President’s Message

Greetings Chapter Members!

Welcome to the 2020-2021 Chapter Year. I want to personally thank each of the new and past leadership volunteers for their time and services that help our Chapter remain successful as well as your participation and support.

This year may not have started off as expected, but we won’t let that get in the way of our goals. We are committed this year to continue to provide great resources, CPE events, and networking as in the past...just may not be in person for a while.

Our programming committee has been hard at work facilitating several training events for the upcoming Chapter year. The next event, “How to Improve you Critical Thinking Skills”, is scheduled for November 10th. Please check your email and this newsletter for additional information. Just a reminder, non-members are welcome to register for the event, so we encourage you to forward the information and/or email invite to your colleagues and friends. Stay tuned for news on future events!

There is always a need for additional volunteers to assist in managing the Chapter. If you are interested in serving a future leadership role on one of the various committees, serve as a Board Member, or an Officer position, please email Chapter510@iiachapters.org.

Thanks again for being a valued member of the IIA Red River Valley Chapter and I look forward to seeing you in the future.

Sincerely,

Melanie Abel, Chapter President
IIA Red River Valley Chapter
Reminders

THE IIA RRV CHAPTER SPONSORED WEBINARS are as follows:

- Nov 10, 2020 – 8:00AM – 12:00PM CST, “How to Improve Your Critical Thinking Skills”
  To register please use the following link: https://na.eventscloud.com/improvingcriticalthinkingskills

- Dec 10, 2020 – 8:00AM – 10:00AM CST, “Fraud Auditing for Internal Auditors”
  Registration will be open soon. Check the RRV website for more information.

*These are excellent opportunities to learn from experts in the field of internal audit.*

- Also, don’t forget to renew your membership when your IIA anniversary takes place.

IIA ON DEMAND TRAINING

The IIA’s OnDemand Training is a great resource if you are looking for an online platform to get your CPE, train new staff, or exploring the fundamentals of auditing and risk. There are many courses offered at a cost-effective price, at any experience level, it’s user-friendly, and can be completed anywhere. For more information click [HERE](#).

Upcoming Events

**November 2-4, 2020:** IIA International Conference

**January 2021:** Red River Valley Board Meeting (date TBD)

**March 16-18, 2021:** Where Leaders Evolve. GAM Conference

STAY CONNECTED [https://chapters.theiia.org/Red-River-Valley](https://chapters.theiia.org/Red-River-Valley)
Programing Committee Update

The Red River Valley Chapter will be hosting several events in the New Year.

Mark Your Calendar - Future events planned include:

- **January 7, 2021**: Lunch and Learn *"Ready and Relevant – Prepare to Audit What Matters Most"*. Event still being finalized. Watch for more details.

- **February 2021**: Annual Meeting. Election of officers and presentation of awards. Event is still being finalized. Watch for more details.

- **March 2021**: Half-day training *"IT Audit for Non-IT Auditors"*. Event still being finalized. Watch for more details.

- **April 2021**: Two-hour training *"Auditing, Leadership, Assertiveness and Interviewing Skills"*. Event still being finalized. Watch for more details.

The Programming Committee listened to your feedback from the member surveys and we will focus on planning half-day training events and 1-hour or 2-hour training events to meet your busy schedules.

CIA Certifications

Congratulations

No new certifications to announce.

Are you interested in becoming a certified CIA? Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Did you know that you can now take the CIA and CRMA Challenge Exams from Home? Click [HERE](#) to learn how!

The IIA is also offering online testing so you can take your test from your home. [Learn more.](#)

Learning System

The IIA’s CIA Learning System is a self-study program that enables you to study anywhere you want. Click [HERE](#) to check out the study tools it has to offer!

Board of Governors

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Membership Committee:
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Donal Hewitt
Patty Olson
Melanie Abel

Website Administration

Kelly Kiernan, Chair
RDO Equipment
kkkiernan@rdoffutt.com

Event Topics

Have topic ideas for training you would be interested in attending? Let us know by emailing us at chapter510@iiachapters.org

Interested in becoming an RRV IIA Chapter Officer or joining a Committee? Contact [Chapter510@iiachapters.org](mailto:Chapter510@iiachapters.org) for more information.
The Institute of Internal Auditors has implemented a webinar for NEW members of the IIA. It’s called START SMART. It is an hour-long webinar helping new members make their membership as meaningful and valuable as possible, helping new members engage at a high level and take advantage of all the relevant IIA resources at their disposal.

