**President’s Message:**

Merry Christmas! I hope you are able to make some great holiday memories with your family and friends during this holiday season. As we transition into the second half of the year, your officer team and board are excited about the training opportunities that we have coming up. In addition to our monthly luncheon meetings, Toby Groves will be here on April 14th for the Spring Seminar. If you’ve never heard Toby speak before, he delivers a great message and is very engaging. Block the time on your calendar now to ensure you are able to attend!

There is one item I want to pass along, the IIA headquarters has recently moved to a new location. The new address is:

1035 Greenwood Blvd., Suite 401
Lake Mary, FL 32746

Please note that The IIA’s address for receiving check/wire payments will not change. Also, all telephone and fax numbers, website and email addresses, and social media handles will remain the same.

T: +1 (407) 937-1100
F: +1 (407) 937-1101
theiia.org
facebook.com/TheInstituteofInternalAuditors
@TheIIA

**Tony Risinger**

*IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR PAYMENTS*

As of 09/01/2016 payments for all meeting and seminars need to be sent to the following address:

Capitol Federal
Attention: Joe Beasley, Audit Services Department
700 S Kansas Ave
Topeka, KS 66603-3818

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**January Meeting**

**Date:** Tuesday, January 10, 2017

**Place:** KDOT
Eisenhower State Office Building
700 SW Harrison
4th Floor Tower Conference Room
Next to Elevator Lobby

**Time:** 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**Menu:** Aboud’s Chef’s Choice
Dessert
Iced Tea and Water

**RSVP:** By noon, Friday, January 6, 2017

**Reservations:** Marie Winter-Zima
Capitol Federal
MWinter-Zima@capfed.com
785-231-6394

Please email Brenda Kindle at brenda.kindle@fhlbtpeoka.com if you have any dietary restrictions.

**Registration:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Non-member</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lunch &amp; meeting</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**January Meeting**

CPE 1 hours
Speaker – Bart Wright, Protiviti
Topic – Internet of Things

With the introduction of autonomous cars, remote use of medical devices, automated ordering of new supplies, automated distribution of packages via drones, and other emerging technologies interconnecting with one another, organizations are concerned with how their information and systems will be secured and protected. The emerging market of the “Internet of Things” is expected to generate up to
$300 Billion dollars in market share by 2020, which is only a few short years away. During this presentation, we will explore what steps organizations should consider to further secure their environments and protect their critical data in preparation for and to accommodate the Internet of Things.

Bart Wright is an Associate Director and founding member of Protiviti. He has over 16 years of experience executing and managing risk consulting engagements across multiple industries. He specializes in technology risk services, including Security and Privacy, Business Continuity Management, IT Audit, Sarbanes-Oxley compliance, and Enterprise Application Solutions.

Bart is a current leader in the IT Security & Privacy and IT Audit practices for the Kansas City office. Further, Bart has assisted clients with assessing compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and standards including COSO, COBIT, state privacy and breach notification laws, international privacy legislation, NERC CIP, NIST, AICPA GAPP, FTC Red Flag Rules, SOX, and others.

Bart is a Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA) and Certified in Risk and Information Systems Controls (CRISC) and has obtained a certificate of completion for NERC CIP training for SCADA systems critical infrastructure protection. Prior to working for Protiviti, Bart spent 2½ years in a Big Five accounting firm performing risk consulting services.

Event Refund Policy – The Institute of Internal Auditors (Topeka Chapter):

The purpose of this policy is to ensure event cancellations are refunded appropriately. Events include, but are not limited to: monthly meetings, luncheons, and seminars.

Cancellations made prior to the event registration deadline will be refunded at 100% of the event fee (or would not be billed if the attendee did not pay in advance).

