

The Pony Express

Spring 2008

www.imawest.imanet.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings fellow IMA members within the Wild West Council.

My Dear Friends

Here is the last message you shall read for my year as president. It is with great pleasure that I marvel at the most excellent team-work provided by the irrepressible members of the Wild West Council. Thank you all for stepping forward to keep the momentum of our council activities.

We had a good meeting in October in Riverside, California. John Pollara came to share about the IMA activities at the National and Worldwide levels. Many came out to join us in our activities there. It is my honor to name them: Barbara Bowlby and Cathy McQueen from the Inland Empire Chapter; Catherine Gallagher from the Tucson Chapter, who in December achieved our certification in Financial Management; and the faithful team of Mitch Lenoil, Heather Khan, Janet Radford, Frank Garcia, Frank Scarcelli, Carolyn Reis, Robert Gove, Jamie Russell, Regional VP John D. Campbell, Billie L. Drake, Lee Willard, who also achieved the CFM; and Rex and Mittie Soutar, who provided us their suite for our hospitality lounge. We had a great time to gather in excellent opportunities to build our sociability, in dining and touring the old downtown of Riverside.

Our weekend in Bakersfield was just as rewarding, if not more so. The tour of the International Flight Training Academy, the afternoon seminar, and the Basque Feast for dinner on Friday. Saturday, we had dinner at Buck Owen's Crystal Palace, an afternoon plant tour at the Bakersfield Museum of Art, and our morning council meeting. The meeting had most of the faithful team as mentioned above, with Pem Smith and Patrick Wilson. A special thank you to Jamie, Pem, Mitch, the members and folks in Bakersfield for

The Council Mini-Conference will take place on Friday, the 25th. Saturday, April 26th, we'll start the day with Mitch Lenoil hosting the first Leadership Training Session of 2008 featuring Paul Sharman.

I hope all of you will come out to this IMA Big Event.

Wild West Best Regards,

Rob Ferrell, your Council President

Wild West Council Meeting

April 24 - 26, 2008

In Las Vegas, Nevada

Education Sessions

Thursday, April 24 – Friday, April 25, 2008 – 16 hours of CPE will be offered. Nevada Power Corporate Offices at 6226 West Sahara Avenue

April 24th:

8:00 Check-in

8:30 Session - Financial Fraud - Las Vegas Metropolitan Police

10:00 Session - Business Valuation

1:00 Session - Risk Management, Moderator John Laub, panel discussion

April 25th:

8:00 Check-in

8:30 Session - Business Planning, Michael McLean

10:00 Session - Controlling Audit Cost, Michael McLean

1:00 Session - Balanced Scorecard Simulation, Kim Charron, UNLV

Thursday, April 24, 2008 – First Annual Corporate Night hosted by the Las Vegas Chapter – *Guest Speaker Paul Sharman, President & CEO of IMA*

6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Palace Station Hotel & Casino
2411 West Sahara Avenue
Las Vegas, NV 89102

Reservations are required for this event. Contact Cecilia Mutee at (702) 990-2172 or Cecilia.mutee@anclv.com with questions and to make your reservations today.

Individual attendees - \$40 Corporate table for 10 - \$400

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Wild West Council Meeting

April 24 - 26, 2008

In Las Vegas, Nevada

Friday, April 25, 2008 – Dinner

Saturday, April 26, 2008 – Leadership Education Session – 9:00 am

Location to be announced.

Saturday, April 26, 2008 – Wild West Council Spring Meeting

Location and times to be announced.

Saturday, April 26, 2008 – Dinner

Hotel Arrangements

The Wild West Council will not be reserving a block of rooms for this event. Please contact John Campbell at Jcampbell96@cox.net to obtain suggestions for room accommodations. More details regarding the meetings is forthcoming.

This Year's Schedule:

Leadership Sessions

Mitch Lenoil is busy planning the dates and locations for the 2008 Leadership Training Sessions. Stay tuned!

