



The Institute of
Internal Auditors
Springfield

Springfield Audit Trails

April 2026

Message from the President

Kayla Routh

Hello Springfield Chapter! Happy Spring. We have the results of the election, which will be discussed at our Annual General Meeting. Further details about the Annual General Meeting are below. The Springfield Chapter Leaders would like to thank everyone for checking your affiliation with the Chapter and voting in the election. We greatly appreciate it and hope you will consider joining the leadership team in the future!

The Annual General Meeting will be held after training at 12:30 on April 30th. During this meeting, we will go over the election results and discuss some general items for the Chapter. This meeting is not likely to run more than 10-15 minutes so please come join us!

Please Note: The General Meeting will occur on the same Zoom link as the training event in April. If you are not going to attend training, but would like to attend the General Meeting, please let Katrina Woodcock know at least a week before the meeting so she can provide the link. We will have a separate event set up for you to sign up so we can have the expected attendance for the meeting.

This was a very short and sweet update from the President. I hope everyone keeps enjoying the wonderful springtime.

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Training

April Training

Katrina Woodcock, CPA, CIA

Join us for a two-day training course, on 4/29/26-4/30/26, from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm each day, with John J. Hall, CPA. He will present on how to audit *BETTER!* through audit project planning, execution, and reporting! For the full and *BETTER!* experience, we recommend joining us for the complete two-day training!

After Day 2 of the training, on 4/30/26, the Springfield IIA will host its Annual General Meeting where we'll go over the results of our recent elections.

How to Audit Better!

Take your audit team and individual auditor results to their highest level yet. This session dives deep into Level 1 Core Skills, Level 2 Behavior & Communication Skills, and Level 3 Internal Consulting Skills for audit professionals across organizations and industries. Discover actions to build speed, measurable value, management action, and a positive lasting impression on those you serve.

- Discover a better method of audit staff skill development—technical, behavioral, and consulting.
- Learn better use of continuous auditing and monitoring of key indicators.
- Educate yourself on better audit project planning, execution, reporting, and follow-up.
- Learn about baked-in risk brainstorming on every project.
- Find out how to perform better audit interviews and presentations.
- Discover how to sell audit ideas and influence management action.
- Learn how to wipe out the boring audit blues.

Part 1 – Audit Project Planning & Risk Brainstorming

Session Summary

Effective audit planning is the most important phase of any audit project. Bringing precision and clarity to objectives, expectations, data analytics decisions, and resulting audit program documentation is the very foundation of successful audits.

In this session, we'll explore exactly how to plan audit projects. We'll cover the role of audit leaders and effective risk brainstorming and response. Most importantly, we'll cover what works and what gets in the way right from the start of audit planning efforts.

Learning Objectives

- Build risk brainstorming actions that cover both 'what could go wrong' and 'what opportunities for improvement are being missed.'
- Discover how simply asking audit leaders three key questions allows us to efficiently draft audit program steps
- Explore the importance of sampling decisions during project planning
- Recognize how and why the effective use of data analytics is the magic solution to surfacing hidden issues & missed opportunities
- Understand why 50-minute live-in-person planning meetings should be required on every audit project

Part 2 – Audit Project Execution & Fieldwork

Session Summary

Execution of audit program steps – often called 'fieldwork' – is where the rubber meets the road on every project. All the planning in the world won't ensure effective, efficient audit execution. What's essential is the execution of audit programs by auditor teams with a combination of outstanding technical, behavioral, communication, and consultative skills.

In this session, we'll build a checklist of the skills and actions needed for audit project execution. Participants will leave with a better understanding of what they need to do to ensure consistent, measurable value on every audit project.

