


AGA
EAST TENNESSEE CHAPTER

December 2001

NEWSLETTER

Issue 4

President's Message

Greetings all! I hope this newsletter finds everyone in good health and good spirits. As we begin the holiday season, it is a great time to take a breath and reflect on the year you have had while also preparing for the busy season ahead. My hopes are that you have a wonderful season.

Our meeting on November 13th was well attended and turned out very good. Our scheduled speaker, Dave Saxe, was called out of town and will not be speaking until the March meeting. State Senator for Sevier and Blount Counties, Bill Clabough, was our speaker. He spoke to our group regarding the State's budget and answered many questions about the future of our State's finances. It was a very informative speech. Thank you for your attendance.

Our next meeting is scheduled for December 11th on the Tennessee Riverboat, The Star of Knoxville. We will have a representative from the Angel Tree to pick-up our gifts and speak to us about the Angel Tree project. We will also have a keyboard player to play Christmas music for us while we eat. This

meeting will be a great time to relax away from the office and from the busy Christmas season.

If you ever have any questions, suggestions or comments, please feel free to call me or e-mail me. My office phone number is (865) 273-5710 and my e-mail address is dbennett@mail.blount.state.tn.us.

See you at the December meeting! Happy Holidays!

David R. Bennett, CPA, CGFM,
President



December Meeting

Date: Tuesday, December 11th
Time: 11:30 - 1:00
Place: Knoxville Riverboat
Cost: \$10.00

Feel free to invite non-members. Non-member cost is \$22 a person. If you are planning to attend, please notify Susan Gennoe by noon November 27th at (865)273-5718 or sgennoe@mail.blount.state.tn.us.

Tennessee Riverboat

This month's meeting will be a special holiday treat. We will be having lunch while cruising the Tennessee River. The Star of Knoxville is an authentic paddle wheeler with a capacity of 325 passengers. The vessel is equipped with a dance floor, band stage, and is exquisitely decorated for the most elegant dinner and entertainment available. The riverboat is licensed by the United States Coast Guard and conforms to the rigid requirements for passenger safety. U.S. Coast Guard requires that all Captains and Deckhands are trained in fire fighting, first aid, and safety procedures.

There will be live entertainment and the menu consist of chicken, gravy, mashed potatoes, corn, green beans, salad, rolls, dessert, and drink.

There will be an Angel Tree representative at the meeting to

collect our Angel Tree gifts and speak about the Angel Tree project.

Thank you to everyone that picked up an Angel. We had 50 Angel Tree tags and all have been distributed. This just shows the sincerity of our East Tennessee AGA group. Thanks again for making this a successful charity drive!

Minutes – November 13th

The third chapter meeting for the year 2001-2002 was held Tuesday, November 13, 2001, at the Calhouns on the River. David Bennett welcomed everyone. The stars for the Angel Tree were distributed and instructions were given. The gifts are to be returned at the December meeting and a representative from the Angel Tree will be present to pick them up. Robert Harrill won a door prize consisting of items from the Virginia AGA Chapter. The other door prize was to be given to anyone who could recite the AGA mission statement. Unfortunately the prize went unclaimed. Tom Collins was recognized for his service upon his retirement from TVA, so he received the door prize of an AGA shirt. Tom is retiring on Friday, November 16th with 27 years of service. Good luck with retirement. The blessing was offered and the buffet began at 11:50 am.

Dave introduced our speaker, Tennessee State Senator Bill Clabough. Senator Clabough talked about the state's financial crisis and the downward spiral. Only \$8 billion

of the state's budget of \$18.9 billion is due to state taxes. Of this amount, around \$1 billion goes to higher education. Eighty-five percent of the state budget is dedicated to constitutional obligations and federal mandates. Mental health and retardation is the fastest growing segment of the budget. The current years budget used \$528 million of tobacco money. This one time money has been used to balance the budget for recurring expenditures. Senator Clabough stated that the state is loosing approximately \$360 million by not taxing Internet sales. The state also stands to loose federal matching funds if we cannot meet the state dollar requirements. Looking forward, Senator Clabough said that the state needs to forge ahead to fix the problem with funding or we could be facing 15-20 years to recover. Senator Clabough finished with taking members questions.