The first session will be in Las Vegas, Nevada on Saturday, April 26 with special guest Paul Sharman, President & CEO of IMA.

Save the Date for a Session in Your Area

May 3 – Arizona May 10 – LA Area

May 17 – San Diego

What is a Leadership Session? Sessions are intended to provide information to chapter board members regarding

their roles and responsibilities, IMA reporting requirements, and for those chapters that participate in the chapter competition – information of the competition requirements.

GET YOUR WILD WEST COUNCIL SHIRT AT OUR NEXT MEETING

The Council is selling shirts with the IMA logo for \$35.00 as a means of raising funds for the council treasury. The funds will be used to support council operations and will help to keep chapter assessments at the current rate. We appreciate your support AND wearing your shirt will be one way you can help publicize IMA.

WILD WEST COUNCIL OFFICERS 2007-2008

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Open

VP-Students

Open

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REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The holidays are over and Spring is coming. This year the **IMA's 89th Annual Conference & Exposition** is in Tampa, Florida. Go to www.imaconference.org and take a look at the improved, meatier program. This program promises to be something you can take back to work. The conference runs from June 14-18.

February has the IMA National Board meeting in Austin, Texas, on Saturday the 23rd. Anyone who wants to attend is welcomed. It will be at the Omni Hotel in the downtown area.

In April the Wild West Council is putting on two days of educational seminars, Thursday, April 24th & Friday, April 25th. The mornings have two 2-hour classes, then each day ends with a four-hour class. Details are still in the works at the time of this letter with more information coming. Also,

the local Las Vegas Chapter is having their first ever annual Corporate Night on Thursday, April 24th. Their special guest speaker will be none other than Paul Sharman, President and CEO of IMA. I urge all council members to support this special evening and the council educational seminars.

Remember: Support the Council, Support its chapters, help grow IMA!!

IMAingly yours,

John D. Campbell
Wild West Council
Regional Vice President

GET YOUR WILD WEST COUNCIL SHIRT AT OUR NEXT MEETING

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First Annual Corporate Night

Guest speaker
Paul Sharman - IMA President & CEO

April 24, 2008
6 P.M.

Palace Station Hotel & Casino
2411 West Sahara Avenue
Las Vegas, NV 89102

Any questions: Please contact Cecilia Mutee
RSVP by March 31, 2008 – space is limited

***You create value for your organization.
Now create value for yourself***

- Corporate Table of 10 - \$400
- Individual Reservation - \$40

Payable to: Institute of Management Accountants Las Vegas Chapter
(see mailing address below)

Company Name _____
Contact person _____ Title _____
Company address _____
Phone _____ Email _____

Institute of Management Accountants Cecilia Mutee c/o American Nevada Company, LLC
901 N. Green Valley Pkwy, Suite 190. Henderson, NV 89074
(702) 990-2172 cecilia.mutee@anclv.com

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INSTITUTE MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANTS WILD WEST COUNCIL Minutes for Meeting in Bakersfield, California January 19, 2008

Meeting called to order by President Rob Ferrell at 9:00AM.

Members in attendance: Rob Ferrell, Jamie Russell, Frank Scarcelli, Frank Garcia, Janet Radford, Pem Smith, John Campbell, Billie Drake, Mitch Lenoil, Carolyn Reis, Bob Gove, Patrick Wilson, Lee Willard

President's report: The council did receive the certificate for one free registration for the June IMA Conference in Tampa Bay. There will be an announcement made via e-mail. Bids are to be made via e-mail – the decision must be made prior to April 1st and will be announced at the April Las Vegas meeting. Rob did ask that each member please place a bid. The minutes from the October 6th, 2007 were prepared but did not go out in the Pony Express. Secretary will resubmit via e-mail to President and other council members and will be subject for approval at the April Las Vegas meeting.