Learning Objectives

- Identify critical technical, behavior and communication skills required for effective audit execution
- Build a daily action reminder checklist supporting "*Better!*" audit project execution
- Explore participant and audit team behavior that limits effective interaction with the auditees and business partners we serve in our work
- Understand what auditees see and experience during audits impacts their willingness to make corrective changes
- Discover the importance of actively evaluating what the audit *didn't cover* and the impact on risk management

Part 3 – Audit Project Communications & Results Reporting

Session Summary

Our ability to build business rapport and trust starts at the very first contact and continues long after the audit is officially concluded, and the auditors leave the field. It's a daily campaign, not a one-time event. Effective daily communication of plans, intentions, project status, and results is critical to influencing action on audit findings. Nothing should be a last-minute surprise.

In this session, participants will workshop what works and what gets in the way in our interactions with auditees and clients. We'll build a reminder checklist of action steps to take each day. Our goal is to ensure there are no gaps in communication or misunderstandings.

Learning Objectives

- Define audit 'results reporting.'
- Identify the many formal and informal moments during every audit when results are presented for management consideration
- Understand how to deliver results clearly and visually
- Explore the power of 'motivational interviewing' to initiate corrective action during audit fieldwork
- Discover how *Intentional Shifting* from presentation of observations to asking about solutions can influence corrective actions – in every auditee or client discussion

Part 4 – Virtual & Hybrid Audit Execution Issues & Actions

Session Summary

The day-to-day work disruption from COVID-19 has caused auditors to reconsider how to work effectively and efficiently in an off-site virtual or blended hybrid model. But it's nothing new. Auditors in large international organizations have been perfecting this approach for years – making best use of readily available technology while managing time-zone differences, cultural preferences, and widely decentralized management structures.

In this session, we'll take a deep look at the challenges and many opportunities for auditors working in a virtual or hybrid environment. We'll list proven best practices as well as limiting habits, all with the goal of building results and strengthening daily behaviors.

Learning Objectives

- Define virtual and hybrid audit models
- Discover the many advantages of auditing in a virtual off-site manner – for both the auditor and those we audit
- Avoid the many barriers, potholes, and problems of off-site virtual auditing efforts by acting before the moments when these challenges can block our progress
- Explore the five key ingredients that all virtual and hybrid audits require

- Build daily reminder checklists for virtual audit meetings, interviews, and presentations
- Understand what can go wrong and build habits to prevent it from happening on your projects

Bio – John J. Hall, CPA

John J. Hall, CPA, has worked as an auditor, professional speaker, consultant, and author for over 49+ long, long, LONG years. He builds and delivers live and virtual keynote presentations, skills training seminars, webinars, and in-person conference main-stage keynote and technical-session breakout presentations for management and auditors, including over 3,500 live presentations to date.

John is best known for bringing practical, proven, efficient solutions to real-world business challenges (including especially ethics and fraud risks!!!) faced by clients and program participants.

John is the founder and President of Hall Consulting, Inc. In addition to 35-plus years as a self-employed speaker, auditor, and consultant, John has worked in senior leadership positions in large corporations and international public accounting and consulting firms. For many decades, John has been a member of the National Speakers Association, the American Institute of CPAs, and the Institute of Internal Auditors.

Meet John at www.JohnHallSpeaker.com

Connect with John on LinkedIn at: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/john-hall-cpa-keynote-speaker-consultant-6431062/>

Contact John at www.John@JohnHallSpeaker.com/contact/

Call John in the US on his mobile: 312-560-9931

PLEASE NOTE: While our registration notes the invoicing option is only available for State of Illinois employees, the Chapter will review requests for an exception to this rule on a case-by-case basis. If you would like to request an exception to use the invoicing option and are not a State of Illinois employee, please reach out to the Chapter at Chapter145support@iiachaptercommunications.org.

Cancellations should be made prior to the start of training.

NOTE: CPE Certificates will not be issued until payment is received

Questions? Email - Chapter Secretary Chapter145support@iiachaptercommunications.org

Register for the training here

Virtual Training

How to Audit *Better!*

April 29-30

8:30 AM – 12:20 PM

You may pay with a credit card.

