



The Association of
Accountants and
Financial Professionals
in Business

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August 2020

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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,

Have a great summer! Our events will be starting this month, with a BINGO event on the 18th. We have three webinars next month. Check out the event on 9/30 with Helen Sharky!

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

Greetings to everyone!

I hope you have found some time for some relaxation this summer, amidst all the pandemic-related changes to our lives. Our family has been celebrating birthdays and even a family reunion on Zoom.

The Akron IMA board has been hard at work this summer, setting up a full slate of events for this year. We have been able to line up some really fantastic speakers since we do not need to pay for travel costs in this online format. Later in this newsletter, I am going to highlight some of the can't-miss speakers we have on the schedule.

We also have a few social events on the calendar, starting with the first ever Virtual Bingo Night on Tuesday, August 18, at 6:30 pm. Please register through the chapter website; this event is free and should be fun. In October, we will be having an accounting trivia night, so that is another new online activity for the chapter.

Anyways, stay safe and take care.
Wendy Tietz, 2020-2021 Akron IMA Chapter president



BINGO Night!

Akron Chapter IMA					
B	I	N	G	O	
14	30	41	53	74	
4	28	35	57	68	
10	23	FREE SPACE	46	75	
8	16	43	48	70	
12	27	39	56	66	

Akron Chapter IMA Virtual Bingo Night – Tuesday, August 18!

Join us for the first ever Akron Chapter IMA **Virtual Bingo Night** on Tuesday, August 18, 2020, from 6:30 – 8 pm! We will be using a Zoom meeting for the game and will be using virtual bingo cards from MyFreeBingoCards.com. The event is free to IMA members. Prizes will be awarded to winners.

On the virtual bingo night, you will be provided a link that will give you access to your bingo card(s). You will mark the numbers that are called by clicking on the appropriate square.

For those of you with limited screen space, it is possible to print your bingo card(s) - see this [link](#). You will not be able to print anything until you get the link for your card(s), so if you are planning on printing your cards, please join the virtual bingo night Zoom session about 15 minutes early so that you can get the printing done before the games start.

You will be able to win with a filled-in horizontal, vertical, or diagonal line – and we will be using the Free Space. You will be able to re-use your card(s) for multiple games.

The Akron chapter board played a mini-game at its last board meeting and it worked well – and was a lot of fun. I hope to see everyone at this event!

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

Betting on Business to Help Save the World and Achieve Sustainable Development: Webinar on September 10

From **12 – 1 pm on Thursday, September 10**, the Akron chapter is hosting Brandon Shields to present the webinar **“Betting on Business to Help Save the World and Achieve Sustainable Development.”** The world faces a series of challenges that will need to be met with the full force of society in order to ensure a sustainable environment for future generations. To address these concerns, the United Nations in 2015 established the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) to achieve by 2030. This interactive session will introduce the goals and provide examples of how the private sector is uniquely positioned to help achieve the SDGs. The session also looks specifically at the role of accountants and finance professionals and how they contribute to institutional adoption and implementation of environment, social, and governance factors and Sustainable Development Goals. Attendees will leave the session with a broad understanding of the SDGs and the important role they play in their organization regarding adoption and implementation.

Brandon Lloyd Shields is the Associate Director for Assessment and Accreditation at Kent State's College of Business Administration. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics from the University of Akron, and an MBA from Kent State University where he is currently pursuing a Masters of Business Analytics degree. Brandon is actively involved in the North American Chapter of Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) and the Global Responsible Leadership Initiative (GRLI). In October 2017, he helped launch the College's own Responsible Leadership Initiative and co-authors the College's Sustainable Development reports. He has presented on the topic of responsible leadership and sustainable development at the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education's Conference and Expo, PRME North America Fifth Regional Meeting, and AACSB's International Conference and Meeting.

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



Tech Trends for Accountants: What To Know and What You Can Do About It: Webinar on September 23

From 6:30 - 8 pm on Wednesday, September 23, the Akron chapter is hosting Don Tomoff to present the webinar "Tech Trends for Accountants: What To Know and What You Can Do About It." AICPA Chair Bill Reeb stated in an July 2019 AICPA interview that "The digital era has swept in a blistering pace of change that's transforming the world around us. The change is not incremental — it's exponential." Advancing technologies, consumer preferences and higher expectations are dramatically changing the accounting profession. Technologies, including data analytics and BI, artificial intelligence, robotics process automation, cloud, and others, are changing the landscape of the profession. The barrage of information can be overwhelming and confusion sets in on how to even start. This session will address the major trends accountants should be considering and provide a process by which to think about proceeding.

Don is the founder of [Invenio Advisors LLC](#), a consulting firm specializing in information management, process improvement, reporting and data analysis, as well as education and training. Don's experience includes "Big 4" public accounting, senior-level industry finance positions, and consulting. Don's industry experience includes serving eight years with Jo-Ann Stores as VP, Finance and Treasurer.