Cancellations made after the event registration deadline will not be refunded (or would be billed at 100% of the event fee if the attendee did not pay in advance)

IIA Chat:

Name: RG Yule
Employer: Westar Energy
Position: System Accountant
Time in this position: 2.5 years
Education: B.S. Management Information Systems, Kansas State University

What was your first job? Mobile and Desktop Support Intern for American Century Investments

What is your favorite food? Prime Rib

What is your favorite TV show? Shark Tank

What talent would you most like to have? Play guitar

What book are you currently reading? I’m lucky if I read my magazine subscriptions

What do you try to avoid? Olives and drama

What is your greatest accomplishment? Graduating magna cum laude and getting a job straight out of college

What’s would you like to get around to doing when you have time? Brewing my own beer

Who is the person you most admire and why? My dad, because of how successful, caring, and loving he is… and he brews a good beer

What’s a pet peeve of yours? Obnoxiously loud eating

Updating Your IIA member Information:

IIA members can keep their personal information up to date by visiting the IIA’s website at www.theiia.org.
In the upper right hand corner click on "Sign In". Once you are signed in, click on "Profile" and then "My Profile". Here you will be able to see your information and you can edit your personal information, address, and contact information by clicking on the "Edit" button. You can also update your contact preferences by clicking "My Preferences". If you need additional assistance, please contact Tony Risinger at Tony.Risinger@westarenergy.com.

**Newsletter Articles:**

Please contact Crystal Perez at cperez@capfed.com with any articles or suggestions for the newsletter. You may also know of special events (weddings, promotions, certifications, etc.) that you would like to put in the newsletter.

**Volunteer Opportunities:**

The Topeka chapter has had proven success because of the people who volunteer their time. Volunteering takes leadership, dedication, and effort. If you are interested in serving as an officer or board member for 2017-2018 to continue to enhance the internal audit community, please contact Tony Risinger at tony.risinger@westarenergy.com.

**IIA Learning:**

IIA Learning delivers innovative, quality, and convenient internal audit training, development, and networking for all skill levels. The flexible platforms focus on individual auditor training needs, as well as existing and emerging issues to ensure that internal auditors receive the knowledge and proficiency required to provide the highest level of auditing assurance, insight, and objectivity possible.

The IIA provides multiple learning opportunities

1. **Seminars** are in-person and online; led by internal audit experts; cater to all auditor skill levels, topics, CPE needs and learning styles
2. **Webinars** are short, live presentations, led by internal audit industry professionals; focused on trending topics and addressing challenges.
3. **OnDemand** are convenient, self-paced, and cost effective courses on existing and emerging internal audit topics; accessible online, anytime.
4. **On-site Training** provides an in-person, group training; focused on specific learning need and facilitated by internal audit leaders at your location.
5. **Exam Prep** is a self-study or facilitator-led programs; combines reading materials with online study tools to prepare participants for certification exams.
6. **Executive Development** is strategic guidance and mentoring for internal audit executives; facilitated by executive-level leadership in an elite setting.

Visit the IIA website for registration and more information: [www.theiia.org/training](http://www.theiia.org/training)

**The next Members Only webinar:**

**Analytics and Internal Audit: Global Market Insights into the Rising Use of Big Data**
- **Date:** Tuesday, January 17, 2017
- **Time:** 12:00 Noon – 1:00 P.M. CST

**The next eSeminars:**

**Data Analysis for Internal Auditors**
- **Date:** January 12 - 13, 2017
- **Time:** 1:00 P.M. – 4:20 P.M. CST

**Audit Report Writing**
- **Date:** January 17 - 26, 2017
- **Time:** 1:00 P.M. – 4:20 P.M. CST

**Cybersecurity Auditing in an Unsecure World**
- **Date:** February 6 - 15, 2017
- **Time:** 1:00 P.M. – 4:20 P.M. CST

**Fundamentals of IT Auditing**
- **Date:** February 7 - 16, 2017
- **Time:** 4:00 P.M. – 7:20 P.M. CST
Chief audit executives (CAEs) occupy a unique position within their organizations, with a comprehensive understanding of a number of business facets including:

- Risks and controls.
- The company’s long-term strategy.
- Industry sector.
- Regulatory environment.

This knowledge and experience make the CAE an attractive candidate to assume additional organizational responsibilities beyond traditional internal auditing, from risk management and compliance roles to personnel development or conferring on the company’s business strategy.

The Evolving Role of the CAE: Taking on Compliance and ERM explores the benefits and challenges — to the organization, internal audit department, and CAE — of these expanding roles.

For some CAEs, the challenges associated with having expanded responsibilities are mitigated through various compensating controls and practices. This research describes some of these mitigating practices and how CAEs with expanded roles can continue to strike the appropriate balance between value-added activities and their independent assurance responsibilities.

With hundreds of titles to choose from, including books, training materials, certification preparation, interactive programs, and more. The IIA Research foundation Bookstore is your one-stop shop for internal audit resources. All Bookstore products have been reviewed by internal auditors to guarantee a perfect fit. Check out the member’s only bookstore for resources for all your Internal Auditing needs.

