

# The Pony Express

FALL 2009

www.imawest.imanet.org

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

**Dear Wild West Council members:**

The **CMA Rally** in August at **Chapman University Irvine Campus** was a great success, Close to thirty people were in attendance. **Walter Corrigan, CFM, CMA** the past president of the Inland Empire Chapter and instructor, gave an in depth overview of the **CMA program** and the **IMA CMA Learning System**. Please note that Chapman University is the only school in Southern California that offers a live CMA review courses that uses the IMA CMA Learning System. The second speaker of the day was **Ken Tudhope, CPA, CMA**, and the IMA Orange County Chapter President. Ken's topic "CMA the Society of Professionals" focused on the importance of networking when a candidate earns the CMA credential. My thanks, to **Vince Glaeser, Program Director**, Chapman University for providing the venue for the Wild West Council meeting and the CMA Rally.

The next Wild West Council meeting will be a joint meeting with the **Rocky Mountain Council** in **Phoenix/Tempe Arizona, October 23-24**. The **AZ Valley of Sun** chapter has been working hard to put together a fun and interested program. On **Friday, October 23, 2-4pm**, a **CMA Rally** is planned at **Grand Canyon University** in **Phoenix**. The event is free and should qualify for 2 hours CPE. The topics will cover the value of the CMA, a CFO will be speak on the value of the CMA on the job, a panel of 3 recruiters will speak on the income potential of the CMA and how it opens up job prospects, and a CMA instructors will talk about, how to study for the CMA exam.

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## Wild West and Rocky Mountain Council

CMA Rally, Joint Meeting & Steamboat Cruise

October 23 & 24 Phoenix / Tempe

### CMA Rally

**Friday**, October 23, 2-4pm, 2 hours CPE, Event is Free

At **Grand Canyon University**, 3300 W. Camelback Rd, Phoenix, AZ 85017

### Dinner

**Friday**, October 23, Restaurant "TBD", at **6pm meet at lobby "Hyatt Place Tempe/Phoenix Airport Hotel"**, 1413 W. Rio Salado Parkway, Tempe AZ 85821, Hotel Tel 480-804-8544 and then we will all **car pool to restaurant?**

### WWC & RMC Meetings

**Saturday**, October 24, 1:00 – 3:30pm

At "**Hyatt Place Tempe/Phoenix Airport Hotel**", 1413 W. Rio Salado Parkway, Tempe AZ 85821, Hotel Tel 480-804-8544.

### Steamboat Astronomy Dinner Cruise

**Saturday**, October 24, 4:00pm – **Following** WWC & RMC Meetings

4:00pm – Shuttle bus departs Hyatt Hotel  
5-5:30pm – Arrival at Dolly Steamboat tours in Apache Junction AZ  
6:00pm - Steam Boat dinner and tours begins  
8:45pm – Shuttle departs event  
9:45-10:00pm – Arrival at Hyatt Hotel Tem

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**Council website:**

**[www.imawest.imanet.org](http://www.imawest.imanet.org)**

President's Message (cont'd)

On **Saturday, October 24, 1-3:30pm**, the Wild West and Rocky Mountain Council will have their meetings at the **Hyatt Place Tempe/Phoenix Airport in Tempe, AZ**. A special room rate of \$89 per night will be offered to IMA members on a first come basis. After the WWC and RMC meeting a **Astronomy Dinner Cruise on the Dolly Steamboat** is planned. Transportation from the Hyatt hotel to the event location will be provided, and will return guests to the hotel after the event. This should be a lot of fun and a great networking opportunity.

The Council meeting **for San Diego California, January 22-23**, is being organized by the **San Diego** and the **San Diego North County Chapters**. A visit by **Jeffrey C. Thomson President and CEO of the IMA** is being planned which should provide a great opportunity to meet Jeff in person. Also, the SD chapters are planning 4-6 hours of CPE.

A **Leadership Training Session (LTS)** will be the primary focus of the April 23-24 WWC meeting in **Las Vegas, Nevada**. **Lyle Braithwaite, President Elect of the WWC** will be developing the program. The **Las Vegas chapter** has indicated an interested in co-sponsoring a CPE program with a Wild West Council.

