

Lehigh Valley Chapter Newsletter



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SAVE THE DATE!

May 6th- Lehigh Valley-Emerging Trends and Strategic Opportunities That Maximize Internal Audit's Value

In this session you will gain a clear understanding of actionable insights into trends and opportunities on how your internal audit function can enhance audit quality, ensure conformance, improve performance, boost your function's maturity, elevate credibility with stakeholders, and help strengthen your organization's ability to create, protect and sustain value. Join the IIA Lehigh Valley Chapter on May 6, 2026 for **Emerging Trends and Strategic Opportunities That Maximize Internal Audit's Value**, featuring Susan Verghese, CIA,CISA, Governance Risk Management and Strategy Specialist.

Whether your internal audit function recently completed an External Quality Assessment (EQA) or you will do so in the future, this dynamic session will provide valuable insight from EQAs IIA Quality Services has performed to date under the new Global Internal Audit Standards (Standards). You will also earn **1 NASBA CPE** credit!

Certifications

CERTIFIED INTERNAL AUDITOR (CIA)

[Certified Internal Auditor](#) | [Global Certification in Internal Audit](#) | [The IIA](#)

CERTIFICATION IN RISK MANAGEMENT ASSURANCE (CRMA)

[Certification in Risk Management Assurance](#) | [Global Certification in Internal Audit](#) | [The IIA](#)

INTERNAL AUDIT PRACTITIONER (IAP)

[Internal Audit Practitioner](#) | [Global Certification in Internal Audit](#) | [The IIA](#)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

Firstly, I would like to sincerely thank all of our members who have thoughtfully considered stepping up to be part of our Chapter Slate. Your willingness to get involved and support our organization is crucial as we work together to advance the Internal Audit profession for everyone, and it is truly appreciated. Whether you're a long-time member or new to our group, your contributions help shape the future of our chapter and make a positive impact within our professional community.

The official acceptance of the 2026-2027 Chapter Slate nominees will take place at our annual Iron Pigs event on May 8th, so please mark your calendars! This event will serve as both the business meeting and a fun social gathering for all our members. It's a great chance not only to connect with colleagues, but also to relax, share stories, and enjoy a baseball game together. We hope everyone joins us—whether you're there for the business or just hot dogs and home runs, it's sure to be a memorable evening.

Last month, our chapter hosted a Chapter Model event titled "Tactical AI—A Stage-by-Stage Guide to Transforming Audits," which provided an engaging look at how artificial intelligence is revolutionizing the audit world. The session highlighted practical ways AI can be integrated into audits and sparked plenty of thought-provoking discussions. It's exciting to see how technology is evolving within our field, and I hope that those who attended walked away with new ideas and inspiration.

In addition to that, we partnered with the ACFE for the annual Student Night at DeSales University. This event is always a highlight on our calendar, offering us a chance to connect with the next generation of internal auditors and fraud examiners. Meeting these talented students and sharing insights about the profession is as rewarding as it is energizing. If you haven't participated before, I highly recommend getting involved next time—our future leaders are eager to learn from your experiences! We're also partnering with the LV ACFE chapter on an all-day Spring conference at DeSales University on June 2nd.

As we approach the end of our chapter year next month, I want to remind everyone that May is also Internal Audit Awareness Month. It's a fantastic opportunity to celebrate our profession, reflect on our achievements, and look for ways to promote internal auditing within your own organizations and networks. Whether it's sharing your story on social media, organizing a lunch-and-learn, or simply talking about the value of audit over coffee, every effort counts. Let's make some noise and show the world why internal audit matters!

I hope to see you at the Iron Pigs!