IIA Bookstore.

CONGRATULATION CORNER!

The certified Internal Auditor (CIA) designation is the only globally accepted certification for internal auditors and remains the standard by which individuals demonstrate their competency and professionalism in the internal auditing field. Please join us in congratulating the following chapter members who recently obtained their CIA certification:

ANNIVERSARIES

Join us in congratulating for following individuals celebrating significant milestones as members of the IIA:

5 Years

Joshua Gibson
Welcome New IIA Chapter Members

The Topeka Chapter would like to extend a warm welcome to our new members who recently joined our group.

Internal Audit Practitioner: A New First Stop on Your Road to Success

The Internal Audit Practitioner designation is a great way to quickly demonstrate your internal audit aptitude. You can earn this new designation through social badging by completing the Internal Audit Practitioner application and taking and passing the Certified Internal Auditor (CIA) Part One exam. Candidates who have successfully completed the CIA Part One exam within the past 24 months are also eligible to apply.

Gleim Discount:

The Topeka IIA Chapter has partnered with Gleim to ensure your success on the CIA exam! Working together, we will provide you the necessary study tools to prepare for the success of passing the CIA exam. Gleim has been preparing candidates for success with their extensive self-study courses for the CIA exam for over 30 years! The Gleim Review System enables you to identify your weak areas so you know where to focus your efforts and GUARANTEES that you will pass each exam part the first time. Gleim’s goal is that you achieve success minimizing your frustration, cost, and time.

As a member of the chapter, you are eligible for 20% off all Gleim’s CIA Review materials, as well as Gleim CPE. To take advantage of the reduced prices and to place your order, log into the Members only section of the Chapters website.

Contact Melissa at 800.874.5346, ext. 131, or melissa.leonard@gleim.com to take advantage of your chapter discount or if you have any questions.
Chapter Achievement Program (CAP):

Do any of your internal audit activities earn Chapter Achievement Program (CAP) points for your Topeka Chapter of the IIA? What is CAP, why is it important and what can you do to help?

The Chapter Achievement Program (CAP) is designed by the Institute of Internal Auditors to guide chapters for developing quality programs and completing administrative duties to ensure it is meeting its obligations to its members. Points are awarded for each activity in accordance with the IIA guidelines. The goal is to provide valuable professional activities and development opportunities to our members and earn CAP points.

Certain activities that are conducted by member may qualify. Points are reported to the IIA on the 10th of each month covering three areas:

Service to Members: Attendance at monthly meetings, conferences and seminars, social events and new IIA certification.

Service to the Profession: Academic Relations; Chapter Scholarship Program, Student events held by the chapter, Advocacy; Junior Achievement Involvement, Building Awareness Champion Program, funding support for District advisors and District Representatives, Internal Audit Awareness month events, Host an Internal Audit event at work, Audit Channel TV submissions, Write exam questions for IIA certifications, Submit or Publish an article in the Internal Auditor magazine, participate on a non IIA sponsored or an IIA sponsored Quality Review Team, Chapter recognizes the member company for completing their QA.

Chapter Administration: Involves administrative reporting requirements to the IIA.

Chapter Objectives

Service to Members
- Education Objective: Offer over 20 hours per year of affordable CPE with more than 60% rated as excellent.
- Certification Objective: Two members become certified annually.
- Social Objective: Members get to know other members from different organizations.

Service to Profession
- Membership Objective: Increase active membership.
- Professional Development Objective: Continue to offer affordable and quality training for auditors
- Academic Relations Objective: Promote the profession at Washburn University.

Chapter Administration
- Leadership Development Objective: Have 1 or 2 officers attend the Leadership Conference.
- Chapter Finance Objective: Have our lunch meeting fees cover the meeting expense; make additional income from the seminars to fund other activities (Leadership Conference, WU scholarship, WU student night).
- Communication and Participation Objective: Send out monthly newsletter and update website.
## CAP Summary