A WWC group in **LinkedIn** is in the works and should be going live shortly. An **Ad Hoc LinkedIn committee** was formed at the last WWC meeting to address any questions before **LinkedIn** is launched.

See you in Tempe/Phoenix AZ.

Frank Garcia

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**WILD WEST COUNCIL OFFICERS  
2008-2009**

**President**

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**Regional Vice-President**

John Campbell  
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702.2799.0512

**Tentative 2009-2010 Schedule:**

**Oct. 23-34, 2009** CPE, CMA Event & Joint Council meeting,  
Phoenix, AZ

**Jan. 22-23, 2010** CPE, CMA Event & Council meeting, San  
Diego, CA

**Apr. 23-24, 2010** CPE, LTS & Council meeting, Las Vegas, NV



**IMA Wild West**

**Council Meeting**

**JOINT IMA WILD WEST AND ROCKY MOUNTAIN COUNCIL MEETING**

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 24, 2009 1:00 to 3:30PM**

**Hyatt Place Tempe / Phoenix Airport  
1413 W. Rio Salado Parkway  
Tempe, AZ 85281  
Hotel (480) 804-9544**

**Join us for a joint meeting of the Wild West and Rocky Mountain Councils followed by an Astronomy Dinner Cruise on the Dolly Steamboat arrangements made by the AZ Valley of the Sun Chapter of the IMA**

**Astronomy Dinner Cruise on the Dolly Steamboat - Admire the breathtaking scenery as you enjoy a presentation on the solar system complete with on-board telescopes!**

**Cruise Schedule:**

**4:00pm - Shuttle bus departs Hyatt Hotel (after WWC & RMC meetings)**

**5:30pm - Arrival at Dolly Steamboat tours in Apache Junction Arizona**

**6:00pm - Steam Boat dinner and tour begins**

**8:45pm - Shuttle departs event.**

**9:45-10:00pm - Arrival at Hyatt Hotel in Tempe**

**Cost: \$92.00 per person (Includes transportation, dinner, and cruise)**

**Reservations: email or call Kathleen Moren**

**kathleen.moren@gmail.com or 623-363-7797**

**Transportation from the Hyatt hotel to the event location will be provided, and will return guests to the hotel after the event.**

**Recommended hotel is:**

**Hyatt Place Tempe/Phoenix Airport  
1413 W. Rio Salado Parkway  
Tempe, AZ 85281  
Hotel (480) 804-9544**

**The Hyatt is conveniently located minutes from Sky Harbor Airport, Tempe Town Lake and downtown Tempe. A complimentary shuttle is provided to and from Sky Harbor airport, and to the local Tempe area. The Hyatt provides a free continental breakfast. Hotel Website:**

**<http://phoenixairport.place.hyatt.com/hyatt/hotels/place/index.jsp>**

**Please call the hotel for airport service when you are ready to depart airport: 480-8049544**

**Please call Kathleen Moren for any questions or additional information –  
Tel# 623-363-7797 or e-mail [kathleen.moren@gmail.com](mailto:kathleen.moren@gmail.com)**

## **IMA AZ Valley of Sun & Wild West Council Presents**

Certified Management Accountant (CMA) Rally

Earn 2 hours of CPE

Have you been thinking about taking the CMA exam? Wondering if it's worth the time and investment? How hard is it to pass?

Come join us to discuss:

- About the CMA – why it's worth it
- Hiring Manager and Recruiter viewpoints
- Tips for preparing for the exams
- Q&A with speakers

**FREE**

Friday, October 23, 2009  
2:00-4:00pm

Grand Canyon University

3300 W. Camelback Road

Phoenix, Arizona 85017

This is a great opportunity to learn more about the CMA from a diverse panel of speakers comprised of IMA members in industry, respected Accounting & Finance Recruiters, and candidates who recently passed the exam.

Please check the websites of the AZ Valley of the Sun:  
[www.imavalleyofthesun.org](http://www.imavalleyofthesun.org) and the Wild West Council  
<http://imawest.imanet.org> for additional details.

**IMA WILD WEST COUNCIL  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
Chapman UNIVERSITY  
Irvine, California  
August 22, 2009**

Meeting called to order by WWC President Frank Garcia at 1:27 p.m.

