

East Tennessee Times

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President's Message—Gail Cook, CGFM, CPA

We had good attendance at our September meeting and I hope everyone enjoyed the presentation on alternative fuels. Our October speaker is Don Green, Program Manager for UT's National Forensic Science Institute. I'm sure everyone will find the program very interesting – even better than the weekly CSI show.

I want to thank everyone who signed up as a committee member. I will be circulating the sign-up sheet again in October for anyone who missed the opportunity. I hope everyone will get actively involved with our chap-

ter and a committee is a great place to start.

Our service project this month is Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child. OCC provides children around the world a ray of hope and joy through a simple box. Please take a few minutes and make a child smile by filling a box with small gifts. Go to http://www.samaritanpurse.org/index.php/OCC/Pack_A_Shoe_Box/ for instructions and ideas. Everyone bringing a packed box or contributing \$15 will receive a \$10 AGA incentive voucher.



Fall is in the air and there's no better place to enjoy it than East Tennessee. I hope everyone gets an opportunity in the upcoming weeks to enjoy the Fall colors and I look forward to seeing everyone at the October meeting.

Gail

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October Meeting—Don Green

Don Green is the Program Manager for the University of Tennessee's National Forensic Science Institute which includes the National Forensic Academy. Having retired from the Knoxville Police Department after 29 years, he had served in the Patrol Division, Public Hous-

ing Policing Program, SWAT, Haz – Mat, Organized Crime, Marine, and Bicycle Units.

His last assignment was a Commander of the Criminal Investigative Division.

He holds both a Bachelor of

Science and a Master of Science degree from the University of Tennessee.

His topic will focus on programs and training that are available through the Law Enforcement Innovation Center.

Tuesday, October 14

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 Buffet

Cost \$10 per member

RSVP: Kristi Reynolds

kureynolds@tva.gov by 10/10/2008

AGA National News...

FMSB Issues Comment Letters to GASB and IFAC—The FMSB has issued two comment letters, one to the Professional Accountants in Business Committee of the International Federation of Accountants on its proposed Good Practice Guidance document, *Costing to Drive Organizational Performance*, and the other to the Governmental Accounting Standards Board on its proposed Technical Bulletin on *Determining the Annual Required Contribution (ARC) Adjustment for Postemployment Benefits*. Read more at <http://www.agacgfm.org/standards/fmsb.aspx>

AGA Seeks IT Intern—The Association of

Government Accountants (AGA), the thought leader for government financial management, seeks an IT Intern who can help attract a younger generation through different electronic avenues like Facebook, YouTube, and other social networking sites. For more information, visit <http://www.agacgfm.org/downloads/agaiternship.pdf>

AGA Announces Four New Courses - Four new AGA-sponsored courses are designed to help financial managers and auditors add value to government performance. The courses are presented in cooperation with The Auditor Roles in Performance Measure-

ment Project Team of The Institute of Internal Auditors, which developed the courses under a grant from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. These courses can be customized to an organization's needs, to immerse participants in high-value audit skills and provide additional ways to apply them. For details, visit AGA's Training Courses section of the website.



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

2008-2009 National Events Calendar

10/15 Results of AGA's Research on Performance Based Management Reporting—Audio Conference

10/20-10/31 AGA's Government Finance Case Challenge

10/27-10/28 AGA's Performance Management Conference—Seattle

11/12 Internal Controls—Audio Conference

11/17-11/18 Central KY A & A Update with Frank Crawford—Frankfort, KY

12/10 21st Century Financial Managers: New Mix of Skills & Education Levels—Audio Conference

02/19-02/20 National Leadership Conference—Washington, DC

AGA's 2009 Professional Development Conference
New Orleans June 21-24, 2009

04/02-04/03 Southeastern Regional PDC—Nashville Doubletree Hotel

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 requirements 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 section of the AGA website at 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.

Chapter Meeting Calendar...

10/14/2008 Bob Green, Law Enforcement Center, at Calhoun's on the River

11/13/2008 Fall Seminar with Matt Murray and Bob Lash at Rothchild's

12/09/2008 John Sutton, GASB Update, at Calhoun's on the River

01/13/2009 Melinda Parton, AGA Southeast-ern Regional VP, at Calhoun's on the River

02/10/2009 TVA, Teleworking, at Calhoun's on the River

03/10/2009 Shannon McCloud, Safe Haven Law, at Calhoun's on the River

04/21/2009 Spring Seminar with Robert Smith at Rothchild's

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!

Membership Drive

Bring a perspective member or a friend to a meeting. If they become a member, then you get an incentive voucher!! 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 charity is Samaritan's Purse.

Oct: Samaritan's Purse

Nov: Coats for the Cold

Dec: Angel Tree

Jan: Ronald McDonald House

Feb: Smoky Mountain Animal Care Center

Mar: A Secret Safe Place for Newborns of East Tennessee

Apr: East TN Children's Hospital Encology Clinic

May: American Cancer Society

If you have questions about any of the charities or projects, contact Dana West at dwest@blounttn.org.

Financial Information
Treasurer Mike Blair reported the bank balance as of August 31st as \$18,332.32.

Chapter Recognition Program Points Update

Leadership: 2550

Education: 275

Certification: 400

Communication: 1150

Membership: 50

Early Careers: 0

Community Service: 125

Awards: 0

Total YTD: 4550

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.discovernet.org/
etaga](http://www.discovernet.org/etaga)

September Board Meeting Minutes

The East Tennessee Chapter of AGA September meeting began with President Gail Cook discussing the September service project, donations to the American Heart Association. She stated that donations could be made at the September and October meetings. For each donated dollar, meeting attendees were to receive a voucher for the same amount. Ms. Cook also stated that next month's service project would be the Samaritan's Purse. The items that are needed for donations can be researched at samaritan.org. Ms. Cook also reminded the meeting attendees about upcoming conferences and seminars (which can be found on the AGA website). She also strongly encouraged individuals to sign up to be a committee member.

