



MID - AMERICA COUNCIL
 THE ASSOCIATION OF ACCOUNTANTS AND FINANCIAL
 PROFESSIONALS IN BUSINESS



NEWSLETTER

President’s Message - April 2018

The council’s educational committee has been actively working on the Spring Educational Conference and Leadership Training Session (LTS) held at Northern Illinois University in Rockford, IL on Thursday, April 26, 2018 & Friday, April 27, 2018 respectively. If you haven’t signed up yet, please consider attending and registering by visiting the council’s web site at www.midamerica.imanet.org and clicking on the links below “Council Events” on the main page.

Following the Leadership Training Session on Friday, April 27, 2018 the Mid-America Council Board will be holding a regular quarterly board meeting in one of the breakout rooms at NIU. All IMA members are invited to attend this meeting, please inquire as to which room the meeting will be held in.

IMA’s Annual Conference & Exposition will be held June 16 – 20, 2018 in Indianapolis, IN. Please see information on the council’s web site regarding the conference and consider registering to attend.

The elections and appointments of chapter and council board members was due to IMA Global by March 31, 2018. I trust your incoming board members are gearing up to begin the new chapter year in July. All new and current board members are encouraged to register and attend the Leadership Training Sessions on Friday, April 27, 2018 at Northern Illinois University (see above information on registering).

Many of the chapters in the council have been enjoying good member attendance and participation at their regular meetings. There have been a variety of interesting topics and presentations. Varying the day of the week the chapters hold their meetings have help to draw some members who otherwise would not have been able to attend due to scheduling conflicts. Varying the length of the meeting for CPE credit, type of meal selection, and format of the meeting have been refreshing changes some chapters have been making to promote a new interest and openness in member participation.

Some chapters struggle with recruiting new board members, having members holding more than one board position, rotating board position among existing board members, and not being able to fill all board positions. If your chapter is experiencing any of the above situations, please contact the Regional Director within the council assigned to assisting your chapter with chapter performance.

The Mid-America Council exists to serve the local chapters within the council by providing support, guidance, and assistance with operating a chapter board in serving their membership. Please contact myself or any of the council board members if your chapter does require assistance.

Rick Bellmore
 Mid-America Council President, 2017-2018

APRIL 2018	JOIN US
<p>In this issue:</p> <p>Message from the President 1</p> <p>MAC April Meeting – Agenda 2</p> <p>MAC 2017-2018 Slate of Officers 3</p> <p>MAC January Meeting Minutes 4-8</p>	<p>Special points of interest:</p> <p><u>Next Council Meeting</u></p> <p>When: Saturday, April 27, 2018 4:00pm – 5:00pm (following LTS)</p> <p>Where: NIU Rockford 8500 East State St. Rockford, IL 61108</p>



UPCOMING MEETING INFORMATION

COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

Date & Time	WebEx/Phone Information	Location
Friday, April 27, 2018 4:00pm – 5:00pm (Following LTS)	None Available	NIU Rockford Conference Center 8500 East State Street Rockford, IL 61108

1. 4:00pm – 4:02pm	Welcome & Introductions	Rick	2 minutes
2. 4:02pm – 4:05pm	President's Report	Rick	3 minutes
3. 4:05pm – 4:10pm	Secretary's Report Approve Minutes from 1/27/18 Meeting	Martha	5 minutes
4. 4:10pm – 4:15pm	Treasurer's Report Financial Statements	Dana	5 minutes
5. 4:15pm – 4:20pm	President - Elect's Report Chapter Grant Application Due Date	Erin	5 minutes
6. 4:20pm – 4:30pm	Regional VP & Regional Directors IMA Board Update Regional Chapter Reports	Dave	10 minutes
7. 4:30pm – 4:35pm	VP-Communications Newsletter Due Date Council Website	Eric & Bill	5 minutes
8. 4:35pm – 4:40pm	VP-Education Student Conference/Student Grants Student Chapter Outreach	Sheryl & Kathy	5 minutes
9. 4:40pm – 4:45pm	Bylaws Committee Report	Mary	5 minutes
10. 4:45pm – 4:50pm	Committee Reports Long Range Planning Academic Relations Member Relations	Harlan	5 minutes
11. 4:50pm – 5:00pm	Old Business / New Business / Past Presidents / Meeting Adjournment	Rick	10 minutes



2017-2018 MID-AMERICA COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BOARD POSITION	NAME, CHAPTER
President	Rick Bellmore , Winnebago
President Elect	Erin Ankebrant , Greater Milwaukee
Secretary	Martha Paalman , Winnebago
Treasurer	Dana Riess , Chicago
VP - Communications	Eric Griffin , Madison
Director - Newsletter	William Ramsay , Winnebago
VP - Education	Sheryl Elliott , Fox River Valley
Director – Student Relations	Kathy Horton , Fox River Valley
Regional VP	Dave Skora , Madison
Regional Director - Calumet	Open
Regional Director - Central Illinois	Open
Regional Director - Chicago	Open
Regional Director - Fox River Valley	Open
Regional Director - Greater Milwaukee	Open
Regional Director - Heart of WI	John Wieland , Winnebago
Regional Director - Illowa	Open
Regional Director - Madison	Connie Lusietto , Central Illinois
Regional Director - NW Suburban Chicago	Pam Voorhees , Fox River Valley
Regional Director - Packerland	John Wieland , Winnebago
Regional Director - Rockford	Connie Lusietto , Central Illinois
Regional Director - Winnebago	Bruce Hamilton , Madison
MAC Long-Range Planning Committee (Most Sr. Active Past President)	Harlan Fuller , Central Illinois
Council Bylaws Committee	Mary Strautmann , Greater Milwaukee
Nominating Committee	Bruce Hamilton , Madison
Volunteer Leadership Committee (IMA Global)	Dave Skora , Madison



IMA Mid-America Council Board Meeting
Big Head Brewing Co, Wauwatosa, WI
January 27, 2018

ATTENDANCE

Table with 3 columns: NAME, CHAPTER, MAC POSITION. Lists attendees including Rick Bellmore, John Wieland, Mary Strautmann, Eric Griffin, Pam Voorhees, Erin Ankebrant, Dana Riess, and Martha Paalman.

On the Phone:

Table with 3 columns: NAME, CHAPTER, MAC POSITION. Lists attendees on the phone including Bruce Hamilton, Jim Wilbur, and Bill Ramsay.

Rick Bellmore called the meeting to order at 9:14 am.

PRESIDENT – Rick Bellmore

General update on Global IMA’s recent 100,000 member milestone and the future of the organization. Recent Student Conference was well-received by the students who went – we need to continue supporting these chapters and engage professors.

Global Conference tickets from Global – if we receive the two complimentary registrations, Rick proposes the same approach as last year, putting preference to current regional board members. Send Rick an email by 2/15/18 if you’re interested in being considered for one of these free registrations. If fewer than two council members show interest, will be opened up to current chapter presidents. Motion to approve by Dana, seconded by Eric. Motion passed.

Also looking for a checklist of “presidential duties” for the council president position. Send to Rick and Erin.

SECRETARY – Martha Paalman

The minutes from the October 28, 2017 Mid-America Council board meeting were previously included in the newsletter. Motion to approve the October minutes was made by Dana and seconded by Bill. Motion passed.

TREASURER – Dana Riess

Copies of the January Treasurer’s Report were previously included with the newsletter. Mary motioned to approve the January Treasurer’s Report and John seconded the motion. Motion passed.

One formula error was noted, but did not materially affect the statements. MEF grant received from Global is \$625. Should note that the grant received was less than what we’d budgeted.

Student grants have been paid in full in January – will be on Q3 statements.

CD that matured and wasn’t reinvested last quarter has been reinvested in an Ally CD (matures 2020.)

Still looking for further direction from global on whether we need to keep Illowa’s financials separated. Rick/Dave to follow up on what the procedure is.

Dana has a box of previous years’ financial statements that she’s looking for direction on what to do with. Advised that we should keep seven years’ worth of information. Dana will give what she has to Rick and he will organize the information.



PRESIDENT-ELECT – Erin Ankebrant

LTS & Spring Educational Conference:

All speaker slots are filled, waiting on bios and descriptions. 8 CPE SEC, 7.5 CPE LTS.

Email blast will be sent out in advance of this event to local membership.

Registration and info will be up on the council website in early February. Council members will be notified by Eric when registration is open.

Chapter Leadership session is a stand-alone this year, not an option vs Excel.

Update on Sponsorships for LTS – April 27, 2018 from Dave S

Goal is to raise at least \$3,000. Have commitments of \$1,000 as of 1/24/18.