Dave thanked Senator Clabough and presented him with a token of our appreciation. Dave reminded everyone that the deadline for the December meeting aboard the Star of Knoxville is November 27th. The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Donahue
Secretary



Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

The chapter executive meeting was held Tuesday, November 13, 2001 at Calhouns on the River after the monthly chapter luncheon. Dave called the meeting to order at 12:55 pm. The following officers were present: David Bennett - President and Liaison, Carol Malkemus - President-Elect, Mike Blair - Treasurer, Aldena Phillips - Membership Chair, Dana Lamson - Newsletter Editor and Program Chair, Nancy Donahue - Secretary, Susan Gennoe - Meetings Chair, Phyllis Palmer - Webmaster, Suzanne Walker - CGFM and Research Chair, Tom Collins - Public Service Chair, Amy Paganelli - Historian, Robert Harrill - Awards Chair and Greg Jaynes - Education Chair.

David announced that the chapters all day seminar is to be on April 12, 2002 at Pellissippi State Technical Community College. The speakers have been set and Dave asked for lunch entertainment suggestions. Everyone was reminded of the December meeting deadline.

Tom Collins was given an AGA shirt in appreciation of his service. There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 1:05 pm.

The next chapter meeting will be on Tuesday, December 11, 2001 at the Star of Knoxville

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Donahue
Secretary

**Member Profile –
Tom Collins**

Tom Collins has formerly been president of East Tennessee Chapter of AGA and has been serving as Public Service Chair for the past six years. He is now a retiree from Tennessee Valley Authority as of November 16th. He worked for TVA for 27 years. His positions included Accounting Specialist, Senior Control Analyst, and Internal Audit/Controls Specialists.

Tom has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting from the University of Tennessee and advance degree credit in Public Health and Planning. He is also a graduate of the Army Command and General Staff College.

Tom has spent 35 years so far with the United States Army Reserve including active duty with the 82nd Airborne Division now serving in the grade of LTC with the 100th Division (IT). His current position is Combined Arms Services School Instructor.

Tom's certifications include Certified Government Financial

Manager (CGFM), Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE), and Certified Tax Practitioner (CTP).

Tom's hobbies include woodworking and anything outdoors including BIG Orange Football!!

Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars for December 11th, from approximately 11:30 to 1:30 pm for our Christmas lunch meeting on the Knoxville Riverboat. This will be a great opportunity to take time away from our busy schedules to enjoy a cruise on the Tennessee River.

The cost of this lunch will be \$10 for members and \$22 for non-members. We will need to know by November 27th if you plan to attend. No cancellations can be made after this date or you will be liable for the cost of the lunch cruise. Please notify Susan Gennoe by noon on November 27th.

Also, at the December meeting an Angel Tree representative will be there to pick up the Angel Tree gifts from our AGA Chapter. Thank you to everyone who chose Angels.



National Events

January 24-25, 2002
Federal Leadership Conference
Washington, DC

July 7-10, 2002
Professional Development
Conference
Atlanta, GA

Chapter Reports

For the start of our new year we have 2,732 in chapter points. Mike Blair, Treasurer, reported an ending cash balance of \$6,480.14 on October 31, 2001.

Community Service Events

Angel Tree – Don't forget your gifts on December 11th and a BIG thank you for your involvement!

Ronald McDonald House – please start bringing small toiletry items to donate

Coats for the Cold & Canned Foods – There were about 12 coats donated to Coats for the Cold on the behalf of East Tennessee AGA chapter this past Monday. Thank you for your donations!
Thank you to everyone who brought canned goods to the November meeting. We donated 91 pounds of food to Second Harvest Food Bank.

AGA Mission Statement

AGA serves professionals in the government financial management community by providing quality education, fostering professional development and certification and supporting standards and research to advance government accountability.

AGA's Long Range Strategic Plan has nine parts. Members are welcomed to comment at AGA's website on the following parts:

- Education & Research
- Certification
- Marketing
- Technology
- Communications
- Programs & Services
- Internal Structure & Services
- International
- Advocacy

Website

Don't forget to visit our website. The website address is:
www.kornnet.org/etaga.

AGA's National website:
www.agacgfm.org

Make Note!!

We have confirmed that the AGA lunches **do** count for one hour of **CPE** for CPA's.

2001-2002
East TN AGA Chapter Calendar

12/11 – Angel Tree Representative
Tennessee Riverboat

1/08 – Joe Ayers, Pres. Cumberland
Securities
Tennessee Grill

2/12 – Jeff Hall
former UT football kicker
Naples

3/12 – Dave Saxe, Vice-President,
Journal Broadcasting
Copper Cellar

4/09 – Frank Crawford and Robert
Smith
Pellissippi – all day seminar

5/14 – Awards Banquet
? Don Sundquist
UT Faculty Club

Officers for 2001-2002

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For newsletter submissions, please contact Dana Lamson at 865-273-5717 or email dlamson@mail.blount.state.tn.us. If you do not receive the newsletter by email, but would like to, please send Dana your email address.

