



September 2002

Volume 25, Number 1

The President's Message

by Jim Arnette

It's true. The rumor you have heard about me, the president of the Nashville Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants, is true. I am not an accountant...My name is Jim Arnette, and I am a computer "geek." What does this mean for our chapter? Will our monthly luncheon meetings be replaced with high-tech teleconferences and virtual reality guest speakers? No, it will be business as usual. My background simply reflects our ever-changing work environment and the diversity of our organization's membership at the local and national levels.

Can accounting and financial management professionals co-exist with systems specialists? They must. In the wake of the scandals involving Enron, WorldCom, Adelphia Communications, etc., the accounting profession has taken a beating. The public's concerns over the accuracy and authenticity of corporate financial statements has led Congress and GAO to closely monitor and evaluate the conflict between auditing and consulting services and to reassess the purpose and significance of financial reporting.

In fact, with national focus on financial reporting, the AICPA ranks business and financial reporting appli-

cations number one on their top technologies list for 2002. These applications are the tools that allow us to more efficiently create and manage digital information and electronically transfer that information to those who need it. The AICPA realizes that accounting and systems personnel must work closely together to design, develop, implement, and maintain sound business applications. So why shouldn't accounting and systems professionals also serve together in a professional organization such as AGA?

The theme of the recent AGA professional development conference in Atlanta was "Transforming the Government Enterprise." Government is re-examining the way it does business, and technology will play a major role in the transformation. Citizens are

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Chapter Recognition Points YTD

(through 07/31/2002)

Leadership	850
Education	2,925
Certification	1,100
Communication	1,316
Membership	50
Community Service	200
Awards	<u>200</u>
Total points YTD	<u>6,641</u>

Chapter Goal = 10,000

CHAPTER MEETING

**Thursday
September 19, 2002**

**Speaker:
Phil Ponder**

11:30 a.m. - Cumberland Club
COST: \$8.00 per member

Make your reservation with the receptionist at 747-5201 by 4:30 p.m. Monday, September 16, 2002

You can also make your luncheon reservation online at <http://www.nashvilleaga.org>.

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News from National

AGA Standards Board Report

AGA's Financial Management Standards Board (FMSB) has commented on several proposals to change government accounting and auditing standards.

The FMSB provided lengthy comments May 24 on the exposure draft of the AICPA Auditing Standards Board's proposed Statement on Auditing Standards (SAS), *Consideration of Fraud in a Financial Statement Audit*. The FMSB called the proposal a significant improvement over existing guidance, and said it supports the board's long-term program to address concerns about fraudulent financial reporting.

The AICPA Auditing Standards Board issued another exposure draft of a proposed SAS and Statement on Standards for Attestation Engagements (SSAE) titled *Omnibus—2002*. Former FMSB Chairman, James M. Williams, CGFM, wrote in a June 28 letter that the board generally supports the proposed revisions, but "has concerns about the expansion of SAS No. 52 to allow other sources of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) to establish requirements for providing required supplementary information (RSI)."

The FMSB also commented May 28 on two exposure drafts proposed by the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB): *Eliminating the Category National Defense Property, Plant and Equipment* and *Reclassification of Stewardship Responsibilities and Eliminating the Current Service Assessment*.

The FMSB addressed two additional FASAB exposure drafts on June 28: *Selected Standards for the Consolidated Financial Report of the United States Government* and a proposed Statement of Federal Financial Accounting Concepts, titled *Target Audience and Qualitative Characteristics for the Consolidated Financial Report of the United States Government*.

A full text of all FMSB comments can be read at <http://www.agacgfm.org/academy/fmsb.htm>.

PDC Raffle Proceeds Exceed Wildest Dreams! Goal Achieved!

by Renee Gilman, CGFM, Raffle Coordinator

Who would've thought that we could exceed last year's raffle proceeds of more than \$10,000 in four days? Well, we did—we raised more than \$11,300—and we owe the success of this year's raffle at the Professional Development Conference to YOU, the AGA members.

More than 60 chapters responded with absolutely beautiful prizes. The chapters really outdid themselves this year and I thank each and every one of them for contributing! In addition, four of our exhibitors donated prizes. Also, thank you to the AGA leadership. Throughout the week, we had challenges from the Past National Presidents, Past National Treasurers, National Executive Committee, Regional Vice Presidents and Chapters. Each of these groups provided a healthy competition to keep the raffle proceeds

growing and we are grateful for their support and generosity. And last but certainly not least, the individuals who attended the PDC and responded generously throughout the week and made this year's PDC raffle a HUGE success!