All the benefits of membership are covered in this webinar!! The webinar shows you how to navigate the IIA’s many programs, products and services available at your fingertips on their website. It provides an overview of resources and benefits which include connections to your local chapter and global peers (North American membership alone is over 71,000 members), standards, guidance, certifications, trainings, and events. By attending this free webinar, you will be able to get the most out of your IIA membership. The next START SMART webinar sponsored by the national IIA organization is December 9, 2020.

The RRV Chapter Membership Committee encourages all new members to register for this hour-long webinar. To register, visit the IIA’s website and navigate to the Learning & Events tab and to “Webinars” within that tab.

The RRV Chapter Membership Committee also encourages you to visit with your peers in your company to see if they are members of the IIA. If not, encourage them to join and visit the IIA website so they can learn of the many advantages and benefits of membership.

Audit Executive Center

With hundreds of members worldwide, the Audit Executive Center is a comprehensive program for chief audit executives (CAEs)/heads of internal audit from industries and organizations of all sizes. Three annual membership levels are offered (add-ons to your regular yearly IIA membership), containing a variety of benefits so high-performing audit leaders can choose the program best suited for their internal audit function, staff, and stakeholder needs. More information.

Treasurer’s Report

Chapter Financial Activity

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The Valley Resource 4
CHAPTER ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM (CAP) REDESIGN

CAP is an achievement/recognition program for chapters that use points to recognize chapter activities that align with the North American Strategic Plan in three categories: Service to Members, Service to Profession, and Chapter Administration.

The IIA recently modified the CAP program that simplifies tracking and reporting and requires less work for those involved in the preparation.

The new CAP is no longer based on an aggregate of points, but rather focuses on the completion of activities.

In addition to the minimum requirements that a Chapter needs to complete to retain their annual Chapter allotment, achievement areas focus on Programming, Certifications, Advocacy, and Membership.

Chapters must first achieve Bronze in order to achieve Silver status, and thus achieve Bronze and Silver in order to achieve Gold Status.

New Members

We would like to welcome our newest members to the Red River Valley IIA Chapter!

Michael Dreyer, Internal Auditor, Noridian Healthcare Solutions
Katina Johnson, Internal Auditor, Noridian Healthcare Solutions

The IIA COVID-19 Resource Exchange

The IIA has created a resource exchange related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

https://na.theiia.org/Pages/Updates.aspx

The IIA COVID-19 Resource Exchange is a comprehensive source for internal audit practitioners around the globe, featuring risk guidance, thought leadership, training, tools, events, and more relating to COVID-19.
Birthplace: Bottineau, ND; My family moved to West Fargo before I started kindergarten, so I always tell people I’m from West Fargo.

Alma Mater / Degree: Minnesota State University Moorhead – Bachelor of Science in Accountancy.

Current Job Responsibilities: My job responsibilities include performing audits at RDO Equipment dealerships and performing audits for any other company that falls under the R.D. Offutt Company umbrella.

Favorite Part of Your Job: I really enjoy working with people to come up with solutions that work for them and their unique set of circumstances. R.D. Offutt Company includes many different companies ranging from farming to food production. With so many different companies, there is always something new to learn.

Tell us about your Family: My husband Scott and I live in Fargo and we have an eight-year-old Lhasa Apso named Leo.

Hobbies and Pastimes: I enjoy Camping, Snowboarding, Traveling, Crocheting, and Reading.

The Best Advice You Ever Received: “It’s not an adventure until something goes wrong.” It was so many years ago, I’m not sure who even said it to me, but I live by this phrase. Many times, in my life, things have seemed too hard or never going right. This phrase helps me remember that if everything went smoothly all the time, I would not have a good story to tell.

Dream Vacation: I would love to take a month-long vacation visiting Europe. There is so much there to see and do!

How has COVID-19 Affected your Job and Life the Most: Working from home has been the biggest change for me. My husband has worked from home for the last 4 years so making the adjustment to work from home was interesting. I am a people person so being without my co-workers has been kind of lonely.