



# Nashville Notes

September 2004

Volume 27, Number 1

**President's Message,**  
**Melinda Parton**

I hope you all had a great summer! Summer is a time for family vacations, family reunions and generally fun in the sun. For our chapter, summer symbolizes a break coming out of a successful program year, change in leadership, and a time to reenergize and begin planning for the next program year. How would I describe this summer? A summer full of fun and outstanding events with opportunities for change and growth is how I would sum up this past summer. Did I mention fun too!

We had an excellent chapter meeting in May. We recognized chapter members' outstanding contributions to our chapter over the last year and celebrated a successful year under Phil Carr's leadership.

The premier event of the summer was being able to attend our National Professional Development Conference in Washington, D.C. and the feeling of pride seeing one of our own members receive one of the highest awards presented by our National Association. The Robert W. King Memorial Award is presented each year at this conference to a member of the association who has through his achievements and/or superior services enhanced the prestige of AGA, enabled the Association to provide greater service to its membership, or brought honor to AGA. This award was presented to Mr. Richard Norment, Assistant to the Comptroller for County Audit. Congratulations to Mr. Richard Norment for bringing honor not only to the Na-

tional Association but also to the Nashville Chapter.

One of the outstanding events at the conference was hearing the Comptroller General of the United States, David M. Walker. He suggested many changes that are needed at the federal level and made a profound statement that we should all follow as professionals in working toward improving government from the Federal level down to the Local level, "We must lead by example." "We have to do what's right and not just what's acceptable."

As we moved into the new program year, the summer soon presented our chapter leadership with an opportunity for change and growth. Our chapter has continued many traditions throughout past years which is important for our continued stability and continuity. However, we must also embrace change in order to meet the demands of our changing environment. *Continued on Page 2*

<b>Chapter Recognition Points YTD</b> <i>(through August 2, 2004)</i>	
Leadership	1,375
Education	0
Certification	50
Communication	1,300
Membership	225
Community Service	0
Awards	600
<b>Total Points YTD</b>	<b>3,550</b>
<b>Chapter Goal</b>	<b>10,000</b>

**CHAPTER MEETING**  
**Thursday, September 9, 2004**  
**11:30 a.m.**  
**Speaker**  
**Bill Ezell,**  
**CIO for the State of Tennessee**

**Nashville City Club, located on the 20th Floor of the Suntrust Bank Building at the corner of 4th Avenue and Church Street See Map on bottom of Page 10**

**COST: \$10.00 per member**

Make your luncheon reservation online at <http://www.nashvilleaga.org>.

If necessary you may call **(615) 747-5219** by **6:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 7, 2004**

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### *President's Message Continued*

Our leadership stepped up to this challenge while continuing some traditions that have been important to our chapter.

We have traditionally held our chapter meetings at the Cumberland Club as long as I have been a member, which has been a long time now without mentioning the exact number of years. However, we received notice that we could no longer hold our monthly meetings at the Cumberland Club. Our organization was not the only one affected by this change, but nonetheless, we were faced with what some would call a challenge and what I would call an opportunity to find a suitable meeting location of equal or better quality at a reasonable price for our members.

Our Meetings and Attendance Committee stepped up to the opportunity presented and brought to the Chapter Executive Committee a great proposal. We will continue our tradition of meeting on a Thursday once a month at a location downtown with a great atmosphere, quality menu, and affordable price. The Nashville City Club, located in the SunTrust Bank Building on the 20<sup>th</sup> Floor, provides an atmosphere comparable to the Cumberland Club at a reasonable price with a quality menu selection.

We will, however, start a new tradition of holding our chapter meetings on the first Thursday instead of the third Thursday of the month, except for two meetings this year due to schedule conflicts. September and February meetings will be held on the Second Thursday this year. Please see the new meeting dates (page 12) and map enclosed (page 10) for your convenience. Please mark your calendar to attend our chapter meetings this year. We are looking forward to an exciting program year.

With any change comes an opportunity for growth. Even though we were able to find a meeting location at an affordable price, we must look toward maintaining our stability and focus on growing as a chapter. We have been fortunate to be able to subsidize our member's lunch at our chapter meetings and will continue to do so this next year. However, in order to sustain the same services to our members without continued growth in membership we must ask our members to increase their portion of the cost of our lunch to \$10.00. While the cost to each member has increased, we must recognize our environment has changed and the cost of a meal downtown has likewise increased over time.

As I have reflected on outstanding events and opportunities from this summer, there is still another opportunity for change and growth ahead for our chapter and our national organization. What is in a name? I will discuss in more detail the opportunity we have ahead of us in next month's newsletter.

Our Chapter Executive Committee has worked hard making plans for a great year. Take time to read in our newsletter the great opportunities for each member to participate in community service activities, social and educational events, and the opportunity to enjoy lunch with your fellow members once a month and hear wonderful speakers.

I am truly honored to be president of the Nashville Chapter and grateful for the opportunity you have given me to lead our Chapter toward another successful year.

See you September 9<sup>th</sup> at our Chapter Meeting!

### *September Facts!*

#### *Did You Know?*

- September's birthstone is sapphire and the flower is morning glory?
- Labor Day is the only legal holiday in September and is celebrated in both the United States and Canada?
- The first legally celebrated Labor Day was on September 3, 1894?
- The United States Department of the Treasury was established on September 2, 1789?
- The First Continental Congress assembled in Philadelphia on September 5, 1774?
- Francis Scott Key wrote the "Star Spangled Banner" on September 14, 1814?
- The Constitution of the United States was signed on September 17, 1787?