Let me also thank all the wonderful volunteers who helped me this year: Atlanta Chapter members Art Finley, CGFM, and Ray Poland; Mid-Atlantic RVP Jeanne Erwin; Linda Chilcoat (wife of Baltimore Chapter's Lance Chilcoat, CGFM,) Betty Akins (Richmond Chapter), Kelly Stefanko (Northern Virginia Chapter) and the AGA National Office staff. Also, Past National President WA "Bill" Broadus Jr., CGFM, who donated three registrations to next year's PDC to be raffled off during lunch on Wednesday. Thank you all very much!



Passing the Gavel—Immediate Past National President Richard V. Norment, CGFM, CIA, passes the gavel to National President William J. Anderson Jr., CGFM, at the close of AGA's 51st Annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition, held July 7-10 in Atlanta, GA.

The President's Message

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pushing for e-government and 24/7/365 access to government services, which will require developing and re-engineering manual transaction applications to totally automated, real-time solutions. Again, accountants and data processors must come together to provide efficient, cost-effective results.

Our diversified membership must also continue to work together to maintain our chapter's position as one of the most successful and influential AGA chapters in the nation. We should all be very proud of Richard Norment, AGA's immediate past national president. He was an outstanding leader and representative of AGA and is an example of the fine quality of our membership. At the Atlanta PDC, our chapter received the electronic newsletter award and the chapter platinum and gold designations, and Jan Sylvis received the distinguished Frank Greathouse Award. Topics often contains articles about our chapter activities, such as the Alex Green project and our CGFM brainstorming sessions. We also had an article written by a member, Zabihollah Rezaee, published in the Summer 2002 issue of the Journal of Government Financial Management. Those recognitions and accomplishments are impressive.

So in closing, I am truly honored to be president of the Nashville chapter. Although Margaret Walker will be a tough act to follow, the CEC has been working hard to provide you with an excellent program for the coming year.

See you at the September luncheon!

Committee News

AWARDS COMMITTEE

The Nashville Chapter has **nominated** two local professionals for awards which will be awarded at the Association of Government Accountants 11th Annual State and Local Government Leadership Conference held September 23-24, 2002, in Richmond, VA. **David Manning**, Finance Director of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County was nominated for the **Excellence in Government Leadership Award** – this award recognizes the cumulative achievements of a professional who throughout his public career has served as a role model for others and has consistently exhibited the highest personal and professional standards. **Mike Shinn**, Chief of Administration for the Department of Transportation for the State of Tennessee was nominated for the **William R. Snodgrass Distinguished Leadership Award** – this award recognized the outstanding leadership of individuals in state government that led to improved financial management practices, policies, systems or operations and consistently exhibited the highest personal and professional standards. Our chapter would like to express best wishes in the award selection to both of these nominees.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Nashville Chapter will be giving one hour of CPE for CGFMs who attend the monthly lunch. CGFMs who place their lunch reservation should indicate that they are a CGFM so that a certificate can be ready for them the day of the luncheon. Please note that this CPE only applies toward the CGFM certification, and does not count for CPE hours for the CPA, CFE, CISA, or any other professional certification. If you have any questions please contact Mason Ball, Education Chair, at (615) 747-5287 or by e-mail at Mason.Ball@state.tn.us.

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Please call the Newsletter Chair, Will Hancock, at (615) 747-5293 or FAX at (615) 532-2765, with any member news or other items for the newsletter. You may also e-mail newsletter items to Will.Hancock@state.tn.us

Please have information and articles for the newsletter turned in by the third Friday of each month.

Help wanted!! No experience required!!

How can you get more out of your AGA membership? Participation on a chapter committee is a great way to get to know other members while demonstrating your organizational or leadership skills. Have no talents? That's not possible - join a committee and discover how talented you really are. Participation on a committee does not require an extensive time commitment. The committees currently established are Awards, CGFM, Community Service, Early Careers, Education, Finance and Administration, Internet, Meetings and Attendance, Membership, Newsletter, and Program. Contact the current committee chair or any CEC member for more information on how you can become more active in your chapter.

Committee News (Cont.)

AWARDS COMMITTEE

The committee met to discuss its goals for the upcoming year. The committee plans to continue with the exam fee subsidy drawing, free lunch for those passing the exams, disbursing brochures at meetings to extol the virtues of becoming a CGFM certificate holder, and providing notice of training relevant to CGFM exam content. Last year's committee accomplished its short-term plan for developing a seminar-type brainstorming session for the CGFM exams. The committee's near-term plan for this year will be to expand the brainstorming session into formal training for individuals who plan to take the CGFM exams. The purpose of this session will be to assist the AGA members who plan to sit for the CGFM exams by discussing the various topical areas of the three exams. The training is tentatively scheduled for May or June 2002. All members interested in participating in this training should contact the committee co-chairs, Gerry Boaz (Gerry.Boaz@state.tn.us) or Rebecca Barr (Rebecca.Barr@state.tn.us).

