



The Association of
Accountants and
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in Business



President's Message April 2013

In spite of the weather outside, spring has arrived, and that mean LTS! Our 2013 Leadership Training Session will be held Friday, April 19th at the NIU Outreach Center in Rockford IL. Registration starts at 7:45 a.m. and you can earn 7.5 hours of CPE. New this year is a networking event the night before LTS. It will be at the Thunder Bay Grille, 7652 Potawatomi Trail, Rockford, Thursday night April 18 from 7:00 – 9:00 pm. Appetizers will be provided along with one complimentary drink. Additional food & beverage will be available at your own cost.

Congratulations to Sheryl Elliott and Amy Longhurst, our 2013 winners of free Annual Conference registrations. Have a great time at the conference! All proceeds from the raffle ticket sales go towards benefitting the Council grant program.

Speaking of the Annual Conference, it's not too late to register. IMA's 94th Annual Conference & Exposition will be held June 22-26 in New Orleans.

Our final Council meeting of the year will be immediately after LTS on Friday April 19. Everyone is welcome to attend, and it's a great way to learn more about things that affect your Chapter.

I want to thank the members of the Milwaukee & Fox River Valley Chapters for the hospitality they extended during my Chapter visits. I wish I could have visited more Chapters this past year.

Thank you to everyone and especially the Mid-America Council Board for making this year very special for me. I have enjoyed my year as President and look forward to working with all of you in the future.

Don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or suggestions regarding the Council or your individual Chapter. You can reach me at hamiltoncpa@sbcglobal.net.

I look forward to seeing everyone at LTS, and have a great summer!

Bruce Hamilton CMA CPA
Mid-America Council President 2012-2013



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IMA Mid-America Council Meeting Agenda

Date	Time	Location
Friday, April 19, 2013	4:05am – 5:00pm	NIU Outreach Center 8500 East State Street Rockford, IL 61108

1. 4:05pm – 4:10pm	Welcome & Introductions	Bruce	5 minutes
2. 4:10am – 4:15pm	Secretary's Report	Sheryl	5 minutes
3. 4:15pm – 4:20pm	Treasurer's Report Financial statement / Bills	Michele	5 minutes
4. 4:20am – 4:30pm	President-Elect's Report 2013 LTS preliminary update 2013 - 2014 Council Board of Directors Council Award of Excellence	Dave	10 minutes
5. 4:30pm – 4:40pm	Regional VP & Regional Directors IMA Board of Directors Update Regional Director Chapter Reports	Mary	10 minutes
6. 4:40pm – 4:45pm	VP Communications Newsletter Due Date Council Website	Barb/Eric	5 minutes
7. 4:45pm – 4:50pm	VP Education Fall Educational Conference	Bruce/Mary	5 minutes
8. 4:50pm – 4:55pm	Committee Reports By Laws – Bruce Hamilton Long Range Planning – Harlan Fuller CMA Awareness/Promotion – Harlan		5 minutes
9. 4:55pm – 4:58pm	Old and/or New Business		3 minutes
10. 4:58pm – 5:00pm	Past Presidents		2 minutes
11. 5:00pm	Motion to Adjourn		
12.	Dinner...		

Future Meeting Dates/Locations:

Saturday, July 13, 2013 or Saturday, July 27, 2013



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IMA Mid-America Council Meeting
Baker Tilly LLP, Madison, WI
January 19, 2013

ATTENDANCE

NAME	CHAPTER	MAC POSITION
Bruce Hamilton	Madison	President
Eric Griffin	Madison	Webmaster
Erin Ankebrant	Greater Milwaukee	Chapter President/Delegate
Harlan Fuller	Central Illinois	Past President
Barb Sheedy	Greater Milwaukee	VP Communication
Mary Strautmann	Greater Milwaukee	Past President/Regional VP
David Skora	Madison	President-Elect
Bill Ramsay	WinnebagoLand	Past President
Michele Reagan	Rockford	Past President/Treasurer
Joe Goken	Rockford	Chapter President/Delegate
John Wieland	WinnebagoLand	Regional Director
Patricia Cox	Greater Milwaukee	Delegate
Rick Bellmore	WinnebagoLand	Dir Student Activities/Delegate

VIA PHONE

Sheryl Elliott	Fox River Valley	Past President/Secretary
Jenna Uszenski	Montvale Staff	
Allison Hendrickson	Packerland	Regional Director
Cindy Oglesby	Sangamon Valley	Regional Director
Kathy Horton	Fox River Valley	Delegate

Bruce Hamilton called the meeting to order at 9:19AM after telephone difficulties. The meeting began with introductions of those present or on the phone. It was determined that we do have a quorum present.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT – Bruce Hamilton

Bruce will be attending several chapter meetings in the next few months. He announced that VP Education Kas Henry has let her membership lapse. Bruce presented Michele with her certificate of having served as past council president.