## News From National



Richard V. Norment and Jullin Renthrope, AGA National President

### Richard V. Norment Receives the Robert W. King Memorial Award



**Richard V. Norment, CGFM, CIA**, Assistant to the Comptroller of the Treasury for County Audit for the State of Tennessee received the Robert W. King Memorial Award at the 2004 Professional Development Conference held in Washington D.C.

Each year, AGA presents one boxed medallion award to formally recognize superior service that enhanced the AGA's national prestige and stature. Any AGA member, except individuals serving on the National Executive Committee or employees of the AGA at the time the award is presented, is eligible for the award. Nominations must be made by AGA chapters. AGA Chapters are limited to one nomination that must be endorsed by an authorized Chapter representative. AGA nationally recognizes the recipient at a special awards ceremony during the Annual Professional Development Conference and Exposition.

**Congratulations  
on behalf of the  
Nashville Chapter  
of AGA!!**

Mr. Norment was presented this award in recognition of his dedicated service to the State of Tennessee and the National AGA membership. Mr. Norment served as National Treasurer and as AGA's 52<sup>nd</sup> National President. In addition to having held National offices, he has participated on numerous national committees and helped improve their policies and make sound financial decisions. The actions brought about by these committees not only affect the Association now, but will have a profound impact on AGA in years to come. Mr. Norment has demonstrated sustained outstanding leadership through his significant contributions to improving financial management during his 37 years of service with the State of Tennessee. He has also served AGA with dedication and honor at the local and national levels for more than 25 years.

### States Expected to Benefit from Homeland Security Merger

U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Tom Ridge will soon announce a merger of offices that aid state and local governments in an effort to better administer billions of dollars in grants to first responders, officials said Wednesday. The department will consolidate the Office of Domestic Preparedness (ODP) and the Office of State and Local Government Coordination into a new Office of State and Local Government Coordination and Preparedness, ODP Director Suzanne Mencer told House lawmakers. "The consolidation will enable the department to evaluate programs more accurately, exercise greater federal oversight, and ensure that government-provided resources are dispersed quickly and used to maximum efficiency," she said. "This decision will benefit states and localities by providing them with a unified and coordinated means of assistance and support." The merger will provide a "one-stop shop" for state and local governments to access grants by placing 25 state and local assistance programs and initiatives into a single office. It is expected to eliminate duplication and link funding to strategic plans that states recently submitted to DHS. —Chris Strohm, Government Executive. Read more at [www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0404/042804c1.htm](http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0404/042804c1.htm)

### David Richards, CIA, Named New President of The IIA

Robert N. McDonald, CIA, CGAP, chairman of The Institute of Internal Auditors (The IIA), has announced that David A. Richards, CIA, is the new president of The IIA. After examining the credentials of dozens of distinguished candidates, The IIA Executive Committee determined that Richards is the right man to lead the organization at this time of unprecedented opportunities and challenges for the internal audit profession. Richards has been active with The IIA for more than two decades, and has served on the executive committee the last six years. Richards has proved to be a visionary leader who can build consensus on difficult issues such as globalization and strategic planning, McDonald said. He has been director of internal auditing for FirstEnergy Corp. in Akron since it was formed in November 1997, and previously served as director of auditing for Centerior Energy Corp. Richards will join the staff May 24.

## **September Speaker: Bill Ezell** **CIO for the State of Tennessee**



Bill is an experienced information technology professional with more than twenty years in the private sector prior to his seventeen years at the State of Tennessee. During his state career he has been responsible for the implementation of more than twenty large, mission critical systems spanning several departments of state government. He and his team also developed a process for the extensive use of Request for Proposals that has resulted in the successful execution of each contract awarded through this procurement method. During his tenure as Director of System Development, his staff and several agency representatives developed an Information Technology Methodology based on a number of best practices, but created specifically to guide all types of information technology projects in Tennessee. In 1996 he initiated a statewide effort to ensure that the state's 1,000-plus systems were Y2K ready. This successful effort resulted in zero downtime for systems during the year 2000 rollover. Bill has also chaired the Information Technology-Assessment and Budget Committee (IT-ABC) for the past several years. This committee is charged with the review and approval of information systems plans from approximately fifty state agencies. Bill previously served the State as Executive Director for Fiscal, Administration, Contracts and Procurements, and Systems Development & Support before assuming his current role as Chief Information Officer.

### **MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS!**

#### **Nathan Abbott**

Nathan is an IS Auditor for the Department of Audit, Division of County Audit, where he has been employed (auditing in West Tennessee) for seven years. He was with the Division of State Audit for one year prior to that. He is a graduate of Freed Hardeman University with a degree in Accounting. He has been married for 1½ years. He and his wife, Amy, live in Franklin. Nathan enjoys movies and sports. He was sponsored by Penny Austin.

#### **Ralph Mullins, CPA, CMA, CFM**

Ralph is the Finance Director for the City of Lavergne, Tennessee. He has been with the City of Lavergne for about seven years, previously serving as the Assistant Treasurer. He became Finance Director in February, upon the retirement of another chapter member, Mr. Bob Joines. He is a graduate of MTSU with a BS in Accounting. He and his wife, Carolyn, have two children (a son and a daughter) and six grandchildren, all of whom live out of town. He spends a lot of time at work, but is also a member of the Rotary and Lions clubs.

#### **Laura Yates**

Laura is an auditor with the Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County Internal Audit Office, where she is auditing performance information in the Performance Measure Certification Program as part of Metro's Results Matter Initiative. Prior to joining Metro, she was an Auditor for the Tennessee Department of Health's Audit and Investigations Office. She graduated Magna Cum Laude from Central Michigan University with a BS in Business Administration. She is currently pursuing an MBA from Tennessee State University.