At its meeting, the committee also discussed its long-term goal for increasing the number of individuals sitting for and passing the CGFM exams. One idea was to expand the base of individuals beyond that of the AGA membership who might be interested in a CGFM certification. This expansion could include CPAs across the State who audit local governments. This idea could meet a dual purpose of also increasing the AGA membership.

Free Lunch for Those Passing the CGFM Exam

The CGFM Committee is continuing its program to congratulate those individuals passing the CGFM exams by offering lunch certificates that are good for a free lunch at any AGA luncheon meeting. If you passed the CGFM exams during September 2001 – August 2002 and have not received a lunch certificate, please contact Gerry Boaz (Gerry.Boaz@state.tn.us) or Rebecca Barr (Rebecca.Barr@state.tn.us).

Win Financial Assistance Toward CGFM Exam Fees

The CGFM Committee is pleased to announce its plans to continue fully funding CGFM exam fees for three members. AGA members who are interested in sitting for the three exams required to achieve CGFM certification and who meet eligibility requirements to sit for the exams may win an exam fee subsidy. The committee will fund the entire exam fee of \$327 for three members. A drawing will be held at the November 2002 meeting to determine winners. Winners must sit for all parts of the exam by July 2003. Winners will be reimbursed for the exam fees. For the opportunity to be one of the winners, please email the committee co-chair, Gerry Boaz at (Gerry.Boaz@state.tn.us) between now and November 8 stating your interest and that you are eligible to sit for the exam, and your name will be included in the November drawing. Please enter the drawing only if you fully intend to sit for the exam during the applicable period. Committee co-chair, Rebecca Barr (Rebecca.Barr@state.tn.us) has CGFM brochures and exam applications for interested members.

To be eligible to sit for the exam, you must have a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university and have completed 24 hours of study in accounting, auditing, budgeting, economics, electronic data processing, finance, information resources management, public administration, or other financial management topics. You must have at least two years of professional-level experience in government financial management (this experience requirement does not have to be met before taking the exams, but must be completed before you can become certified). Your experience must involve government financial management at a professional level in federal, state, or local government, the private sector, or academia.

The Department of Personnel includes the CGFM certification in the list of certifications eligible for a one-step salary increase. A salary increase **may** be granted to employees of the State of Tennessee if the certification is obtained by passing the exams. To be certain that you qualify for the salary increase, obtain approval from your supervisor and the Department of Personnel **before** sitting for the exams. For specific details see the Department of Personnel Policy #90-031 (10/10/90) amended March 23, 1999.

MEETINGS AND ATTENDANCE COMMITTEE

\$50 Drawing at September Luncheon

Let's kick off this year right! Make your plans to attend the first AGA luncheon this year on Thursday, September 19, 2002 and your name will be included in the drawing for \$50. We will draw until we have a winner.

Luncheon Price Remains \$8.00

The luncheon price will be \$8.00 again this year for AGA members. The monthly luncheons will continue to be held at the Cumberland Club on the 26th floor of the City Center.

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Committee News (Cont.)

MEETINGS AND ATTENDANCE COMMITTEE

To Make Reservations Each Month (2 options)

1. On-line Reservation: Go to the Nashville Area Chapter's website at <http://www.nashvilleaga.org/> click on "Make your lunch reservation on-line" and follow the instructions.
2. Phone Reservations: Call Paula Null at (615) 747-5201.

To Make a Standing Reservation

With a standing reservation you will not have to call every month to reserve your seat for lunch – it will be **automatic**. If you are unable to attend the luncheon any particular month, just call and cancel your reservation for that month.

If you would like to make a standing reservation or at any time you would like to be taken off of the standing reservation list, please contact Julie Rogers at 747-5218 or e-mail at Julie.A.Rogers@state.tn.us with your name and telephone number.

If for some reason you can not attend a monthly luncheon please contact Julie Rogers at 747-5218 or e-mail at Julie.A.Rogers@state.tn.us by 10:00 A.M the day of the luncheon.

Even if you were on the standing reservation list last year, you will still need to renew it for this year.

To Cancel a Reservation

If you are unable to attend the luncheon please call Julie Rogers at 747-5218 or e-mail at Julie.A.Rogers@state.tn.us to cancel your reservation.

Cancellation Policy

In order to avoid being charged for the luncheon reservation cancellations **must** be received by **10:00 A.M.** the day of the chapter meeting. If you arrange for another member who did not have a reservation to attend the luncheon meeting in your place, you will not be charged for the lunch. The substitute member's name should be indicated on the sign-in sheet next to your name. If you make a reservation and do not attend the meeting, do not cancel you reservation, or do not arrange for a substitute, **you will be billed for your lunch.**

AWARDS COMMITTEE

The member incentive award or PDC drawing has taken on a new name this year. It will be known as the **Chapter Service Drawing**. Get involved and support your chapter this year, and you could win an all expense paid trip to **Chicago, Illinois** for the **52nd Annual Professional Development Conference** which will be held June 29-July 2, 2003. The Chapter Service Drawing will take place at the May 2003, luncheon meeting.