**Members in attendance:**

Arizona Valley of Sun: Kathleen Moren, Pam Zanzucchi, and Amber Arnhold  
Bakersfield Chapter: Jamie Russell  
LA Metro Chapter: Janet Radford, Rex Soutar, and Mitch Lenoil  
Las Vegas Chapter: John Campbell, and Billie Drake  
Salt Lake City Chapter: Lyle Braithwaite  
San Diego Chapter: Pem Smith  
Gabriel Valley Chapter: Frank Garcia, Lee Willard, and Rob Ferrell  
South Bay Chapter: Bill Pawlick, Carolyn Reis, and Robert Gove

**Presidents Remarks:**

WWC President Frank Garcia began the meeting by discussing goals for the year including: goals to continue past presidents work to provide professional education, including promoting CMA Certificate, increase chapter participation, help out Pem (Regional Director), and Lyle (incoming Pres). Frank also reported on improved chapter communications and using social media including LinkedUp and LinkedIn, and mentioned that Pam Zanzucchi has setup the WWC LinkedIn page and will discuss the launch today. Jamie and Frank have discussed the process for improving the email database and will talk about today. Lee is working on the council wide speaker list, and will discuss today.

**Regional Vice President's Report:**

Pem Smith reported he attended the IMA Board meeting in June (as an observer) and John Campbell will report on this today. Pem also reported that the Annual Conference was a success and noted the Congratulations to chapters receiving awards at the annual conference. Including, AZValley of the Sun awards (Bronze-Newsletter, Silver - Roster, and the S. Alden Pendelton Award for Community Service. As well as banners received by AZ Valley- 17<sup>th</sup> (Stevenson), Las Vegas- 15<sup>th</sup> (Stevenson), Tucson 15<sup>th</sup> (Warner), and South Bay 8<sup>th</sup> place (Warner) – good year!

John Campbell reported – At the IMA board meeting, the Strategic plan – was presented – and is headed in a nice direction and was approved.

The Governance committee – Chaired by Fred Schea – there was a proposal to diversify the board and 4 options were presented, the options were to 1. Reduce regional from 24 to 12. 2. For the council to submit nominations to national for regional council and let national decide. 3. To go to 12 rotating council (out of 24 serving). 4. To do nothing. The decision was to “put it to rest for now”.

There was a revision to the board policy on ethics compliance – all committee members will submit to the ethics statement.

Pem continued reporting:

Volunteer Leadership – Pem Smith reported - Bud Kulesza presented the Global Service advisory committee. Approved a Standard Advisory Committee– for Leadership academy to train volunteers for Global service. To “Train to train others”. Pem adds – they want a structure for volunteers to participate. Bud K. is heading up this committee.

Carl Smith gave a presentation on Eternal funding committee.

Rebranding –Is being discussed.

Jeff Thomson, CEO –IMA noted overall positive things for IMA with membership steady (Feb, Mar and April – net increase in members – three months in a row). Steve Weiss – is now the point of contact for membership activities. Promotions were mentioned including, Corporate development (membership discounts) Growth in CMA applications – 21% growth, CMA Rallies are paying off. CMA Completion rate – 15.6%. Member satisfaction surveys – 77% position feedback even though did not renew membership. Reaching out to non-renewing members more. Marketing and Promotion Pem also noted IMA in the media, and the USA Today – CMA salary survey. We have a Chief Marketing Officer. Currently looking at branding surveys and getting the message out in a positive way. The IMA - Financially – had a net profit from operations.

Jeff Thomson’s opening statement “Remember the member”. Pem noted, this is a powerful message to remember and carry back to our chapters.

Growth In Webinars – They are free and now NASBA certified.

Social Networking – IMA Social networking site -Linkup (Pem handed out cards).

External member relations: Andre Alexander – programs to support councils and chapters and ways to be more effective.

### **National or International Committee Reports:**

Volunteer leadership committee – Pem reported Bud Kulesza approved standing advisory committee for IMA leadership academy, will train volunteers for global service. Train to train others. Formalized structure of trainers. Bud is heading this up.

Ethics Standing Committee - Billie Drake and Amber Arnhold – Billie Drake reported that they are holding telephone meetings every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs (Jim Walker is new chair) they will be meeting in person in September. Billie handed out Statement of Ethical Professional Practice cards to everyone at the WWC meeting. Not much to share with us at this point.

