



Nashville Notes

October 2004

Volume 27, Number 2

**President's Message,
Melinda Parton**

AGA: What's in a name?

What's in a name? The answer to such a seemingly simple question encompasses more than we sometimes realize. For AGA members, a question with multiple answers—and one currently the catalyst for debate among fellow members. We seem to encounter the question at every turn—in weekly publications and even in emails from other members from other chapters across the United States.

Most recently, a proposal was presented to the National Executive Committee (NEC) during our annual Professional Development Conference (PDC), which met in June in our nation's capitol. The proposal before the NEC requested that our National Board of Directors (NBD) vote to change our association's name. If accepted, the proposal would change our name from Association of Government Accountants to Association for Government Accountability. Although the NBD did not formally bring the matter up for consideration, talk of the proposal alone was enough to generate a number of questions at the NBD meeting. Should we change our name at all? Should we change our acronym—or should a change still allow us to be identified as AGA? And if we change our name, should our new name represent who we are, or rather, what we value?

If a name change were adopted, it wouldn't be the first time. Did you know our association's original founding name was Federal Government Accountants Association (FGAA)? It wasn't until 1975 when state and local members began joining the ranks that the national association

changed the name to our current, Association of Government Accountants (AGA)—removing the word “Federal” and reordering “Association” and Accountants.” In 1998 our association adopted the “Advancing Government Accountability” tagline as a way to place the focus of marketing and recruiting new members on our mission rather than our name. The tagline was adopted after the national organization received many comments that recruiting new AGA members was becoming difficult, if not impossible, as long as the word “Accountants” was the primary focus of our name.

Let us look at each of the topics of discussion as presented at the NBD meeting. First, should we change our name at all or just leave it alone? Some would say absolutely not; this is who we are and we would lose our identity and deemphasize the focus for which we were founded—to bring together government professionals in the accounting and auditing field whose main goals

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Chapter Recognition Points YTD <i>(through September 10, 2004)</i>	
Leadership	2,500
Education	150
Certification	275
Communication	2,025
Membership	225
Community Service	200
Awards	700
Total Points YTD	6,075
Chapter Goal	10,000

CHAPTER MEETING

Thursday, October 7, 2004

11:30 a.m.

Speaker

Kevin P. Lavender,
Commissioner for the Tennessee
Department of Financial
Institutions

**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. Monday,
October 4, 2004

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President's Message Continued

include service, education, and overall professional development. Some would say we could learn from the mistakes of other organizations that have changed their names, and have thereby never regained their identity as a result. On the other hand, others would say, yes, we must be willing to change our name to meet the diversified group that now makes up our membership and potential membership, and furthermore, we must continue to reach out to other professionals responsible for managing the government's finances—not targeting just accountants and auditors as sources for growth. The element of change is always present and every organization must be willing to change, or else risk reaching a point of nonexistence.

If you accept that we should be willing to change our name, the second question of discussion is what should be our new name and should we change our acronym, AGA? Some would argue that whatever we change our name to, the change should not change our acronym (AGA), thus, leaving our name recognition in tact. Some would say that we should change our name to reflect the more diverse group of financial managers who now make up our membership, which ties into the name of our certification program, Certified Government Financial Managers (CGFM). Therefore, our name should be Association of Government Financial Managers, which would either change our acronym to AGFM, or simply change our official name and continue to use the acronym AGA for continued name recognition. Some would argue that our name should at least reflect that we are a group of professionals. That argument would recommend our name be the Association of Government Accountability Professionals and still keep the acronym, AGA.

Whatever your opinion or belief is regarding a potential name change, everyone agrees on one issue regarding our name: there is no doubt this is a major decision that will have an impact on our organization's continued growth well into the future. We must also remember that just as a person's name is everything in describing who they are and what they value, so too, should our organization's name. Does "Association of Government Accountants" achieve that goal? Does our current name accurately describe both who we are and what we value? Perhaps that is the question we should first answer.

I will end the discussion with a quote from a book entitled, *Built to Last*, by James C. Collins and Jerry I. Porras, which presents a business study on successful habits of visionary companies:

"A visionary company carefully preserves and protects its core ideology, yet all the specific manifestations of its core ideology must be open for change and evolution."

