

# Catawba Valley Chapter

January 2019

## Message from the President

Happy New Year!

I hope you enjoyed a happy, safe and happy holidays with family and friends. So many activities this time of year, it just flies by. In December we had the opportunity to help a family with Christmas needs. We have worked with Anne from The Family Guidance Center in Hickory for a number of years. The family we helped this year was a Grandparent family, who had never had to ask for help in all of their years, and were a bit embarrassed at the situation. The Grandfather recently had to stop working due to a disability, but the paperwork is not yet fully processed, so their income is very small. They were worried about eviction, and had no idea of how to provide any Christmas items for the grandchildren they are raising. We were able to provide items from both of the wish lists for the kids, and were able to purchase a Visa gift card so the Grandparents could purchase food, gas or pay their power bill. It is hard for me to express how much this means to this family, they were almost in tears when the delivery was made. Every year I have helped with this, I am humbled by those who we help. I am very grateful we are able to help a local family.

There was another bright spot to December for our Chapter. We have 3 winners of the Joseph F Ryan Scholarship Award this year! First place goes to Jesse Mazza, a student at Appalachian State, who is also working on his CMA this year. Second place was awarded to Vivien Meadows, a student from Caldwell CCTI, who is transferring to Appalachian State this next semester and is currently the Admin for the Accounting Dept there. Our third place award will be presented to Sierra Abee who is the President of the CVCC Accounting Club, and plans to complete her Associates degree, and move on to a Bachelors in Accounting, and possibly a Masters Degree. Congratulation to our candidates. The awards will be presented at a lunch in January, that has not been set. Look for pictures on our website soon.

Tariffs have been in the news plenty in the past few months. Our joint meeting with APICS this month is right to that point. Laura Brewer will present ‘What are Tariffs and how do they affect me?’ Ms. Brewer is employed by Lowe’s Hardware and will explain why the President wants to increase tariffs and what is happening in China and other countries as a result. This will be a very interesting event.

Our January meeting is an evening meeting, Thursday January 17<sup>th</sup>. This year our event will be at the Lake Hickory Country Club. We hope to see many of you there. It is a great time with the APICS members and is usually a lively event.

What is a new year without new resolutions? If one of yours is to get more involved in our Chapter, please let me know. We have several open positions and what better give back! I am looking forward to hearing new ideas for our Chapter.

Ellen

### UPCOMING EVENT:

**THURSDAY- JANUARY 17, 2019**

**Joint meeting with APICS  
Lake Hickory Country Club**

**Registration 5:30**

**Dinner 6:00**

**Speaker 6:30**

**Laura Brewer – Lowe’s**

**What Are Tariffs and How Do  
They Affect Me?**

**MEMBERS - \$20**

**STUDENTS - \$5**

**GUESTS - \$25**

### IN THIS ISSUE

- |     |   |
|-----|---|
| 1   | President’s Message   |
| 2   | Calendar of Events/<br>Meeting Registration   |
| 3-4 | 2018-2019 Officers<br>IMA information<br>Certification Offerings                      |
| 5-7 | About the Speaker<br>Achievements and Goals<br>Volunteer Opportunity<br>Miscellaneous |

# Calendar of Events

---

## DATES FOR 2018-2019 MEETINGS:

- January 17<sup>th</sup> – Joint Meeting with APICS, dinner, Lake Hickory Country Club  
Laura Brewer of Lowes Home Improvement presents What Are Tariffs and How Do They Affect Me?
- February 15<sup>th</sup> -- Lake Hickory Country Club – Breakfast Meeting  
Leasehold Accounting -- David Parsons, Davidson, Holland, & Whitsell
- March 15<sup>th</sup> – Celebrating CMA's
- March 22<sup>nd</sup> – Asheville Spring Conference (full day event)
- April 19<sup>th</sup> -- Lake Hickory Country Club – Lunch Meeting
- May -- TBD

### **Mission Statement**

To provide personal and professional development opportunities in management accounting, financial management and information management through education and association with business professionals and certification in management accounting and financial management to members in the Catawba Valley area.

