

# East Tennessee Times

## President's Message—Julie Talbott

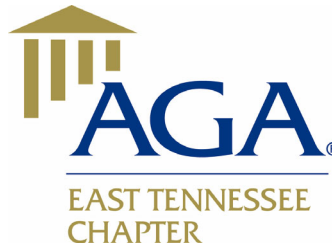
Hello everyone! I want to begin by thanking everyone who attended our chapter meeting in September. I enjoyed the presentation by Mr. Bart Stinnett, Homeland Security Director for Blount County and it was so great to see everyone after the summer break!

Our October speaker is Mr. Rick Fair, AGA National President, CPA, CGFM. Rick will be discussing AGA Initiatives for the new year. I hope each of you will make a special effort to attend

the October meeting and welcome Rick to East Tennessee! I think you will really enjoy him.

I would like to encourage every member to come and bring a potential member to lunch with you in October. This meeting will be a perfect opportunity to hear what AGA is all about.

If you are already a member and haven't been attending our monthly meetings—**YOU ARE MISSED** and



**WE WANT YOU BACK!** I hope to see you October 9<sup>th</sup>!

See you soon!

*Julie*

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### Tuesday, October 9

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 09/07/2007

## October Meeting—Richard Fair, CGFM, CPA

October's meeting will be a great presentation from Rick Fair, CGFM, CPA, AGA National President. Rick has been a member of AGA for thirty years and has served in various positions in the Trenton Chapter (NJ). He is the State Auditor for the State of

New Jersey and prior to that, was the Assistant Director of Taxation. Rick holds a B.S. in Accounting and Economics from Rider University.

Mr. Fair has extensive experience in public sector auditing, including serving on the Advisory Council on Govern-

ment Auditing Standards and currently serves on the Comptroller General's Domestic Working Group.

For more information on Rick, visit [www.agacgfm.org/about/governance/president.aspx](http://www.agacgfm.org/about/governance/president.aspx).

## AGA National News...

**Nominations Needed for AGA National and Regional Leaders**—AGA's National Nominating Committee is accepting nominations for leaders to serve on the National Board of Directors for 2008-2011. This is an opportunity to shape Association programs, advance your career and represent members' interests in the government accountability community. Nominations, due Friday, Oct. 26, are needed for: National President-Elect, National Treasurer-Elect, Senior Vice President for Regional Services for Section III, Senior Vice President At Large, Regional Vice Presidents-Elect.

**Nominations Needed for Distinguished Leadership Awards to be Presented at the 2008 NLC**—Do you know a state government professional who exemplifies and promotes excellence in government financial management and has demonstrated outstanding leadership in enhancing sound financial management legislation, regulations, practices, policies and systems? Nominate your candidate for AGA's William R. Snodgrass Distinguished Leadership Award today. All leadership award nominations must be submitted electronically by Friday, **October 26, 2007**.



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

### October:

10/15-10/29 AGA's Government Finance Case Challenge—Online

### November:

11/14 Tools for Performance Audit Efficiency—Audio Conference

### December:

12/12 Anatomy of Fraud—Audio Conf.

### February:

02/06 Internal Controls—Audio Conf.

02/21-02/22 National Leadership Conference in Washington, DC

### March:

03/05 Environmental Fraud—Audio Conf.

03/26 GASB Update—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 Region  
PDC in Chattanooga

## Certified Government Financial Manager...Where Do I Start?

Do you want to earn your CGFM designation, but don't know where to start? If you have already earned a college degree (bachelor's or higher) with 24 credit hours of courses in financial management or related topics, you should read the AGA Code of Ethics and complete and submit the CGFM Application Form.

You must meet both education require-

ments and work requirements in order to be eligible for the certification.

What happens after you apply? Once your CGFM application and degree documentation are processed, the Office of Professional Certification will mail you an eligibility letter with instructions on how to purchase your examinations.

Are you interested? Visit the CGFM sec-

tion of the AGA website at [www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/cgfmdefault.aspx](http://www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/cgfmdefault.aspx). This section provides lots of information on how to get started, applications, study guides and FAQs.



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

## Chapter Meeting Calendar...

**10/09/2007 Rick Fair, AGA National President at Calhoun's on the River**

11/16/2007 Fall Seminar with Frank Crawford at Rothchild's Catering

12/11/2007 Dave Bennett, AGA National Treasurer and Blount County Assistant Mayor at Calhoun's on the River

01/08/2008 Congressman Jimmy Duncan, Jr. at Calhoun's on the River

02/12/2008 Bryan Burklin, Blount County Government, at Calhoun's on the River

03/11/2008 Relmond Van Daniker, AGA National Executive Director, at Calhoun's on the River

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 educa-

tion. This is a great deal...lunch and 1 CPE for only \$10!

### Membership Drive

Bring a perspective member or a friend to a meeting. We think there are a lot of folks out there that would benefit from our meetings and membership in AGA. We encourage you to spread the word about our chapter and help us grow our membership!

## 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 October, our project will be Samaritan's Purse. Donated items go into shoeboxes for children ages 2-14 all over the world that usually get nothing for Christmas at all. See brochure on

Page 5 for information on items.

