

East Tennessee Times

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President's Message—Gail Cook, CGFM, CPA

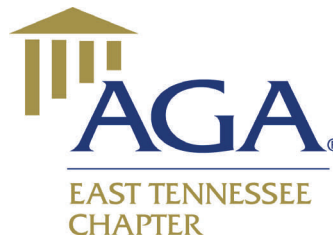
It's hard to believe this year is almost over – it has flown by. We just completed our Spring Seminar and had a great turnout. We had a very interesting and mixed program – from time management to a GASB update. Thank you to all that attended and a special thank you to the board for organizing the event.

As my term as president comes to an end, I want to take this opportunity to thank

all the board members for their time and hard work this past year. Everyone's time is such a precious commodity and giving some of it to our chapter and AGA is greatly appreciated.

Don't forget our awards meeting on May 12th at Calhoun's. I hope to see everyone there.

Gail



Congrats to Chapters—Communicator Contest Winners

AGA recently announced winners of the national newsletter and website contest that is held annually. The contest is designed to recognize the hard work, creativity and dedication of AGA's chapter communicators.

Chapters are grouped by membership size for the contest. Each group has an overall winner and an honorable

mention for both the newsletter and the website.

This year, Mindy Stooksbury received an Honorable Mention in Group D. East Tennessee was the only chapter from the Southeast to receive an award this year. You can view the announcement and newsletters on AGA's website at www.agacgfm.org/membership/

communicators/
[editortoolkit.aspx](#).

Awards will be presented at the PDC in New Orleans in June. Presentations will also be held for the Chapter Recognition Program and other national awards.

Tuesday, May 12

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 Chicken and Sirloin of Beef

Cost \$10 per member

RSVP: Kristi Reynolds

kureynolds@tvaog.gov by 05/08/2009

AGA National News

NEW! Edward DeSeve to Discuss 'Making the Recovery Work' on May 19 AGA Radio Show—Join AGA Executive Director, Relmond Van Daniker, and WFED's Jane Norris as they interview **Edward DeSeve**, Special Advisor to the President, Assistant to the Vice President and Special Advisor to the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Director for Implementation of the Recovery Act. The show airs on WFED AM 1500 and online.

Rooms Added at New Orleans Marriott for AGA PDC - The New Orleans Marriott has agreed to add more rooms to accommodate PDC attendees. The room rate is \$120 (plus tax) per night for single or double occupancy, until May 29, 2009, or until the block sells out. To make a reservation, please call 800.654.3990 and mention you are attending the "AGA PDC" to receive the discounted rate. We encourage you to make your hotel reservations early, for the best price and availability.

Special Opportunity! - Sign up for AGA's Intensive Review Course and take the CGFM Examinations before the PDC in New Orleans. The Intensive Review Course will take place on June 18-19, 2009. The CGFM Examinations will be offered by appointment only on June 20-21, 2009. The cost of the course is only \$249 for qualified participants and it offers 18 CPE hours. Special Bonus: the CGFM Examinations are offered at no cost to course attendees. Visit www.agacgfm.org for more information.

National Events Calendar

05/12-05/13 Washington, DC Chapter Annual PDC

05/13 Ethics in the Workplace—Audio Conference

05/13-05/14 Denver Chapter Annual PDC

05/20-05/21 Atlanta Chapter Annual PDC

07/15 Using Performance Measures to Manage Government—Audio Conference

08/12 Stimulus Spending: Are the Internal Controls in Place? - Audio Conference

09/02 Grants Management in Today's Environment—Audio Conference

09/22-09/23 Human Error Prevention Seminar—Chattanooga

10/07 Internal Controls for Auditors, Management and Staff: Making Government Organizations More Effective—Audio Conference

AGA's 2009

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



Visit AGA's website at
www.agacgfm.org for more

Certified Government Financial Manager—CPE Requirements Update

AGA recently updated the CPE requirements for the CGFM. While there have not been any major changes to the CPE policies, a number of provisions were clarified, modified or updated. Here is the summary of main updates (with references to the specific sections of the CPE Requirements document):

- Section 2-clarified the applicability of CPE requirements to all active CGFMs and the fact that there is no minimum number of hours required each year.
- Section 3-updated the section on retired status to reflect the recent changes to the retired status definition.

- Section 4-clarified circumstances warranting an exception.
- Sections 7 and 12-addressed the topic of taxation.
- Section 9-added clarification on criteria used to determine if programs qualify for CPE hours.
- Section 10-provided additional guidance on internal training programs; added additional examples of applicable activities such as web-based programs and audio conferences.
- Section 11-included specific questions to ask when making the determination of

applicability of the hours.

