



The Association of
Accountants and
Financial Professionals
in Business

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Employment News

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

Dear Akron IMA,

In-person events through May 31, 2020 are to be cancelled or postponed per IMA Global. Please join your fellow IMA Members on Tuesday, April 21, 2020 for a remote CPE session. Registration details will be announced soon!

We have multiple free and reduced-price learning offerings in the newsletter this month. Make sure you check out the Gleim offer and the IMA options.

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

Thanks!
Kelly Heil

Follow us on Twitter!

Did you know... you can follow the chapter on Twitter [@AkronChapterIMA?](#) Follow us and keep up to date on news and events for your chapter!

President's Message

Hello Akron chapter. I hope that this April newsletter finds you well and healthy (and staying sane with such limited engagement). I know that this was never on my radar and I doubt it was on yours, but I think that moving to the webinar meetings has been very successful and at least gives us a small amount of interaction with others. We are going to start looking into having even more webinars to help us all keep our sanity. Be on the lookout for more emails from the chapter!

Stay safe and healthy!

Joe Richards
IMA President
2019-20



Welcome New Members!

Date Joined	Name	Occupation
3/6/2020	David Genet	
3/3/2020	Natalie Walton	Student

2019-2020 Meeting Schedule

Regular meetings for 2019/2020 will be the following:

- Tuesday, April 21, 2020 – Web Meeting
 - Wednesday, May 20, 2020 – Web Meeting
-

April CPE Web Meeting

April 21, 2020

Agenda:

Webinar opens at 5:15pm

Chapter Meeting 5:30 – 5:45pm

Pre-Tech Session 6:00 – 6:50pm

Technical Session 7:00 – 8:00pm

Pre-Tech Session - "Hot Employee Benefit Plan Audit Topics"



Michelle D'Amico
Partner, D'Amico Wawrin & Company CPAs, LLC



Valerie Wawrin
Partner, D'Amico Wawrin & Company CPAs, LLC

Before co-founding D'Amico Wawrin & Company CPAs, LLC (DWC), Valerie and Michelle each possess over 20 years of public and private accounting experience. After working for public accounting firms with a local, super-regional and national presence and serving as integral leaders of the employee benefit plan audit practice, Valerie and Michelle joined forces to start an audit firm specializing in employee benefit plan audits and consulting. DWC is based out of the Akron area and services northeast Ohio and areas outside of Ohio. DWC provides employee benefit plan audit and consulting expertise to both Plan sponsors/Companies sponsoring an employee benefit plan and public accounting firms in need of internal assistance meeting client employee benefit plan deadlines.

Technical Session - "SECURE Act and Current Regulatory Developments"

Kim Flett, CPA, QPA, QKA, CHRS

Compensation and Benefits Services Managing Director

National Practice Leader, ERISA



Kim is a managing director in BDO's Compensation and Benefit Services practice. With over 20 years of experience in ERISA, she supervises a team of professionals and is responsible for all aspects of qualified plans including government and tax compliance, ERISA consulting, technical review, internal quality control, and retirement plan design and administration. Kimberly is also responsible for medical plan consulting, including welfare benefit and specializes in the Affordable Care Act and is an integral part of the leadership team in the Firm's growing defined benefit practice. She is a tax compliance expert for the Firm's Assurance Employee Benefit Practice in addition to a technical advisor for the Firm's national compliance help desks. She is also a business development leader for the Compensation and Benefits global team nationally. Kim is a frequent writer and lecturer including speaking at the AICPA's annual Employee Benefit Conference.

New Member Benefit! "IMA Excel 365: Tips in Ten" Nano Subscription Series

Keep up with the latest exciting features being introduced in Excel. This mobile-friendly subscription series offers quick, 10-minute nano-courses presented by renowned author and Excel expert Bill Jelen (Mr. Excel). Explore the newest features and earn valuable CPE. New courses will be added regularly to the subscription. You'll earn 0.2 CPE credits for successfully completing each course in the subscription package. All credits earned are automatically recorded on your myIMA dashboard. FREE for IMA members! [Access IMA Excel 365 Nano CPE Package Now](#)

Gleim CPE Sale

Gleim is offering 50% off any* CPE package, including individual courses.

Topics include:

1. Annual Federal Tax Update
2. The Home Office Deduction
3. Ethics

And more!

[Gleim Link](#)

*Excludes AFSP and AFTR. Can't be combined with any other offer

IMA Podcast and Free Learning Series

Strategy and Competitive Analysis Learning Series - Free for members through April 30

As part of IMA's commitment to supporting the developmental needs of our members, we are pleased to make this course available free through April 30. [The Learning Series](#) is a set of five engaging online courses, a practice question bank, and reference resources. The topics are aligned to the CSCA exam content and designed to provide an overview of strategy and competitive analysis and to help improve strategic partnering skills. Up to 21 NASBA CPE credits are awarded upon successful completion.

IMA Data Analytics & Visualization Fundamentals Certificate™ - Free for members through April 30

Learn how the power of data can be harnessed to gain deeper insight into business performance and make informed strategic decisions. This online course offers hands-on, experiential learning through case scenarios and practical exercises. The content is based on IMA's thought leadership found in its various research and publications. You'll hear

straight from industry experts who share their proficiencies and perspectives on emerging technologies, data analytics, and data visualization. Earn an IMA professional certificate, a digital badge, and 9 NASBA CPE in data analytics and visualization fundamentals. [Link](#)

IMA's Count Me In Podcast

Features the latest perspectives on accounting and finance from industry experts with topics including emerging technologies, business innovation, and the future of the profession. Sixty-eight episodes have already been published and the subscriber list is rapidly growing! We currently have listeners in 106 countries. You can read more about the podcast in our press release [here](#) and to listen to the episodes, visit the podcast website [here](#).

Program Book Link

The program book is in the works for the 2019-2020 year. Stay tuned!

Open Board of Directors Positions for 2019-2020

Attention Akron chapter IMA members: we are now looking for additional Board members for the next fiscal year. Note that if you serve on the Board for five years, you will qualify for reduced dues as an ELM (Emeritus Life Member) when you retire. Serving as a chapter Board member is a volunteer position that doesn't involve a huge time commitment. If interested in volunteering, please contact Joe Richards at akron@imachapter.org.

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

Internet References

Dinner Reservations, Newsletter articles, Employment service, IMA insurance: akron@imachapter.org

Akron chapter website: akron.imanet.org

IMA Global 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

Access online recording of chapter meetings:

Contact the chapter board members at akron@imachapter.org

Akron Chapter IMA | akron@imachapter.org | <http://akron.imanet.org>