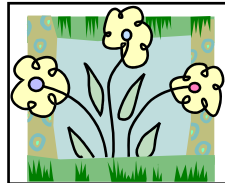


## President's Message

By Tonya Davis

Ahh... The Ides of March. It's going to be springtime soon. Everyone is out sprucing up their house and their yard.



The Board has been busy sprucing up and getting ready for the April seminar. It looks like they have sowed the seeds for some excellent continuing education. This month we have the public television service project. Come out and enjoy some fellowship and wonderful food. I encourage everyone to participate.

The next service project will be to help clean up the grounds of the Ronald McDonald House. I am trying to get Seymour Cub Scout Pack 585 to assist with this project. We still need adult volunteers to assist the boys, because many of them have not had any grounds keeping experience. It should be fun. The more volunteers we have, the faster we get done.

I have a few more months as your president. Soon a new board will be chosen. Help support your AGA chapter by volunteering for a position.

Until next time....

Tonya 🍀

## March Chapter Meeting

**Tuesday, March 9, 2004**  
**11:30 AM**

**Missy Kane**

**Naples Italian Restaurant**  
5500 Kingston Pike  
(865) 584 - 5033

### Menu

Choice of:

Mandarin Walnut Salad  
Manicotti  
Traditional Lasagna

Dessert:

Chocolate Italian Cream Cake

**Cost \$7.00 per member or \$5.00 plus  
4 cans of food**

Please contact Sherry Sheffey at (865) 273-5723 or [ssheffey@blounttn.org](mailto:ssheffey@blounttn.org) with your reservation and menu choice by March 5, 2004.

## In This Issue...

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# AGA National News

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## AGA's National Leadership Conference a Big Success

*Financial Responders: Financial Leadership in an Era of Crisis*

More than 400 people participated in AGA's Second Annual National Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C. on February 19 through 20, 2004. Many attendees said they were pleased to hear how much is being done behind the scenes by the first responders in this time of crisis. Read about the National Leadership Conference at [www.agacfgm.org/publications/topics/030104/nlc.aspx](http://www.agacfgm.org/publications/topics/030104/nlc.aspx).

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## AGA Member Robert H. Attmore, CGFM, Elected Chairman of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board

The Financial Accounting Foundation has announced that Robert H. Attmore, a former Deputy State Comptroller, New York State Comptroller's Office, has been elected Chairman of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), effective July 1, 2004. Go to [www.agacfgm.org/downloads/AttmoreRelease.pdf](http://www.agacfgm.org/downloads/AttmoreRelease.pdf).

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## Register Now for 2004 Professional Development Conference

The 2004 PDC will be held June 27-30 in Washington, D.C. The theme for this year's PDC is "Technology: Powering the Accountability Age." The conference will be held at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel. The PDC will bring together more than 1,200 federal, state and local government professionals, as well as private sector leaders, to discuss timely issues affecting government financial management. The conference offers 25 CPE hours and provides unparalleled opportunities to make valuable professional contacts, discuss challenges, discover creative solutions and gain the tools you need to become more effective. Go to <http://www.agacfgm.org/pdc/> for more information in the PDC in Washington, D.C.

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## March Issues of the TOPICS and CGFM TOPICS are now available

You can access the TOPICS Newsletter at [www.agacfgm.org/publications/topics/tpoics\\_index.aspx](http://www.agacfgm.org/publications/topics/tpoics_index.aspx) and the CGFM TOPICS Newsletter at [www.agacfgm.org/publications/cgfm/cgfm\\_issues.aspx](http://www.agacfgm.org/publications/cgfm/cgfm_issues.aspx).

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Check out [www.agacfgm.org](http://www.agacfgm.org) for the latest in National AGA information and news. You can also access the member's only section of the site to update your personal information, renew your membership, report membership news and view how we are doing point-wise in chapter recognition program.

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### 2003-2004 National Events Calendar

March 9, 2004	JFMIP 33 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference	Washington, D.C.
March 9 – 11, 2004	Workshop in Cost Accounting for IT Projects	Ottawa, Canada
March 18, 2004	OMB Circular A 87	Rancho Cordova, CA
March 18 – 20, 2004	NASC Annual Conference	Indianapolis, IN
March 23 – 24, 2004	Mid Missouri Regional PDC	Missouri
April 19, 2004	GASB Financial Reporting Standards and SEA	Sacramento, CA
April 20 – 21, 2004	Advancing Government Accountability – The Next Step	Aurora, CO
April 26 – 27, 2004	Southeastern Professional Development Conference	Chattanooga, TN
June 27 – 30, 2004	Annual Professional Development Conference	Washington, D.C.

For more information on these national events, go to [AGA National Events Calendar](#).

## Chapter News

The PBS Telethon is here. See the article for more information on how you can get involved.

Mike Blair reports that our chapter checking account balance is \$4,589.94 as of January 31, 2004.

Member and officer newsletter submissions for the March newsletter are due **March 26th**.

Congratulations! We have already met our chapter recognition points goal of 10,000 points!