- October:** Samaritan's Purse
- November: Angel Tree and Second Harvest Food Bank
- December: Angel Tree
- January: American Cancer Society

- February: American Heart Association
- March:: New Hope Children's Advocacy Center
- April: East TN Children's Hospital Encology Clinic
- May: Humane Society

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

## Chapter Recognition Program Points Update...Our Goal 10,000 Points!

Leadership:	1150
Education:	200
Certification:	160
Communication:	675
Membership:	0
Early Careers:	50
Community Service:	200

Awards:	500
Total YTD:	2935

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

**Financial Information**  
**Treasurer Mike Blair reported the bank balance as of August 31st as \$13,730.61.**

## Advancing Government Accountability

East Tennessee Chapter, AGA  
 Attn: Julie Talbott, President  
 341 Court Street  
 Maryville, TN 37804  
 Phone: 865-273-5715  
 Fax: 865-273-5725  
 Email: jtalbott@blounttn.org

### East Tennessee AGA

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

## September Meeting Minutes

President Julie Talbott opened the meeting by thanking everyone for coming. She introduced the speaker, Bart Stinnett, Director, Blount County Homeland Security office. Mr. Stinnett began his presentation by showing an emotional video recounting the events of 9/11/2001. After the video, Mr. Stinnett explained that 9/11 is now a 'historical marker', much as that of the Challenger explosion or the shooting of President Ronald Reagan.

Mr. Stinnett also brought up several interesting points regarding terrorists/terrorism. These points are, as follows.

- Terrorists want to make a statement. They are trying to obtain the 'Biggest Bang for Their Buck.'
- Terrorists establish training grounds in rural areas.
- Terrorists obtain funds from 1) money laundering, 2) charities, 3) selling baby formula at dis-

count prices, 4) selling drugs, 5) smuggling tobacco products, and 6) selling counterfeit merchandise.

- There has been an increase in airport security since the 9/11 attacks. Terrorists can and will utilize anyone in carrying out their plans; therefore, there is no profiling of individuals.
- It is important that we, as a nation, protect our borders, since these are potential access points for terrorists.
- We have experienced and will continue to experience local terrorism (i.e., Oklahoma City bombing).

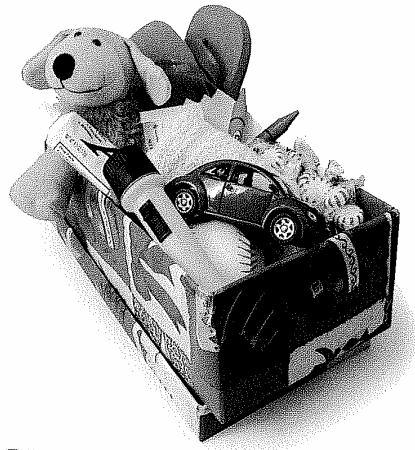
Mr. Stinnett also stated that we, in Tennessee, have to be concerned because there are many rural areas in the state which could be potential training grounds for terrorists. He also stated we have easy access to the Interstate which could potentially enable smuggling activities for terrorists. Mr. Stinnett ended the presentation by stressing the importance of being aware of suspicious activities and reporting them. Suspicious activities may be reported at [http://tennessee.gov/homelandsecurity/staff\\_directory.htm](http://tennessee.gov/homelandsecurity/staff_directory.htm).

The Executive Board met briefly after the meeting. We discussed next month's service project, Samaritan's Purse.

Amy Rush, Secretary

### Chapter Officers

President	Julie Talbott	jtalbott@blounttn.org
President-Elect	Gail Cook, CGFM	gcook@andersontn.org
Treasurer	Mike Blair	tmbair@tva.gov
Secretary	Amy Rush	arrush@tva.gov
Newsletter	Mindy Stooksbury, RSBA	mbstooks@ci.maryville.tn.us
Historian	Amy Paganelli, CGFM	apaganel@mc.utmck.edu
Membership	Tonya Davis, CPA	tonya.l.davis@irs.gov
Education	Aldena Phillips, CGFM	aldena@tennessee.edu
CGFM	Aldena Phillips, CGFM	aldena@tennessee.edu
Awards	Nancy Donahue, CGFM	ndonahue@pstcc.edu
Programs	David Bennett, CGFM	dbennett@blounttn.org
Public Service	Dana West	dwest@blounttn.org
Meetings	Kristi Reynolds	kureynolds@tva.gov
Webmaster	Kyle Cox	kbcox@tva.gov
	Regional Vice President	Mindy Stooksbury, RSBA
	National Treasurer	David Bennett, CGFM



## Gift Ideas:

### SCHOOL SUPPLIES

pens, pencils and sharpener, crayons or markers, stamps and ink pad sets, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.

### TOYS

small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, small Etch A Sketch®, toys that light up or make noise (with extra batteries), Slinky®, etc.

### HYGIENE ITEMS

toothbrush, toothpaste, mild bar soap (in a plastic bag), comb, washcloth, etc.

### OTHER

Hard candy and lollipops (please double bag all candy), mints, gum, T-shirts, socks, ball caps, sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries)

### A PERSONAL NOTE

In a separate envelope, you may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. (If you include your name and address, the child may write back.)

## Do Not Include:

Used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; chocolate or food; out-of-date candy; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snowglobes or glass containers; aerosol cans

## Donation Envelope

- 1 Complete the form to the right.
- 2 Tear off at perforation.
- 3 Place your donation inside this envelope and seal. Checks are recommended and should be made payable to Samaritan's Purse, with a note on the memo line that the gift is for Operation Christmas Child. Place the sealed envelope on top of the gift items inside your shoe box so it is clearly visible.

**IMPORTANT:** If you are sending a note or photo to a child, place it inside your donation inside this envelope.

I will pray for Operation Christmas Child.

Enclosed is \$ or more for each shoe box gift to help with shipping and other expenses.

Total Amount Enclosed: \$  Total Gift Boxes:

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY AND USE DARK INK

PLEASE CHECK ONE MR. & MRS. MR. MRS. MISS DR. REV. CHILD YOUTH

YOUR NAME OR NAME OF YOUR CHURCH OR GROUP

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE ZIP

PHONE

EVAL

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD