (CBiz)*                                                     | Webinar – 1.5 hr CPE         |

*\*Chapter meeting to follow webinar (separate sign-up link on Akron Chapter portal.)*

All online events are free this year. Register through the Akron IMA portal at this [link](#). Once you register, you will receive an email with event information and links about 24 hours before the event.

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## Comic



## CMA Mentoring Program

The IMA Akron Chapter is proud to offer its members a mentoring program to assist CMA candidates with strategies to pass the CMA exam. The IMA Akron 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.

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.

**The CMA Designation** - The 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.

If you would like more information, please contact: Jeff Falter at [akron@imachapter.org](mailto:akron@imachapter.org)

## Internet References

Dinner Reservations, Newsletter articles, Employment service, IMA insurance: [akron@imachapter.org](mailto:akron@imachapter.org)

Akron chapter website: [akron.imanet.org](http://akron.imanet.org)

IMA Global website: [www.imanet.org](http://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](http://www.ohio.imanet.org)

Access online recording of chapter meetings:

Contact the chapter board members at [akron@imachapter.org](mailto:akron@imachapter.org)