Don't forget to visit our chapter website at [www.kornnet.org/etaga](http://www.kornnet.org/etaga) for all the latest news and information!

**Remember to bring in 4 cans of food and get your lunch at the March meeting for \$5!**

### 2003-2004 Chapter Events Calendar

(tentative)

#### Meetings

March 9 <sup>th</sup>	11:30 am	Naples	Missy Cain
April 13 <sup>th</sup>	8-5 pm	Rothchild's	TBA
May 11 <sup>th</sup>	11:30 am	UT Facility Club	Awards Ceremony

#### Service Projects\*

February	Food Drive
March	Public TV Telethon
April	VITA
May	

\* We will be doing service projects with the Ronald McDonald house at various times throughout the year.

**If you have a service project that you would like our chapter to participate in, let us know. We would love to try new ways to get involved in the community!**

Did you know that the traditional symbol of St. Patrick's day, the shamrock, stems from the Irish tale that Patrick used the three-leafed plant to demonstrate the Trinity in his sermons to convert pagans to Christianity in Ireland. His followers adopted the custom of wearing a shamrock on his feast day, March 17. The St. Patrick's Day custom was first celebrated in America in Boston in 1737.

Are you considered the go-to-guy or gal on a particular topic or area? If so, then why not submit an article to the newsletter and share your knowledge with the chapter? It is a great way to contribute to the chapter and we earn points toward our 10,000 point chapter goal. Please send submissions to [alwilliams@tva.gov](mailto:alwilliams@tva.gov).

#### Points Update

Through 02/29/2004

Leadership	3375
Education	1550
Certification	2000
Communication	2925
Membership	200
Community Service	350
Awards	<u>700</u>
Total Points YTD	<b>11,100</b>

**Chapter Goal = 10,000**

## March Speaker Bio

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### *Missy Kane*

Missy Kane, a local fitness expert and Olympic athlete, is the health promotions coordinator for Covenant Health, where she develops and promotes programs to support Covenant Health's mission of community health improvement. Missy encourages people to take advantage of the many fitness resources offered by Covenant Health such as *50+ Fitness*, *Fort Sanders Health & Fitness Center*, *Covenant Health Check*, and her walking programs, along with other special screenings and events.

Missy brings a lifetime of passion for fitness to her role. She won a bronze medal in the 1,500-meter run at the 1983 Pan-American games and competed in the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles. She coached distance runners at the University of Tennessee for four years and athletes at Central High School for five years. She was named Southeastern Conference Cross-Country Coach of the Year in 1990 and inducted into the Knoxville Sports Hall of Fame in 1996.

She holds a master's degree in exercise physiology and was a television anchor/reporter for WBIR-TV Channel 10 for eight years. She has been a commentator for NBC Sports at the World Championships in Track and Field, and she continues to work for FoxSports as its SEC track and field commentator. She hosts her own fitness show called "Missy Kane Fit and Fun" on East Tennessee Public Television, as well as "Kid Fit and Fun," which airs throughout the state. Missy is married to attorney Jim Bemiller, a volunteer pole vault coach at UT, and is the mother of two girls, Kelsey and Elizabeth Grace.

Missy says her goal at Covenant Health is to motivate people to learn about and participate in fitness opportunities. She is especially interested in reaching adults who have never exercised and in helping children learn to love physical activity for a lifetime of good health. ♣



## February Meeting Minutes

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*Submitted by Audrey Atkins*

The chapter held its sixth meeting of the year February 9, 2004 at Copper Cellar. Canned goods were collected to offset the price of the meal for those wishing to participate. Tonya welcomed everyone and announced we would continue the food drive to the March meeting. Four canned goods gets you lunch for \$5. Sherry got a date confirmation for the March service project. We will be answering phones for the PBS Telethon on March 17th.

The speaker during the luncheon was Mark Paganelli, the Executive Director of The University of Tennessee's audit department. Mark spoke about his summer vacation, which centered on the John Shumaker scandal at UT. He presented a timeline of events and then took questions from the group.

An executive board meeting was held following lunch. The board talked about finalizing speakers for the seminar and getting the brochure ready to go. They also agreed the April service project at the Ronald McDonald House is still a go. ♣

## April Meeting Information

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The annual spring seminar hosted by the AGA will be held April 23<sup>rd</sup>. The seminar will be a full day of interesting speakers presenting topics relevant to our profession. Scheduled speakers include MTSU Professor Robert Smith, AGA Regional Vice President Deby Davis, UT Professor Dr. Al Auxier and Betsy Foxx. We are working on scheduling several other speakers and will let you know the final speaking schedule soon. Sign-in for the seminar will begin at 8:00 and the sessions will conclude at 4:30pm. Registration information will be sent out soon. ♣

"Remember not only to say the right thing in the right place, but far more difficult still, to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment."

*Benjamin Franklin*

## Community Service Updates

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**Food Drive:** Bring 4 cans of food to the March meeting and receive a \$2 discount on lunch. The canned goods will benefit the Second Harvest Food Bank.

