

# East Tennessee Times

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## President's Message—Gail Cook, CGFM, CPA

I hope everyone had a good Christmas and a Happy New Year! We had a good turnout for our December meeting and I appreciate everyone who participated in the Angel Tree project.

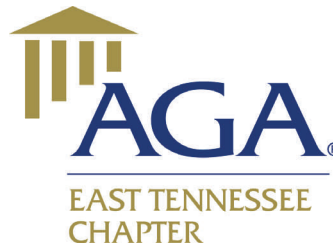
We are going to start off the year with a great speaker. Fellow member Mindy Stooksbury will be at our January meeting and will present a session on generation gaps and how to deal with the turbulence.

We have our Spring Seminar scheduled for April 23 and will be providing you additional information on that in

the upcoming month.

Our service project for January is the Ronald McDonald House. We will be collecting toiletry items and games for them. Remember, all participants will earn AGA Incentive Dollars!

I hope to see each and every one of you at the January meeting. Let's start this new year off with a record attendance.



*Gail*

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## January Meeting—Mindy Stooksbury, RSBA, PHR

Mindy Stooksbury has held the position of Director of Fiscal Services for Maryville City Schools since 1998. In her current position, she handles accounting, budgeting, payroll, human resources and employee wellness.

Ms. Stooksbury is currently pursuing her Doctor of Educa-

tion degree with a concentration in Organizational Leadership and minors in Conflict Resolution and School Business Management. She holds a Masters of Business Administration from Lincoln Memorial University.

In addition to being a member of our AGA Chapter, Mindy actively participates in the Asso-

ciation of School Business Officials International and is currently the Vice Chairman of the Human Resources Committee.

Mindy has been married to Joel, an engineer at Denso Manufacturing, for the past 15 years. They live in Louisville with their three dogs.

**Tuesday, January 13**

Calhoun's on the River  
400 Neyland Drive  
(865) 673-3399

11:30—12:10 Registration and Lunch

12:10—1:00 Presentation

Menu: Smoked Sirloin and Chicken Tenders

Cost \$10 per member

**RSVP: Kristi Reynolds**

[kureynolds@tvaog.gov](mailto:kureynolds@tvaog.gov) by 01/08/2009

## AGA National News...

**CNN to Broadcast *I.O.U.S.A.***—CNN/ U.S. will air the broadcast premiere of the acclaimed documentary *I.O.U.S.A.* on **Saturday, Jan. 10 at 2 p.m. EST** and on **Sunday, Jan. 11 at 3 p.m. EST**. *I.O.U.S.A.* boldly examines the rapidly growing national debt and its consequences for the U.S. and its citizens. **Learn more at [www.iousothemovie.com](http://www.iousothemovie.com).**

**'Intergovernmental Cooperation' Focus of AGA's Second Radio Show Airing on Jan. 13**— Called, "*Your*

*Money, Your Government*," the show is hosted by AGA Executive Director, **Reimond Van Daniker, DBA, CPA**. Speakers include: **Martin Benison**, Comptroller, Commonwealth of Massachusetts; **David Bennett**, Assistant County Mayor and Director of Accounts & Budgets, Blount County, TN; **Tom Cooley**, Chief Financial Officer and Director, Office of Budget, Finance and Award Administration (BFA), NSF; and **Jeanette Franzel**, Director, Financial Management and Assurance, U.S. Government Accountability Office. Listen to the show at

[www.federalnewsradio.com](http://www.federalnewsradio.com) and check out the upcoming show and speaker schedule. Stay tuned!



Visit AGA's website at [www.agacgfm.org](http://www.agacgfm.org) for more information.

