

President's Message

By Dana Lamson

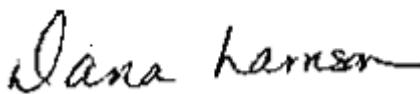
I'm sure everyone is looking forward to our beautiful fall season that we are blessed with in East Tennessee. There are many festivals that will be in our area to celebrate the changing of the seasons and excitement is in the air with U.T. Football Saturdays. Go Vols!

Our first meeting turned out well at Calhoun's on the River with Dave Bennett speaking about how growth affects counties. October's meeting will be held at Naples with Dennis Dykus as the speaker. He will be speaking about Identity Theft. I'm sure this will be an interesting and educating topic.

Our fund raising/service project for September and October is the flower bulb sale. Everyone should have received an email and brochure about this. The bulbs are really inexpensive and should be easy to plant. Remember, if you don't want to plant any for yourself, then donate some to the Ronald McDonald House. We will be planting the donated ones in October. We will ask for volunteers at this month's meeting.

Also, please don't forget to bring your baby items for the East Tennessee Children's Hospital baskets. We will accept the items at the October meeting as part of our service project to help less fortunate families.

Please make sure to note the changes in the meetings calendar. The PDC has been moved to March forcing changes in our earlier published schedule. Have a wonderful fall season and please let me know of any ideas or comments you may have!



Dana Lamson
President

October Meeting

Tuesday, October 12, 2004
11:30 AM

Dennis Dykus, CPA, CGFM, CFE
Presentation Topic: Identity Theft

Agenda

11:30 Registration/Networking

12:00 – 12:30 Lunch

12:30 – 1:00 Presentation

Naples Restaurant

5500 Kingston Pike
(865) 584-5033

Menu Choices

Spaghetti or Cappellini w/Choice of Sauce

Manicotti

Spinach or Meat Lasagna

Salad

Fresh Baked Bread

Fruit Sorbet

\$7.00 per member

Please contact Barry Justice at
bljustice@tva.gov with your reservation
by October 7th.

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AGA National News

Did you know that AGA has changed its name? We are now members of Advancing Government Accountability!

Did you know that you could earn CPE credits by taking *Journal CPE* Quizzes online? At AGA's *Journal CPE Online*, they offer an interactive CPE program for government financial management professionals on the move. By reading an issue of *The Journal of Government Financial Management*, and taking the relevant quiz, you can earn Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credits.

A Call for AGA National and Regional Leadership

You are invited to accept the challenge of AGA National and Regional Leadership - Nominations must be received by Friday, October 29, 2004. AGA's National Nominating Committee is now accepting nominations for volunteer leadership positions as

- National President-Elect
- National Treasurer-Elect
- Senior Vice President for Regional Services - Section III
- Senior Vice President At Large
- Regional Vice Presidents-Elect

Please visit <http://www.agacgfm.org/about/governance/default.aspx> to receive more information.

Check out www.agacgfm.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 on points in the chapter recognition program.



CGFM Exam 3 Study Guide Now Available!

Be sure to order the new Study Guide for CGFM Exam 3 - "Governmental Financial Management and Control" to help in your preparation for the examination.

2004-2005 National Events Calendar

October 6, 2004	Career Foundations Conference & Expo	Washington, DC
October 3-8, 2004	Executive Leadership in A Changing Environment	Charlottesville, VA
October 6-7, 2004	Show Me The Measures!	Arlington, VA
October 12-14, 2004	Government Financial Manager Training Program	Nashville, TN
October 14-15, 2004	Strategic Planning in Government	Arlington, VA
October 18-20, 2004	New Challenges/New Solutions Conference	New York, NY
December 16-17, 2004	Getting 10X Value	Washington, DC
February 7-8, 2005	National Leadership Conference	Washington, DC
July 10-13, 2005	National PDC and Exposition	Orlando, FL

For more information on these national events, go to the AGA calendar at www.agacgfm.org/events.

Chapter News

If you would like to assist with the planning of the Spring PDC, please contact Dana Lamson or David Bennett. A meeting of the planning committee was held on September 28th. More ideas were brought forth regarding speakers, the cost of the conference, and securing door prizes and sponsors. If you have any suggestions for speakers or know of an area you would like covered for your work group, please let them know.

Mike Blair reports that our chapter checking account balance is \$4,770.96 as of August 31, 2004.

Member and officer newsletter submissions for the November newsletter are due October 22nd.

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

2004-2005 Chapter Events Calendar

(Tentative)

Meetings

October 12	11:30 am	Naples Restaurant	Dennis Dykus
November 19	12-4 pm	Naval Reserves	Fall Seminar
December 14	11:30 am	Downtown Grill	Betsy Foxx
January 11	11:30 am	Riverside Tavern	Tonya Davis
February 8	11:30 am	Patrick Sullivan's	TEMA
March 2-4	8-5 pm	Park Vista - Gatlinburg	PDC*
April 5	11:30 am	Tennessee Grill	Matt Murray
May 10	11:30 am	UT Faculty Club	Awards Ceremony

*Southeastern Region PDC – To be discussed throughout year

Service Projects**

October	Samaritan's Purse
Oct/Nov	Coats for the Cold
November	East TN Children's Hospital
December	Angel Tree
January	Food Drive
February	Bowl for Kids Sake
March	Public TV Telethon
April	Beta Alpha Psi

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

Looking for a new job? AGA provides job listings for the accounting professional. Visit <http://aga.careerbank.com>

Do you need more CPE hours? There is a variety of downloadable CPE courses offered on the AGA website at www.agacgfm.org/education/onlinecpe.aspx

Points Update

Through 09/29/04

Leadership	3075
Education	350
Certification	825
Communication	775
Membership	600
Community Service	0
Awards	200
Total Points YTD	5825

Chapter Goal = 10,000

It's United Way Campaign time across the nation. Please consider supporting your local United Way through contributions or volunteering at an agency.