- Section 12-updated the examples of topics and subjects list.
- Section 13-clarified applicability of basic or elementary courses and repeated courses or presentations.
- Section 14-explained the calculation of partial hours and updated the calculation of hours for self-study programs.
- Section 15-specified how CPE hours are awarded for course development.
- Section 16-updated the acceptable CPE documentation guidelines.

Chapter Calendar

Chapter Meeting Schedule

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!

Service Project Calendar

For May, the chapter service project is the **American Cancer Society**. We will be accepting cash donations for the group.

Renewal Time is Here

Renewals are streaming into the National Office, but don't forget to recommit yourself to AGA for 2009-2010 by renewing today. Visit the AGA website to renew.

If you have any problems renewing or any questions concerning your invoice, please contact the Customer Satisfaction Center at 800.AGA.7211. They are ready to provide assistance and help out!

Financial Information
Treasurer Mike Blair reported the bank balance as of **03/31/2009** as **\$17,519.14.**

SLM Attendee Update from Nancy, Aldena and Joe

President-elect Nancy Donahue and chairs Joe Taylor and Aldena Phillips recently returned from the Sectional Leadership Meeting held in Baltimore, Maryland, April 24-25. The theme presented by our President-elect Billy Morehead for the coming year is **Think Big! Act Courageously! Make a Difference! AGA = Leadership!** William A. (Billy) Morehead, Ph.D., CGFM, CPA, is the chair, Division of Accountancy, CIS and Finance, *Delta State University*. He emphasized the fact that AGA is a unique organization in that it is strategically positioned with an accountability network involving all US government—local, state and federal. Billy Morehead chal-

lenged us to get involved and visit the AGA website often for the latest with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and to be the leaders!

As your chapter representatives, we proudly discussed the strengths of our chapter, our variety of membership and success with luncheon and seminar educational events. We shared and listened intently as other chapters shared. It was a great opportunity to meet other professionals and put some faces together with names. Our national office reminded us that AGA offers timely audio conferences and a regular radio program that

can be utilized for workshops.

Yes, there was some memorable sightseeing and we enjoyed fresh, yummy seafood at the conference and at the famous Phillips Harborplace Restaurant. The crab cakes were delicious! Nancy's thorough research with the Food Network was a big plus for us. Faidley's at Lexington Market and riding the 'Light Rail' will never be forgotten! We are digesting a lot from this meeting—food, information and challenges.

Chapter Recognition Program Points Update

Leadership: 1,950

Education: 2,550

Certification: 1,375

Communication: 4,670

Membership: 200

Early Careers: 0

Community Service: 1,275

Awards: 0

Total YTD: 12,020

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:

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

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

East Tennessee AGA

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

April Meeting Minutes

On April 23, 2009 the Spring Leadership Seminar was held at Rothchild's Catering in Knoxville. President Gail Cook opened the meeting with our first speaker, Janet M. Kelly Ph.D. Janet presented the "Seven Deadly Sins of Performance Budgeting." They are as follows:

- (1) No Purpose or Direction
- (2) Nothing to Link to
- (3) No Training or Support
- (4) No link to Budget
- (5) Budget Office Drops the Ball
- (6) Elective Officials Uninvolved
- (7) No Monitoring

Gail introduced our next speaker Betsy Cunningham. Betsy spoke about "Time

Management." Everyone agreed that we could all use more of in one-way or another! We were given several opportunities to understand our strengths and weaknesses in our management of time. Most of the audience agreed that distractions and interruptions was one of the main reasons that we have trouble completing our tasks. We also realized through this session that most of us do not plan time to just do nothing. An important aspect of time management is knowing our priorities.

Our last speaker of the day was G. Robert Smith—more commonly known as Smitty. Smitty gave us an update on GASB Statement No. 54 and Accounting. Most of the topic related to the require-

ment for reporting Fund Balance. Although the reporting change is not required until FY 2010 it is never too early to implement the new standards. He also discussed that Encumbrances will no longer be used on the balance sheet. What no encumbrances? Smitty reassured the group that we would not change the way we operate and record the operations on the general ledger, but will just change on the balance sheet. As well, the five new Fund Balances will be as follows to be reported are as follows:

- (1) Nonspendable Fund Balance
- (2) Restricted Fund Balance
- (3) Committed Fund Balance
- (4) Assigned Fund Balance
- (5) Unassigned fund Balance

Chapter Officers

President	Gail Cook, CGFM	gail.cook@tennessee.edu
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Programs	Joe Taylor	jwtaylor1@comcast.net
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