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **May Chapter Meeting**

*Submitted by Suzanne Smotherman, Chapter Secretary*

The Nashville Area Chapter held its monthly meeting at the Wildhorse Saloon on Thursday May 20, 2004. President Phil Carr called the meeting to order and Dennis Dycus offered the invocation. The minutes of the April Chapter meeting were approved as printed in the May newsletter. One guest was introduced and welcomed.

Phil Carr thanked Sharon Wahlstrom and the Program Committee for organizing the dinner theater social event at Opryland Hotel.

Allen Staley presented the Membership Awards. The New Member Sponsor award of \$100 went to Kim Dorsey. Stephanie Gordon won the \$50 New Member Attendance at Meetings award. Chris Gingles and Dennis Elgin each won \$25 in a drawing for Timely Payment of Dues.

Beth Pendergrass presented the Newsletter Awards. There was a tie for first place between Dianne McKay and Mason Ball who each received \$100 and Ron Queen received \$75 for second place.

Phil Carr thanked Nichole Curtiss and Beth Pendergrass for preparing the newsletters as well as those contributing articles.

Donna Duarte presented the scholarship recipients and the Member Service Awards. The William Snodgrass Scholarship went to Michelle Belu, and the Fawn Ellis Scholarship went to Lane Dycus. These scholarships were for \$1,500 each. The Member of the Year award was given to Ron Queen.

Sharon Wahlstrom won the drawing for a free trip to the National Professional Development Conference.

Tammy Farley presented the Community Service Awards. Jennifer McClendon, Alla Baronova, and Ray Register each won \$50.

Phil Carr thanked the membership and especially the award winners for their dedicated service to the chapter.

Phil Carr presented the President's Award to Tammy Thompson.

The following officers and directors were installed for the 2004 – 2005 program year:

<i>Officers:</i>	<i>One Year Directors:</i>	<i>Two Year Directors:</i>
President – Melinda Parton	Gerry Boaz	Kevin Huffman
President-elect – Dianne McKay	Melvin Jones	Susan Irby
Treasurer – Amy Czerwinski	Beth Pendergrass	Georganne Martin
Secretary – Penny Austin	Allen Staley	Mike Wall
	Tammy Thompson	Dan Willis

Phil Carr turned the gavel over to Melinda Parton.

Melinda Parton accepted the gavel and thanked the members for the opportunity to serve as their Chapter President. She reiterated what Phil Carr said last year relative to the Chapter running itself through the many volunteers and leaders in the Chapter. Melinda Parton stated that a survey would be made available to the membership to help the Chapter Executive Committee plan for the next program year.

Melinda Parton presented Phil Carr with a plaque to recognize the Chapter's appreciation of his service as Chapter President.

The door prize was awarded and Ron Anderson provided the answer to the monthly puzzle.

The meeting was adjourned.

# Committee Appreciation Luncheon at the Old Spaghetti Factory, May 17, 2004



## May 2004 Awards Ceremony



Beth Pendergrass presents one of the first place Newsletter Awards to Mason Ball.



Allen Staley presented Stephanie Gordon with the New Member Attendance at Meetings Award. Kim Dorsey (far left) received the New Member Sponsor Award.



Ron Queen receives the Member of the Year Award from President Phil Carr



Tammy Thompson received the President's Award.

### Leadership Change



Phil Carr presents in-coming President Melinda Parton with the gavel.



Melinda Parton presents Immediate Past President Phil Carr with a plaque in appreciation for his service to the Nashville Chapter of AGA.

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## **Meeting Minutes**

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### **July CEC Meeting**

*Submitted by Penny Austin, Chapter Secretary*

The Nashville Chapter's Executive Committee met on Monday, July 7, 2004, in the 14th floor conference room of the James K. Polk Building. President Melinda Parton called the meeting to order. Chapter Executive Committee (CEC) members present were Melinda Parton, Dianne McKay, Amy Czerwinski, Penny Austin, Phil Carr, Gerry Boaz, Melvin Jones, Beth Pendergrass, Allen Staley, Tammy Thompson, Kevin Huffman, Georganne Martin, and Mike Wall. Committee chairs or their representatives present were Brian Derrick, Tammy Farley, Karen Hale, and Alla Baranova.

#### **Welcome**

Melinda Parton welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided each member with a binder containing information about AGA. She also distributed survey results to the appropriate committee chairs for their review. These results will be discussed at the next CEC meeting.

#### **National Professional Development Conference (PDC)**

Melinda Parton discussed her attendance at the PDC held in June. The proposal to change the name of AGA was discussed at the meeting of the National Board of Directors (NBD) but a vote was not taken. The NBD voted that a task force should be appointed to settle on a single name to be put forth to the NBD later this year in the form of a mail ballot. Incoming National President Bobby Derrick, CGFM, will appoint the task force and work to address the issue.

#### **Strategic Plan Framework**

Melinda Parton discussed the Strategic Plan Framework that was distributed. She and Phil Carr have worked on a committee with Richard Norment, Charles Harrison, and Deborah Loveless to develop this document. Members will review it and discuss it at the next CEC meeting.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Finance**

No report.

#### **Treasurer**

Amy Czerwinski distributed forms for tax exemption and payment requests to the committee chairs. She stated that, when possible, payments should be made to vendors instead of reimbursing individuals. Amy also provided the committee chairs with a draft operating statement for the period ended June 30, 2004, along with a financial statement summary for the previous six years. The chairs are to use these documents as tools for developing the budget for their respective committee. These budgets should be submitted to Amy by July 21, 2004. Amy noted that we usually have a large increase in revenue when we host the Regional PDC. Because we have not hosted this conference since 2001, our reserve funds are dwindling. Therefore, committee chairs should be conservative. Melinda Parton added that we do not want to cut any services to our members.