SECRETARY’S REPORT – Sheryl Elliott

Sheryl moved to approve the November 2012 minutes & Bill Ramsey seconded; motion was approved.

TREASURER’S REPORT – Michele Reagan

Michele reviewed financials & expenses. The majority of chapter dues paid were paid in the 2nd quarter; all chapters are paid up to date. She only had to pay out two checks for student scholarships attending the student conference; one of the three students was unable to attend. Michele has reimbursed both Madison & the Chicago Chapters for grant funds.

Dave Skora moved and Bill Ramsay seconded to approve the financials; motion approved.



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REGIONAL VP AND REGIONAL DIRECTORS – Mary Strautmman

Mary will be attending the Board of Director's meeting in Marina Del Rey next month. She advised that Lisa Beaudoin of Global is contacting companies and is looking for introductions from members vs. just making a cold call. If you know a company and would like to present them to Montvale they would appreciate any help you can give.

Mary mentioned that all Chapters and Councils need to have a copy of their by-laws into their community specialist by the end of April in order to remain an active chapter. She encouraged all to go onto the website and check out the minutes from the teleconference calls.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

GREATER MILWAUKEE – Allison not able to attend a meeting yet, but is impressed with scheduling of meetings to come. She wants to attend the April etiquette meeting and stated that she likes their website; is impressive and all should check it out. Erin added that they are having a really good year this year and they have lots of upcoming events. Allison talked to the incoming president and he is about ½ set with his board. The Chapter seems to be on track for a good year next year. They also have a new student chapter at Gateway Technical College.

WISCONSIN LAKESHORE – Laura reported that small core group trying to keep things going. Bill Ramsey stated that they are very spread out geographically.

SANGAMON VALLEY – Per Cindy they are not doing well; the October speaker cancelled. The November meeting only 4 people were attending so they cancelled that meeting. The January meeting is Tuesday and the topic is tax update and normally the strongest meeting they have; only 8 people are coming. She is not sure if they are not getting a strong distribution on the newsletter. Board is meeting Tuesday before the technical meeting. February's meeting is supposed to be international financial standards. March is supposed to be a student night but due to needing to use a deposit from a cancelled meeting she may need to change the topic because the students wouldn't be able to drink at the winery. They only have a board of 4 so most stuff is done via e-mail. One of the board members is not going to stay on; so they don't know that they will have a board for next year; they aren't even getting responses of "no I don't want to do it". A lot of their membership is ADM employees; of the remaining members a lot are retired.

NORTHWEST SUBURBAN – no report

MADISON – Dave said that they have an engaged Chapter President. He is organized and enthusiastic; it makes a world of difference. Attendance is up a bit and they are having good monthly meetings. Meetings are scheduled all the way thru May.

ROCKFORD – Joe stated that they are trying to mix things up a bit vs. the traditional 3rd Tuesday of the month. They have done some lunch meetings and evenings other than Tuesday night and find that they get different attendees at different times. Their attendance in the fall wasn't as good as they have had historically. They did an awesome lunch in November; didn't have great attendance but got some good feedback from people who were there. Planning on a ½ day Excel topic. They have shaken up the board a bit; had some people who didn't do a lot so added a few members who are willing to be on the board but have added some students to their board. Have an incoming president so he won't be president for 3rd year in a row.



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ILLOWA – Michele is in contact with Dallon again. He continues to talk to the leader of the FEI group in the Quad Cities; they are having the same issues of people not coming. Dallon wants to do a May 10th conference; a 4-hour CPE presentation. He is working very closely with the colleges trying to get student presentations. He is also trying to put together a new board which would include college students as well as some professionals. Dallon is trying to get a board meeting scheduled for February and wants to try to have another 4-hour conference in the fall. Michele currently has control of the chapter's checkbook.

CHICAGO – Mary reported that they have an event planned for March, Rick Myrland is speaking on Fraud, and the meeting will be in Oak Park.