Action in June by the NBD was to form a focus group to gather information and recommendations for changing our association's name and present the recommendation for a ballot vote so that each chapter can submit their vote in a truly democratic process. I encourage each of you to participate and provide feedback to your chapter executive committee (CEC) as a member of this great association to continue thinking about what our name should be, if changed, while keeping in mind both what we are and what we value.

I hope to see you at the October 7th Chapter Meeting.



Community Service Project

Second Harvest Food Bank manages an Emergency Food Box program to feed hungry individuals and families on an urgent-need basis. The emergency food boxes provide three days' worth of staple food items for each member of the household. Through October and November AGA is collecting nonperishable food items to donate for this program. Last year AGA members and their co-workers donated 556 pounds of food. Let's see if we can do even better this time! **The most needed items are**

canned meats

macaroni & cheese

canned fruits and vegetables

peanut butter

dried beans

rice

We also need volunteers to place food collection boxes in various work areas. Please contact Ray Register (Ray.T.Register@state.tn.us) to place a collection box in your work area or for the location of the box nearest you.

Visit www.seconddharvestnashville.org for more information.

Money contributions are always welcome!

In Memoriam Gayle Wortham-Hatch



This edition of Nashville Notes is dedicated to the memory of Gayle Wortham-Hatch, a dedicated friend, employee, and AGA member. The following was submitted by Gayle's friend, colleague, and fellow AGA member, Clare Tucker:

Like all of us mortal human beings, Gayle had her foibles, but she was a profile in courage. Her magnetic personality drew all kinds of people to her. She possessed a wealth of knowledge and was gifted with many talents. Gayle was a virtuous woman, and you knew that in so many ways. She was an awesome wife and mother, putting their needs before her own not just sometimes, but always.

Gayle was also a magnet for young people. She was always interested in others and was a constant encourager. People just gravitated to Gayle and relied on her ability to bring calm to chaos. She was resourceful and reassuring. Gayle was a strong woman of faith and valor that we were all fortunate to know. The radiance of her smile and the joy in her laughter was a blessing from God. She truly epitomized Ephesians 4:32, "Be ye kind, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God has forgiven you". She was all of these things and more to many of us.



The New Study Guide for CGFM Exam 3

Studying for the CGFM examinations? Want to learn about governmental auditing and internal controls? Good news: the Governmental Financial Management and Control Study Guide is here!

This guide has multiple goals:

- It is a self-study guide for those interested in studying on their own for CGFM Examination No. 3: "Governmental Financial Management and Control;"
- It is used as the course guide in the instructor-led version of this course; and
- It offers knowledge and learning beyond preparing for the examination, and an option of earning 16 continuing professional education (CPE) hours upon passing a CPE examination.

The book covers various financial management functions and controls required of government financial managers, including internal controls, auditing, performance measurement, financial analysis techniques and specific financial management practices used in government. It is designed for accountants, auditors, budget professionals, and controllers in government as well as academics and other professionals that have an interest in government. It is particularly appropriate for newly hired professionals.

The new study guide features textbook-like format with learning objectives, a chapter summary and a reinforcement quiz for each chapter. The book is close to 400 pages, not counting the extensive appendices, which bring the page count to 800+ pages. In addition to the relevant resources, the appendices contain a glossary, a list of reference materials, answers to reinforcement quizzes with explanations and end-of-course review questions.

To order your study guide today, visit AGA website at www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/prepare/studyguide.aspx.

ATTENTION: Discount Opportunity

For CGFM applications received between September 1, 2004 through November 30, 2004, National AGA will give a **\$20 discount**. In order to receive the \$20 discount,

1. the complete CGFM application (application form, \$85 application fee and proof of a bachelor's degree) must be received by AGA Office of Professional Certification during the period of September 1 through November 30, 2004.
2. the CGFM application form must have the promotional phrase: "CGFM chapter promotion - [name of your chapter]" written at the bottom of the form (under the source code). If the application is submitted online, the applicant should send a same-day email to ksilver@agacgfm.org with his/her name and a promotional phrase above.

Important notes: A full application fee of \$85 must be paid at the time of application. The \$20 check will be sent to the you by mail in December. Also, be sure to put Nashville Chapter on your application form.