The treasurer's report was submitted by Patrick Wilson. There were questions about which chapters had not yet paid the assessment. Patrick will send out reminders to those chapters. Patrick also announced the April Las Vegas meeting plans for April 24th which will be at the Palace Station. Paul Sharman will be one of the featured speakers. Reservation information will be sent out shortly.

Regional Vice President's report – John Campbell

External Member Relations: There are ongoing conference calls discussing items such as trying to change fees, part-time students should be full-time members so as not to possibly alienate any return students. Again a code of conduct for members calling National staff resulted in a code of conduct for staff. There was quite a bit of discussion on restructuring the Chapter Councils. More to follow as nothing was settled.

SCMS – Rex Soutar was not present but reported through Carolyn Reis that the October 2007 mid-year meeting was quite successful. Discussions focused primarily on:

- 1 -The upcoming annual meeting in Tampa at the Conference in June 2008. Projected pricing will be lower than Phoenix or Las Vegas.
- 2 – Planning for the mid year meeting at the WWC/RMC joint council meeting in Albuquerque and the plans for the balloon festival activities.
- 3 – The discrepancy of approximately 800 between IMA and SCMS in the current membership of SCMS. A committee has been appointed to resolve the issue.
- 4 – Discussion regarding the SCMS dues increase of \$10 per year and its implementation in IMA's annual membership billing statement.

Council/Chapter Competition – Carolyn Reis/Bob Gove/Mitch Lenoil spoke on the Recognition Committee – the committee will meet in Austin February 23rd. Carolyn asked that each chapter review the current system and let her know what is liked and disliked about the system of reporting now. Please report by February 11 in order for her to compile a report. There is a lot of discussion about the recognition and compensation program as well. Let Bob, Carolyn and/or Mitch know your and your chapter's thoughts for input. Pem Smith asked that an e-mail be sent to all chapters asking for their input.

Career Development Advisory Committee – no report

Community Revitalization Advisory Committee - no report

Lara McDavitt called in to introduce and open herself to the council for any questions. Her e-mail is lmcdavitt@imanet.org and she welcomes any questions or suggestions from all. She reminded us that the chapters' new board members were due in to her

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by the last business day of February. That form, as well as many others, is available on the website and it may be faxed or e-mailed to her attention. She also reminded us that chapter compensation is dependent on non-repetition of names on the slate (i.e.: Treasurer, Secretary and/or Vice President should not be the same!)

Pem Smith said that Heather Khan had sent our Pony Express to Steven Shepard for an e-mail blast but it had not gone out. Lara let us know that we should have sent that to her with a list of the recipients and any scheduled repetitions. Lead-time required is only 2 weeks. She will look into what happened to the original and get back to Pem. Lee Willard asked about access to chapter rosters. Lara said protocol is such that access permission must be given by each individual chapter president and that only 7 individuals are allowed in total. Lee stated for the record that any council publicity person should have automatic access. Lara encouraged all to feel free to contact her with any questions whenever they arose. She would at least find out who could be of help if she could not.

Ethics Standing Committee – Billie Drake reported that there had only been one meeting since October to study the case in process. They will meet again at the February board meeting.

FAR/MAC Standing Committee – no report

Financial Reporting Standing Advisory Committee – no report

IFAC Monitoring Advisory Committee – Rex Soutar was not present but reported through Carolyn Reis that the committee had had a number of phone conversations with the focus being:

- 1 – disappointment that IFAC has not chosen any IMA board candidates and thus IMA is grossly under represented in IFAC considering our dues and that IMA is the largest private accounting organization in IFAC. Paul Sharman expressed this view to the president of IFAC and Paul felt that the discussion was encouraging.
- 2 – plans for the annual report of IMA to IFAC regarding compliance with membership in the organization.
- 3 – the agenda for the January 17th conference call is:
 - A – the nominating process and strategy for the upcoming year.
 - B - IFAC's calculation of their dues structure.
 - C – strategy regarding upcoming IFAC dues for IMA.
 - D – the possibility of Paul Sharman having a position on the IFAC board.
 - E – upcoming meeting of this committee with IFAC in New York in April.