To be eligible for the drawing, you must accumulate at least **12 points** through participating in various activities of the chapter. Attending the monthly luncheon meeting will not earn you enough points by itself, so you need to find additional ways to get involved. As always, we have lots of ways for everyone to get involved, have some fun, and **win!**

The committee has made some changes in the way you earn points this year—be sure to check out the list below:

Points:

Luncheon attendance	1 point
Attending chapter sponsored training	2 points
Sponsor new member	2 points
Service on a chapter committee	2 points each
AGA community service projects (Including VITA,)	1 point per hour served
Newsletter article (Financial topic)	8 points each
(Nonfinancial topic)	4 points each
Obtaining CGFM certification	8 points upon completion
Attending chapter sponsored social event	2 points
New for this year	
Sponsoring a Luncheon Guest (10 point maximum)	1 point for each guest

Start working on the **12 points** you'll need to get your name in the Chapter Service Drawing. For each point you earn, you will receive one chance in the year-end drawing. Everyone is eligible!

Just think, next summer you could be in the Windy City where you could shop on Michigan Avenue or catch a foul ball at Wrigley Field. Good Luck and start accumulating those points.

Committee News (Cont.)

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Team REAP - Recruit & Retain Essential Accountability Professionals

AGA's 2002-03 program year is off and running, and if there is one word to sum up our greatest challenge, it would have to be MEMBERSHIP.

The membership theme for the year is TEAM REAP – Recruit & Retain Essential Accountability Professionals. Our membership goal is to at least recruit 2,300 new AGA members while keeping lost members to less than 1,900 – a 2% net growth. AGA has experienced tremendous membership growth in years past. In fact, from 1995 to 1999, we brought in more than 13,748 new members—an average of 3,437 new members a year! Unfortunately, in program years 2000 to 2002 we LOST more members than we gained. As the membership goals above suggest, we'd like to turn this decline around!

Along with the annual membership and chapter recognition awards programs, the 2002-03 campaign includes an attractive selection of incentives, which include:

- o **Individual Members (1 prize in total) – A fishbowl drawing for a trip for 2 to anywhere in the Continental US or Alaska, Hawaii or Caribbean (airfare and hotel only).** Your name gets put into the fishbowl each time you recruit a new member – recruit 1 member, get 1 chance, recruit 100 members, get 100 chances.
- o **Chapter Membership Chairs (6 prizes in total) – 2 airline tickets to anywhere in the Continental US.** One chapter membership chair from each of the six chapter size groupings has a chance at winning a prize. The prize goes to the membership chair whose chapter has the highest percentage of growth for the program year.
- o **Chapter Presidents (6 prizes in total) – An upgraded room at the 2003 PDC to the concierge level or a complimentary PDC registration.** One chapter president from each of the six chapter size groupings has a chance at winning a prize. The prize goes to the president whose chapter has the highest percentage of growth for the program year.
- o **Regional Coordinators for Membership (1 prize in total) – A \$500 gift certificate to Best Buy or Circuit City.** The regional coordinator for membership whose region has the highest percentage of growth for the program year will win this prize.
- o **Regional Vice Presidents (1 prize in total) – A \$500 gift certificate to Best Buy or Circuit City.** The regional vice president whose region has the highest percentage of growth for the program year will win this prize.
- o **The Recruiter of the Year and the Top Two Sponsors will also receive a complimentary meeting registration.**

The membership campaign started **May 1, 2002 and runs through April 30, 2003.**

The success of this campaign will rely on you! We need the commitment of members to spread the word about AGA and encourage their colleagues to join.

By working together, we will undoubtedly make this year a success! Start recruiting today!

Updated member incentive plan:

- o Each person that sponsors two (2) new Nashville Chapter members will receive a certificate for a free lunch at any of the regular meetings.
- o For every four (4) new members that a person sponsors, he or she will win a cash prize of \$ 50. At the end of the year, the person having sponsored the most new members will receive a grand cash prize of \$ 100.

Start Recruiting!!!!!!!

The AGA membership application along with a description of membership types is available on-line at our website (<http://www.nashvilleaga.org>).

An application can be submitted directly to the National Office or the PDF version can be printed, completed, and sent to the Nashville Chapter. If you need further information or assistance, please contact:

Ann.Collett@state.tn.us

or (615) 253-2159

or

Thomas.W.Chester@state.tn.us

or (615) 532-7272.

Committee News (Cont.)

COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE

Pencil Foundation Supply Drive

The Community Service Committee is eager and excited to begin AGA's 2002-2003 year. As of the first week of school, August 12-16, 2002, AGA members have donated over 600 individual supplies from the original short list.

With the items already delivered to the school and the ones to come, we are hoping to get the school year off to a great start for Alex Green Elementary.

The attached supply list will be active until AGA's first fiscal meeting, 9/19/2002. Items can be dropped off before the September luncheon at the designated drop off sites listed below.

- 1) James K. Polk Building, Department of State Audit, 16th Floor Conference Room, (Contacts: Tammy Farley, (615) 747-5221 or Gayle Wortham-Hatch, (615) 747-5222).
- 2) Tennessee Tower, 114th floor (Contact: Margaret Walker, (615) 741-9803).
- 3) Division of Accounts, 222 3rd Avenue North, 7th floor- by the elevators (Contacts: Kim Dorsey, (615) 862-6100 or Pat Finney, (615) 862-6100).



Santa (Mr. Nunley, Alex Green Elementary's Custodian) has started the giving season early by delivering the first of many supplies given by AGA members.

Meeting Minutes

May Chapter Meeting

*Submitted by Bertha DeWeese,
Chapter Secretary*

The Nashville Area Chapter held its monthly meeting at the Cumberland Club on Thursday, May 16, 2002. President Margaret Walker called the meeting to order. Elaine Anderson gave the invocation. Margaret introduced guests and asked for approval of the April minutes as published in the May newsletter.

Margaret Walker announced that Jan Sylvis had been selected to receive the AGA Frank Greathouse Distinguished Leadership Award. The award will be presented at the July PDC in Atlanta.

Ann Collett and Terry Mason announced the winners of the membership awards. Clare Tucker won the \$100 prize for sponsoring the most new members (3) between December 11, 2001, and April 30, 2002. Sandra Ray won the trip to Fall Creek Falls from the drawing. Two cash prizes of \$50 each were awarded to LaShawn Barber and Patricia Wright.

Will Hancock presented the newsletter awards of \$100 to Brent Rumbley and \$75 to Carrie Young for their newsletter articles.

Jacqueline Laws presented the member of the year award to Tammy Farley. Greg Worley won the drawing for a trip to the July PDC in Atlanta. First runner-up was Penny Austin and the second runner-up was Art Alexander.

Margaret Walker presented the President's award to Julie Rogers. Margaret also presented Ron Paolini with a Southwest airline ticket for his many years of service as AGA coordinator in the local VITA program.

The following officers and directors were installed for the 2002-2003 chapter year:

Jim Arnette - President
Phil Carr – President-elect
Margaret Walker – Immediate Past-President

Elaine Anderson – Secretary
Penny Austin – Treasurer
Ted Fellman – Two-year Director
Carrie Young – Two-year Director
Leigh Anne Scheuerman – Two-year Director
Tammy Farley – Two-year Director
Tommy Chester – Two-year Director
Mason Ball – One-year Director
Karen Hale – One-year Director
Mitzi Martin – One-year Director
Ann Collett – One-year Director
Will Hancock – One-year Director

Jim Arnette presented Margaret Walker with a plaque for her service to AGA as the 2001-2002 chapter President.

Jodi Geary won the \$25 door prize.

Ron Anderson provided the answers to the puzzle.

The meeting was adjourned.

July CEC Meeting

*Submitted by Elaine Anderson
Chapter Secretary*

The Nashville Area Chapter's Executive Committee met on Wednesday, July 31, 2002, in the 15th floor conference room of the James K. Polk Building. President Jim Arnette called the meeting to order. Committee members present were: Jim Arnette, Dan Willis, Penny Austin, David Sturtevant, Mason Ball, Ann Collett, Margaret Walker, Elaine Anderson, Michael Timme (for Karen Hale), Ted Fellman, Beth Pugh, Gerry Boaz, Clare Tucker, Tammy Farley, Julie Rogers, Carrie Cook, Leigh-Anne Scheuerman, Tommy Chester, and Phil Carr.

Jim Arnette reminded the CEC that the first chapter meeting for the year will be Thursday, September 19th.

National News:

Jim Arnette reported that the Nashville Chapter received several awards at the National PDC in Atlanta. Nashville received a first place for its Electronic News-

letter. William Hancock is the editor. Jan Sylvis received the Frank Greathouse Award. The Nashville Chapter received Gold recognition again this year and was also awarded Platinum for five consecutive years of Gold. The National office contracted to have a peer review of AGA to see how well the organization was performing. Three critical issues were identified to be addressed - strategic focus, governance, and finance. Also discussed were the need for long range financial plans, and the possibility of increased membership dues and conference fees. National is also urging the local AGA chapters to increase recruiting of new members and to retain current members. Next year's PDC will be in Chicago.