**PBS Telethon:** The telethon is scheduled for March 17th. Our chapter will be manning the phones to take pledges from callers. I believe *Lord of the Dance* is the scheduled program for our time slot. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Sherry.

**Ronald McDonald House:** Get ready for a little spring cleaning! Our chapter will be helping the Ronald McDonald house clean up the yard and do some light maintenance. More information will be coming soon! ♣

## Rutgers University Scholarship Opportunity

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The Rutgers University scholarship opportunity will close March 31, 2004. Rutgers University created a scholarship program for AGA members interested in earning the CGFM certification. All courses are available online. Candidates for the scholarship certificate program should hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university and submit unofficial copies of their transcripts along with a resume and two letters of recommendation. Please contact Linda Latham at 800.AGA.7211, ext 209 for more information. ♣

## CGFM Renewal Information

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*Submitted by Mindy Stooksbury*

It is the beginning of 2004, and that means your annual AGA/CGFM renewal invoice should soon be arriving in the mail. If you are a CGFM holder, here are a few important reminders about your renewal:

- CGFM renewal is annual and is due by March 31, 2004.

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- CGFM renewal fee is separate from your AGA dues but is billed on the same invoice. The 2004 CGFM renewal fees are as follows: \$30 for AGA members or \$65 for non-members.
- Unless you've already paid your dues for 2004, your annual invoice should arrive in February. If you have recently moved or changed jobs, please update your contact information with AGA national office by calling 1.800.AGA.7211 or through the "Members Only" portion of the AGA website ([www.agacgfm.org](http://www.agacgfm.org)). Please also contact AGA if you do not receive an invoice by March 15th, 2004.
- If your company or organization pays for your AGA and/or CGFM dues, please follow up with them to make sure that payment was made.
- All renewing CGFM holders must be compliant with the CGFM Continuing Professional Education (CPE) requirement of earning at least 80 CPE hours in their two-year CPE cycle, with at least 20 hours in each year. The hours earned must be in government financial management topics or related technical subjects applicable to government financial management areas. For more information on CGFM CPE requirements, please visit AGA website at [www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/maintain/](http://www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/maintain/).
- Your two-year CGFM CPE cycle depends on the year your CGFM was awarded:

If you have earned your CGFM in 1994, 1995, 1997, 1999 or 2001, your last two-year CPE cycle just ended on December 31, 2003. If you do not have 80 CPEs in 2002-2003, you can catch up during the grace period of January 1-March 31, 2004. Any hours completed towards a deficiency in one CPE cycle may not be counted towards the next cycle.

If you have earned your CGFM in 1996, 1998, 2000 or 2002, your current CPE cycle is 2003-2004.

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- CGFM holders do not automatically have to send information on their CPE hours to AGA, but need to keep records and complete backup documentation (such as certificates of completion) on all CPE activities for at least three years. This documentation may be requested by AGA if you are selected to be audited.
- All renewing CGFM holders and AGA members must adhere to the AGA Code of Ethics.
- Retirement status affects your CGFM renewal. You are considered retired if you have retired from and are no longer substantially working in the government financial management community. Contact the CGFM office to update your status if you have retired (or if you returned to work after being retired).
- If you have any questions on CGFM renewal, please call the CGFM office at 1.800.AGA.7211, ext. 310 or 313 or send an email to [ksilver@agacgfm.org](mailto:ksilver@agacgfm.org). 🍀

## Training for Government Financial Managers

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You are aware of the courses that have been developed for the CGFM training program. However, did you know that the same courses can be used for training government financial managers?

The courses would be of considerable benefit to the following professionals:

- Individuals who are just beginning their career in government.
- Program managers, budgeters, accountants, auditors, and controllers.
- Government consultants.

**Course 1 - Governmental Environment** - provides education on the environment in which they will work, including how governments are structured and organized, the legal aspects of

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governments, the management cycle and how the components are related and interrelated, how governments are financed, public accountability, ethics, and various financial management responsibilities and skills.

**Course 2 - Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting** - provides education on governmental accounting, financial reporting, and budgeting including influences, objectives, and standards setting; general principles of accounting; cost accounting and performance reporting; budgeting; accounting and reporting for state and local governments; and federal budgeting and financial reporting.

**Course 3 - Governmental Financial Management and Control** - provides education on government financial management and controls, including internal controls, auditing, performance management and reporting, financial and managerial analysis techniques, cash management, investment management, credit management, procurement management, inventory and supply management, and financial management systems.

Naturally, we would like to see attendees pursue the CGFM certification after they have completed the courses. It could be a very beneficial step for their career and a great way to apply the knowledge learned in class!

AGA can arrange to bring the training to your Chapter. Contact Pete Rose, AGA Director of Professional Certification to get more details on sponsoring a training program. Send an e-mail to [prose@agacgfm.org](mailto:prose@agacgfm.org). 🍀

"Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier. Be the living expression of God's kindness: kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes, kindness in your smile."

*Mother Teresa*

"We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give."

*Winston Churchill*

## 2003-2004 Chapter Leadership

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