Stuart Cameron McLeod Society – Billie Drake –Reported that they are meeting the same time as the board in Hyannis Resort and Conference Center– Tues and Wed NE regional council has seminars, Thurs (SCMS – Governors meeting that afternoon, dinner, and hospitality suite) Friday – committee meetings

Friday night – Bud Kulesza – dinner and boat. CPE daily and another Induction ceremony (9 people inducted in Denver (6 from West Coast).

Denver – was successful – Ashley Gibson – scholarship student recipient spoke at Dinner on Monday night. Encouraged members to attend the Board Meeting and conference in Hyannis.

Member External Relations Committee: no report

Planning and Development Committee: no report

Performance Oversight Committee - no report

Board of Regents Standing Advisory Committee - no report

FAR/MAC Standing Committee - no report

Financial Reporting Standing Advisory Committee - no report

Young Professional Standing Committee - no report

Recognition and Compensation Advisory Committee - no report

### **Regional Directors and Chapters:**

Don Hartman -Las Vegas -- not present. (John Campbell reported that Chapter President is Cecilia Mutee again. They did networking over the summer. She is planning another corporate night in April.

Janet Radford -Bakersfield and LA Metro Chapters – reported. (home chapter – board meeting 2 wks ago – most meetings will be joint with other acct associations – President is serving 2<sup>nd</sup> yr. Bakersfield – has a new President and is doing very well, very enthusiastic. .

Mitch Lenoil – reported – planning is better than last year. Budget is approved, and planning holiday dinner. Grace inducted in SCMS and serving on Volunteer Leadership Committee.

Mitch Lenoil - Santa Barbara --has had three planning meetings this summer. Good planning for upcoming meetings. President – Tom's 2<sup>nd</sup> year, and is doing a good job. Has a CMA class going and CMA rally in March.

Billie Drake- Tucson & AZ Valley of the Sun. Billie reported that AZVOTS has enough members present to share updates today. Tucson: May meeting was Past Presidents night, she attended, it was well attended. Enthusiasm current President was a president in the 80s, Gayle Mcguire is active a very dynamic energy. Organized and planned for the year. October meeting the CFO of Zion's bank will present again (he presented last year as well) great success.

AZVOTS – Kathleen Moren reported that the chapter has a great strong team, and a full board and the board is growing all the time. The planning meeting was well attended, with great energetic ideas being shared. The focus is marketing and getting our name out and inviting new people in. AZVOTS has speakers through 2010. Education is amazing ... getting quality speakers, attendance is up. Currently working with Grand Canyon Univ. to start a CMA review course. Started a student group 2 years ago – growing and more participation.

Pamela Zanzucchi reported AZVOTS has done well with afternoon and evening sessions. The chapter has been very active in the community. Pam helped in the planning and implementation of the Meet & Greets held this last year. The 1st one had over 200 attend, the Chapter provided CMA information, and DeVry was present and they have reported they had several new enrolled students from attending the Meet & Greet. Additionally, put together and participated in the August Panel session of– recruiters, jobing.com representative, a hiring manager perspective – CMA and importance, and social media presentations. It was an interactive session reaching out to people other than members.

Lyle Braithwaite - Salt Lake City – reported that the Salt Lake Chapter is doing well. They have a board now and have had a couple board meetings and excited about the year. New chapter President doing a good job. Membership has grown.

Rob Ferrell - San Gabriel Valley, Inland Empire and Orange County –  
San Gabriel Valley – Has had two breakfast meetings – these work better for the chapter. Charles Hartman – President – July meeting was good. August meeting speaker was attorney talking about

Bankruptcy. Board meeting was hour before the breakfast meeting – good brain storming – ideas for the upcoming months. Rex (added) that they discussed a focus on jobs. Other items: finances – dues relief would be great for them. Used to have successful computer seminars, not as successful as before. (Access, Excel, and QuickBooks).

Inland Empire - met with the President (Rick) is excited to be a voting member on the council as president. Chapter is dark for August. July meeting was very good, Dr. Savage spoke about relations in the office – generation differences and communicating with all generations.

Orange County, July-August – not reflected on website. Ken spoke this morning at the CMA rally about networking, the value of the IMA, and being involved in the chapter.