Make Checks Payable to: **The Institute of Internal Auditors–Springfield (FEIN 37-1088763)**

Mail Checks to: **Springfield Chapter Institute of Internal Auditors**

P.O. Box 332, Rochester, IL 62563



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Become an IIA Volunteer

Volunteers help to maintain the Chapter and keep services available for members. There are many ways you can get involved with the IIA. Whether you are an experienced leader or just entering the field of internal auditing, there is a place for you at the IIA. If you are interested in volunteering on a large or small scale and would like more information about those opportunities, please email the Springfield IIA at Chapter145support@iiachaptercommunications.org. We would love to provide you with any information you need about Officer, Governor, or other volunteer roles.



(Source: Google Images)

HQ News & Events

You can find out events and news from the IIA by going to www.theiia.org. Additionally, as part of your membership you can access exclusive webinars and articles on the site. See below for exciting training opportunities that Headquarters is offering:

2026 Analytics, Automation and AI Virtual Conference (April 7, 2026; Virtual Only)

Build the analytics, automation, and AI competencies internal auditors need to deliver deeper assurance and smarter insights. PLUS: Registration includes a FREE AI OnDemand Nano Course (a \$59 value!) [Analytics and Automation and AI Virtual Conference | The IIA](#)

2026 Global Student Conference (April 19-21, 2026)

Students, educators, and internal audit professionals convene for a competitive case study challenge, career development resources, and networking. [Global Student Conference | Future of Internal Audit](#)

2026 Singapore IIA International Conference (June 22-24, 2026)

The IIA's 2026 International Conference brings together internal auditors, leaders, and influencers from more than 100 countries for a truly global learning and networking experience. Attendees will engage in immersive education, practical solutions, and forward-looking insights designed to address emerging risks and evolving expectations across industries and regions. For more information, visit [IIA International Conference 2025 – The IIA's International Conference](#)

2026 RISE Virtual Conference (Jul 10, 2026)

The IIA's RISE Virtual Conference is the premier online event designed for internal audit leadership. [2026 Rise Virtual Conference](#)



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2025-2026 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Springfield Chapter of the Institute of Internal Auditors

April 29-30 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM, <i>each day</i>	John Hall Better! Auditing (8 CPE)	Register Here	Members \$160 Non-Members \$240
May 27 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Mary Breslin Leveraging AI in Audit (4 CPE)		Members \$80 Non-Members \$120
May 28 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Dr. Gleb Tsipursky Addressing Unconscious Bias and Making the Best Decisions for Auditors (4 CPE)		Members \$80 Non-Members \$120

You may pay with a credit card.

Cancellations should be made prior to the start of training.

Meetings are currently being held remotely for the 2025-2026 Program Year unless otherwise noted.

Note: CPE Certificates will not be issued until payment is received

Chapter Mailing Address Springfield Chapter Institute of Internal Auditors
P.O. Box 332
Rochester, IL 62563

Email - Chapter Secretary Chapter145support@iiachaptercommunications.org

Chapter Officials 2025-26 (June 1, 2025 – May 31, 2026)

Officers

President

Administration
Audit
Nominating Committee

First Vice President

Programs and Seminars
Certifications Program
Nominating Committee

Second Vice President

Academic Relations
Memberships

Secretary

Seminar Registration
Directory, Distribution, PR
Newsletter

1st Treasurer

2nd Treasurer

Kayla Routh

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Katrina Woodcock, CPA, CIA

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Charla Bond-Jones

Charla.V.Bond-Jones@illinois.gov

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Governors

2023-2026 Angie Bartlett, CPA, CIA
Butch Stilwell
Candice Long
David Brink

2024-2027 Nick Barnard
Jackie Hohn
Nikki Lanier, CPA

2025-2028 Casey Evans
Sally Burton

Past President Staceyann Cabey-Kaufmann

Other Volunteers

Newsletter

Dani Berrien

Financial Statements Reviewer

Kirsten Bergerud and Tate Snyder