CALUMET – Sheryl reported that the chapter had shared that they had been having issues with the tax ID. Jenna said that Global's Controller is working with Deb to help resolve the issues.

FOX RIVER VALLEY – Sheryl reported that meetings have been scheduled thru the remainder of the year; unsure of next year's board make-up but will make sure that we have one.

PACKERLAND – John attended their meeting last week; they had about 15 people in attendance. They had a very interesting meeting. As Allison mentioned he is also concerned about the small board and not everyone on the board is active nor can they be relied on. They do have meetings scheduled thru the remainder of the year, but need a board for next year.

WINNEBAGOLAND – Allison attended the Lambeau Field tour; they had a very good turnout and the event was well organized. She was very impressed by their active and engaged board members as well as others who participate on the board vs. the Packerland Chapter which has a lot of board burnout and they have a small number of members trying to carry the chapter. They Chapter is seeing good meeting attendance; they are shortening their meetings and having 1-hour CPE sessions. They are also changing their meeting dates around so they aren't always on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. One of the reasons for so many changes is due to a survey they sent out to membership last year. All of the changes seem to have a positive effect on the chapter; have approximately 30 at all of the meetings. Meetings are all scheduled thru the remainder of the year.

CENTRAL IL – Cindy has exchanged some e-mails with the Chapter President. They had a rocky start to the year but they had a meeting last week on tax, are having a student meeting in February, March is a meeting at Caterpillar, Harlan is doing an Excel presentation in April. They have a full schedule; the President did not indicate any issues. Per Harlan, at the March meeting they are going to try to honor the gold medal winner in the 2011 CMA exam. Working hard to get her there. Expect good attendance at that event.

HEART OF WISCONSIN – John has been unable to make a chapter visit yet but is in e-mail contact. They are having 20 to 30 at meetings; have an active board of 8-10 members. The chapter had a speed networking event with students and had about 60 at that meeting; they are still working on evaluating regarding what the good and bad points of it were. They had trouble in November with a speaker cancelling and they had to find a last minute replacement. They are trying to look forward to the future so that they will have a contingency with Global PPTs so that if they need to put a last minute presentation together they will have something. They are struggling to put a board together for next year.

PRESIDENT-ELECT – Dave Skora

LTS date is set for April 19 in Rockford at the NIU Center. Everything is coming together well. The schedule is nearly complete; Jenna is able to attend and trying to tweak how to put her to work that day.



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Dave is hoping that she can be a speaker at one of the sessions.

Dave has shortened the lunch to 45 minutes so as to get in 5 sessions; each at 75 minutes.

One speaker is from the 2009 Annual Conference in Denver and is coming for a very reduced fee. She (Dee Dukehart) is doing 2 sessions; topics are presentation skills and written communications. There will be a Business Etiquette session. The speaker is Susan Richardson and she is from the Madison area. About 80% is business and about 20% is dining. After lunch there will breakout sessions; one for chapter leaders and one for lean and process performance. The speaker will be from Illinois manufacturers' partnership. It is possible that Jenna will lead a breakout session or there will be a 3rd option of breakout. The last session will be someone from the Madison area; the topic is the 80/20 principle.

He is looking for corporate sponsorships and is starting to do the arm twisting part. He has \$1,000 already. The whole concept of networking is working for him right now; his goal is \$4,000. The registration fee has been increased from \$20 to \$25 which will generate about \$500 extra in revenue. He expects expenses to be somewhere in the range of \$3,000.

He will be asking this group with regard to breakout sessions and needing people to lead them and is in the midst of preparing PPT presentations so the presenters don't have to do it. I.e. he is putting a template together for speakers to work off of vs. speakers re-inventing the wheel every year. There should be some basics which need to be addressed and this should help with that.

He needs to get with Eric to start putting stuff together for registration on the web and is hoping to have everything lined up by February 1st.

VP COMMUNICATIONS – Barb Sheedy

Needs info for the next newsletter by Friday, April 5th.

WEBMASTER – Eric Griffin

Any updates to the website, please send to Eric.

VP EDUCATION – open

Rick reported that regarding student conference, one of the three students was either unable to attend or decided not to go. The two who attended had very positive comments and felt that students should consider attending. Mary said that she sent an e-mail to Whitewater that they normally have lots of students of attendance but not getting response from students on the award. Apparently students get together and decide that they think it is counterproductive to have all of them working on it so they select two or three students to apply. Instructor suggested that it would be better to award to specific schools or student chapters.

The next student conference is in North Carolina. Discussion ensued about individuals wanting to attend who do not belong to a student chapter could then apply as an individual and maybe we could put them into contact with the student chapter to work on travel together. Mary suggested that we need to get faculty more involved so as to get the students more involved. Much discussion followed regarding students, academics, CMA, CPA, etc.

Harlan stated that Committee on Academic Relations is identifying characteristics of schools for endorsements in management accounting.

Mary reported that Raef Lawson created a curriculum for managerial accounting that schools can use.



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Bruce likes the idea of going toward scholarships for schools vs. individuals, but if there is a school that doesn't have a student chapter that they would have an equal opportunity at the scholarship. Erin moved and Mary seconded the motion that we revisit how the student scholarships are awarded with an eye towards awarding them to a student chapter rather than an individual student, but having provision that would allow student where there is no student chapter to apply as well. An Ad Hoc committee of Rick, Eric & Mary will work on that.

Fall conference and survey results were reviewed. Baby GAAP seems to be the one of choice. If we can do WebEx great; otherwise throw a dart at the council area and whichever location it was held at would be okay. Bruce personally thinks that NIU works well. Discussion ensued regarding location and preferences of Chicago vs. Rockford. Jenna suggested maybe having a conference for students instead would be more beneficial, and getting students to a conference might work. Mary mentioned that LTS is free to students, and that having a full conference for students might be cost prohibitive.

Bruce asked for thoughts regarding whether doing a September conference on Baby GAAP in Rockford is what we want to do or not. Discussion followed regarding potentially having multiple speakers throughout the day vs. just one. Would like to target the beginning of September which would avoid quarter-end reporting.

Committee formed of Bruce, Mary, Sheryl, Chase Thompson, and Patricia Cox

LONG RANGE PLANNING AND BY-LAWS – Harlan Fuller

See discussion below in New Business.

GLOBAL BOARD/COMMITTEE – Mary Strautmman

Mary reported that the Global Board will be meeting in Marina del Rey in February. They are working on a number of issues related to compensation and competition.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Jenna reported that early bird registration will be opening up next week. As in the past each council will be receiving 2 free registrations for the conference. Jenna will send Bruce the deadline for those names. They have been doing a lot of marketing on Facebook; a contest for 7,000 likes is going on. If they get 7,000 likes by end of the day today she wins a prize. She thanked us for inviting her to join in on the council meeting and stated that she really enjoyed it.

Michele asked how we were going to distribute the two registrations. Per Harlan early bird ends march 29th, so assumably the two recipients need to know by then.

COMMITTEES

Bruce, Sheryl, Harlan, Mary chaired by Dave for nominating

David – started the process; he sent out an e-mail requesting future preferences for the board. If you have not responded back please do so. Then fill positions via e-mail with the committee.



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Harlan, John, Erin, Barb, Mary, Bruce for Long Range Planning

Bruce reported that the committee has been resuscitated and they will start taking a look at where the council is going in the next 3-5 years.

Bylaws Mary, Sheryl, Harlan, Bruce

Committee has reviewed existing bylaws; suggestions have been e-mailed the suggested changes. As a type of clerical thing, all addresses to chapter, council or Global will be capitalized. Position references will be capitalized. Started doing it but decided that it was a big waste of time and those corrections are not noted as 'changes'. Reviewed the substantive changes one at a time asking for opinions after each change noted. Regarding changes to attachments, drop the reference to appendix a on all.

Dave mentioned regarding attachment 3 (new) that the Regional Directors should have some sort of written report to the council meetings. Questioned whether the attachment is used or not. Mary stated that it is not currently being used, but would like it to start being used. Dave feels that it is important to have some type of report; communication. Need to know what is going on at these chapters.

Mary asked for approval to the by-laws; bill seconded. Motion passed. She will type up a formal copy and get it to Eric to put onto the website.

PAST PRESIDENTS

Harlan – Glad to see the numbers.

Mary – Good discussions, lots going on.

Bill – Good meeting; got a lot done.

Sheryl – Good meeting.

Michele – Good meeting. Lots of good discussion.

MOTION TO ADJOURN – meeting adjourned at 12:14p

Future meeting dates:

April 19th at NIU center in Rockford following LTS

Respectfully submitted,
Sheryl Elliott, Secretary