**RSVP to SHERONDA FOX at 828-328-2201, ext. 3223 or [sffox@hsm solutions.com](mailto:sffox@hsm solutions.com)**  
**by NOON on Tuesday before each meeting.**

**2018 – 2019  
Catawba Valley IMA  
Officers**

**President:** Ellen Knauf  
**President-Elect:**  
**Treasurer:**  
**Secretary:** Charlie Nartker  
**Prof. Education:** Ron Nicholson  
**Administration:** Charlie Nartker  
**Communication:** Kim Gales  
**Membership:**

**2018 – 2019  
Catawba Valley IMA  
Directors**

- **Publicity:** Kim Drum-Gales
- **Webmaster:** Lindsey Huffman
- **Asst. Webmaster:** Rhonda Young
- **CMA Program:** Ron Nicholson
- **Employment:** Beth Prewitt
- **Reservations:** Sheronda Fox
- **Newsletters:** Kelly Frank
- **Education/Webinar:** Rhonda Young
- **Student Activities:** Lacy Sanchez  
Chelsea Ledford
- **Scholarship:** Donna Frushour  
Kim Zahller
- **Membership:**
- **Carolina Council Delegate:** Ron Nicholson  
Ellen Knauf

*IMA has updated their website. Please make sure your information for your profile is correct. To access you data go to [www.imanet.org](http://www.imanet.org). Under the [IMA Membership](#) section click on **“LOG IN”**. Your log in is your IMA membership number and your password is your last name, then click on **“GO”**. In the upper right hand corner of the screen you should see **“Welcome, (your name) | “My Profile” | “Logout”**, click on **“My Profile”**. Now you can view and edit your information.*



The Association of Accountants and Financial Professionals in Business

[www.imanet.org](http://www.imanet.org)  
<https://Linkup.imanet.org/carolinasregionalcouncil/home>  
<http://catawbavalley.imanet.org>

Look/Go here:

- \*Employment opportunities
- \* RSVP for the monthly meetings
- \* Give us feedback

**IMA Catawba Valley Chapter  
P.O. Box 2132  
Hickory, NC 28603**

[http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Catawba-Valley-IMA-Chapter-4576209/about?trk=anet\\_ug\\_grppro](http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Catawba-Valley-IMA-Chapter-4576209/about?trk=anet_ug_grppro)  
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Catawba-Valley-IMA-Chapter/133913923378743>

**Are you taking advantage of your IMA benefits?**

**IMA members are eligible for special offers from leading brand partners, providing discounts on:**

- Insurance
- Office supplies
- Travel
- Executive recruitment
- Other business services

*Learn more about these by visiting--[www.imanet.org](http://www.imanet.org) or calling 1-800-638-4427*

# CMA® Certification

Our Chapter has a rich history of almost two decades of providing support to members in earning the CMA. Many are enjoying the benefits of being a CMA because of this intensive support. Large discounts are currently available on Gleim review materials. [Click here](#) to find contact information for CMA Review. Take advantage of our experience and tell us your needs!

## Achieve success in 2018 with the help of a Professor-Led CMA Live Review

Presented by the Catawba Valley IMA Chapter and **GLEIM®**

### ENJOY

- Premium Gleim CMA Review System
- Unlimited access to professors
- Extensive coverage of practice multiple-choice and essay questions
- Access Until You Pass®

On-demand personal coaching available.  
Spots are limited and do not include face-to-face class time.

**Enroll Now!**  
**Class size is limited.**

Professor Ron Nicholson, CMA, MBA  
ronnicholson@compascable.net  
828.438.1019

**Both parts \$1,495**  
**Per part \$795**

### GLEIM DISCOUNT

All members of the Catawba Valley Chapter IMA may now purchase all CMA materials and online CPE at a discount of 20-30%. This includes pre-discounted sets. Standard shipping and handling will apply.

