

March 2008

Volume 7 Issue 1

REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP BY MARCH 31ST!

East Tennessee Times

President's Message — Julie Talbott

Hi everyone!

I first want to mention the Southeastern Regional PDC in Chattanooga on March 27th and 28th and encourage everyone to attend. I know the Chattanooga chapter along with our very own Mindy Stooksbury, our current RVP, has worked very hard to bring this opportunity to us and it is sure to be a success with everyone's participation. It is a great opportunity

for 16 CPE hours.

I would like to recognize Gary Simcox and Rick Taylor this month! Gary has been an AGA member for 25 years and Rick has been an AGA member for 20 years! WOW! As a chapter we would all like to thank you for your loyalty to AGA.

Our speaker for March is Susan Fritzen. Susan is the Deputy Executive



Director of Programs for the National AGA office. Susan will be speaking to us regarding Citizen Centric Reporting.

See you soon!
Julie

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Tuesday, March 11th

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

11:30-12:10 Registration and Lunch

12:10-1:00 Presentation

Menu: BBQ Lunch Buffet

Cost \$ 10 per member

RSVP: Kristi Reynolds

kureynolds@tva.gov by
03/07/2008

Susan Fritzen—Citizen Centric Reporting

Our March speaker will be Susan Fritzen. Susan is the Deputy Executive Director of Programs for AGA. She has been with AGA since 1995 when she was hired as its first Director of Membership. Over the past 12 years, she has increased her responsibility into many areas of the Association, including marketing, information technology, governance, operations and corporate relations.

In 2001, Susan developed and launched the AGA Corporate Partner Program that now boasts a membership of 75 private sector firms. Most recently, Susan is managing AGA's Citizen-Centric Reporting Program, working with governments of all sizes to produce citizen friendly reports.

Susan started her career in association management in

1991, holding membership and chapter relations positions with the Water Environment Federation. She is a 15-year member of the American Society of Association Executives.

A native of Northern Virginia, Susan holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing Management from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

AGA National News...

AGA 2008 Survey — AGA is sponsoring an online member survey to learn your thoughts about current and future government financial management issues. AGA Corporate Partner Grant Thornton LLP is administering the survey. All responses are anonymous, and the results will be presented at the 2008 PDC in Atlanta. To encourage responses to the survey, AGA will give the chapter with the highest response rate a cash award of \$300; second highest will receive \$200 and third will receive \$100. The award will be based on the number of responses received per chapter divided by the total registered membership of a

chapter. Please be sure to enter your chapter's name when you fill out the survey. The survey can be found at <http://inquisite.gt.com/cgi-bin/qwebcorporate.cgi?idx=9TNK34>.

AGA Releases National Survey: *Public Attitudes Toward Government Accountability and Transparency 2008*—In January 2008, the Association of Government Accountants (AGA) commissioned a study by leading market research firm Harris Interactive®, to conduct the first in a series of annual surveys of public attitudes to government transparency and accountability. Read more at <http://www.agacgfm.org/harrispoll2008.aspx>.



Visit AGA's website at www.agacgfm.org for more information on news and events. You can also visit the Members Only section and update your personal information and renew your membership.

2007-2008 National Events Calendar—<http://www.agacgfm.org/events/calendarlisting.aspx>

March:

03/05 Environmental Fraud-Audio Conf.

03/06-03/07 Interviewing Techniques for Auditors Seminar in Washington, DC (hosted by Assoc. of CFE)

03/24-03/25 Healthcare Fraud Seminar in Orlando

03/26 GASB Update-Audio Conference

April:

04/23 Improving Government Transparency through Citizen Centric Reporting—Audio Conference

May:

05/07 The Anatomy of Ethical Slips in Government —Audio Conference

Building on the Dream: Shaping a Culture of Accountability
AGA's 2008 Professional Development Conference—Atlanta—July 27-30, 2008

03/27-03/28 Southeastern Regional PDC in Chattanooga

Certified Government Financial Manager...

March is CGFM Month! To recognize the CGFM Program and its accomplishments, AGA has declared the month of March of each year as "CGFM Month" - read the official AGA Proclamation at <http://www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/downloads/CGFMProclamation2006.pdf>. This initiative has been a great example of AGA leadership and teamwork and continues to help spread the word about the CGFM Program!

States that have declared March as CGFM Month include Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Delaware, Iowa, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Wisconsin and Tennessee. View Tennessee's Proclamation at <http://www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/downloads/proclamations/NashvilleDavidson08.pdf>.

Already have your CGFM designation? Subscribe to AGA's Certified Government Financial Management

Topics newsletter at http://www.agacgfm.org/publications/cgfm/cgfm_subscribe.aspx.