Leadership Development Advisory Committee – no report

Board of Regents Standing Advisory Committee – no report

Regional Directors and Chapters

Ronda Alvarez not present Santa Barbara seems to be floundering, they are in need of help.

Bakersfield – Jamie Russell – doing well, still small but they do have good technical meetings and an excellent Student Night event always well attended.

Lydia Ng not present So Bay 43rd in standing, they won the Norberg for 2007 and they will hold a CPE event in April.

Orange County – no one present but Frank Scarcelli said the new president is a Robert Half employee and they do seem to have good meetings with good attendance.

Janet Radford Inland Empire report from Barbara Bowlby reported a great success with their October Student Night – over 90 people in attendance.

SDNC had a joint meeting with San Diego chapter – their speaker was from the FEI and SEC.

Lyle Brathwaite – no report

Donna Wirth asked to step down due to pressures from work

San Gabriel – Frank Garcia reported that they are going to try a Saturday meeting

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January 26th to see if that will help attendance (no traffic!) Ray Scalice will be their speaker. They did receive the 2005-06 Les Rogers award. Lee Willard just received his CFM certification.

Mitch Lenoil Salt Lake City – Lyle did report that they have gone 8 months with no board meeting. They do have regular technical meetings.

Bob Gove LA Metro Frank Scarcelli reported that they had joint meetings – one with Mark Doblman with an attendance of only 20, the other was a “Tax Night” and had over 60 people in attendance!

Las Vegas – President Pat Wilson reported they are having good attendance at the meetings. They had a joint meeting with the Internal Auditors. February meeting will be “Student Night”. The nominating committee met and they will have a joint presidency.

Council Officer Reports

Congratulations to Lee Willard and Catherine Gallagher on being our newest CFM's!

President-elect – Mitch Lenoil

Leadership Training Sessions 2008 – Las Vegas April 2008

Paul Sharman is a speaker and he is worth hearing. Still looking for the location to have the Leadership Training Session - this will be announced. John said they were having trouble setting up the sites for the LTS, the 2-day seminar and the council meeting. Jamie volunteered to help with looking for sites downtown. These will be announced later. Pem did suggest that especially because Paul was going to be present we should really publicize the April meeting. If we can get more attendance from the chapters at the April LTS, perhaps we would require less LTS meetings in the rest of the year. Perhaps we could have this one videotaped, maybe National might be able to provide some assistance in the video taping since Paul would be speaking.

Council Meetings for 2008-09 - Mitch does not have any dates or sites firmed up yet. He will announce these at the Las Vegas meeting. The October 11th joint Council meeting with the RMC does have a block of rooms set aside at the Hilton Garden Inn in Albuquerque.

Vice President Administration Lee Willard

Roster - Lee announced that these had been distributed. If you did not receive it or require another copy, contact either Lee or Rob.

Chapter Standings & Awards - Pem and Billie presented 1 award and have a date to present the second. Pem suggested a revision to the manner of distribution of the awards. Carolyn agreed but does feel that the personal touch of hand delivery should be maintained. Pem will submit a suggested revision, which will be attached to the minutes for Council review. The WWC responsibility manual should be amended to reflect the change.

Vice President Education Frank Scarcelli Bud Kuleza asked for any feedback from the October 2007 San Diego meeting. Thanks to the Bakersfield chapter for the hard work in putting together the seminar, tours and meeting. We had pretty good turnout and the speakers were terrific. Reports were good for the tours and meals were all great. Carolyn mentioned that there should be an evaluation form for the speakers and seminars for CPE's at council meetings. Frank will look into this and advise for future meetings.

VP Meetings John Campbell/ Rob Ferrell Las Vegas is set for April 24th – 26th. There will be a mini seminar on Thursday and Friday (April 24th and 25th) with the Council meeting to be on Saturday along with the LTS. The Las Vegas chapter is holding “Corporate Night” Thursday evening at the Palace Station Hotel but there are no plans yet for a room block as the hotel does not want to deal. Jamie will help get a package together probably downtown as they are more willing to work with the events.

