

# The Ledger

A Publication of the **St. Louis Chapter**



[www.stlouis.imanet.org](http://www.stlouis.imanet.org)

February 2007

## President's Message

My Fellow St. Louis IMA Members,

We've had several terrific Technical Meeting speakers this year. In September, Paul Sharman, IMA CEO, gave us great insight into the future of IMA. In November, Wayne Winter, UMSL Law Professor, helped those in attendance meet their IMA or MSCPA two-hour ethics requirement. In January, Ron Steinkamp, Jefferson Wells Director, updated us on SOX for small companies.

On February 20, 2007, we have a real treat and a great obligation. This is Student Night for us. We will be hosting students from six different universities. These students need your help. They want to be accountants. They think this is exciting stuff. They are drawn to it, like moths to a flame.

One problem, most of them don't really understand what accountants do. Here is where you can help. Please come and share your professional experiences with these human sponges. You won't regret it and meeting you will be one of the highlights of their year.

A few moments ago, I remembered a personal experience I had at a similar event in 1977. A Monsanto Controller told our group, "Go for the gusto!" He told us to open ourselves up to every experience available to us. I did. I don't remember his name. But, it's time for me to repay that debt.

I look forward to seeing you at UMSL's Millennium Center on Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>.

Sincerely,  
Jeffrey B. Blume  
President, St. Louis Chapter.

## Student Night & Panel Discussion

This special event features a panel discussion covering several areas of management accounting. It's an excellent forum to hear from multiple speakers with various backgrounds and provides a promising networking opportunity with future management accountants. Several companies will have information available for attendees. An appetizer buffet will be served.

**Date:** Tuesday, February 20, 2007

**Location:** UMSL Campus  
Millennium Student Center  
8001 Natural Bridge Rd  
St. Louis, MO 63121  
314-516-5000

**Speaker:** Panel Discussion

**Time:** 5:00 – 9:00 pm

**Cost:** \$25 at the door

**RSVP:** to Joan McDermott  
[jtrminflomo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jtrminflomo@sbcglobal.net)  
or 314-604-3308

## Volunteers Needed

Make new friends while helping the St. Louis chapter succeed.

Contact Jeffrey Blume to volunteer.

[jtblumer@msn.com](mailto:jtblumer@msn.com)  
work 314-383-4029  
mobile 314-650-3311

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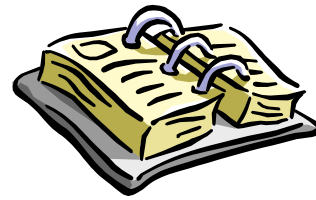
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## New IMA Partnership With APQC Provides Benchmarking Services to Members

Under this partnership, IMA Members can provide data on their organization and APQC (American Productivity & Quality Center) will provide an analysis and custom report at no cost. The report will outline the company's state of performance and how that compares to best-in-class in the areas of interest.

Founded in 1977, APQC is a member-based nonprofit that provides benchmarking and best-practice research for approximately 500 organizations worldwide in all industries. They are a globally recognized authority on benchmarking and process standards.

IMA members can now take advantage of APQC's complimentary benchmarking service by visiting [www.apqc.org/ima](http://www.apqc.org/ima) and submitting the organization's data. Participants will receive a report and an analysis against the full Open Standards Benchmarking CollaborativeSM (OSBC) database. Members can also contact APQC at [chill@apqc.org](mailto:chill@apqc.org) for more information.



## Mark Your Calendar

### March 13, 2007

Technical Dinner Meeting – Tax Update for Management Accountants

### April 10, 2007

Technical Dinner Meeting – Best Practices for Accounts Payable

### May 15, 2007

Seminar – State of Management Accounting & Contemporary Topics in Cost Acct.

Technical Dinner Meeting – Tina Klocke, Chief Financial Bear, Build-A-Bear Workshop

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## Valuable Information Gained From Survey

We did an informal survey in an attempt to understand why some members were not able to attend the technical meetings. Here is what we learned.

### Top 10 Reasons for Not Attending the Last IMA Meeting

1. I heard the food is really good and I am on a diet.
2. Keeping up on current topics is over-rated.
3. I keep forgetting the dates, and I don't know how to use the calendar in Outlook.
4. Accountants can be so intimidating.
5. My company would pay for the meeting, but I don't feel like completing an expense report.
6. I don't see how knowing a bunch of accounting experts could possibly help me.
7. I am really busy in the winter, spring, summer, and fall.
8. I'm not good at networking, and I don't want to improve myself.
9. I only drive that far for Cardinal games.
10. At my company only the salespeople are allowed to be seen in public.