John Campbell - South Bay –They have a new president, she is getting a lot of counsel and the year is planned. Everything looks good. The board is strong, one of the key positions needed to fill was meetings coordinator – good person on board now. President, Stephanie Park is a former student awardee.

Pem Smith - San Diego and San Diego North County – (SD) a good year. Chapter president – is repeating, active board, and succession planning. August meeting – San Diego Zoo – Controller spoke. Good ideas. (SDNCTY) – 2<sup>nd</sup> year as chapter pres. Small but active chapter and board. Overall, progressing well. Pem requested that chapter presidents make sure he is on their email distribution lists, and that the Directors meet after this meeting.

Frank reported that the CMA Rally today went well, and was successful. Walter Corrigan, Past President of Inland Empire chapter spoke.

### **Council Officer's Reports:**

Secretary's Report - Approval of Minutes from April 25, 2009. Rob Ferrell– pointed out 1 error a name mis-spelled, Mike Paul should be "Paull". Motion was made, and the WWC Minutes were approved, and the Motion passed.

Pamela Zanzucchi – New secretary. First meeting, no report at this time.

Treasurer's Report – Lee Willard – Reported on the 2009-2010 budget. End of year balance of \$25,610, with about 80% in a \$20K CD. Starting balance not fully reconciled so tentative. Little activity except for the chapter assessments. Brought our attention to the last page, chapter dues. Lee asked for any questions on the budget.

Questions – Carolyn Reis asked about proceeds of the raffle going to only the student funds, not part of general fund? Why only \$171 for the year in the student fund? The raffle tickets are earmarked for the student funds. Mitch L. What is the \$58.00 misc.? This should be student fund money? Please make these adjustments.

Pem – Actual v budgets for chapter assessments? Several commented on the chapter dues – recent collections-so not doing too bad. Lee mentioned the term on the CD "can be broken any time". It was reviewed and rolled over for \$20K, can take money out any time. Current year: 09-10 – Very little activity except for collections of past chapter assessments. Rex mentioned for 2008-09 - \$100 officer gifts to be moved to Pres. Discretionary fund –Agreed, and Lee is moving it. Carolyn Reis mentioned the contribution to special funds, and anonymous donation to the Norberg fund – should be in the trophy fund. Council shirts – not conference shirts – unbudgeted. Will bring it back to the next meeting – for further review.

President-elect- Lyle Braithwaite - The LTS coming up in April 2010 – It will be like last year, and they will be doing a webinar and a live speaker as well. Council meetings for 2010-2011 -Meeting schedules next year are tentative August 21 (San Diego), October – need to contact Rocky Mtn

Council (probably around October 23<sup>rd</sup>), January 20<sup>th</sup> in SLC, and April 23<sup>rd</sup> in Las Vegas. SCMS – Meeting in 2010 – Ideally will be the same time as the board meeting.

Vice President Administration - Rex Soutar – reported that one of his duties is as keeper of the trophies and in charge of maintaining and updating winners and engraving for presenting. The Roger's trophy ran out of space to add names, so they took off a plate and replaced it with smaller lettering and added space on the left column for next ten years. Norberg trophy – Only have room for 1 or 2 more years. Chapman Award – Still have room for about 10 more years. Award to President of the winning chapter of each of these 3 awards. This year Chapman Award was won by San Diego for the 6<sup>th</sup> straight year. Norberg, and Roger's award both won by South Bay. (Herman Berman – has done the awards for several years).

Roster ---Rex reported that he will talk with Lee regarding current roster for council, and talk with National about list of members, and the current CD's and the list. WWC members are listed under their chapters. All members in good standing (current on dues) in chapters. Roster includes all members.

Vice President Education - Bill Pawlak & Dennis Littleford  
Will be in touch with Frank regarding responsibilities.

Vice President Meetings- Tom Gulick - not present.  
Frank added -- Working on Phoenix meeting and San Diego meeting.

Vice President Chapter Relations - Jamie Russell - If anyone needs to receive the Pony Express, please let her know. Send information to her before September 30<sup>th</sup> for October. She will be in Spain last two weeks in September. She will be happy to blast out Chapter information if we want her to ... send her the information.

Webmaster- Frank Garcia - Check the website for spelling, updates, Pony Express is uploaded to the website. Pony Express archives. The website is sponsored by headquarters.