## 2008-2009 National Events Calendar

**01/21** How XBRL Can Enable Improved Financial and Performance Based Reporting—Audio Conference

**02/11** Building Fraud Risk Assessment into Audit Planning—Audio Conference

**02/16-02/19** AGA Intensive Review Course/ CGFM Exams—Washington, DC

**02/19-02/20** National Leadership Conference—Washington, DC

**03/09-03/12** Strategic Human Capital Management—Washington, DC

**03/23-03/26** Social Media for Government—Washington, DC

### AGA's 2009

**Professional Development Conference  
New Orleans June 21-24, 2009**

**04/02-04/03 Southeastern Regional  
PDC—Nashville Doubletree Hotel**

## Certified Government Financial Manager—FAQs

**Q: What is the cost of CGFM examinations and how do I purchase them?**

**A:** The cost is \$109 per examination. There are three examinations: Governmental Environment Examination; Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting Examination; and Governmental Financial Management and Control Examination.

You can purchase the examinations on the AGA website. Go to the "How to Purchase the Exams?" section on the AGA website for more information.

**Q: Do I have to take all three examinations at the same time or in any particular order?**

**A:** No. You may take up to three years to complete all three examinations. Examinations can be taken in any order.

**Q: How long are the exams?**

**A:** Each examination has approximately 100 questions. You are given two-hours and fifteen minutes to complete each exam.

**Q: How often are the examinations offered?**

**A:** They are offered six days a week all year round. Some centers may even offer evening hours for testing. You will schedule your own examination testing appointment after purchasing the CGFM examinations on the website.



**Need direct assistance?  
Contact Katya Silver at  
[ksilver@agacgfm.org](mailto:ksilver@agacgfm.org).**

Visit [www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/cgfmdefault.aspx](http://www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/cgfmdefault.aspx).

## Chapter Meeting Calendar...

**01/13/2009 Mindy Stooksbury, Generation Gaps, at Calhoun's on the River**

02/10/2009 TVA, Teleworking, at Calhoun's on the River

03/10/2009 Shannon McCloud, Safe Haven Law, at Calhoun's on the River

04/21/2009 Spring Seminar with Robert Smith at Rothchild's

05/12/2009 Awards Ceremony and Final Meeting at Calhoun's on the River

Remember that all regular monthly meetings start at 11:30am and end at 1:00pm. Most meetings are offering at least 1 CPE for those needing continuing education. This is a great deal...lunch and 1 CPE for only \$10!

**Regional PDC Update**

The Southeastern Region will hold its annual conference in Nashville, Tennessee with the theme "Accountability, Challenges, and Change". Speakers will discuss accountabil-

ity issues that face government accountants, auditors and financial managers.

Confirmed speakers include Gene Dodaro, Acting Comptroller General of the United States; Sam Mok, AGA National President; Honorable Janice Holder, Tennessee Chief Justice; Karl Dean, Mayor of Nashville; Bruce Androphy, Director of the Tennessee Ethics Commission; and Hiram Hasty with the AICPA. This conference will provide up to 16 hours of continuing professional education. Registration is \$350 by March 4, 2009 and \$375 on and after March 5, 2009.

## Service Projects Calendar...Dana West, Chairperson

The East TN Chapter prides itself on our commitment to local charities and we encourage each of you to join in the service projects held throughout the year. More information will be available at the monthly meetings on the specifics of each project. **For January, our charity is Ronald McDonald House. Please bring travel toiletries, or shampoo, soap, toothpaste, tooth brushes, etc.**

Feb: Smoky Mountain Animal Care Center

Mar: A Secret Safe Place for Newborns of East Tennessee

Apr: East TN Children's Hospital Encology Clinic

May: American Cancer Society

If you have questions about any of the charities or projects, contact Dana West at [dwest@blounttn.org](mailto:dwest@blounttn.org).

**Financial Information**  
Treasurer Mike Blair reported the bank balance as of 11/30/08 as \$19,670.56.

## Chapter Recognition Program Points Update

Leadership: 1725

Education: 1975

Certification: 1025

Communication: 3050

Membership: 125

Early Careers: 0

Community Service: 625

Awards: 0

**Total YTD: 8525**

The Chapter Recognition Program provides incentives and awards to participating chapters. It provides a framework for chapters that allows for a well-rounded chapter pro-

gram each year. The non-competitive program consists of the eight areas listed above and chapters receive credit for meeting goals and activities as designated by AGA. Want to know more? Just ask one of your board members for more details.

# IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT



**East Tennessee AGA wants YOU to be an active member of our chapter.**

**To encourage membership and participation we are going to offer the following rewards:**

<b>Sponsorship of new member</b>	<b>\$20 Incentive voucher</b>
<b>New members</b>	<b>\$20 Incentive voucher</b>
<b>For every 3 meetings attended</b>	<b>\$10 Incentive voucher</b>
<b>Active committee member</b>	<b>\$15 Incentive voucher</b>
<b>Service project participation</b>	<b>Incentive vouchers (amount varies by project)</b>

**These vouchers can be used within the chapter to pay for AGA dues, meals, or seminars!!**

## Advancing Government Accountability

East Tennessee Chapter, AGA  
Attn: Gail Cook, President  
Finance & Accounting Consultant  
UT—MTAS  
120 Conference Center Building  
Knoxville TN 37996

Phone: 865-974-9825  
Fax: 865-974-0423  
Email: [gail.cook@tennessee.edu](mailto:gail.cook@tennessee.edu)

### East Tennessee AGA

We're on the web!  
[www.discovernet.org/  
etaga](http://www.discovernet.org/etaga)

### Chapter Officers

President	Gail Cook, CGFM	<a href="mailto:gail.cook@tennessee.edu">gail.cook@tennessee.edu</a>
President-Elect	Nancy Donahue, CGFM	<a href="mailto:ndonahue@pstcc.edu">ndonahue@pstcc.edu</a>
Treasurer	Mike Blair, CGFM	<a href="mailto:tmblair@tva.gov">tmblair@tva.gov</a>
Secretary	Amy Rush, CIA	<a href="mailto:arrush@tva.gov">arrush@tva.gov</a>
Newsletter	Mindy Stooksbury, RSBA	<a href="mailto:mbstooks@ci.maryville.tn.us">mbstooks@ci.maryville.tn.us</a>
Historian	Amy Paganelli, CGFM	<a href="mailto:apaganel@mc.utmck.edu">apaganel@mc.utmck.edu</a>
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Awards	Julie Talbott	<a href="mailto:jtalbott@blountn.org">jtalbott@blountn.org</a>
Programs	Joe Taylor	<a href="mailto:jwtaylor1@comcast.net">jwtaylor1@comcast.net</a>
Public Service	Dana West	<a href="mailto:dwest@blountn.org">dwest@blountn.org</a>
Meetings	Kristi Reynolds	<a href="mailto:kureynolds@tva.gov">kureynolds@tva.gov</a>
Webmaster	Allen Rippetoe, CGFM	<a href="mailto:arippetoe@blountn.org">arippetoe@blountn.org</a>

### December Meeting Minutes

The meeting began with President Gail Cook mentioning the upcoming regional professional development conference. She turned the floor over to Programs Chair, Joe Taylor, who introduced Bacon, Howard, & Company Audit Manager John Sutton, CPA.

Mr. Sutton began speaking about the new Department of Labor (DOL) 403(b) requirements. He discussed the exemptions from the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), which is the law that enables DOL to issue regulations concerning the administration, auditing, and reporting of employee benefit plans. In addition, Mr. Sutton informed the group of the following:

- IRS Form 5500 must be completed and submitted by the deadline for those organizations that are not exempt.
- All 403(b) plans are required to have a written plan document as of January 1, 2009 which must be communicated to the employees on an annual basis. Finance/Accounting and Human Resources must work together on the plan document.
- 'Timely deposits' will be a big audit risk since it is a major enforcement issue per the DOL. 'Timely deposits' are defined as deposits made as soon as administratively possible or no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the following month. Delinquent deposits are subject to an excise tax.

Third-party administrators may be selected to help enable an organization to be compliant with the DOL and IRS.

Mr. Sutton ended the discussion by mentioning what may occur in the future with the 403(b) requirements. The meeting adjourned with President Gail Cook wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

There was no board meeting.