# ABOUT THE SPEAKER:

Speaker: Laura Brewer

Presentation Title: What Are Tariffs and How Do They Affect Me?"

Presentation Summary: The presentation will explain how President Trump's tariff increases in China are affecting Lowe's International Supply Chain. I will also explain why President Trump wants to increase the tariffs and what is happening in China and other countries as a result. The economic result of these tariffs for Lowe's and the consumer and how it will impact us will be discussed.

Laura Brewer is an International Transportation Specialist at Lowe's Hardware. She is responsible for the management of Lowe's 3rd Party Logistics Partners, specifically in the North China region. Mrs. Brewer compiles and analyzes data to evaluate KPI points. Mrs. Brewer also collaborates with diverse groups of partners overseas to direct and provide leadership towards identifying and resolving the root cause of complex supply chain issues affecting Lowe's international business units. Issues include data integrity problems, tariff topics, purchase order issues, and other common anomalies. Mrs. Brewer started with Lowe's Hardware in May of 2016.

Before beginning her career at Lowe's Hardware, Mrs. Brewer worked at Merchant's Distributors Inc., located in Hickory, NC. During her 20 years there, she worked in almost every department, with 13 years in domestic transportation. There she performed systems analysis, implementation of the system as recommended by her analysis, the execution, and training for over 300 truck drivers.

Mrs. Brewer is an Appalachian Alum and holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Data Analytics as well as a Bachelor of Science Business Administration majoring in Computer Information Systems. She also minored in Supply Chain Management.

In Mrs. Brewer's spare time, she enjoys playing with her rescue dog, Vegas. She also plays in a rock-n-roll band with her husband and long-time friend, Wade. The band name is Home Brewed as they started playing at home and her last name is Brewer. She resides in Lenoir, NC.

## **American Red Cross Volunteer Opportunity**

The American Red Cross is always looking for volunteers to assist in various aspects of its mission to help the community when needs arise. Hurricanes Florence and Michael have been the most recent large scale examples where all skills and abilities of volunteers have been put to work over a wide area of area of destruction. But there are daily instances in which the needs are local, on a smaller scale but no less devastating to the clients. For example, over the November 4<sup>th</sup> weekend there were 11 incidents (mostly house fires) in our immediate area that the Red Cross responded to. These involved 11 different households and impacted the lives of 31 people. Two person responder teams were in the field at all hours providing physical and emotional support and setting wheels in motion for follow up and on-going support. The "back office" team worked in background to further the efforts.

Skills and backgrounds, such as ours, in accounting or inventory control, are always in demand to support the volunteers and professional staff in the field.

Currently there is a need for a volunteer in this region for an inventory specialist. The Red Cross has lots of supplies and equipment to keep track of for immediate deployment when disaster hits.

*What does the organization have, where is it located, what condition is in, how can the logistics be worked to get the "stuff" to where it's needed.*

Here is the job description provided:

### **Volunteer Position Summary**

**Responsibilities:** To maintain the client assistance inventory spreadsheet and coordinate the biannual inventory audits for the Blue Ridge Piedmont Chapter

**Skills/qualities needed:** Responsible & trustworthy, have a basic level of Excel fluency

**Time required:** Flexible schedule consisting of approx. 20-30 minutes weekly with some additional time necessary when completing the May/November inventory audits

**Location:** All work can be completed virtually with an internet connection and a computer

**Other:** American Red Cross performs background checks on all volunteers during the application process

### **Contact:**

Elizabeth Harcus

Disaster Services | American Red Cross Greensboro Chapter

1501 Yanceyville Street | Greensboro, NC 27405 | Main [\(336\) 333-2111](tel:3363332111)

[elizabeth.harcus@redcross.org](mailto:elizabeth.harcus@redcross.org)

Interested applicants should contact Elizabeth directly at her e-mail address.