Nanton John

President

Email contacts:

chapter144president@iiachaptercommunications.org

chapter144@iiachaptercommunications.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Topic	Location	Host	Presenter/Event Link	CPE
5/6/2026	Lehigh Valley- Emerging Trends and Strategic Opportunities that Maximize Internal Audit’s Value	Webinar (Chapter Model event)	Lehigh Valley IIA	Susan Verghese, CIA,CISA Lehigh Valley Chapter Model event	1
5/8/2026	Iron Pigs Social Event	Coca Cola Park, Allentown PA	Lehigh Valley IIA	N/A	n/a
6/2/2026	From Numbers to Narratives: How the New Mexico Department of Justice Builds Financial Crime Cases	DeSales University, Center Valley, PA	Lehigh Valley ACFE and IIA Joint Event	Vadim Witt, CPA, CFE, CAMS, FCI Jacqueline Torres, CPA, CFE Special Agent Peter J Ahearn, Jr. Lehigh Valley ACFE - Meeting registration	8

REGISTRATION INFORMATION IS SENT TO YOU VIA EMAIL FROM THE CHAPTER144@IIACHAPTERS.ORG

CHECK OUT THE CHAPTER WEBSITE FOR UPDATED INFORMATION ON EVENTS:

[LEHIGH VALLEY \(THEIIA.ORG\)](http://LEHIGH VALLEY (THEIIA.ORG))

Check out the IIA Site for Upcoming Conferences <https://www.theiia.org/en/learning/conferences/>

CHAPTER NEWS

WELCOME TO THE LEHIGH VALLEY CHAPTER!

Daniel Mars – PPL

Madison Kranch – PPL

Tiffany Bush – Wind Creek

Eliciane Noel – Wind Creek

Tyler Lehman – Commonwealth University - Bloomsburg

Kaeli Buntzen – Commonwealth University – Bloomsburg

Reece Himmel – Commonwealth University – Bloomsburg

Erik Aguero – Shift4 Payments, Inc.

Robert Oriko – Shift4 Payments, Inc.

Congratulations to the following member(s) for achieving their certifications!

Erin Rene Gelatko - Certified Internal Auditor(CIA)

CHAPTER NEWS (CONT'D)

Come join us for our annual social on May 8th at the Iron Pigs Game! We are again offering a flat rate of \$10 for members and their families, so take advantage of this great opportunity to come out to the ballpark see a game and network and reconnect with others. We will also hold elections for our Officers, Board of Governors, and Committee Chairs.

We are always looking for new volunteers so please submit a nomination request if interested!

2026-2027 IIA Lehigh Valley Chapter Slate of Officers

Official Vote will occur at the Social Event on May 8th

Position (Officers)	Nominee
President	Sherry Tomaine
Senior VP	Star Gonzalez
Treasurer	Sarah Rossetti
Secretary	Adria Nemeroff
Position (Required Committee Members)	Nominee
Audit Committee Member	Timothy Brezinsky
Audit Committee Member	Joseph Buick
Past President/Nominating Committee Chair	Nanton John
Nominating Committee Member	Hilari Rinehart
Nominating Committee Member	Jason Slabikosky
Optional Committee/Other Positions	
Certifications Chair	Debra Bealer
Membership Chair	Anthony Sabino
Programming Chair	OPEN
Academic Relations Chair	Carlos Aguilo
CAP Chair	N/A
CVENT Coordinator	Sarah Rossetti
Newsletter	Jodi Hartzell
Board of Governor	Nominee
BOG1 2027	Nanton John
BOG2 2027	Allan Vavra
BOG3 2027	Hilari Rinehart
BOG4 2027	Jason Slabikosky
BOG5 2027	Carlos Aguilo
BOG6 2027	OPEN
BOG1 2028	Joseph Buick
BOG2 2028	Jodi Hartzell
BOG3 2028	Debra Bealer
BOG4 2028	Anthony Sabino
BOG5 2028	Timothy Brezinsky
BOG6 2028	OPEN
BOG7 2028	OPEN
Non-voting	
	Jim Mahoney
	Shawn Dugan

REGIONAL AND SURROUNDING CHAPTERS

Chapter	Website
Central Jersey	https://www.theiia.org/en/chapters/united-states/new-jersey/central-jersey/
Central Penn	https://www.theiia.org/en/chapters/united-states/pennsylvania/central-pennsylvania/
Lehigh Valley	https://www.theiia.org/en/chapters/united-states/pennsylvania/lehigh-valley/
Philadelphia	https://www.theiia.org/en/chapters/united-states/pennsylvania/philadelphia/
New York	https://www.theiia.org/en/chapters/united-states/new-york/new-york/
Northeastern PA	https://www.theiia.org/en/chapters/united-states/pennsylvania/northeastern-pennsylvania/