### **Old Business:**

Strategic Planning Committee (Initiatives) - Mitch Lenoil, Lyle Braithwaite & Frank Garcia: Strategic Plan Initiatives – Status is good.

LinkedIn & LinkedUp- Pam Zanzucchi reported – To Improve communications among chapters and members, we are looking at the social media. LinkedUp-, which is through the IMA on the National Website, is member driven and a member actually requested the WWC group in LinkUp. It is open to all members and there is not a manager.

LinkedIn - Social Media – Pam reported that Frank Garcia asked her to start the WWC group on LinkedIn, and it has been started. We now want to determine who to invite, all IMA members, or all interested in the IMA? Other? Pam asked for ideas of the council. After discussion, it was decided to have an Ad hoc committee for Social Media: LinkedIn: Pam Zanzucchi, Kathleen Moran , Amber Arnhold, Pem Smith, Frank Garcia and Lyle Braithwaite.

CMA Awareness-Pem Smith & Frank Garcia reported the CMA rally this morning was good. Good turnout, and enthusiastic in Orange County.

The Council Wide Speaker List-Lee Willard is working on this. Ideas: Within the LA area – share the speakers. Set it up on the website. Key is for LA people to feed the speakers into the list. Topics will be helpful for all chapters.

### **New Business:**

Old box of papers of "folded" Ventura chapter. Several discussed what to do with the papers that include (old bank statements, various misc. chapter papers, and old checks). Possibly look at list of members and attempt to contact them. Frank to follow-up and send appropriate items to National.

Council E-mail Database - Jaime Russell & Frank Garcia

Loss in continuity with each new person. Newsletters some use Yahoo. Council communicate, positive and professional. Solution, hiring outside service to do it, for about \$30/mo, like Las Vegas, or continue to use Yahoo. Transfer to IMA Council (give three or four people access to maintain and help with continuity). Database is on the budget and an amount is allocated (needs to be approved). Not spending money now, include the new email address on the website, in the Pony Express. Possibly opening up a new Yahoo account, specific to WWC. Pem added: Important to Monitor – for changes regularly, and important to communicate with all members.

WWC – meeting in Phoenix-Tempe – October 23-24th – Including the Rocky Mountain Council as well. Kathleen Moren added that the CMA Rally will be Friday afternoon – focus on Student chapter at Grand Canyon Univ. Friday afternoon. Accounting students. Dinner – Friday night Meeting – Is 2:00-4:00 p.m. (Time is being discussed), possibly start at noon. Social event is Saturday - Planning afternoon cruise and evening dinner – shuttle bus – lake called the "Mini Grand Canyon".

Pem Smith discussed the January meeting in San Diego –Tentatively set agenda: Jeff Thomson arrives Thursday (2<sup>1st</sup>) - dinner (and possibly corporate calls. Friday – Corporate calls – larger businesses. Friday night – Pem requests council host reception dinner. To be held at: (venue to be determined. Saturday – CMA rally and council meeting in the afternoon.

Budget 2009-2010 – Frank mentioned main items:Starting the year with a surplus. The Strategic Planning/budget committee (Rex S., Lee W., Lyle B., and Frank G.) discussed the chapter assessments of .10/member next year. With a provision that they pay the current new balance, the old balance will be forgiven. Will put this to a vote.

Special contributions of funds were also discussed.

Frank mentioned money out for San Diego meeting and Phoenix meeting, and Las Vegas meeting. Will revisit the numbers. Frank went over the budget, items discussed were the expenditures for WWC meetings, and for CMA Rallies – total for the year at \$500.00. Several discussed how many rallies and what the expenses are, discussed food – about \$50 -\$100/each rally.

Rex Soutar moves to approve the budget, and Billie Drake seconded the Motion. The budget is now open to discussion. Frank asks are there any problems with the budget?

Robert Gove and Carolyn Reis and several discuss the Student Scholarship Fund and how the basic student fund is to the Student Assistance Fund (with the raffle money as the only income) earmarked to assist students in any way they need assistance. Set up for students from our council area for books, travel to conference, whatever need. The McCloud should come out of the general fund not out of the student assistance fund. Rex – answer is move it to the general fund. Mitch mentions if it comes to the general funds, it needs to be approved by the board. Then it is a line item in the overall budget. A total of 1/3<sup>th</sup> of the Student Assistance fund is available to be disbursed per year. If any requests are made it will be considered by the Board three person committee, (no VP of Students) so it will flow through the WWC President, Past President, and President Elect to discuss approval of the funds and amount to be disbursed Chapter presidents need to be aware of this fund. Student assistance fund is to cover request for assistance of any nature for students or on behalf of students. Not under the bylaws under the council itself.