If you know of any potential sponsors, please send me their contact information and I will pursue it.

MEF Grant:

We were awarded \$1,250 (vs \$2,000 budgeted.)

Council Award of Excellence:

Erin is working on the application. Our submission will include our involvement in the Campus Influencers program.

REGIONAL VP – David Skora (Notes sent via email prior to meeting)

Global Director – IMA Board Update:

Will be attending the IMA Global Board Meeting on February 16-17, 2018 in San Diego, CA. I am also on the Member Relations Committee which is focused on member enablement (short-term projects/initiatives) and member value (long-term focus on “voice of the member”). Meet monthly via tele-conferencing. Was involved in developing the new social media awards and electives.

The **CMA First** campaign in the U.S. is now in phase 2 of the program. The “robot” ad, launched last fall, seems to be just as effective as the “tattoo” ad from phase 1. The advertising even was expanded into some additional key markets around the country.

Membership and CMA candidates continue to increase in the U.S. and even more so around the world. As of 1/22/18, IMA crossed the 100,000 member milestone for the first time ever. This is a tribute to Jeff Thomson’s leadership, his staff, and all of the volunteers around the world in making this happen. The original goal was 100,000 members by 2019, which is the 100-year anniversary of the organization. Achieved about a year ahead of time.

Membership growth continues to be very strong in the Middle East and Asia. The CMA certification is the big drawing card.

The **Campus Influencers** program, which I am a presenter for, is doing very well. Over 6,000 accounting students have been reached in the last 2 years. However, much more needs to be done. If you have a connection to a university in Wisconsin or Illinois and even an accounting professor, please consider making a presentation to a classroom or accounting club about IMA and the CMA. Or tell me about the opportunity and I may be able to present. There are so many accounting students that are pursuing the public accounting career path and do not know that there are great careers in management accounting!



Regional Director Reports:

Calumet (OPEN – Notes from Dave):

- Received a chapter update from Nate Van Der Male, Chapter President, recently.
- Chapter is struggling like many others – low attendance at chapter meetings, same 10 members attending (mostly retired board members), no new board members.
- Are now down to 4-5 meetings per year. Cross marketing with the Chicago Chapter.
- Mr. Excel training is planned in May, in coordination with the Heart of Wisconsin Chapter.
- Not sure who will be planning next year’s meetings.
- Student chapter at Olivet Nazarene University is struggling as well.
- With me being a Global Director, Nate wanted to express his feelings that the monthly educational meeting structure seems to be “dead”. He is hoping that IMA Global is addressing this. I told him that I am on the Member Relations Committee (MRC) and will pass on his concerns. The MRC is well aware of this issue and is looking into ways to engage members more fully.

Central Illinois (OPEN – Notes from Dave):

- Received a chapter update from Eric Dubrowski, Chapter President, recently.
- Has an educational conference planned for April 20 with 7 CPE’s. Topics include ethics, IT security, the Dixon scandal, technical accounting topics.
- Setting up a business operations presentation and tour of an arena football team.
- Also planning a student night and Excel training.
- Chapter continues to survive with a very small board.
- Eric will be changing jobs at the end of January but will continue to be involved with the chapter.

Chicago (OPEN – Notes from Dave):

- Recently contacted Jim Wilbur, the Chapter President, to see how things were going.
- The chapter is using the new website rolled out by Global and Dana Riess is maintaining it.
- Restarted the chapter newsletter which had not been issued since March 2016.
- First CPE event in October was attended by 16 people, including some representation from the Calumet and Fox River Valley Chapters. Dana has done a nice job cross-marketing the announcements with the other nearby Illinois chapters.
- Financially sound.
- Continues to create chapter awareness with members through email blasts and calling campaigns.
- Currently recruiting new board members as the board is small.
- Looking for a speaker on ethics for a future event.

Further notes from Jim:

Lots of work done in the last year to revitalize the chapter and reengage the membership. Calling campaign was interesting and lead to some good information about the chapter membership.

Fox River Valley (OPEN - Pam):

Most recent meeting was the tax update. Was a good meeting with good participation. February’s meeting is on the state of Illinois. Rest of year is set.