**As of:** 12/10/16

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Minimum for Bronze</th>
<th>Chapter Points (to Date)</th>
<th>% of Minimum</th>
<th>Balance to Minimum</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. Service to Members</td>
<td>325.00</td>
<td>366.93</td>
<td>113%</td>
<td>Achieved!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. Service to Profession</td>
<td>200.00</td>
<td>213.18</td>
<td>107%</td>
<td>Achieved!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III. Chapter Administration</td>
<td>160.00</td>
<td>189.00</td>
<td>118%</td>
<td>Achieved!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>685.00</td>
<td>769.10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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Total from Master Template: **769.10**

**Current CAP Status:** Bronze

**Targets:**
- Bronze: 685.00
- Silver: 1,060.00
- Gold*: 1,560.00

*Platinum 10 consecutive years of Gold
*Ruby 10 consecutive years of Platinum
*Sapphire 15 consecutive years of Platinum
*Diamond 25 consecutive years of Platinum
### 2016 – 2017 Officers and Board of Governors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Tony Risinger</td>
<td>Westar Energy</td>
<td>(785) 575-1968</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tony.risinger@westarenergy.com">tony.risinger@westarenergy.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st VP, Seminars</td>
<td>Annie Shaffer</td>
<td>Payless Shoes</td>
<td>(785) 559-6582</td>
<td><a href="mailto:annie.shaffer@payless.com">annie.shaffer@payless.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd VP, Programs</td>
<td>Marie Winter-Zima</td>
<td>Capitol Federal</td>
<td>(785) 231-6394</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mwinter-zima@capfed.com">mwinter-zima@capfed.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Elizabeth Salas</td>
<td>Westar Energy</td>
<td>(785) 575-8322</td>
<td><a href="mailto:elizabeth.salas@westarenergy.com">elizabeth.salas@westarenergy.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Autumn Franks</td>
<td>FHLBank</td>
<td>(785) 438-6009</td>
<td><a href="mailto:autumn.franks@fhlbtopeka.com">autumn.franks@fhlbtopeka.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Member</td>
<td>Andrea Robben</td>
<td>BCBS</td>
<td>(785) 291-8897</td>
<td><a href="mailto:andrea.robben@bcbsks.com">andrea.robben@bcbsks.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Member</td>
<td>Robert Knott</td>
<td>Capitol Federal</td>
<td>(785) 231-6355</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rknott@capfed.com">rknott@capfed.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Member</td>
<td>Shanae Gooden</td>
<td>Kansas Army National Guard</td>
<td>(785) 274-1265</td>
<td><a href="mailto:asgooden@gmail.com">asgooden@gmail.com</a>, <a href="mailto:shanae.d.gooden.civ@mail.mil">shanae.d.gooden.civ@mail.mil</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Member</td>
<td>Crystal Perez</td>
<td>Capitol Federal</td>
<td>(785) 231-6359</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cperez@capfed.com">cperez@capfed.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Member</td>
<td>Lori Miller</td>
<td>Capitol Federal</td>
<td>(785) 231-6396</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lmiller@capfed.com">lmiller@capfed.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Member</td>
<td>Jenny Tryon</td>
<td>Westar Energy</td>
<td>(785) 575-1652</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jenny.tryon@westarenergy.com">jenny.tryon@westarenergy.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Member</td>
<td>Julie Pennington</td>
<td>Legislative Post Audit</td>
<td>(785) 296-5817</td>
<td><a href="mailto:julie.pennington@lpa.ks.gov">julie.pennington@lpa.ks.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Member</td>
<td>Richard McMullen</td>
<td>Kansas Department of Transportation</td>
<td>(785)-296-5399</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mcmullen@ksdot.org">mcmullen@ksdot.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Member</td>
<td>Bob Stambaugh</td>
<td>BCBS</td>
<td>(785) 291-7647</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bob.stambaugh@bcbsks.com">bob.stambaugh@bcbsks.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audit Committee</td>
<td>Mark Zillinger</td>
<td>BCBS</td>
<td>(785) 291-8236</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mark.zillinger@bcbsks.com">mark.zillinger@bcbsks.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Richard McMullen</td>
<td>Kansas Department of Transportation</td>
<td>(785) 296-5399</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mcmullen@ksdot.org">mcmullen@ksdot.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance Committee</td>
<td>Autumn Franks</td>
<td>FHLBank</td>
<td>(785) 438-6009</td>
<td><a href="mailto:autumn.franks@fhlbtopeka.com">autumn.franks@fhlbtopeka.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robert Knott</td>
<td>Capitol Federal</td>
<td>(785) 231-6355</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rknott@capfed.com">rknott@capfed.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominating Committee</td>
<td>Tony Risinger</td>
<td>Westar Energy</td>
<td>(785) 575-1968</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tony.risinger@westarenergy.com">tony.risinger@westarenergy.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Media (Chapter Website and MMT Administrator)</td>
<td>Andrea Robben</td>
<td>BCBS</td>
<td>(785) 291-8897</td>
<td><a href="mailto:andrea.robben@bcbsks.com">andrea.robben@bcbsks.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Relations</td>
<td>Reza Espahbodi</td>
<td>Washburn University</td>
<td>(785) 670-1010</td>
<td><a href="mailto:reza.esbahbodi@washburn.edu">reza.esbahbodi@washburn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Relations</td>
<td>Mary Hoover</td>
<td>DCF</td>
<td>(785) 296-2973</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mary.hoover@dfc.ks.gov">mary.hoover@dfc.ks.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newsletter</td>
<td>Crystal Perez</td>
<td>Capitol Federal</td>
<td>(785) 231-6359</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cperez@capfed.com">cperez@capfed.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospitality</td>
<td>Brenda Kindle (Chair)</td>
<td>FHLBank</td>
<td>(785) 438-6152</td>
<td><a href="mailto:brenda.kindle@fhlbtopeka.com">brenda.kindle@fhlbtopeka.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lori Miller (badges)</td>
<td>Capitol Federal</td>
<td>(785) 231-6396</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lori.miller@capfed.com">lori.miller@capfed.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Certificates</td>
<td>Bob Stambaugh</td>
<td>BCBS</td>
<td>(785) 291-7647</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bob.stambaugh@bcbsks.com">bob.stambaugh@bcbsks.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Committee</td>
<td>Kyle Brewster</td>
<td>Stormont Vail</td>
<td>(785) 354-6931</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kbrewste@stormontvail.org">kbrewste@stormontvail.org</a></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
TOPEKA IIA 2016-2017 SCHEDULE AND LOCATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Tuesday, January 10, 2017 | Lunch Meeting (1 CPE)  
Bart Wright  
Internet of Things | FHLB      |
| Tuesday, February 07, 2017 | Lunch Meeting (1 CPE)  
Jana Merfen  
ERM Best Practices for implementation | Westar    |
| Tuesday, March 07, 2017 | Lunch Meeting (1 CPE)  
TBD  
10DSecurity Social Engineering | FHLB      |
| Tuesday, April 4, 2017  | Lunch Meeting (1 CPE)  
Shauna Woody Coussens  
Data Analytics | KDOT      |
| Friday, April 14, 2017  | Spring Seminar (8 CPE’s)  
Toby Groves  
Beyond the Checklist: Excellence in Auditing and Psychology for Auditors | Westar    |
| Tuesday, May 2, 2017   | Lunch Meeting (2 CPE)  
Diana Swanson  
Ethics | Cap Fed    |