Since 2010, Don has focused his efforts with executives and companies on many digital process improvement, data analytics and training initiatives, including developing and implementing mobile information strategies. His efforts are focused on the identification of process improvement opportunities, and leveraging readily available technology tools to drive that change. Don is also an instructor for the [Business Learning Institute](#) and a regular speaker for companies and at conferences.



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

Upcoming webinar on September 30: "Low Man on the Totem Pole – How I Became a White-Collar Criminal"

There is one upcoming webinar we want to draw your attention to – "Low Man on the Totem Pole – How I Became a White-Collar Criminal" on September 30, 2020, from 7 to 8:30 pm Eastern. This speaker, Helen Sharkey, will be talking about her excitement when she landed her "dream job" at Dynegy, only to be followed by dismay when she began to doubt the ethics of what they were doing. She also talks about her struggle with the decision to plead guilty, the shame of being branded a felon and her time behind bars. She talks about her mistakes frankly, yet also delivers a message of hope.

Helen's story is compelling. Her message is important – and she is an excellent speaker. Due to contract restrictions, we cannot record the session. Do register for this webinar early – and invite others to register as well.

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

Meeting schedule for 2020 - 2021

The board created a meeting schedule for the 2020 – 2021 year. We are planning for 100% online through at least January 2021. The board will be re-evaluating the online/in-person situation this fall for the February – May 2021 meetings, so those dates are tentative.

Here is the schedule of the Akron chapter IMA events that are currently planned (more may be added):

Date	Time (EST)	Theme or topic	Format and tentative CPE hrs
Tuesday, August 18, 2020	6:30 - 8 pm	Virtual Bingo	Online meeting
Thursday, September 10, 2020	12 - 1 pm	Betting on Business to Help Save the World and Achieve Sustainable Development	Webinar – 1 hr CPE
Wednesday, September 23, 2020	6:30 - 8 pm	Tech Trends for Accountants: What To Know and What You Can Do About It	Webinar – 1.5 hr CPE
Wednesday, September 30, 2020	7 - 8:30 pm	Helen Sharkey: Low Man on the Totem Pole – How I Became a White-Collar Criminal	Webinar – 1.5 hr CPE
Wednesday, October 7, 2020	6 - 7 pm	Build Your Personal Brand on LinkedIn	Webinar – 1 hr CPE
Tuesday, October 13, 2020	12 - 1 pm	Accounting Standards Update	Webinar – 1 hr CPE
Tuesday, October 13, 2020	6:30 - 8 pm	Kahoot! Accounting Trivia	Online meeting
Wednesday, October 21, 2020	6:30 - 8 pm	Cultivating a Bias-Free Workplace	Webinar – 1.5 hr CPE
Thursday, November 12, 2020	12 - 1 pm	Technology Anxiety	Webinar – 1 hr CPE
Friday, November 13, 2020	All day	IMA Student Leadership Conference (\$20 student cost includes one year of student IMA membership)	
Wednesday, November 18, 2020	6:30 - 8 pm	Emotional Intelligence	Webinar – 1.5 hr CPE
Thursday, December 10, 2020	11 am - 1 pm	Slippery Slope of Greed - Ethics Webinar	Webinar – 2.0 hr Ethics CPE
Wednesday, December 16, 2020	6:30 - 8 pm	Embracing Change	Webinar
Thursday, January 7, 2021	12 - 1 pm	Personal tax update	Webinar – 1 hr CPE
Wednesday, January 20, 2021	6:30 - 8 pm	Business tax update	Webinar – 1.5 hr CPE
Wednesday, January 27, 2021	6:30 - 8 pm	Accounting trivia team challenge	Online meeting
Wednesday, February 17, 2021	TBA		TBA
Friday, March 12, 2021	TBA		TBA
Wednesday, March 17, 2021	TBA		TBA
Friday, April 16, 2021	TBA		TBA
Wednesday, April 21, 2021	TBA		TBA
Wednesday, May 12, 2021	TBA		TBA

We have a few more online events in the planning stage for fall and will announce those events when the details have been finalized.

All online events are free this fall. 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.

What is the difference between a webinar and an online meeting?

In the meeting schedule for 2020 – 2021, some events are listed as **webinars**, while others are listed as **online meetings**. So what is the difference?

If we have a **webinar**, that means you will be able to see the speaker (if the speaker chooses to have their video on), hear the speaker, and see the speaker's shared screen. There will be a Q & A box where you can ask questions of the speaker and a chat room where you can interact with the moderators and/or speakers. Audience members in a webinar cannot use their microphone or webcam.

If an event is listed as an **online meeting**, every participant will be able to show their webcam and use their microphone – so you can see everyone and everyone can talk. This type of meeting can have a “Brady Bunch” grid with up to 49 participants shown on each screen grid. Everyone has access to the chat room as well. When we have an online meeting, everyone is muted upon entering the Zoom session. You can unmute through the menu – or you can hold down your spacebar while talking.