The need for an auditor was also discussed. Kathy Anderson was mentioned as a possibility. Amy will contact her about performing the audit. Tommy Pendergrass was recommended as a prospect if Kathy declined.

#### **Chapter Recognition**

Dianne McKay stressed the importance of communication regarding the chapter recognition point system. Members should inform her of any points for which the chapter may be eligible.

#### **Meetings and Attendance**

Tammy Thompson reported that she has contacted the Cumberland Club regarding the monthly luncheon meetings but has not received a response. Any suggestions for other meeting locations were requested. Tammy also made a request for volunteers to give the invocation.

#### **Education**

Karen Hale reported that she has met with representatives from the Department of Revenue concerning business tax seminars in Memphis and Nashville. She will request bids for a location in Nashville with a tentative date of November 9, 2004. She has already received bids for the Memphis location. That seminar is scheduled for December 2, 2004. The proposed registration fee is \$180/person. Brochures will be mailed out in a Department of Revenue mailing in September. Melinda Parton made a motion to approve the hosting of these seminars. Beth Pendergrass seconded the motion and it passed.

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## **Meeting Minutes Continued**

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Karen Hale also reported that she has spoken with Pete Rose who is involved with AGA at the national level. Mr. Rose is interested in offering six days of training that will also help individuals prepare for the CGFM exam. There will be no cost to the chapter; however, we will have to coordinate a location for the training. The cost to the participants will be \$500. He does require a minimum of 30 participants. Melinda Parton reported that the Comptroller's Office has already stated that they will send twenty participants. We are looking at mid-October as a possible date. Georganne Martin stressed the need to begin promoting the training. Dianne McKay made a motion to sponsor this training event. It was seconded by Gerry Boaz and the motion passed.

### **Awards**

No report.

### **Newsletter**

Beth Pendergrass reported that the deadline for submissions for the newsletter is the Friday following the CEC meeting. To ensure that all members are receiving the newsletter, Beth encouraged everyone to go to the AGA website to confirm that their e-mail addresses are correct. The committee would like to distribute the newsletter in an electronic format only. However, a few members have indicated that they want hardcopies.

### **Internet**

Beth Pendergrass requested that all the committee chairs provide Dan Willis with any information that they wish to place on the website.

### **Membership**

Beth Pendergrass reported that the membership committee has attempted to contact members that are on the suspended members list. They will continue working on this.

### **CGFM**

No report.

### **Community Service**

No report.

### **Early Careers**

Melinda Parton announced that Julie Rogers has resigned from chair of the early careers committee due to a family illness.

### **Other**

Melinda Parton requested a list of committee members and the committee plans from each of the chairs. These are due at the next CEC meeting. The meeting was adjourned.

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## **August CEC Meeting**

*Submitted by Penny Austin, Chapter Secretary*

The Nashville Chapter's Executive Committee met on Monday, August 2, 2004, in the 17th floor conference room of the James K. Polk Building. President Melinda Parton called the meeting to order. Chapter Executive Committee (CEC) members present were Melinda Parton, Dianne McKay, Amy Czerwinski, Penny Austin, Phil Carr, Gerry Boaz, Melvin Jones, Beth Pendergrass, Allen Staley, Tammy Thompson, Kevin Huffman, Georganne Martin, Mike Wall, and Dan Willis. Committee chairs or their representatives present were Brian Derrick, Nichole Curtis, Donna Duarte, Karen Hale, Randy Kinnersley, and Alla Baranova.

### **Welcome**

Melinda Parton welcomed everyone to the meeting. She extended a special welcome to Randy Kinnersley who has agreed to chair the Early Careers Committee.

### **July CEC Minutes**

The July CEC minutes were previously e-mailed to the CEC for their review. There were no changes. Gerry Boaz made the motion to approve the minutes. It was seconded by Beth Pendergrass and the motion passed.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Finance**

Melvin Jones reported that the committee is completing the history report and will submit it by the August 15th deadline.

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## ***Meeting Minutes Continued***

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### **Treasurer**

Amy Czerwinski distributed a packet of information regarding the budget. Melinda Parton thanked Amy and the committee chairs for the time they have spent on the budget. She reviewed each section with the CEC and asked that we look for ways to cut expenditures. The budget will again be discussed at the next CEC meeting.

### **Meetings and Attendance**

Melinda Parton informed the members that we received a letter from the Cumberland Club stating that they are no longer providing luncheon services. Tammy Thompson and Kevin Huffman have contacted several other facilities to check prices and availability. Based on the information they received, the committee presented proposals for the Nashville City Club and the Sheraton. Because the Nashville City Club is very comparable to the Cumberland Club and because the Sheraton would not be able to seat us in the same location each time, Tammy and Kevin recommended the Nashville City Club. The availability of parking for those members not located downtown was discussed. Kevin will check into this and report back to the committee.

After discussion by the CEC, Phil Carr made the motion to hold the monthly luncheons at the Nashville City Club with the members paying \$10 and the chapter paying \$6.80. Beth Pendergrass seconded the motion. The motion passed.

With the new location there is a possibility that we will have to change the day of the luncheon meeting. We will continue to have the meetings on the third Thursday if possible.

### **Program**

Brian Derrick reported that he has talked with possible speakers and will begin scheduling them as soon as he has firm dates for the luncheon meetings. Possible social events were discussed. Brian reported that TPAC received the highest number of responses on the member survey. A Predators game was also presented as a possibility. Because of past experience, it was decided that we would most likely have only one social event for the program year. Brian will put together some information for the TPAC event.

### **Education**

Karen Hale reported that she has distributed information regarding the training event in October. She has had some inquiries but no one has registered. Refunds for cancellations will not be issued after September 27. All arrangements for the business tax seminar in Memphis have been finalized and arrangements for the Nashville seminar are being made.