Need direct assistance?
Contact Katya Silver at ksilver@agacgfm.org.

Chapter Meetings Calendar and Other Tidbits

03/11/2008 Susan Fritzlen, AGA Deputy Executive Director, at Calhoun's on the River

03/26-03/27/2008 Southeastern Regional PDC in Chattanooga

04/08/2008 Spring Seminar with Evie Barry and others at Buddy's Banquet Hall

05/13/2008 Awards Ceremony and Final Meeting at Calhoun's on the River

Remember that all meetings start at 11:30am and end at 1:00pm. All meetings this year, except for the May Awards Ceremony, are offering at least 1 CPE for those needing continuing education. This is a great deal...lunch and 1 CPE for only \$ 10!

**Please come out and support the Southeastern Regional PDC in Chattanooga! This is a great opportunity for you to meet members from other chapters in Tennessee, Kentucky, Georgia, Florida and South Carolina.

**Are you interested in becoming more involved with East TN AGA? If you would like to serve as an officer, contact one of the officers listed on page 4. Your leadership, skills and knowledge are needed!

**Looking for a job? Visit AGA's Career Center at <http://aga.careerbank.com>.

**Need additional CPEs? Visit <http://www.agacgfm.org/education/onlinecpe.aspx> for online learning opportunities.

Service Projects Calendar

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.

March: Joshua Resource Center

April: East TN Children's Hospital

May: American Cancer Society

Joshua Resource Center

This month's service project will benefit the Joshua Resource Center, a faith-based organization that provides educational, life and work skills training and mentoring for women seeking self-sufficiency. The women "graduate" from training courses and receive a basket of goodies for their

commitment.

Donations needed for the baskets include candles, hand sanitizer, small Kleenex, jewelry, pens/stationary, and other similar items.

Questions? Contact Dana West at dwest@blounttn.org.

Southeastern Regional PDC in March—Chattanooga Marriott

The Southeastern Regional Professional Development Conference will be held March 27–28 at the Chattanooga Marriott and Conference Center. 16 hours of continuing education will be available at the conference. **Registration materials are available at <http://agaservp.tripod.com> or from Mindy Stooksbury.** Early registration ends on March 5. Hotel reservations can be made at the Marriott at the Convention Center in Chattanooga. Registration for one or two days can be done onsite.

Concurrent sessions will be held for a full day each day. On Thursday evening, a social event is being held on the Southern Belle riverboat with a private cruise and dinner. Sessions will begin at 8am daily. The schedule is as follows.

Thursday, March 27th
Concurrent Sessions—All Day
(1) GASB—David Bean
(2) Single Audits (A-133) - Sefton Boyars

Friday, March 28th
Concurrent Sessions—All Day
(1) Financial Leadership—Dr. Janet Kelly
(2) Internal Controls and Understanding A-123 - Dave Hancox

Financial Information

Treasurer Mike Blair reported the bank balance as of 01/31/08 as \$17,291.74.

Advancing Government Accountability

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East Tennessee AGA

We're on the web!
www.discovernet.org/etaga

February Meeting Minutes

Dave Bennett, Programs Chair, introduced Bryan Burklin, Legislative Auditor IV for the State of Tennessee. Mr. Burklin explained that he worked for the Tennessee Comptroller of the Treasury which is a position that is elected every two years by the state legislature. He informed us that the current Comptroller, John Morgan, has served in his position for 5 terms.

Mr. Burklin shared some stories regarding his time spent as an auditor for the State of Tennessee as well as some of the challenges faced by auditors today. Risk assessment standards were identified as one of the biggest challenges for auditors since they add time and costs to a project. Mr. Burklin also stated the Comptroller's office is responsible for auditing 89 of the 95 counties in Tennessee.

He provided a list of shortages that have currently been identified in county audits. (For more information regarding the Tennessee Comptroller of the Treasury, visit <http://www.comptroller.state.tn.us/>.)

The Executive Board met briefly after the meeting. Topics for the upcoming seminar in April were discussed at the meeting.

Amy Rush, Secretary

Chapter Officers

President	Julie Talbott	jtalbott@blounttn.org
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Webmaster	Kyle Cox	kbcox@tva.gov
	Regional Vice President	Mindy Stooksbury, RSBA
	National Treasurer	David Bennett, CGFM

Chapter Recognition Program Points Update as of 02/29/08

1150 Leadership
 200 Education
 160 Certification
 675 Communication
 0 Membership
 50 Early Careers
 200 Community Service
 500 Awards
 2935 Total YTD (GOAL 10,000)