October Speaker: Kevin P. Lavender Commissioner of Tennessee Department of Financial Institutions



Kevin Lavender, 42, was sworn in as the 17th Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Financial Institutions on January 18, 2003 by Governor Phil Bredesen.

In this position, Mr. Lavender serves as Tennessee’s chief regulatory officer of all state-chartered depository and non-depository financial institutions. As of December 31, 2003, the Department regulated 159 banks, 129 credit unions, and more than 3,600 non-depository financial institutions. In addition to his role as Commissioner, Mr. Lavender is also the chairman of the National Regulatory Committee for the Conference of State Bank Supervisors (CSBS), which coordinates and represents legislative concerns of all 50 states and four U.S. territories’ banking departments. Along with this chairmanship, Lavender is a member of the CSBS Board of Directors.

Prior to being named Commissioner, Lavender was co-founder and Executive Vice President of Administration and Banking for MediSphere Health Partners, Inc. A native of Ft. Hood, Texas, Lavender also served as Group Vice President in charge of healthcare lending for SunTrust Banks, Inc. During his 10-year tenure, Lavender focused exclusively on corporate healthcare lending.

In addition to his work in the financial arena, Mr. Lavender is committed to serving his community. A resident of Nashville for nearly 17 years, Lavender serves as a member of Nashville’s Metro Sports Authority and previously served as Vice Chairman. He also sits on the boards for Meharry Medical College, Harpeth Hall School, and the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum.

Mr. Lavender received his bachelor of business administration degree in international finance from the University of Georgia. He and his wife, May, are the parents of two daughters: Jessica and Jordan.

A Note From Your Membership Chair Beth Pendergrass

Ah, yes! I hear it all the time—I don’t need to join AGA because I’m not an accountant. See, I actually enjoy hearing this, because it gives me the opportunity to say, “You know, neither am I, but I am very interested in government serving the citizens in the most responsible way possible! Many of our AGA members are the very people on the front lines of figuring out how to do more with less. It’s a tough job, and I’m proud to be associated with this group of people. When the citizens need services, be those protection or support, the financial managers are the ones with the task of finding the resources, despite the economic conditions. Early in my career, it bothered me that I never got the chance to see the faces that we serve. Many in financial management never do. We do, however, enable those who are on the front lines of service to do their job. Now let me challenge you to include those people who are on the “front lines” to join with us in providing quality services to citizens. What better way to help “bridge the gap” between program staff, who often don’t understand why they can’t do more for their clients; and ourselves, who want to enable services, but understand the constraints of the resources?

I would encourage our members to think about what AGA means to them, and all the resources their membership makes available to them, and use that to encourage their friends and co-workers to join. Reach out to those people who are also trying to get the job done, and invite them to join us. While there are times it seems as if program and fiscal folk are from two different universes with two different objectives, we all have the common goal of serving citizens as best we can within the resources we have. I truly do not believe that we are limited to financial staff, but I see a place in the association for anyone interested in providing quality services to citizens.

News From National

Computer-Based Auditing Tools & Techniques—A Special Supplement to the Summer 2005 Journal

Auditors everywhere rely on a variety of computer-based tools and techniques to get their jobs done. Whether it be generalized auditing software, specialized software designed to achieve specific audit objectives or software for testing computer security and other vulnerabilities, the tools of the trade are out there to assist auditors as they audit financial statements, evaluate government programs and ferret out fraud, waste and abuse. AGA will accept four-page articles from up to 10 vendors of auditing support products. We provide the template, you provide the words and the images, and we take it from there. The supplement will be bagged and mailed along with the Summer 2005 Annual Technology issue of the Journal of Government Financial Management. For more information, go to <http://www.agacgfm.org/publications/journal/supplement.aspx>