Billie Drake– made a motion to amend approval of the budget, and moves to transfer the funds from the general fund to cover the student scholarship awarded last year that was awarded to McCloud. Robert Gove seconded the motion. Motion is approved. Rex reinstates the motion to approve the budget, Billie seconds the Motion to approve the budget as amended. Carolyn discusses: This needs to be moved from the student fund to the general fund.

Rex Soutar– states wanting to make a clarification of the “VP fund” it is a misnomer – it is actually a “VP Award of Excellence trophy for area K”, to alternate between WWC and Rocky Mtn (Al Rosen Memorial trophy). It has not been awarded for about 7 years. We should change the name and award the trophy. The location of the trophy is unknown. Rex Soutar will look into this matter.

Pem Smith would like to increase the San Diego meeting expenditure to \$1,000 for a reception. To cover WWC hosted reception for Jeff Thomson and leadership of the San Diego chapters.

Several discussed adding a line item to the budget for Jeff Thomson reception. Agree to amend to include \$500.00 additional. Rex and Billie both agreed.

Frank discussed taking out the database line item.

Lee – suggest change raffle tickets to \$300.00

Frank states the Motion on the floor – no more discussion. All in favor of the budget as amended and the Budget is approved.

#### **Old Business:**

WWC Shirt Fundraiser - sell for \$20/each. Sell half is about \$200.00  
Annual Conference in Baltimore - June 5-9<sup>th</sup> 2010. Pem handed out reminders.

Strategic planning committee – Ad hoc committee conference call. Mitch and Lyle and Frank – Overall WWC is going in the right direction.

Pem Smith – requests ad hoc strategic planning committed produce documentation for strategic plan for 2009-2010.

Closing Remarks and Adjournment. Frank thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

Regional VP Letter:

The IMA Board will meet on September 26<sup>th</sup> in Hyannis, Massachusetts. I will be there to represent the Wild West Council and will report on this in the next Pony Express. In this letter, I want to provide some key accomplishments over the past year by IMA CEO Jeff Thompson and his leadership team that were reported at the June Board meeting in Denver.

2009 was a good year for IMA:

- Jeff Thompson finished his first year as CEO of IMA just before the conference. Under Jeff's leadership, the management team of IMA seems fully engaged with an impressive slate of tasks underway for the growth and sustainment of IMA.
- Financial results for FY 2009 were strong, despite the problems in the economy thanks to disciplined cost management and focus on execution.
- For the first time in a long time the IMA experienced membership growth three months in a row during the fourth quarter. Membership was down slightly for the full year, but the trends seem to be improving. All membership acquisition and sustainment activities have been consolidated under a single individual, Steve Weiss. Steve has created a number of membership growth initiatives, with the metrics to see what works and what doesn't.
- A number of new products and services were introduced during 2009, among them, free webinars on topics highly relevant to management accountants like risk management, IFRS and leadership. An archive of sessions is available through the IMA web site. These webinars are NASBA approved for CPE.
- Initiation of an IMA-sponsored professional networking site LinkUpIMA, also available through the IMA website. The site provides a place where professionals can connect and participate in interest group discussions on topics from CMA preparation to chapter and council activities. Check it out!

Also at the Board meeting, it was decided to create an IMA "Leadership Academy" to promote opportunities for formal training of chapter, council and national level volunteers and to provide value-added leadership education for our members. **Bud Kulesza** headed the Global Service Pool Advisory Committee to study the issue and create the framework for the Academy. **Graciela Makow**, President of LA Metro Chapter was a committee member. The Committee gave an excellent report and their recommendations were accepted by the Board. Watch for more information later this year.

If you have any questions or comments about chapter, council or national operations, feel free to contact me at [pem\\_smith@roadrunner.com](mailto:pem_smith@roadrunner.com) or call 858-232-1462.

Sincerely,

Pem Smith  
Regional Vice President, Wild West Council.



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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