The federal tax seminar and winter seminar were also discussed. Because of new Government Accountability Office (GAO) requirements regarding continuing professional education (CPE), tax hours can no longer be used as CPE to meet the yellow book requirements for auditors. Discontinuing the federal tax seminar and offering a greater discount to members for the winter seminar was discussed. Beth Pendergrass also suggested raising the registration fee to non-AGA members that attend. Dan Willis suggested that a drawing for two free registrations be held. Melinda Parton made a motion that we not hold the federal tax seminar and instead, host a two day winter seminar. Dianne McKay seconded and the motion passed. Specific details for the winter seminar, such as setting the registration fee amount and making a decision on whether a drawing will be held, will be worked out later.

### **Awards**

Donna Duarte requested that the committee chairs assist her with maintaining the spreadsheet that is used to record member points. She also asked if anyone had suggestions for award categories that have not been recognized in the past. Melinda Parton asked for suggestions on what we should do to recognize AGA members that retire. After some discussion, Melinda made a motion to form a committee to develop a policy regarding recognition of retirees. Beth Pendergrass seconded the motion and it passed. Phil Carr will head this committee.

### **Membership**

Beth Pendergrass provided the attendees with a suspended members list. She asked that everyone review the list and contact anyone that they may know. She also announced that the committee plans to continue the incentives of providing a free lunch to new members and providing a free lunch to anyone sponsoring two new members. There will also be a prize drawing for the members that pay their dues on time. College students will also be provided a free lunch for attending a monthly meeting. Beth also suggested that we think of new ways to make new members feel welcome.

### **Newsletter**

Nichole Curtis reported that the deadline for submissions for the newsletter is Friday, August 13. This year Nichole would like

## ***Meeting Minutes Continued***

to add additional sections to the newsletter. These include profiles of our new members and a section on new happenings with our members (awards, new employment, etc.) A monthly column featuring a member's stories and anecdotes will also be added. The member who volunteers for this column will receive a gift certificate. A drawing will be held at the end of the year for the best column. We will also continue our drawings for the best technical articles submitted.

To eliminate the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter, Melinda Parton made a motion to distribute the newsletter in electronic format only. Beth Pendergrass seconded this motion and it passed.

### **CGFM**

Gerry Boaz reported that the chapter will purchase study guides for exam three. The chapter will again offer free training on exam two this year. In addition, the committee will develop an Exam 3 training class similar to the Exam 2 class provided last year and will be based on the new Exam 3 study guide. He also plans to follow up with the individuals that attended the training last year. Gerry reported that the CGFM committee will assist the education committee with the October seminar with speaker Pete Rose.

### **Community Service**

Alla Baranova reported that along with projects we participated in last year, the chapter will also hold a coat, hat, and glove drive.

### **Internet**

Dan Willis requested that all the committee chairs review the website and provide him with any information that they wish to add or change.

### **Early Careers**

Randy Kinnersley spoke about possible ways the committee could serve early career members and attract participation from college students. One suggestion involved encouraging governmental professors from the area colleges to bring three students to the chapter luncheon meeting or to a chapter-sponsored seminar.

### **Chapter Recognition**

Dianne McKay informed everyone that National AGA has changed the chapter recognition point structure. A copy was provided to all meeting attendees.

### **Strategic Plan Framework**

Melinda Parton asked if anyone had suggestions for changes to the strategic plan framework that was distributed at the last CEC meeting. Georganne Martin suggested that the words "or improve" be added after the word "maintain" in the last bullet under Leadership/Development. Gerry Boaz suggested that we change the order of the first page so that the mission would be first with the vision and the values to follow. After some discussion, it was decided that the values should be listed alphabetically. Melinda made a motion to make these changes and it was seconded by Allen Staley. The motion passed.

### **Other**

Melinda Parton reminded the committee chairs that the deadline for submitting committee plans is August 30. A new letterhead for the chapter was also selected.

Melinda Parton adjourned the meeting.



Have you or someone you know received an award, promotion, or certification?

Well...don't keep it to yourself. Let us know about it!! We are proud of our members and would like the opportunity to express our congratulations and make sure you are recognized for your achievements.

## Committee News

### CGFM Committee

The committee plans to continue presenting free lunch certificates for those individuals 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. The committee's near-term plan for this year will be to continue the formal training sessions for individuals who plan to take the CGFM exams (i.e., exams 2 and 3). The committee also plans to develop a formal training class for Exam 3. The purpose of these sessions 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. We will follow up with participants from last year's Exam 2 training class to determine if they took the exams and whether they passed, establish a CGFM exam study group, educate Department heads and personnel directors on the CGFM and its benefits for promoting a professional workforce, put the CGFM designation on our AGA luncheon meeting name tags, and promote the CGFM to the legislators and governor. We will continue to recognize in the newsletter and at meetings successful candidates passing the CGFM exams. Furthermore, we plan to assist National AGA in providing CGFM training in October 2004.

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. We plan to also distribute brochures to local colleges and universities via the Early Careers Committee's attendance at career fairs. We also plan to distribute a letter, in conjunction with the Membership Committee, lauding the benefits of becoming a CGFM to department and agency personnel directors to help educate State and local government employees of the benefits of the CGFM certification.



### Free Lunch for Those Passing the CGFM

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 2003 – August 2004 and have not received a lunch certificate, please contact

Gerry Boaz  
([Gerry.Boaz@state.tn.us](mailto:Gerry.Boaz@state.tn.us)) or

Rebecca Barr  
([Rebecca.Barr@state.tn.us](mailto:Rebecca.Barr@state.tn.us)).