Chapter relations Heather Khan – Heather has been swamped with job requirements, etc. No report

Webmaster Frank Garcia Frank is trying to keep the web site current. He has added a CMA tab, which gives information on review providers and other items of interest. Historical copies of past Pony Expresses are also available. If you note something incorrect, please contact Frank with correct information and he will update.

Strategic Plan Initiatives Pem Smith

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LTS we should look at the overall structure for CPE events. John will take over keeping this alive.

CMA Review support and initiative – the committee is made up of Pem Smith, Frank Garcia, Marna Vaughn and Jamie Russell. There have been several conference calls to discuss possible actions. There are 3 key actions for the Council:

1 – establish a “best practices” exchange on the WWC website.

A -Frank has set up the CMA page as a separate tab.

B – Pem is drafting an e-mail to all chapters soliciting input and participation.

C – The committee feels that the Council should be more proactive in pushing information to the chapters

2 – Conduct CMA promotion events in the Council area

A – First one in LA area (De Vry Pomona) – Frank Garcia

i – Date TBD – Saturday morning in February or early March

ii – Speakers – John Pollara or Kim Wallin, CMA provider and recruiter/hiring manager followed by breakout sessions

iii – Publicity – IMA e-mail, Pony Express, Chapter contacts

iv - Contact CMA review providers for support and door prizes

v - Request WWC subsidize event for \$100, if sponsors cannot be obtained (printing and refreshments) Carolyn amended the proposal to “up to \$100” and this was voted on and passed by the council.

B – If successful, look at replicating in San Diego area

i – Considering joint dinner meeting to focus on CMA awareness

3 – Work with IMA HQ to identify a way to increase awareness and promotion within recruiter community. Need marketing collateral.

Other topics: There are several good initiatives starting at the chapter level – Tucson, San Diego, San Gabriel Valley. Information from Steve Weiss on Corporate development needs to be disseminated. CFO leadership program is a HQ initiative.

Coming events: Continue to develop the CMA awareness events; move volunteers welcome; Conference calls with Steven Shepard and Dennis Whitney to engage HQ more directly

Lee Willard announced that he has completed the Speakers pool and it is posted on the website.

Rob adjourned the meeting at 12:30.

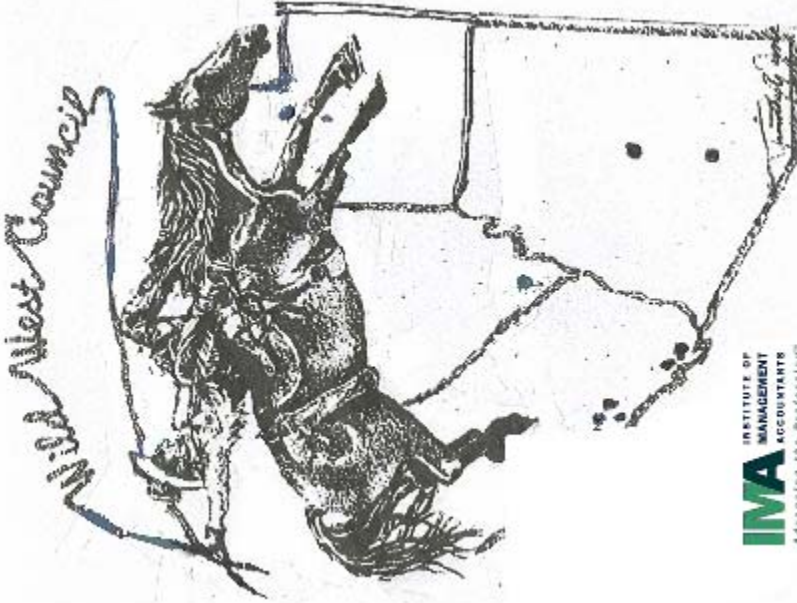
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