



The Association of  
Accountants and  
Financial Professionals  
in Business



## President's Message October 2014

Welcome to the fall edition of the IMA MAC newsletter. The leaves are falling, the jack-o-lanterns are glowing and the birds are headed to a warmer climate. A lot is happening with IMA as well. At Global, Jenna Uszenski has changed positions and we welcome Tara Barker as the new Community Relations Associate. She is the main contact at Global for all chapters within the Mid-America Council. Her email is [tbarker@imanet.org](mailto:tbarker@imanet.org).

We are busy planning the Spring LTS conference, which will be held again at NIU in Rockford. Save the dates, Thursday and Friday, April 23 and 24, 2015. We are putting together a great line-up of speakers, but could still use some input. If you have any ideas for a topic or speaker, please let me know at [jwieland2@new.rr.com](mailto:jwieland2@new.rr.com).

There are some student opportunities as well. There is our student grant available on our Mid-America website. The due date is October 31, 2014. Help us spread the word. Global also has a new funding program available to student chapters. See the student section in this newsletter for more details.

At our July board meeting, I brought up an idea to put all of our chapter meetings together on a Council calendar. Eric Griffin has begun this calendar but needs information from the chapters. If you could please send Eric your calendar of events listing date, location, topic and a link for registering, it would be greatly appreciated. If members are traveling, are busy on their chapter's meeting night or find another chapter's topic interesting, we will have a one-stop place to look for nearby meetings.

I hope to see many of you at our quarterly meeting at Clifton Larsen Allen in Rockford on Saturday, November 1. Hopefully the snow will stay up at the North Pole for a little while, so we have some good roads to drive.

John Wieland  
Mid-America Council President, 2014-2015



### IMA Mid-America Council Meeting Agenda

Date & Time	Teleconference Information	Location
Saturday, November 1, 2014 9:00am – 12:00pm	Dial-in number: 712-432-1500 Access Code: 514007#	CliftonLarsonAllen LLP 1639 N. Alpine Rd, Suite 100 Rockford, IL 61107

1. 9:00am – 9:05am	Welcome & Introductions	John	5 minutes
2. 9:05am – 9:15am	President's Report Award presentation/recognition Global staffing change – Tara Barker	John	10 minutes
3. 9:15am – 9:20am	Secretary's Report Approve Minutes from 7/26/14 Mtg	Angela	5 minutes
4. 9:20am – 9:40am	Treasurer's Report Financial Bills	Rick	20 minutes
5. 9:40am – 9:55am	President-Elect's Report 2015 LTS – NIU April 24, 2015 Speakers?? Council Award of Excellence	Jim	15 minutes
6. 9:55am – 10:15am	Regional VP & Regional Directors IMA Board Update SCMS Mid-year, October 2014 Regional Chapter Reports	Harlan	20 minutes
7. 10:15am – 10:25am	BREAK		10 minutes
8. 10:25am – 10:35am	VP-Communications Newsletter Due Date Council Website Event Schedule	Eric/Angela	10 minutes
9. 10:35am – 11:05am	VP-Education Student Conference / Student Grants Student Chapter Outreach Education Conference – April 23 <sup>rd</sup> Speakers??	Bruce & Jason	30 minutes
10. 11:05am – 11:10am	Bylaws Committee Report	Mary	5 minutes
11. 11:10am – 11:15am	Committee Reports Long Range Planning Committee on Academic Relations Member Relations Committee	Harlan	5 minutes
12. 11:15am – 11:20am	Old Business		5 minutes
13. 11:20am – 11:35am	New Business		10 minutes
14. 11:35am – 11:40pm	Past Presidents		5 minutes
15. 11:40am	Meeting Adjournment		



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## Student Relations

### **Annual IMA Mid-America Council Grant:**

Details on the 2014 – 2015 Student Grant are now available on the Council website at [http://www.midamerica.imanet.org/student\\_grant.htm](http://www.midamerica.imanet.org/student_grant.htm)

Please note that the **application deadline is 10/31/14** and a notification of grant winners will be made no later than 11/7/14.