### Newsletter Committee

#### New Awards Opportunity for Newsletter Contributors

The Newsletter Committee is introducing a new opportunity for members to contribute to the newsletter. Do you have a story about how aspects of your job have affected your life? Have you had interesting occurrences on the job? Or maybe you just have a humorous story about your job you would like to share. Well, we want to hear about them.

The Newsletter Committee will include one article per newsletter and it will be on a first-come, first-serve basis. Each person contributing will receive a \$25 gift certificate of some type and during May, the full membership will be allowed to vote for their favorite story, which will receive a \$50 gift certificate.

Writing an article is sometimes intimidating, but don't let that hold you back. You can actually relay the story to the Newsletter Committee and we will write it for you.

Newsletter Committee member Beth Pendergrass was very nice to provide a story about her job as an Information Systems Auditor as an example and we have posted it to our website at [www.nashvilleaga.org](http://www.nashvilleaga.org).

If you would like to share your story with us, please send an e-mail to [Nichole.Curtiss@state.tn.us](mailto:Nichole.Curtiss@state.tn.us).

# STOP!!!

HAVE YOU RECENTLY CHANGED jobs, MOVED TO A NEW ADDRESS, OR GOTTEN A NEW E-MAIL address? HAVE YOU RETIRED OR ARE YOU PLANNING TO?

If so, PLEASE LET US KNOW ABOUT ANY CHANGES. WE WANT TO KEEP IN TOUCH SO YOU DON'T MISS OUT ON GREAT CPE OPPORTUNITIES, COMMUNITY SERVICE, OR SOCIALIZING. PLEASE DROP AN E-MAIL TO

[BETH.PENDERGRASS@STATE.TN.US](mailto:BETH.PENDERGRASS@STATE.TN.US)

## Committee News

### Meeting and Attendance Committee

#### 2 \$25 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 9, 2004, and your name will be included in the two drawings for \$25. We will draw until we have two winners.

The luncheon price will be **\$10.00** this year for AGA members. The monthly luncheons will be held at the **Nashville City Club on the 20<sup>th</sup> Floor of the SunTrust Bank Building, 201 Fourth Avenue, North.**

#### To Make a Reservation 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 Tammy Thompson at (615) 747-5219.

**Please make your reservation on the Monday before the meeting by 6:00 p.m.**

#### 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 Tammy Thompson at 747-5219 or e-mail at [Tammy.Thompson@state.tn.us](mailto:Tammy.Thompson@state.tn.us) with your name and telephone number. If for some reason you cannot attend a monthly luncheon please contact Tammy Thompson at 747-5219 or e-mail at [Tammy.Thompson@state.tn.us](mailto:Tammy.Thompson@state.tn.us) **by 10:00 a.m. two days before the luncheon, which would be Tuesday (see cancellation Policy below).** **Even if you were on the standing reservation list last year, you will still need to renew it for this year.**

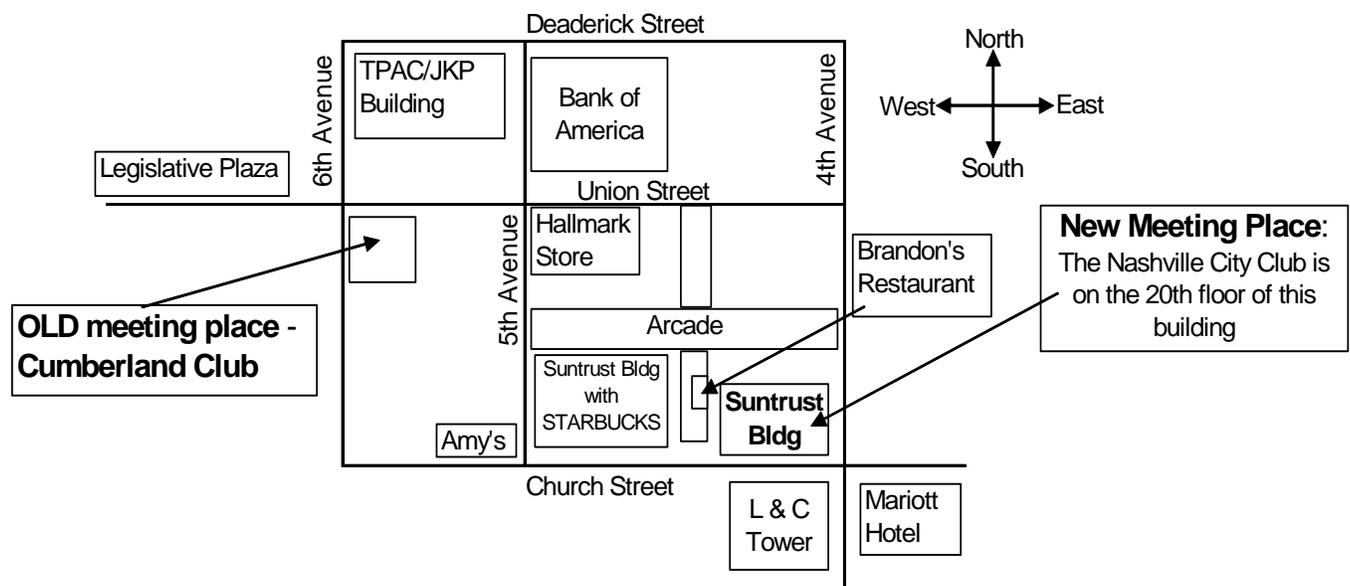
#### To cancel a Reservation

If you are unable to attend the luncheon please call Tammy Thompson at 747-5219 or e-mail at [Tammy.Thompson@state.tn.us](mailto:Tammy.Thompson@state.tn.us) to cancel your reservation.

#### Cancellation Policy

Will be voted on at the next CEC meeting.