Chapter By-Laws:

Jim Arnette appointed a sub-committee to review the Nashville chapter by-laws to determine if they are in conformity with national by-laws. Committee members are: Margaret Walker, Chair and Phil Carr. Report is due by December.

Audit:

The annual audit is due August 31, 2002. Jim Arnette will ask Ron Paolini to perform the audit.

Chapter Recognition:

Phil Carr reported the first report to the AGA National Office is due August 15. Committee plans are due August 31.

Treasurer's Report:

Penny Austin presented unaudited financial statements as of June 30, 2002. The operating balance is \$21,809.14 and the savings balance is \$22,499.09 with total cash of \$44,308.23. She noted the Deferred Revenue of \$6,450 is for the Business Tax Seminar held in July.

Committee Reports:

Finance -Each committee should submit their budget to Ted Fellman by August 9.

Meetings and Attendance - Julie Rogers reported the monthly meetings will continue to be held at the Cumberland Club and the price will remain \$14.00 per per-

Meeting Minutes

son. Internet reservations will be accepted again this year. The Program committee is checking the possibility of members receiving CPE for attending the monthly meetings.

Programs - Michael Timme reported that several speakers have been secured. The committee also has plans for a fall and spring social.

Membership - Ann Collett reported there were 502 local AGA members in April 2002. Over 100 members have been suspended with 27 reinstated. The goal for new members this year is 100. CEC members are asked to review the list of suspended members and encourage those persons to reinstate. Additional people are needed on this committee.

Community Service - Tammy Farley reported the following projects for this year - Second Harvest Food Bank - Aftercare with DCS - Prevention of Unwanted Pets (a spay and neuter program for low income pet owners) - Pencil Partner with Alex Green - Channel 8 Fund Raiser - VITA (downtown library only) - Country Music Marathon.

Education - Mason Ball reported plans for the following seminars: Federal Income Tax Update, Thursday, January 16, 2003; AGA Annual Seminar, Thursday, February 13, 2003. The Commissioner of Revenue received a very complimentary letter from a participant at the Tennessee Business Tax Seminar held in July. A second Business Tax Seminar may be held in Memphis or Jackson in December if logistics can be worked out with the Tennessee Department of Revenue.

Awards - David Sturtevant reported the following state and local nominations - David Manning for the Excellence in Government Leadership award and Mike Shinn for the W. R. Snodgrass Distinguished Government Leader award. The deadline for nominations for national awards is March 7, 2003. Nominations for Federal awards are due November 8, 2002.

Newsletter - Jim Arnette reported the deadline for submitting articles for the September newsletter is August 23, 2002. Jim Arnette and Julie Rogers will present member profiles for the September newsletter.

Internet - Dan Willis reported the committee met on July 30. The committee plans to redesign the site and request input from other committees as to what they would like on the site.

CGFM - Gerry Boaz reported plans for a "CGFM Brainstorming Session." Time and date TBA. Also discussed was the possibility of a CGFM Seminar.

Early Careers - Carrie Cook reported plans to attend several career fairs and Beta Alpha Psi meetings this year. The committee would like to encourage student memberships and will also hand out scholarship information. The committee plans to send letters to new AGA members to encourage participation in the organization.

The next CEC meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 19, 2002. The meeting was adjourned.

August CEC Meeting

*Submitted by Elaine Anderson
Chapter Secretary*

The Nashville Area Chapter's Executive Committee met on Monday, August 19, 2002, in the 16th floor training room of the James K. Polk Building. President Jim Arnette called the meeting to order. Committee members present: Jim Arnette, Dan Willis, Penny Austin, David Sturtevant, Mason Ball, Margaret Walker, Elaine Anderson, Karen Hale, Ted Fellman, Beth Pugh, Tommy Chester, and Phil Carr.

Jim Arnette shared a thank you note from Richard Normant. Richard expressed thanks to the Nashville Chapter for their support during his term as National President and for the cash given to cover the

costs of hospitality at the PDC in Atlanta. Jim Arnette reported that Carrie Cook has resigned her positions as Director in the Nashville Chapter of AGA and Chair of the Early Careers Committee. Jim Arnette nominated Jennifer McClendon to fulfill the remaining term as Director and Chair of the Early Careers Committee. Margaret Walker seconded the motion and it passed.

Audit:

Jim Arnette reported that Tammy Farley is in the process of auditing the Nashville Chapter's financial records. The audit should be complete and submitted to the National office by August 31, 2002.

Budget/Finance:

Ted Fellman handed out copies of the proposed budget for 2003. No action was taken on the budget at this time.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer's Report - Penny Austin presented an Operating Statement for the period ended July 31, 2002. The operating cash balance is \$25,151.27 and the savings cash balance is \$22,518.21.