Greater Milwaukee (OPEN - Mary):

Webinar in January had 64 attendees. IIA joint event was also successful and they’ve expressed interest in collaborating in the future. Plant tour in Mequon is upcoming. Also have a panel discussion on financial management coming up. Tentative additional plant tour in May. Chapter is still in a rebuilding phase. Reminder that each chapter gets two free webex sessions a year. Global was very helpful and made it a good experience.



Heart of WI (John Wieland):

Attended January meeting, about 20 attendees with board meeting before the presentation. Working on filling on next year's board – current president is stepping down. Next month's meeting is on stress management. Mr Excel is in May. Contingency plans are important for speaker issues.

Illowa (Inactive – Notes from Dave): Illowa Chapter remains inactive. Had email correspondence several times in September and January with Cheryl Stoller, former board member. In September, Dr. Marty Coe of Western Illinois University was interested in playing a leadership role to revitalize the chapter. Cheryl also expressed interest in assisting. Cheryl was directed by Bruce and me to have Dr. Coe contact Tara Barker at Global regarding the revitalization process. Dr. Coe made an initial contact with Tara with no response. Now Cheryl is pursuing this as well. Will know more about the revitalization process hopefully soon.

Madison (Connie Lusietto - Eric):

Most recent speaker was on bitcoin – great topic. Next meeting is ethics.

NW Suburban Chicago (Pam Voorhees):

Attended most recent meeting. Was small attendance. Looking to change venue or meeting time to attract different members. February is student night with a panel of recruiters. Reaching out to community colleges to attract the non-traditional students. Looking for topics and speakers for remaining meetings this year. Working on next year's board – president stepping down to newsletter.

Packerland (John Wieland):

Haven't visited recently. Meetings are scheduled for the year. They skipped December this year, but encouraged their membership to participate in a community service event instead. They participate in Salvation Army money counting each year.

Rockford (Connie Lusietto - Pam):

They will be screening the "All the Queen's Horses" movie on February 7th. A lot of their meetings are joint with FEI.

Winnebagoland (Bruce Hamilton):

Meetings are all scheduled for the year. Attendance has been good. Have an upcoming special event, a showing of "The Accountant", on February 10th. Working on updating our bylaws – reminder that they need to be reviewed every five years.

VP-COMMUNICATIONS and DIRECTOR OF NEWSLETTER – Eric Griffin and Bill Ramsay

The next council meeting will be on April 27, 2018 at NIU in Rockford, after LTS. The newsletter deadline will be April 7, 2018.

Website: Bios and Summaries for LTS will be updated on website shortly. We are missing links for Central Illinois and Chicago website. Three Calumet, Northwest Suburban, Packerland have non-IMA websites linked. Please send updates to Eric so the council site is up to date.

VP-EDUCATION – Sheryl Elliott (absent) and Kathy Horton (absent)

Student Grants:

Grants have all been paid out.

Student Conference:

Was well received by local students who attended.

Spring Educational Conference:

See further updates in LTS section. Erin will reach out to local universities to see if any students want to volunteer to help with the event.

BY-LAWS COMMITTEE – Mary Strautmann

No Report



MEETING MINUTES

LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE — Harlan Fuller (absent)

No Report

COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC RELATIONS — Harlan Fuller (absent)

No Report

MEMBER RELATIONS COMMITTEE – Harlan Fuller (absent)

No Report

NOMINATING COMMITTEE – Bruce Hamilton

Need to submit 2018-19 board information to Global by the end of March. Erin will submit the form to Global.

OLD BUSINESS

John will take last years’ financials and do the review. He will then give them to Rick for storage with the rest of the financial documents.

NEW BUSINESS

Dana has received two phishing emails appearing to come from MAC board members. Please use caution and double check if you have doubts. As a security measure, when you send the treasurer an email to request reimbursement, copy the current president. If the president is the one sending the email, they should copy the secretary.

LTS will use barcoded name badges to track CPE and attendance. Can use Bruce’s scanner which needs some Excel manipulation to capture date/time, or the council could invest in an “event” scanner that would capture the date and time of each scan automatically.

PAST PRESIDENTS

Bruce – good meeting, apologies for not being there in person.

Mary – good meeting, good to hear that there are no big problems.

John – good meeting, encouraged to hear about Chicago’s efforts and that the council has been able to help. Keep up the good work.

MOTION TO ADJOURN – meeting adjourned at 11:19 AM

Motion to adjourn by Mary and seconded by Dana. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,
Martha Paalman, Council Secretary