### **IMA Student Chapter Funding Program:**

IMA Global has a new program to provide limited funding to Student IMA Chapters. The process is simple, involves completing a one page form and requires both Parent Chapter and Faculty signatures. [Click here](#) to view the form.



### 2014 - 2015 Board of Directors

BOARD POSITION	NAME, CHAPTER
President	<a href="#">John Wieland</a> , WinnebagoLand
President Elect	<a href="#">Jim Spice</a> , Calumet
Secretary	<a href="#">Angela Truong</a> , Fox River Valley
Treasurer	<a href="#">Rick Bellmore</a> , WinnebagoLand
VP - Communications	<a href="#">Eric Griffin</a> , Madison
Director - Newsletter	<a href="#">Angela Truong</a> , Fox River Valley
Director - Social Media	OPEN
VP - Education	<a href="#">Bruce Hamilton</a> , Madison
Director - Education	<a href="#">Dave Skora</a> , Madison
Director - Education	<a href="#">Patricia Cox</a> , Madison
Director - Student Relations	<a href="#">Jason Leabman</a> , Madison
Director – Student Relations	<a href="#">Kathy Horton</a> , Madison
VP - Corporate Development	OPEN
Regional VP	<a href="#">Harlan Fuller</a> , Central Illinois
Regional Director - Calumet	<a href="#">Stephen Craig</a> , Chicago
Regional Director - Central Illinois	<a href="#">Mary Strautmman</a> , Greater Milwaukee
Regional Director - Chicago	<a href="#">Mary Strautmman</a> , Greater Milwaukee
Regional Director - Fox River Valley	<a href="#">Barb Sheedy</a> , Calumet
Regional Director - Greater Milwaukee	<a href="#">Stephen Craig</a> , Chicago
Regional Director - Heart of WI	<a href="#">Dave Skora</a> , Madison
Regional Director - Illowa	<a href="#">Dave Skora</a> , Madison
Regional Director - NW Suburban Chicago	<a href="#">Michele Reagan</a> , Rockford
Regional Director - Madison	<a href="#">Michele Reagan</a> , Rockford
Regional Director - Packerland	<a href="#">Dave Skora</a> , Madison
Regional Director - Rockford	<a href="#">Barb Sheedy</a> , Calumet
Regional Director - Sangamon Valley	Inactive Chapter
Regional Director - WinnebagoLand	<a href="#">Erin Ankebrant</a> , Greater Milwaukee
Regional Director - Wisconsin Lakeshore	Inactive Chapter
MAC Long-Range Planning Committee (Most Sr. Active Past President)	<a href="#">Harlan Fuller</a> , Central Illinois
Council Bylaws Committee	<a href="#">Mary Strautmman</a> , Greater Milwaukee
Committee on Academic Relations	<a href="#">Harlan Fuller</a> , Central Illinois
Member Relations Committee (National Board Standing Committee)	<a href="#">Harlan Fuller</a> , Central Illinois



**IMA Mid-America Council Board Meeting  
Comfort Suites – Milwaukee, WI  
July 26, 2014**

**ATTENDANCE**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>CHAPTER</b>	<b>MAC POSITION</b>
John Wieland	Winnebagoland	President
Angela Truong	Fox River Valley	Secretary/Director-Newsletter
Rick Bellmore	Winnebagoland	Treasurer
Sheryl Elliott	Fox River Valley	Regional Director/Past President
Debra Mraz	NW Suburban Chicago	Delegate
Jim Spice	Calumet	President-Elect
Erin Ankebrant	Greater Milwaukee	Regional Director
Michele Reagan	Rockford	Regional Director/Past President
Bill Ramsay	Winnebagoland	Past President
Harlan Fuller	Central Illinois	Regional Vice President /Past President
Eric Griffin	Madison	VP-Communication
Mary Strautmman	Greater Milwaukee	Regional Director/Past President
Bruce Hamilton	Madison	VP-Education/Past President

**VIA PHONE:**

Stephen Craig	Chicago	Regional Director
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John Wieland called the meeting to order at 9:05AM. The meeting began with introductions of the members that were present.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT – John Wieland**

At the Annual IMA Conference in Minneapolis, there were several winners of awards from the council. Sheryl Elliott from the Fox River Valley chapter won Outstanding Volunteer Award, Elliott Kammeyer from the Central Illinois chapter won the Young Professional Award, and Curtis Verschoor from the NW Suburban Chicago chapter won Distinguished member award. Central Illinois chapter won 11<sup>th</sup> place in the Stevenson Division for competition points.