Early Careers - No report.

CGFM - No report.

Internet - Dan Willis reported the bulk of the budget request this year is for software license. The 2003 Chapter Officers Directory has been set up on the Nashville Chapter web page. The committee plans to redesign the site and request input from other committees as to what they would like on the site.

Newsletter - No report. Jim Arnette encouraged the executive committee to receive the monthly newsletter electronically due to printing and mailing costs.

Awards - David Sturtevant reported the increase in the Awards budget is for scholarships. The committee will decide if the current scholarships will increase by \$500 each or if a new \$1,000 scholarship will be offered. (Pending approval of

Meeting Minutes

the budget.) David also presented a Point Structure for the PDC Chapter Service Drawing and entered a motion that the structure be adopted. Margaret Walker seconded the motion and it passed.

Education - Mason Ball reported Nashville AGA Chapter is exempt from NASBA. Due to budget constraints, the Tennessee Department of Revenue will be unable to assist with a business tax seminar in Jackson or Memphis. The committee is planning a two-day government seminar in April or May. Possible topics to be covered are Government Environment, Internal Control and the Yellow Book, and An Overview of Government Accounting. Mason will submit revised budget revenue figures to include this seminar.

Community Service - Beth Pugh reported the first collection of supplies delivered to Alex Green included 604 items.

Membership - Tommy Chester reported 35 of the suspended members have been reinstated. Tommy entered a motion that when a member sponsors four new members they receive \$50 and that at the end of the year, for every \$50 award received the member's name be placed in a pool from which one name will be drawn out for an additional \$50 prize. The motion was seconded by Margaret Walker and passed.

Programs - Karen Hale reported the speaker for September would be Phil Ponder. The committee is planning a fall social that will be family oriented and a more formal spring social. Karen reported individuals with CGFM designation would receive one hour of CPE for attending the monthly chapter meetings. CPA's will not receive CPE for attending the meetings.

Meetings and Attendance - No report. Jim Arnette noted for the record that Tammy Farley would receive a free lunch at the September Chapter Meeting for performing the Chapter's audit.

Chapter Recognition - Phil Carr reported the Nashville Chapter currently has 6,641 points and that extra points can be earned if the Chapters annual report of accomplishments is on the web page by August 31. Committee plans are also due August 31.

Chapter Administration Budget:

Jim Arnette reported the increase in the Chapter Administration budget is for CEC lunches.

Chapter By-Laws:

Margaret Walker reported that she has contacted the National office with questions about the Limited Liability law. Once a response is received, the committee will complete their review of the Nashville Chapter by-laws.

Other Business:

Jim Arnette requested committee chairs designate a committee member to attend the CEC meetings when they are unable to attend. The chair should notify Jim Arnette and Elaine Anderson who will be attending in their absence.

Jim Arnette moved that the minutes from the July CEC be approved. Ted Fellman seconded the motion and it passed. The next CEC meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 16, 2002. The meeting was adjourned.

September Speaker Phil Ponder



With the development of a popular painting technique, Phil Ponder has established a very recognized niche in Middle Tennessee artwork. He is best known for his limited edition prints of skylines and famous buildings. The success of his "hobby," which began in 1979, prompted him to accept art as a second career in 1989.

After growing up in Florida, graduating from the University of Florida and serving as a U.S. Navy officer, Phil has lived in the Nashville area for 43 years. He and his wife Dot have four grown children. He was an executive with GENESCO, Inc., for 30 years.

Phil is active in church, civic, and community affairs, and has served as President of the Donelson-Hermitage Chamber of Commerce, Donelson-Hermitage-Old Hickory Division of the American Heart Association. He now serves on several boards, and is a member of the Nashville Electric Service Audit and Ethics Committee. He is past Chairman of the Parish Council and Finance Board of St. Stephen's Catholic Church.

Several of his original watercolors have been accepted and shown by the Central South Art Exhibitions, sponsored by the Tennessee Art League. His watercolor, "Atlanta USA," received the 1994 Griffin Memorial Watercolor Award. He has also designed all of the 24 Holiday Ornaments for the Easter Seal Society.

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

The Tennessee Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration will sponsor its

Annual Fall Symposium

Thursday, December 5, 2002 at the Downtown Campus of Tennessee State University. This year's subject will be:

Planning for Tennessee's Future:

The Roles of Local, State, and Federal Government in the Growth of Tennessee

Watch for Details.

(Continued on page 11)

September Speaker (Cont.)

In 1993, he was honored with a Tennessee Outstanding Achievement Award from Governor Ned McWherter, and in 1994, he was the recipient of the Book of Golden Deeds Award from the Donelson-Hermitage Exchange Club. He was named Business Man of the Year 1997 by the Donelson-Hermitage Chamber of Commerce.

