

Summer 2017



Edition 1

## RMA Chicago Chapter Newsletter

**Please note our website address and email address:**

[www.rmachicago.org](http://www.rmachicago.org)  
[rmachicago@rmachicago.org](mailto:rmachicago@rmachicago.org)

### Board Member Highlight



**Diana Talpa** is the RMA Chicago Chapter's Past President.

She has been involved with RMA for over 5 years.

We would like to congratulate Diana who recently accepted the new role of Business Banking Senior Portfolio Manager with BMO Harris N.A.

### 2017 Classes

*Following are the programs the RMA Chicago Chapter has scheduled. For more information on the class please visit our [website](#).*

*Each one of these classes is being held in Chicago:*

October 3

#### **360 Negotiation Skills for Bankers**

Learn how to negotiate with customers, uncover their true needs, cross-sell additional bank services, and build mutually beneficial relationships. Get practical solutions that are both tangible and relevant in today's banking

### President's Message

Welcome to our summer newsletter. I hope you take the time to read through it and give us your comments. It is designed for our chapter members.



If you have suggestions for future topics, or if you would like to write an article for the newsletter, please let us know. The goal of this newsletter is to provide you with information you can use within your area.

Lana Fortel, 2017 Chapter President

### Upcoming Local Event

#### **2017 White Sox/Minnesota Twins Networking Event - August 23, 2017**

The Chapter is going to see great baseball and enjoy networking among professionals, friends & colleagues. Registration is now over so go White Sox!

### Recent Events Highlighted

#### **ABC Mixer - February 15, 2017**

The RMA Chicago Chapter held an ABC Mixer on February 22, 2017. The event was held at Fremont. There were over 30 people in attendance. This forum created a great networking opportunity.

#### **Annual Women in Banking Networking Soiree - March 15, 2017**

The RMA Chicago Chapter held an evening of networking with special guest and presenter Molly Louthan, Regional Director of Advancing Women Executives ([www.inAWE.com](http://www.inAWE.com)). The event was held at Lloyd's Chicago. Molly spoke on the topic of "Self-Advocacy vs. Self-Promotion"

environment.

November 20

*Problem Loan Workouts* is designed to sharpen the ability of participants to develop and implement successful workout programs. Case studies provide an opportunity for participants to apply what they have learned throughout the course.

If there is a program that you would like to see offered please let us know. Contact Sandy at [rmachicago@rmachicago.org](mailto:rmachicago@rmachicago.org) .

## Our Current Board Members

Lana Fortel - President & Education Chair  
 Diana Talpa - Past President  
 Ross Succoso - Vice President/YP Chair  
**Ryan Paul - Treasurer/Secretary**

Mark Boksa - YP Committee  
 Bill Harrington - Programming Chair  
 Catherine Hickey - Women in Banking Chair  
 Steve Krase - Community Banks Chair  
 Ryan Michalik - CRC Chair  
 David Schwabe - Communications Chair  
 Nicolas Sickler - Board Member at Large  
 Kevin Trabaris - Membership Chair  
 Vanessa Weathersby - Women in Banking  
 Sandy Gruber - Administrator

For more information on our Board visit our [website](#) .

## RMA Annual Risk Management Conference

Don't forget to register for this year's Annual Risk Management Conference on November 5-7, 2017 in Baltimore, MD. For more information and to register, please visit the National RMA website at <http://landing.rmahq.org/rmaconf2017>.

## Linked-In Group

Please join our linked-in group to stay updated on our Chapter events and to receive other information related to the financial industry and what is going on

focusing on behavioral changes to create a paradigm shift in the promotion of advancement of corporate women. With over 15 people in attendance, the networking and enthusiasm amongst the attendees made it a very enjoyable evening.