Speaking personally, it was through a similar request to the IMA-Catawba Valley Chapter last Spring, that I got involved in the ARC. I have found the working interesting and challenging, the co-workers to be friendly and helpful in learning the systems and processes, and the sense of contribution to the community to be rewarding. The volunteer team is very professional and is one of most customer facing organizations that I have been associated with. I would recommend the experience to anyone who has time and skills to offer.

Thanks for considering this need.

Charlie Nartker

		Catawba Valley Goals for 2018-2019									
Calendar year is May 1-April 30		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Completed	Notes
1	Publish <b>six</b> publicity items: Includes Meeting announcements, Events and Conference	7/8	8/5	8/26	9/6	10/28	11/11			Completed	Kim
2	Publish <b>six</b> additional publicity items:	12/2									Kim
3	Provide an IMA/CMA promotional mailing to potential members										
4	Sponsor a student night/event- a dedicated chapter meeting	9/20								Completed	Sept & March
5	Sponsor an IMA booth at a local job fair										
6	Provide formal mentoring opportunities for board members										Ongoing for chapter members
7	Make a guest presentation in classroom: discuss IMA certification opportunities	11/28									Charlie & Lacy
8	Participate in a charitable event- REQUIRES multiple members	12/15								Completed	Christmas Family Nikki S & Ellen K
9	Develop a written annual plan that aligns with Global's strategic plan										Board
10	Prepare an annual budget	9/1								Completed	Treasurer
11	Hold regular scheduled board meetings	8/6									4 minimum
12	Hold a Chapter Management Session to train incoming officers										President
13	Publish 8 informational communications to board or chapter members	5/1	6/4	7/2	8/1	9/3	10/8	11/2	12/1	Completed	Newsletters-4 minimum
14	Publish 4 additional informational communications to board or chapter members										IMA newsletters
15	Provide support for a regional or council IMA activity										Carolinas Council April Conference donation
16	<b>Two</b> board members attend Council's Spring Leadership Training Session or Chapter Leadership Effectiveness workshop										ANY Board Member
17	Attend two volunteer leaders teleconference calls	9/27 ellen									Any Board Member
18	Submit best practices ideas to the Chapter & Council Best Practices Forum										
19	Maintain more than 5 active board members for the year										Board
20	Publish an annual chapter program book of events or chapter roster										Lindsey/Rhonda
21	Facebook and LinkedIn	X								COMPLETED	Links are on website
22	Sponsor Student Chapter										

23	Organize and Participate in a Plant Tour by a member of finance											
24	Have a chapter member serve on a Global Committee or Global Board of Directors											
25	Attend at least two council meetings (by telephone conference call)	6/23/2018	10/13/2018							COMPLETE	Ron & Ellen	
26	Member to publish article in <i>Strategic Finance, Mgmt Accounting Qtrly</i>	June										
<b>Items below are Extra Credit. These show our dedication to the CMA program and push us to winning a Banner each year</b>												
E1	Promote CMA certification in publication											2 success stories 25 points
E2	Director for CMA program position assigned, hold 2 activities for program											25 points-Ron
E3	Promote CMA through 2 special communications to a targeted group											50 points -NOT newsletter
E4	Promote CMA through a presentation to a university or targeted group	11/28/2018										1 delivery w/10 + to University = 50pts
E5	Establish structured mentoring relationship w/survey returned to Global for CMA Exam											1 relationship is 75 pts, 2 or more are 150 pts CMA review Ron
E6	Sponsor/actively co-sponsor CMA Review Course 3 classes w/review											3 classes is 100 pts, 6 classes is 200 pts
E7	Promote CMA to Corporate, Government or NonProfit of 5 or more											25 points

## JOB OPENINGS

If your company is looking to fill a position and you'd like to advertise it in the IMA newsletter, please forward the ad to Beth Prewitt at [dbprewitt@hsmsolutions.com](mailto:dbprewitt@hsmsolutions.com) by the last day of the month preceding the month in which you want the ad to be printed.