In August 1999, Phil was elected to his second four-year term of the Metropolitan Nashville City Council. He serves on several committees associated with the council. He is past Chairman of the Traffic and Parking Committee and the Planning committee, and is a Greenways commissioner. Phil was a candidate for Vice-Mayor of Metro in the August 2002 election.

Mark Your Calendar!

September 16, 2002

CEC Meeting
11:30 a.m.
15th Floor Conf. Room
James K. Polk Building

Deadline for making
reservations for the February Luncheon Meeting

September 19, 2002

Chapter Luncheon Meeting
11:30 a.m.
Cumberland Club
Speaker: Phil Ponder

October 17, 2002

Chapter Luncheon Meeting
11:30 a.m.
Cumberland Club
Speaker: John Morgan,
Comptroller of the Treasury

Member Profiles

Each month, space permitting, the newsletter will profile members of our chapter. This month, we are featuring Jim Arnette, our Chapter President, and Julie Rogers, one of our Meetings and Attendance Co-chairs.



Jim Arnette

Jim is the assistant director over information systems for the Division of County Audit. He has spent his professional career with the Comptroller's Office having joined the Office of Management Services in September 1983 as a systems analyst. Jim was responsible for the design and maintenance of mainframe software applications and for microcomputer hardware and software support. In 1989, Jim moved to the Division of County Audit. As EDP audit manager, he was asked to start an EDP audit section for the division. That section was responsible for performing general and application control reviews in county governments across the state. Jim was promoted to assistant director in 2000.

A native Nashvillian, Jim graduated from Middle Tennessee State University with a bachelor's degree in information systems. His professional certifications include Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM), Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA), and Certified Computing Professional (CCP).

Jim is currently serving as the 2002-03 President of the Nashville Chapter of AGA. An active member of the organization, he previously served as chapter newsletter editor in 1993-94 and 1994-95.

Jim is married to the former Carla Bean. They have two beautiful daughters: Allie, 9, and Jayce, 7, and live in Franklin with their Labrador retriever, Buck. While Jim enjoys all sports and on occasion plays golf, his greatest pleasure is spending time with his family.



Julie Rogers

Julie is an Auditor IV with the Division of State Audit TennCare Section where she has been employed since June 1994. Julie is a Certified Public Accountant and a Certified Information Systems Auditor. She has been a member of AGA since 1996 and has served on the Awards and Community Service Committees. She was a director on the Chapter Executive Committee for the 2000-2001 year. Julie is currently serving her third year as co-chair of the Meetings and Attendance Committee. Last year she was presented with the President's Award by Margaret Walker.

Julie is originally from Memphis, Tennessee. She is a graduate of the University of Tennessee Martin, where she received a BS in Accounting. She currently resides in Columbia, Tennessee, with her husband, Jimmy, and two sons, Nolan and Joshua. She spends most of her free time trying to keep up with her two boys and their two new puppies, Jake and Duke.

2002-2003 Nashville Chapter Leadership**Officers**

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Penny Austin, Treasurer
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For Reservations

Call the receptionist at 747-5201.

Visit the Nashville Area Chapter's web site at <http://www.nashvilleaga.org>.

ALEX GREEN'S WISH LIST

- ___ Glue Sticks
- ___ Liquid Glue
- ___ Pencils – Regular No. 2 with erasers
- ___ Cap erasers
- ___ Scissors (Blunt-end style)
- ___ Crayons – Regular 24 count
- ___ Folders – Pockets
- ___ Paper (Grades K-4), Loose and Spiral
- ___ Envelops – any size
- ___ Kleenex Tissue
- ___ Liquid soap
- ___ Kinder-mats
- ___ Color Pencils
- ___ Washable Markers
- ___ Poster boards (all colors and sizes)
- ___ Newsprint Drawing Pads
- ___ Ziplock Freezer bags (all sizes)
- ___ Construction paper – any
- ___ Baby wipes and/or Alcohol wipes
- ___ Stickers (Award type)
- ___ Dry erase boards – student size
- ___ Dry erase markers
- ___ Sharpie Fine point markers
- ___ Rulers
- ___ Vis-à-vis markers for overhead
- ___ Legal pads
- ___ Index Cards
- ___ Scratch pads (example: Old computer paper, old stationary, etc.)
- ___ Mouse pads
- ___ Posted notes (all sizes)
- ___ Cleaning products
- ___ Electric pencil sharpener
- ___ Sticky back Velcro
- ___ Magnetic tape
- ___ Pocket Dictionaries

Monetary donations are always accepted. Please make checks payable to AGA to be forwarded to Alex Green Elementary. Any money collected will go toward the purchase of workbooks and school uniforms for needy children.

Thank you for all your support with this project and all other community service projects.