## Map to the Nashville City Club



## Committee News

### Community Service Committee

#### Project Pencil Supply Drive

The Community Service Committee is eager and excited to begin AGA's 2004-2005 year. The committee is sending out a short wish list. Once these items are collected the committee hopes to have individual boxed supplies designated for each teacher. These supplies will be collected until the September 2004 AGA luncheon.

Items can be dropped off at any time before the September 2004 AGA luncheon at the designated drop off sites listed below. They will also be accepted at the luncheon.

Drop off sites for Wish List:

- 1) James K. Polk Building, Department of State Audit  
16<sup>th</sup> floor Conference Room, (Contacts: Tammy Farley 747-5221 or Gayle Wortham-Hatch 747-5222) **\*Please note, this site will only be available after August 23, 2004.\***
- 2) Tennessee Tower, 14<sup>th</sup> floor (Contact: Margaret Walker, 741-9803)
- 3) Division of Accounts, 222 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue North, 7<sup>th</sup> floor- by the elevators (Contacts: Pat Finney [pat.finney@nashville.gov](mailto:pat.finney@nashville.gov) and Amy Staggs [amy.staggs@nashville.gov](mailto:amy.staggs@nashville.gov).)

#### ALEX GREEN'S WISH LIST

*(Please print and cut out this list to make shopping easier)*

- \_\_\_ Glue sticks or liquid
- \_\_\_ Regular No. 2 pencils with eraser
- \_\_\_ Cap erasers
- \_\_\_ Crayons – Large (8 count) & Regular (24 count)
- \_\_\_ Folders – Pockets
- \_\_\_ Paper (Grades K-4) (Wide rule)
- \_\_\_ Envelopes – any size (For teachers to place lunch money, etc.)
- \_\_\_ Kleenex tissue (Family Size)
- \_\_\_ Liquid soap

The students will also need the appropriate workbooks that can be purchased through the school; therefore, any monetary donations made will be designated for these items, unless otherwise noted by the donor.

Any other item that is age appropriate will be accepted. All items do not have to be new, only in good condition.

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

# Mark Your Calendars

## Meeting Dates

### AGA Nashville Chapter

*(All Chapter meetings will be held the First Thursday of the Month, except as noted below)*

**Thursday, September 9, 2004  
(Second Thursday of Month)**

Thursday, October 7, 2004

Thursday, November 4, 2004

Thursday, December 2, 2004

Thursday, January 6, 2005

Thursday, February 10, 2005  
(Second Thursday)

Thursday, March 3, 2005

Thursday, April 7, 2005

Thursday, May 5, 2005

### Chapter Executive Committee

*All CEC meetings will be held on the Monday before the chapter meeting, except as noted below)*

**Tuesday, September 7, 2004  
(Labor Day on Monday)**

Monday, October 4, 2004

Monday, November 1, 2004

Monday, November 29, 2004

Tuesday, January 3, 2005

Monday, January 31, 2005

Monday, February 28, 2005

Monday, April 4, 2005

Monday, May 2, 2005

## AGA Nashville Chapter Training Information

### 2004 Business Tax Seminar 8 CPE hours

November 30, 2004  
Willis Conference Center  
Nashville, Tennessee

### 2004 Business Tax Seminar 8 CPE hours

December 2, 2004  
Holiday Inn at the University of  
Memphis  
Memphis, Tennessee

Coming soon...

### AGA Winter Seminar

16 CPE hours

To be determined  
Nashville, Tennessee



## Training Opportunities Relevant to the CGFM

### 2004 Government Financial Manager Training (parts 1 and 2)

See page 10 for more information  
Sponsored by AGA  
October 12-14, 2004

### 2004 Government Financial Manager Training (part 3)

See page 10 for more information  
Sponsored by AGA  
October 26-28, 2004

### CGFM Exam 1 Study Course – online

AGA website: <http://www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/prepare/onlinecourses.aspx>  
anytime

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.

## Other Professional Organization Training Opportunities

### Nashville Area Chapter of the Institute of Internal Auditors

#### November 16, 2004

*IT Seminar*  
Lifeway Christian Resources  
Conference Center  
8 hours CPE

#### January 24, 2005

*Government Auditor Seminar*  
Willis Conference Center  
8 hours CPE

More details will follow in the next newsletter. For more information, visit the Nashville Area Chapter website at

<http://www.theiia.org/chapters/index.cfm/home.page/cid/119>



## *Training Opportunity*

### **GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL MANAGER TRAINING PROGRAM**

The Association of Government Accountants (AGA) has developed a training program for accountability professionals in the government financial management field. The training program provides **48 hours of quality continuing professional education (CPE)** at a very affordable rate. The training will be held October 12-14, 2004 and October 26-28, 2004 at the Cheatham Room in the WRS TN Tower, 312 Eighth Avenue North, Nashville, Tennessee. To attend the entire course, cost is only \$500 per person. To attend individual sessions, the cost for Part I is \$80, Part II is \$250, and Part III is \$170, and the dates are given below:

#### **Part I. The Governmental Environment (October 26, 2004, 8 CPE hours).**

- Organization and structure of governments.
- Legal and other environmental aspects of government.
- The management cycle.
- Governmental financing process.
- Public accountability.
- Ethics.
- Financial management responsibilities and skills.

#### **Part II. Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting, and Budgeting (October 12 – 14, 2004, 24 CPE hours).**

- Influences, objectives, and standards setting.
- General principles of accounting.
- Cost accounting and performance reporting.
- Budgeting.
- Accounting and reporting for state and local governments.
- Federal budgeting and financial reporting.