*Locations are subject to change*
### Upcoming Events (Kansas City Chapter)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>SPONSORING CHAPTER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>02/02/2017</td>
<td>8:30 – 12:30</td>
<td>Location: Union Station</td>
<td>Kansas City – Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>IIA Kansas City Chapter</td>
<td>Topic: Psychology for Auditors</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Speaker: Toby Groves</td>
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<tr>
<td>03/02/2017</td>
<td>8:30 – 12:30</td>
<td>Location: St Andrews Golf</td>
<td>Kansas City – Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Club</td>
<td>Topic: Making Data Analysis Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>IIA Kansas City Chapter</td>
<td>Speaker: Jan Beckman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04/06/2017</td>
<td>12:30 – 3:30</td>
<td>Location: Top Golf</td>
<td>Kansas City – Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>IIA Kansas City Chapter</td>
<td>Topic: Physical Security and Identity Theft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Speaker: Gene Turner, Identity Theft Specialist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05/04/2017</td>
<td>12:30 – 4:30</td>
<td>Location: Ritz Charles</td>
<td>Kansas City – Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>IIA Kansas City Chapter</td>
<td>Topic: Auditing 3rd Party Risk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Auditing Strategy and Culture</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Speaker: RSM US</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bob Hirth, Senior Managing Director, Protiviti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06/01/2017</td>
<td>8:00 – 12:00</td>
<td>Location: WWI Museum</td>
<td>Kansas City – Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>IIA Kansas City Chapter</td>
<td>Topic: Cyber “Hot Topics” and Cloud Security</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Speaker: Rob Rudloff, Rubin Brown</td>
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<tr>
<td>08/03/2017</td>
<td>12:30 – 4:30</td>
<td>Location: Ritz Charles</td>
<td>Kansas City – Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>IIA Kansas City Chapter</td>
<td>Topic: White Collar Crime and Red Flags for Auditors</td>
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<td>Speaker: TBA</td>
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### Upcoming Events (Wichita Chapter)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>SPONSORING CHAPTER</th>
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<tr>
<td>January 12, 2017</td>
<td>Wichita: Emprise Bank</td>
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<td>11:30-1:00</td>
<td>Topic: Audit Report Writing</td>
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<td>Speaker: Cindy Buttress, K*Coe Isom</td>
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<td>February 9, 2017</td>
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<td>11:30-1:00</td>
<td>Topic: Active Shooter: Preparedness and Response</td>
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<td>March 9, 2017</td>
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<td>11:30-1:00</td>
<td>Topic: Hot Topics in Audit</td>
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Office Politics: Diplomacy Always Wins