Programs Chair, Joe Taylor introduced Warren Nevad, Management Consultant for the University of Tennessee, Municipal Technical

Advisory Service (MTAS). Mr. Nevad discussed alternative fuels which are defined as nonconventional, two-way energy sources. He provided examples of alternative fuels and discussed the various companies which are currently researching alternative fuel methods. Mr. Nevad also provided information regarding the 2007 Energy Bill and the 2008 Farm Bill in relation to alternative fuels. He stated there are several states with bio-fuel mandates which include Minnesota, Missouri, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts. Mr. Nevad also provided tips for what we should do to progress the use of alternative fuels. These tips included hosting a summit, working to apply for grants, working closely with fuel suppliers to obtain funding for fuel dispensing stations before converting to flex fuel/biodiesel, and pushing for state legisla-

tion for rebates, etc.

After the meeting adjourned, an Officer's meeting was held. The discussions revolved around (1) incentive vouchers to be provided for participating in the October service project, (2) cost of participation in the fall seminar and the fall seminar service project, and (3) the speaker for the January meeting.



Chapter Officers

President	Gail Cook, CGFM	gail.cook@tennessee.edu
President-Elect	Nancy Donahue, CGFM	ndonahue@pstcc.edu
Treasurer	Mike Blair, CGFM	tmblair@tva.gov
Secretary	Amy Rush, CIA	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	Julie Talbott	jtalbott@blountn.org
Programs	Joe Taylor	jwtaylor1@comcast.net
Public Service	Dana West	dwest@blountn.org
Meetings	Kristi Reynolds	kureynolds@tva.gov
Webmaster	Open Position	

ETAGA Fall Leadership Seminar on November 13, 2008

Program Speakers

James K. Myers—Ethics

Mr. Myers will present the TSCPA Ethics program he co-authored. The session includes the newly required Tennessee Specific Ethics. The TSCPA will issue certificates for this session based on registrations provided **one week in advance** of the seminar. Register early for the certificate!

Matthew Murray—Economic Outlook

Matthew (Matt) Murray, Ph.D., Professor of Economics with the University of Tennessee, will discuss current economics and venture an outlook for the near future. His areas of expertise are state and local tax policy and economic development. Matt has been published in several national economic journals and has recently published a book entitled Economic Crossroads.

Bob Lash, Jr.—Organizational Culture

Mr. Lash is the founder and president of STRATEGIC RESOURCES. He has more than 30 years of corporate and healthcare experience as a manager and leader as well as a trainer and consultant. He earned a B.S. in business administration and M.P.H. in public health, both from UT. The session looks at what comprises an organization's culture, the impact of the organizational culture on employees and customers, the differences between healthy and unhealthy cultures, and ways to create a culture conducive to maximum productivity and employee satisfaction.

Program Agenda

8:15-8:25am	Registration
8:25-8:30am	Welcome
8:30-10:10am	James Myers
10:10-10:20am	Coffee Break
10:20-12:00pm	Matt Murray
12:00-12:45pm	Lunch
12:45-2:45pm	Bob Lash
2:45-3:00pm	Snack Break
3:00-4:30pm	Bob Lash
4:30-4:45pm	Closing Remarks

Continuing Professional Education

The Fall Seminar provides 8 hours of Continuing Professional Education (CPE).

- (a) 2 hours CPE from TSCPA in Tennessee Ethics (category E); includes 1 hour Tennessee Specific Ethics
- (b) 6 hours CPE in Management Advisory Services (category M)

The East Tennessee Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants, a Tennessee Exempt Organization (TEO), is an approved continuing education sponsor with the Tennessee State Board of Accountancy (Sponsor number 007). Detailed certification for this event will be available at the end of the seminar. TSCPA will certify Ethics hours for registrations submitted by November 6.

Community Service Projects

Coats for the Cold will be collected at the seminar. Coats should be clean and in good condition.

Angel Tree tags will be available there. Select name tags and bring the gifts to the December meeting!

Directions

Rothchild's Catering & Conference Ctr.
8807 Kingston Pike
Knoxville, TN 37923
865-690-0103

From I-40 W to exit 379

Take exit 379 toward Walker Springs Rd/
Bridgewater Rd (.2 m)
Merge onto Walbrook Dr (.2 m)
Turn left at Walker Springs Rd (.2 m)
Turn right at Kingston Pike (.6 m)
Turn right into Ten Mile Center
Rothchild's is on the right

Registration Information

Registration Fee: \$125

The \$125 registration fee covers lunch, registration, breaks and all seminar materials. Please note the TSCPA must have specific information for the ethics certification. Please provide all registration contact information. Dress is business casual. Early registration is mandatory for the Ethics certificate.

Registration Form

The 2008 Fall Seminar sponsored by the East Tennessee Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants is Thursday, November 13, 2008. Please note the TSCPA must have complete, specific information for the ethics certification so complete a form for each attendee.

Name _____

Company _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Return complete registration form(s) **by November 6, 2008**. Limited registration may be available on site at 8:15am. The seminar begins promptly at 8:25am.

Make Check Payable to:
East TN Chapter of AGA

Mail Completed Form & Payment to:

Mike Blair
TN Valley Authority
400 W. Summitt Hill Dr.
ET 3C-K
Knoxville, TN 37902

Refunds: Refunds of registration fees may not be made after November 6, 2008. Any questions, please contact Mike Blair at (865) 632-6056 or via email at tmbair@tva.gov.