John asked council members to confirm their email address is correct on the contact list.

In reviewing the post-event surveys from LTS, most ratings were 4 or 5 from participants.

**SECRETARY’S REPORT – Angela Truong**

The minutes from the April 25, 2014 board meeting were previously emailed out and included in the newsletter. Angela motioned to approve the April minutes and Sheryl Elliott seconded the motion. During discussion of the minutes, Bill Ramsay pointed out that his last name was spelled wrong. No other changes were requested. Motion passed.

**TREASURER’S REPORT – Rick Bellmore**

Copies of the July Treasurer’s Report were emailed out prior to the meeting and were distributed at today’s meeting. Rick reviewed the financials and expenses with the council. Dave Skora and Bruce Hamilton are



investigating renewing the CDs and no further information is available on that topic at this time. It was noted on the Statement of Activities Reconciliation that the CDs lost value during the quarter and Michele Reagan thinks that was due to bank fees.

For the segregated funds for the Sangamon Valley chapter that were previously transferred to the council's bank account, there was a discussion about how long to keep them segregated in the financials. This is the second year of the chapter being inactive and Sheryl Elliott said that IMA Global has ultimate responsibility for deciding how long to keep them segregated. Harlan Fuller thinks that the chapter is still considering their options and will not give approval for the council to take over the funds.

John Wieland will discuss with Jenna Uszenski. It was also mentioned that the Wisconsin Lakeshore chapter just decided in May to go inactive, so potentially there will be funds from this chapter given to the council to include in a segregate fund.

In the Statement of Activities, Rick noted that LTS was profitable this year due to low speaker fees and the presence of several corporate sponsorships. Most cash receipts in April-June were related to LTS. LTS student participation was lower this year due to a scheduling conflict for the Whitewater student chapter. It was also noted on the Statement of Activities that IMA Growth is higher than previous quarters due to more people joining IMA chapters and a portion of the membership fee is given to the council.

Rick noted that for the MEF grants there were four schools in the council region that were awarded a grant to set up student chapters, but the schools are still working on getting the student chapters established. Mary Strautmann commented that she is not sure if the final paperwork was submitted for the schools to get the second half of the grant money. John Wieland will follow-up with Bruce Hamilton and Jason Leabman to ask about the paperwork.

For chapter grants, three chapters have not submitted post-event evaluations so they have not received the second half of the grant money. The chapters are Calumet, Madison, and Greater Milwaukee. Erin Ankebrant said that she submitted the post-event evaluation to Mary Strautmann recently for the Calumet chapter due to a designated chapter board member not submitting it. Sheryl Elliott motioned to extend the deadline for Madison and Greater Milwaukee to submit the post-event evaluation to the end of August and Jim Spice seconded the motion. Motion passed.

For student grants, four were awarded but only two submitted the final paperwork to get the second half of the grant money. UW-Whitewater and Madison chapters are the ones that have not submitted the final paperwork. A discussion occurred about establishing a firm 30-day deadline after the event to submit the final paperwork by for chapter and student grants, but it was decided to not establish this deadline.

Rick Bellmore motioned to have the check signers on the bank account updated to John Wieland, council president, and Angela Truong, council secretary. Bill Ramsay seconded the motion and it passed.

The council discussed the preliminary 2014-2015 operating budget. Rick explained how he calculated some of the budget lines. It was decided to move the conference raffle from line 7, Annual Conference Reg Raffle, to line 8, Other Income. Bruce Hamilton suggested that John Wieland investigate buying a professional phone (estimated cost of \$200) that can be used at council board meetings since there are sometimes audio issues with the phone at the board meeting venues. Erin Ankebrant said that some venues charge a fee to use the phone, so the cost of a phone will be paid for after a few meetings. It was agreed to raise the budget for the Administrative Expenses from \$350 to \$600 to cover the cost of



purchasing a phone. John Wieland will contact Bruce Hamilton or Dave Skora to have them purchase a phone for the council.

Rick moved to approve the July Treasurer's Report and Bill seconded. Motion was passed. Rick moved to approve the 2014-2015 budget and Bill seconded. Motion was passed.

#### **PRESIDENT-ELECT – Jim Spice**

No report about next year's LTS was provided.

For the MEF grant that is submitted to IMA Global, John Wieland will email Jim Spice with a few ideas. Due date for the grant application is the last business day of August.

#### **REGIONAL VP – Harlan Fuller**

The IMA Global board increased the amount of expenses that can be submitted for reimbursement from \$250 to \$500, so Harlan expects that his travel expenses to attend these board meetings will be covered by IMA Global. There is a budget line in the council 2014-2015 budget of \$2000 for Regional-VP travel expenses that he doesn't expect to be spent.

The 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of IMA is coming up in 5 years and IMA Global has established a membership goal to reach prior to the anniversary.

The last board meeting was held at the Annual IMA Conference in Minneapolis. Upcoming meetings will be at Montvale in October and Dallas, TX in February.

The council needs to submit two nominations of people to serve on the IMA Global board to represent the Mid-America Council. A person can serve on the board for six years consecutively. Dave Skora and John Wieland were discussed as being the nominees for the council.

The SCMS mid-year meeting will be September 21-23, 2014 in Savannah, GA.

#### **REGIONAL DIRECTOR REPORTS**

Calumet—Stephen Craig said that he is included on board communications. Proposed event schedule for September-May technical meetings and other events is being discussed. July 17<sup>th</sup> was the last board meeting. Jim Spice, chapter board member, said most of the chapter board members are retired and the chapter president is serving his 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> year. Two younger people have recently joined the chapter board and the board is hoping to attract more younger IMA members to serve on the board.

Central Illinois—Mary said the next board meeting will be on Wednesday, July 30<sup>th</sup>. Harlan said that he is not aware of any events for the upcoming year being finalized yet. The chapter is sponsoring a CMA review course, Part 1 in the fall and Part 2 in the spring.

Chicago—Chase was the chapter president last year and Jim Wilbur will be president this year. Jim is communicating with the board and is trying to get a board meeting scheduled for early-August.



Fox River Valley—Sheryl Elliott provided an update that most of the speakers and topics are scheduled for the 2014-2015 year. The November 19<sup>th</sup> technical meeting will be when the chapter celebrates its 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the IMA Chair will attend this meeting to give a presentation. On November 20<sup>th</sup> the IMA Chair will be in downtown Chicago at Robert Morris College giving presentations and talking to students. The chapter is planning to have a Mystery Fraud Night event in February.

Greater Milwaukee—Stephen said a proposed schedule for August-May has been determined and it is mostly finalized. They will host a Mystery Fraud Night event at Safehouse and are partnering with the Wisconsin CPA Society for this event. They are trying to increase membership by partnering with other accounting organizations. Steve Wiess, Senior VP at IMA Global, will attend the February technical meeting and will present about Strategic Planning. Mary said that the chapter plans to invite other local IMA chapters and accounting organizations to the February meeting. Barb Sheedy and Mary Strautmann will serve on the Corporate Outreach IMA Global program this year. There are six new board members for the chapter, including students and young professionals. The website was recently updated and the webmaster is one of the new board members.

Heart of Wisconsin—No report.

Illowa—No report.

NW Suburbs-Chicago—Debra Mraz said they have had two planning meetings so far this summer and another one is scheduled for August. The chapter board is considering having seven technical meetings this year instead of eight. They may need support from the council on the Secretary and Treasurer positions due to a recent death of a board member serving in those roles.

Madison—Michele Reagan plans to attend the August 6<sup>th</sup> planning meeting. Topics for technical meetings are mostly confirmed and the board is working on finalizing the speakers and locations.

Packerland—No report.

Rockford--A tentative schedule for the year has been determined.

Winnebagoland—The schedule of technical meetings is mostly finalized. One of two summer planning meetings has already occurred. The chapter had been doing 2 hours of CPE at technical meetings, but chapter members have requested that the meeting times be shortened. The chapter board is also considering hosting webinars. One webinar was already held for 1 hour of CPE, 25 people attended, cost charged was \$5 for each participant, and the topic was computer security and maintenance to perform on a computer.

#### **VP-COMMUNICATIONS – Eric Griffin**

Articles to include in the next newsletter should be submitted to Angela Truong, who will be assembling the newsletter as our Newsletter Director. Eric will look to update the council website to include a calendar of chapter events and requests that more chapters submit their chapter events to him to include on the MAC website. Mary mentioned that the Greater Milwaukee chapter website will include a list of local CMA review courses with details and she encouraged Eric to link to the list on the MAC website. Mary also mentioned that she knows of several colleges that are hosting CMA review courses.



**VP-EDUCATION – Bruce Hamilton**

The IMA Student Conference will be on November 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> in Indianapolis, IN. Harlan encouraged council members to spread the word to local colleges to attend the event due to the close proximity.

A discussion about having an Education Conference on the day before LTS in 2015 and that a committee could plan both days' sessions. The VP of Education can coordinate the Education Conference event, but a committee can help with the planning. Tentative dates for the Education Conference and LTS of April 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> were determined, but the dates are subject to change as speakers and topics are finalized. A tentative planning committee of Dave Skora, Patricia Cox, Jason Leabman, Bruce Hamilton, and possibly Kathy Horton was determined.

**DIRECTOR OF STUDENT RELATIONS – Jason Leabman (absent)**

No report.

**BYLAWS COMMITTEE – Mary Strautmann**

No report.

**COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC RELATIONS – Harlan Fuller**

Harlan said that twelve colleges in the United States have management accounting endorsements and he is encouraging more colleges to get this endorsement. One of the requirements for the endorsement is that the curriculum includes 80% of the CMA exam topics. Each college that gets the endorsement can nominate one student for having CMA exam fees and review course fees paid and the first two years of IMA student membership dues.

**MEMBER RELATIONS COMMITTEE – Harlan Fuller**

The committee is considering giving more credit for CPE generated by non-chapter events like webinars. Harlan noted that the Council of Excellence Award usually goes to the same councils repeatedly. Mary noted that chapters should be rewarded for the quality of CPE events, more value-added activities to the members and not the quantity of events held. Harlan also said that chapters should utilize the "Speaker's Bureau" on the chapter portal for speaker ideas and speaker costs.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Nine chapters were awarded chapter grants, the lowest amount requested was \$250 for Illowa and several grant applications were for more than the \$500 max. The committee reviewing the grant applications decided to give the entire amount requested to Illowa of \$250 and the other eight chapters would get \$267 each. The eight chapters are Rockford, WinnebagoLand, NW Suburban Chicago, Fox River Valley, Heart of WI, Madison, Greater Milwaukee and Calumet. The total of grants awarded is \$2386, which is lower than the \$2400 max.



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Harlan said that chapters can contact Jody Ryan at IMA Global if they would like the \$25 student membership dues offered for their chapter.

John Wieland said that the Wisconsin Lakeshore chapter is officially inactive. Other IMA chapters in the area may be able to absorb the membership.

In terms of which council position is responsible for submitting the various IMA Global and IRS forms, the Treasurer will submit the financial information and Form 990, the President will submit the Election of Officers form and Core Values Agreement, and the President-elect will submit the annual transmittal to IMA Global. John was appreciative of board members for submitting their approval for the Core Values Agreement electronically through the survey.

The next meeting will be on November 1<sup>st</sup> in Rockford. The deadline for submissions for the November newsletter is October 13<sup>th</sup>--send information to Angela. Tentatively, the January meeting will be on January 24<sup>th</sup> in Janesville, WI at the Holiday Inn.

Sheryl provided information about what is SCMS, including the purpose, the eligibility requirements for who can join, and annual dues being \$30. SCMS normally gives \$5000 of scholarships to students.

#### **PAST PRESIDENTS**

Several commented about the council meeting being good. Harlan mentioned that we need to encourage more chapter members to become members of the council to increase attendance.

#### **MOTION TO ADJOURN – meeting adjourned at 11:45AM**

Motion to adjourn by Mary Strautmann and seconded by Bill Ramsay. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Angela Truong  
Council Secretary