Job posting

Accounts Payable/Cash Application Supervisor at Securitas Electronic Security

Posting Link:

https://cta.cadienttalent.com/index.jsp?POSTING_ID=93988742017&locale=en_US&SRCSEQ=postingSearchResults&SEQ=jobDetails&applicationName=SESReqExt

Location: 3800 Tabs Dr., Uniontown, OH (across the street from Green High School)

Interested parties can apply online at Securitas.com - click on “Careers” to see a list of open positions. Any questions can be directed to [Robin Marshall](#).

Award night is moving to Spring 2021

Traditionally, we have recognized Akron chapter IMA award recipients in October each year (i.e., Perfect Attendance, Member of the Year, etc.) Hoping that we will be able to recognize award recipients in person, the board will be moving Awards Night to a meeting in the spring of 2021. More information will be announced when available.

Board meeting schedule for 2020 - 2021

The board meeting dates for the 2020 – 2021 year have been finalized. 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, August 19, 2020	6:30 - 7:30 pm
Wednesday, September 9, 2020	6:30 - 7:30 pm
Wednesday, October 14, 2020	6:30 - 7:30 pm
Tuesday, November 10, 2020	6:30 - 7:30 pm
Wednesday, December 9, 2020	6:30 - 7:30 pm
Wednesday, January 13, 2021	6:30 - 7:30 pm
Wednesday, February 10, 2021	6:30 - 7:30 pm
Wednesday, March 10, 2021	6:30 - 7:30 pm
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.

“Count Me In” IMA Podcasts

IMA produces a podcast with some pretty interesting topics. The latest podcast episode is “Digitalization and Business Transformation” with Michael High. Michael High, CMA, FP&A, currently leads the finance organization for Royal Dutch Shell’s Deep Water Gulf of Mexico business and is based in New Orleans, LA. He is passionate about thought and people leadership, diversity & inclusiveness, digital transformation and personal development. In this episode of Count Me In, Michael talks about finance digitalization, business transformation, and the efforts needed to strategically lead change. He is currently a member of the finance committee on the Board of the Association for Financial Professionals and was recognized by IMA as one of five Young Leaders of the Year in 2011. He is able to share his vast amounts of knowledge stemming from twenty-years of professional experience in roles spanning 4 continents with Shell and the US Army, where he served as an Intelligence Officer. You can find this episode at this [link](#).

Go to the [home page](#) for the Count Me In podcast to see all available episodes.

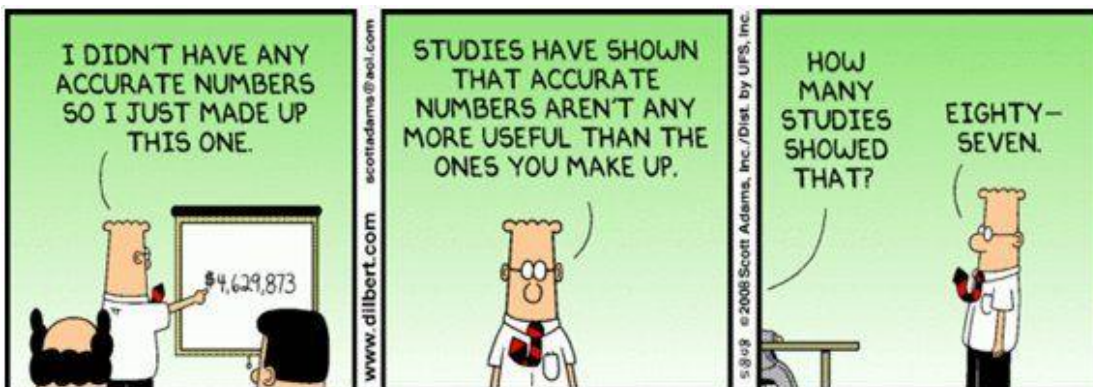
Free Blockchain 101 webinar from IMA through August 30

Blockchain 101 by IMA® (Institute of Management Accountants) is a gamified e-learning course designed to help you develop a foundational level of knowledge in the area of blockchain technology. This course focuses on various elements of blockchain most relevant to management accountants.

The course features a personalized game in a blockchain complex comprised of four towers, each presenting new blockchain concepts on each floor. After completing the activities on each floor, you will continue to advance through the course until you reach the top of the tower, where you must answer knowledge-check questions. Finally, before you can exit the game, you must pass a rapid-fire final assessment, where correct answers will earn you coins that are needed to exit the blockchain complex. After earning enough coins to exit, 1 NASBA CPE credit will be awarded. Throughout the course, your progress will be tracked visually by building your own "knowledge blockchain," which will signify your understanding of blockchain topics. Blockchain has the potential to revolutionize and reshape accounting and finance. Before that occurs, however, management accountants need to understand what blockchain represents. Enroll in Blockchain 101 by IMA now to begin your journey into understanding the intrigue and value of blockchain technology!

Earn 1 NASBA CPE credit. Product is available for one (1) year after purchase date. Free to members through August 31. More information and registration at this [link](#).

Comics



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