With the U.S. election now behind us, you probably think you can take a break from politics, but don’t get too comfortable – office politics knows no season and no end date.

In an Accountemps survey, 80 percent of U.S. office workers polled said workplace politics are alive and well, and 55 percent get involved in politicking. What’s more, 76 percent of respondents say playing the game is necessary for professional advancement, compared to just 56 percent who felt the same way in 2012 when a previous survey was taken. It’s clear that politics is playing a bigger role in the workplace these days.

Common office politicians

There are many ways to play office politics. Below is a list of common culprits:

- **Gossipmongers.** It’s common to talk about others. Why? We gain social bonds from telling interesting stories about our friends and coworkers. The gossip hound, however, takes it one step further with speculations, unfounded theories and even blatant misinformation. Gossip becomes harmful when people share unprofessional or potentially damaging information, especially on social media.

- **Flatterers.** There may be a few of these in your workplace. If you’re in management, perhaps you’ve experienced it first-hand — employees who frequently praise your decisions and actions. If you’re among the rank and file, this is the person who shamelessly butters up the boss with sweet but insincere words.

- **Credit hogs and credit thieves.** The hogs demand recognition for their own work, no matter how small or insignificant. At the same time, they downplay the contributions of others. Thieves are worse – they essentially lie about who did what and take credit for other people’s hard work.

- **Finger-pointers.** The flip side of the credit thief is the finger-pointer. Whenever there’s a mistake or something goes wrong, they’re never to blame. Instead they point fingers.

- **Underminers.** The world of politics has opposition research — digging up dirt on the opponent and dropping bombshells at opportune times. This can happen in the workplace, where a few bad
apples take down their rivals with whispers and accusations. These operatives are skilled in making others look bad.

- **Lobbyists.** In government, these professionals’ sole job is to sway elected officials’ opinions and consolidate support for their cause. In the financial workplace, these savvy employees have a way with words and know how to persuade their team to go along with their plan.

**How to deal with office politics**

Some aspects of office politics can be positive. For instance, if you’ve done your research and feel strongly about the merits of moving to a cloud-based financial solution, your lobbying efforts would benefit the company. But whether you choose to play the game or sit on the sidelines, every accounting and finance professional needs to know the basics of workplace politics. Here are some tips:

1. **Radiate positivity.** Be that person in the office who doesn’t badmouth others. Rather than going along with the tattler and adding fuel to the flame, say something nice or bow out of the conversation. Let fairness be part of your personal brand.

2. **Be ready to walk away.** When gossip becomes a problem, know when it’s time to excuse yourself. Make some noise about how that quarterly report won’t write itself or express you have a pressing deadline.

3. **Keep good records.** Write down your ideas and accomplishments. That way, when credit thieves pass off your work as their own, you have documentation. If necessary, provide your manager with a paper trail – showing the idea was your brainchild, not someone else’s.

4. **Stand up for yourself.** When someone spreads nasty rumors about you, say something. Diplomatically confront bullies and let them know their behavior is unacceptable. If necessary, bring it up with your manager.

Office politics is bound to happen in the modern workplace. You may not enjoy the game, but you should at least understand the rules — and be ready to play if necessary.

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