October Speaker Bio

Dennis Dykus, CPA, CGFM, CFE

Mr. Dennis Dykus, CPA, CFE, CGFM, presently serves as the Director of the Division of Municipal Audit for the Office of the Comptroller of the Treasury, State of Tennessee. He brings with him 31 years of involvement with audits of all forms of governmental entities. He is a graduate of Western Kentucky University and the TN Government Executive Institute. He is a member of AICPA, AGA, GFOA and ACFE. Mr. Dykus has developed and/or conducted training programs in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, Guam and Canada. He has been honored with several awards including the Outstanding CPA in Government Award (2003) and the Outstanding CFE in Government Award (2004). In addition, he has authored numerous articles on auditing fraud for national publications.

Community Service Projects

Submitted by Sherry Sheffey

The October project provides us with an opportunity to assist with Samaritan's Purse. Throughout both October and November, we will be participating in the Coats for the Cold Program, which provides coats to the needy. Also in November, we will help provide newborn baskets to needy families through the Ladies of Charity group for the East Tennessee Children's Hospital.

A Volunteer Treasurer is needed for The Love Kitchen. If interested, please contact Helen Ashe at 423-546-3248.

Remember to bring your items for the newborn baskets. Items needed include baby booties, bibs, bottles, mini-wipes, hats, hooded towels and mini-photo albums.

As mentioned above, October starts our Samaritan's Purse project. Items contributed will help fill shoe boxes for needy children all over the world. Please include toys (small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, jump ropes, toys that light up or make noise), school supplies (pens, pencils, crayons or markers, coloring books, paper, solar calculators), hygiene items (toothbrush/paste, mild bar soap, comb, washcloths), other items (hard candy, mints, gum, flashlights, small picture books), and clothing (sunglasses, socks, t-shirts, watches). Do not include war-related toys, chocolate or perishable foods, liquids, medicines or breakable items.

Please contact Sherry Sheffey for more information.

September Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Susan Gennoe

The first meeting of the 2004-2005 AGA group was held on September 14, 2004 at Calhoun's on the River. President Dana Lamson opened the meeting and announced David Bennett, Director of Accounts & Budgets/Assistant County Mayor of Blount County, and regional AGA Vice President as the speaker. She also notified the group that AGA has had a name change from the "Association of Government Accountants" to "Advancing Government Accountability."

Sherry Sheffey discussed the community service project for this month is preparing food for The Love Kitchen. She asked everyone to email her on his or her availability for volunteering. Dana announced that the community service project for October is the East TN Children's Hospital Newborn Baskets and to bring those items to the next meeting. She then discussed the new points system implementation and new ways to accumulate points.

Mr. Bennett spoke on "Growth and Its Effects on County Government." He also mentioned the March PDC conference.

Following the regular meeting, Dana opened the September Board meeting and discussed the following items. A PDC planning meeting will be held on September 28th at UT Hospital. A discussion surrounding the social event for the PDC was held, including renting the Smokies Aquarium. Andrea proposed to have a fundraiser with flower bulbs and will email the brochure to all members.

It was suggested that Barry contact Phyllis to update the AGA website with meetings information and newsletter.

The fall seminar was discussed with suggestions of charging a \$50 fee with boxed lunches from The Lunchbox. Richard Moore and Beth Chapman will each speak for 2 hours on unclaimed property and other topics. This will be a 1/2-day seminar on November 19th. Tonya will take care of reserving the Naval Reserve, Mike will provide drinks, and other board members will take care of further details.

It's always a great time to recruit new members. Bring a friend or coworker to our next meeting. Visit www.agacgfm.org for membership information.

Why Earn the CGFM? Information from AGA Website

The Certified Government Financial Manager

The Mark of Excellence in Federal, State and Local Government

Since its inception in 1994, the CGFM has become the standard by which government financial management professionals are measured. Its education, experience and ethics requirements have served to elevate the most seasoned financial professionals.

More than 13,000 individuals have received the designation so far. Now it's your turn. Experience the benefits of certification first hand - the CGFM is the mark of excellence in your profession. We look forward to adding your name to our distinguished list of Certified Government Financial Managers.

In a 2001 survey by Robert Half International, a financial management placement firm, 85% of the 1400 CFOs surveyed "believed that a professional certification...can boost career advancement opportunities."

The CGFM is the first certification broad enough to cover the whole field of government financial management - federal, state and local. It deals not with testing a person in a specific area, but with measuring a wide range of knowledge and skills that a professional needs to succeed in the federal government financial environment, or to meet the unique challenges faced by state and local government financial managers.

The foundation of the CGFM is the requirement for Education, Experience and Examination. Building on this foundation is a Code of Ethics and required Continuing Professional Education (CPE).

This designation is already recognized as a professional standard. To date, seven states have formally recognized the CGFM - Idaho, Mississippi, Missouri, Maine, Tennessee, Virginia and Washington.

The field of government financial management will be far different tomorrow from what it is today. Having a broad knowledge and a recognized professional designation will be the way to distinguish yourself from the crowd. There's no time like the present for joining the thousands of other leaders in government financial management who already have discovered the unique value and benefit of the CGFM designation.

Please contact Aldena Phillips for more information.

2004-2005 Chapter Leadership

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