## RMA Member Benefits

Are you a member of RMA? If YES - thank you very much for supporting the organization and local chapter! If you are not, please consider joining RMA as an Institution, Associate, or Professional member. RMA also offers membership opportunities for Academics and Students who are focusing in majors surrounding risk management and banking. Benefits of membership can include -

- Access to RMA Xchange
- Subscription to *The RMA Journal*
- Exclusive regulatory updates
- Free downloads of Industry Study Packs
- Access to local events including chapter hosted roundtables, panelist discussions, networking opportunities, and more!

For more information on membership, please visit:

[Member Benefits | Risk Management Association](#)

[www.rmahq.org](http://www.rmahq.org)

## RMA Announces the Next Class of RMA Scholars

By Frank Devlin for the April 2017 RMA Journal

THE RISK MANAGEMENT Association announced in February it had selected 58 new RMA Scholars. The highly qualified college students received RMA Foundation Scholarships ranging from \$2,000 to \$3,000 for students who demonstrate an intent to pursue a career in banking. Additionally, the Foundation renewed the awards of 23 students who won scholarships last year, bringing the number of active RMA Scholars this year to 81. A total of \$202,000 was awarded.

The RMA Foundation scholarships are intended to address banking's talent gap by supporting students on their journeys into the financial services industry. The Risk Management Association, whose mission is to advance the use of sound risk management principles in the industry, created the Foundation in 2014 and seeded it with \$5 million. It has since provided another \$1 million to the Foundation.

"Helping to pave the way for bright students with a demonstrated interest in working in financial services is important work for RMA," RMA CEO Bill Githens said. "It is very gratifying to be part of such an important effort, and heartening to know that, thanks to RMA's financial commitment, the Foundation will continue to fund RMA Scholars for many years to come."

Applications for the next round of RMA Foundation scholarships will be accepted in the fall. In addition to applying for scholarships, banking-focused students are encouraged to take advantage of free RMA student memberships.

with the Chicago Chapter.

Please go to:

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/130155>

and request to become a member.

## Get Involved!

The RMA Chicago Chapter presents opportunities for individuals to get involved. Chapters rely on the talents of volunteers to stage many of their programs, conduct membership development efforts, and promote the ideals of the Association. To find out more about how you can get involved in our chapter, contact Kevin Trabaris at [ktrabaris@culhanemeadows.com](mailto:ktrabaris@culhanemeadows.com).

To be eligible for scholarships, students must: be citizens or permanent residents of the United States or Canada; have completed a minimum of two years in college; have a minimum grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale; be enrolled full-time at an accredited institution in the United States or Canada; and be majoring in accounting, business, finance, economics, banking, or a related area of study with the intention to work in the banking industry.

RMA Scholars are selected based on academic achievement, participation in school or community activities, work experience, demonstrated interest in the banking industry, and their career goals. Financial need is not considered.

## Student Memberships

FREE student memberships with RMA provides the resources students need to differentiate themselves, and position themselves, as a strong candidate to potential employers in the financial services industry.

By joining RMA for free as a student member, students can fully enjoy all the benefits of membership. For more information [click here](#).

## RMA Credit Risk Certification - Why RMA CRC?

In today's rapidly changing financial services industry, you need practical, day-to-day knowledge that will help you excel in your profession. You need the latest skills-skills that are current and complete. And you need the demonstrated ability to serve a diverse base of clients. Plus, you need all of your knowledge, skills, and abilities to be validated by a respected organization like RMA.

As a credentialed risk professional through RMA, you demonstrate a commitment to the credit risk industry and a level of industry knowledge that has been recognized by an objective, outside organization.

**The application deadline for the Fall 2017 testing window (Oct 9 - November 11, 2017) is August 31, 2017, so be sure to apply today.**

Learn more about the exam. Apply for the fall exam period. Prove to your employer that you have the skills necessary to successfully manage the challenges of today's financial environment.

For more information, visit <http://www.rmahq.org/crc>.

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To join our mailing list please contact Sandy at [rmachicago@rmachicago.org](mailto:rmachicago@rmachicago.org).