NON-CHAPTER NEWS

- Top Risk Areas Internal Audit Must Address in TMT for 2026-**As innovation accelerates across the TMT sector, internal audit is being pushed beyond traditional assurance. Emerging technologies, expanding regulations, and new digital business models require more forward-looking oversight and stronger governance. [Top Risk Areas Internal Audit Must Address in TMT for 2026 - Crowe LLP - The IIA Resource Hub](#)
- 2026 RISE Virtual Conference** - The IIA’s RISE Virtual Conference is the premier online event designed for internal audit leadership. Whether you head an internal audit function, manage a team, or are preparing for a senior role, you’ll gain advanced strategies in Resilience, Innovation, Strategy, and Ethics to strengthen operational resilience and navigate emerging risks like cybersecurity. [2026 Rise Virtual Conference](#)
- The Cybersecurity Topical Requirement is now in effect!** -The Cybersecurity Topical Requirement sets a mandatory baseline for evaluating cybersecurity governance, risk management, and controls. Part of the International Professional Practices Framework® (IPPF®), it boosts consistency and audit quality. [Cybersecurity Topical Requirement | The IIA](#)
- Analytics, Automation, and AI Virtual Conference** - Digital transformation is reshaping internal audit and knowing where to start or how to scale makes all the difference. The **2026 Analytics, Automation & AI Virtual Conference** delivers practical guidance to help you build confidence, apply new tools, and move your audit function forward. [Analytics and Automation and AI Virtual Conference | The IIA](#)
- Organizational Behavior Topical Requirement** - The newly released Organizational Behavior Topical Requirement and user guide promote quality and consistency when assessing the observable human actions, decisions, and interpersonal dynamics in an organization. [Organizational Behavior Topical Requirement](#)
- Support Identification of Audit Trends** - Be a part of this premier annual research project, now featuring AI and fraud, plus key benchmarks for budgets and staffing. Open to all CAEs and directors in North America through November 21. [2026 North American Pulse of Internal Audit](#)

NON-CHAPTER NEWS (CONT'D)

- **Auditing AI Course** Discover a revolutionary approach to AI training with Auditing AI: A Hands-On Course for Internal Auditors! This immersive, hands-on experience offers your team the chance to master AI and generative AI concepts in a secure, controlled lab environment. Plus, earn valuable Microsoft certifications. [Auditing Artificial Intelligence \(AI\): A Hands-On Course for Internal Auditors \(theiia.org\)](https://theiia.org)
- **All Things Internal Audit Tech: Auditing Privacy in the Age of AI** Charles King of KPMG talks with Kavin Anburaj from Meta about privacy in today's AI-driven world. They cover key data risks, global regulations, and practical steps for auditing privacy programs with transparency, consent, and collaboration. [Auditing Privacy in the Age of AI](#)

CHAPTER LEADERS

**2025/2026 IIA Lehigh Valley Chapter Officers,
Board of Governors, and Committee Chairs**

Officers/Committee Chairs	Name
President	Nanton John
President-Elect	Sherry Tomaine
Treasurer	Sarah Rossetti
Secretary	Adria Nemeroff
Certifications Chair	Debra Bealer
Membership Chair	Anthony Sabino
Programming Chair	Sherry Tomaine
Audit Committee Chair	Joseph Buick
Audit Committee Member	Carlos Aguilo
Nominating Committee Chair	OPEN
Nominating Committee Member	Hilari Rinehart
Academic Relations Chair	Tara Zrinski
CAP Chair	Star Gonzalez
EMT Manager	Sarah Rossetti
Newsletter	Jodi Hartzell

Board of Governor	Name
BOG1 2026	Shawn Dugan
BOG3 2026	Jason Slabikosky
BOG1 2027	Rob Cirillo
BOG2 2027	Allan Vavra
BOG3 2027	Hilari Rinehart
BOG4 2027	Tara Zrinski
BOG1 2028	Star Gonzalez
BOG2 2028	Jodi Hartzell
BOG3 2028	Charles Ballard
Non-voting	
	Jim Mahoney
	Joseph Buick

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Check out the Lehigh Valley Chapters LinkedIn page!!!

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/13353471>