#### **Part III. Governmental Financial Management and Control (October 27 – 28, 2004, 16 CPE hours).**

- Internal controls.
- Auditing.
- Performance management and reporting.
- Financial and managerial analysis techniques.
- Cash management.
- Investment management.
- Credit management.
- Procurement management.
- Inventory and supply management.
- Financial management systems.

#### **Who should attend?**

Accountants, auditors, budget professionals, controllers, program personnel, government consultants, and financial managers would benefit from this training. All newly hired government financial managers would benefit as well. Also, anyone who has yet to pass the CGFM certification should most certainly attend.

#### **Benefits to the attendees:**

This unique program provides a foundation in all areas of government financial management and deals with all levels of government—federal, state, and local. Such broad coverage allows attendees to see the “big” picture of government financial management and better understand their role in the system.

#### **For More Information:**

To obtain more details about the program, contact Karen Hale, Education Chair, at (615) 401-7742  
[Karen.B.Hale@state.tn.us](mailto:Karen.B.Hale@state.tn.us) or Gerry Boaz, CGFM Chair, at (615) 747-5262 [Gerry.Boaz@state.tn.us](mailto:Gerry.Boaz@state.tn.us) .

## 2003-2004 Nashville Chapter Leadership

### Officers

**Melinda Parton**, CGFM  
President  
(615) 401-7747  
[Melinda.Parton@state.tn.us](mailto:Melinda.Parton@state.tn.us)

**Dianne McKay**  
President-elect  
(615) 741-9743  
[Dianne.McKay@state.tn.us](mailto:Dianne.McKay@state.tn.us)

**Phil Carr**, CGFM  
Immediate Past President  
(615) 862-6100  
[Phil.Carr@nashville.gov](mailto:Phil.Carr@nashville.gov)

**Penny Austin**, Secretary  
(615) 401-7838  
[Penny.Austin@state.tn.us](mailto:Penny.Austin@state.tn.us)

**Amy Czerwinski**, Treasurer  
(615) 862-6100  
[Amy.Czerwinski@state.tn.us](mailto:Amy.Czerwinski@state.tn.us)

### Two-year Directors

**Kevin Huffman**  
Meetings and Attendance Co-Chair  
(615) 401-7843  
[Kevin.Huffman@state.tn.us](mailto:Kevin.Huffman@state.tn.us)

**Susan Irby**  
Program Co-Chair  
(615) 532-8349  
[Susan.Irby@state.tn.us](mailto:Susan.Irby@state.tn.us)

**Georganne Martin**  
Finance Co-Chair  
(615) 741-2677 or 253-4503  
[Georganne.Martin@state.tn.us](mailto:Georganne.Martin@state.tn.us)

**Mike Wall**  
Membership Co-Chair  
(615) 862-6100  
[Michael.Wall@nashville.gov](mailto:Michael.Wall@nashville.gov)

**Dan Willis**, CGFM  
Webmaster Chair  
(615) 747-5247  
[Daniel.Willis@state.tn.us](mailto:Daniel.Willis@state.tn.us)

### One-year Directors

**Gerry Boaz**, CGFM  
CGFM Chair  
(615) 747-5262  
[Gerry.Boaz@state.tn.us](mailto:Gerry.Boaz@state.tn.us)

**Melvin Jones**, CGFM  
Finance Co-Chair  
(615) 741-3436  
[Melvin.Jones@state.tn.us](mailto:Melvin.Jones@state.tn.us)

**Beth Pendergrass**, CGFM  
Membership Chair  
(615) 747-5294  
[Beth.Pendergrass@state.tn.us](mailto:Beth.Pendergrass@state.tn.us)

**Allen Staley**  
(615) 862-6693  
[Allen.Staley@nashville.gov](mailto:Allen.Staley@nashville.gov)

**Tammy Thompson**  
Meetings and Attendance Co-Chair  
(615) 747-5219  
[Tammy.Thompson@state.tn.us](mailto:Tammy.Thompson@state.tn.us)

### Committee Chairs

**Nichole Curtiss**,  
Newsletter Chair  
(615) 741-9681  
[Nichole.Curtiss@state.tn.us](mailto:Nichole.Curtiss@state.tn.us)

**Brian Derrick**  
Program Committee Co-Chair  
(615) 747-5287  
[Mason.Ball@state.tn.us](mailto:Mason.Ball@state.tn.us)

**Donna Duarte**  
Awards Chair  
(615) 741-5247  
[Daniel.Willis@state.tn.us](mailto:Daniel.Willis@state.tn.us)

**Tammy Farley**,  
Community Service Chair  
(615) 741-4293  
[Tammy.Farley@state.tn.us](mailto:Tammy.Farley@state.tn.us)

**Karen Hale**,  
Education Chair  
(615) 401-7742  
[Karen.Hale@state.tn.us](mailto:Karen.Hale@state.tn.us)

**Randy Kinnersley**  
Early Careers Chair  
(270) 745-7054  
[randall.kinnersley@wku.edu](mailto:randall.kinnersley@wku.edu)

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

Also, visit these other AGA sites:

AGA National Site	<a href="http://www.agacgfm.org">www.agacgfm.org</a>
Southeastern Region Site	<a href="http://agaservp.tripod.com">agaservp.tripod.com</a>
Atlanta Chapter	<a href="http://www.mindspring.com/~agaatl/agaga.htm">www.mindspring.com/~agaatl/agaga.htm</a>
Central Kentucky Chapter	<a href="http://www.ckyaga.com">www.ckyaga.com</a>
Chattanooga Chapter	<a href="http://www.aga.taxpro.net">www.aga.taxpro.net</a>
Columbia Chapter	<a href="http://www.columbiaaga.com">www.columbiaaga.com</a>
East Tennessee Chapter	<a href="http://www.kornet.org/etaga/">www.kornet.org/etaga/</a>