Proposal Would Affect Grants Managers at all Government Levels

Attention, all AGA members, especially if you have ANYTHING to do with grants! AGA, together with NASACT, is a member of the Uniform Guidelines Coalition whose Technical Advisory Group has just issued an Exposure Draft, "Uniform Data Elements and Definitions for Grant Budgeting and Financial Reporting." This is important reading for all who work in the grants community. It is likely to affect grants managers at all levels: federal agencies, state departments, foundations, local government subrecipients, even not-for-profit organizations that receive only one or two grants. We need your feedback. The exposure draft (ED) has a 60-day comment period, ending on Sept. 30, 2004. Please read the document on the AGA website, and send your comments to Anna Miller, AGA technical manager, at amiller@agacgfm.org no later than Sept. 15. Find the Exposure Draft at <http://www.agacgfm.org/publications/agateoday/articles/080904b.aspx>. For more information, go to <http://www.nasact.org/coalition.htm>

Michigan Named the Most Digitally Advanced State

The top-10 most digitally advanced state governments in the nation have been identified in the 2004 Digital States Survey, a comprehensive study by the Center for Digital Government. The center studied best practices, policies and progress made by state governments in using technology to serve their citizens and streamline operations. Michigan, after years of continuous progress, has emerged as the leader, capturing first-place in the survey, followed by Washington, Virginia, Indiana, Arizona, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Arkansas, Colorado and North Carolina (tied for 10th). Cathilea Robinett, executive director of the Center, said information technology is one of the most powerful tools state governments can use to serve their citizens. "In the hands of some incredibly talented and knowledgeable leaders, states have advanced to an entirely new level of digital government." —Rhonda Wilson, The Center for Digital Government. <http://www.centerdigitalgov.com/center/highlightstory.phtml?docid=90832>

A Primer on Internal Controls and Auditing: Crucial to Government and the Economy

By: Wanda A. Wallace, Ph.D., CPA, CMA, CIA

The John N. Dalton Professor of Business Administration, College of William and Mary

Internal control has never been optional, and now an easy-to-read resource directed to a wide audience is available to understand both what is meant by "internal control" and how an "audit" is conducted.

As an educational initiative, the AGA has published this book for boards of directors, council members, managers, auditees, employees and the broader community. Here is an easy read that is well worth the investment next time you find yourself on an airplane, on a commuter train or simply in an easy chair for an hour or two.

A Primer on Internal Controls and Auditing: Crucial to Government and the Economy by internationally known, award-winning author Wanda A. Wallace, Ph.D., CPA, CMA, CIA, is a "quick read" and covers the rudiments of internal control and auditing in a friendly and enjoyable fashion, capable of building foundational knowledge among those you work with and to whom you provide services.

Order your copies today! Order in bulk and save!

Visit the following site for a book order form and instructions

<http://www.agacgfm.org/publications/downloads/WallaceBookOrderForm.pdf>

1-99 copies: \$9.95 each

100-199 copies: \$8.95 each

200-499 copies: \$7.95 each

More than 500 copies: \$6.95 each

Meeting Minutes

September CEC Meeting

Submitted by Penny Austin, Chapter Secretary

The Nashville Chapter's Executive Committee met on Tuesday, September 7, 2004, in the 11th floor conference room of the Andrew Jackson 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, Tammy Thompson, Kevin Huffman, Georganne Martin, and Mike Wall. Committee chairs or their representatives present were Nathan Abbott, Brian Derrick, Donna Duarte, Tammy Farley, Karen Hale, and Randy Kinnersley.

Welcome

Melinda Parton welcomed everyone to the meeting.

August CEC Minutes

The August CEC minutes were published in the September newsletter. Georganne Martin made the motion to approve these minutes. It was seconded by Dianne McKay and the motion passed.

Committee Reports

Finance

Melvin Jones reported that the chapter's history report has been submitted. He is awaiting the audited financial statements so that he can file the IRS Form 990.

Treasurer

Amy Czerwinski reported that Kathy Anderson was in the process of completing the audit for the 2003-2004 year. She also distributed financial statements for July and August. The budget was discussed and the committee decided to defer approval until the next CEC meeting.

Meetings and Attendance

Tammy Thompson reported that so far 46 members are signed up to attend the luncheon. She also discussed a slight change in the cancellation policy for luncheon meetings. If a member does not cancel a luncheon reservation by 6:00 pm on the Monday preceding the luncheon, he or she will be charged for the luncheon. The member will not be charged if he or she sends someone in his or her place. Melinda inquired about the puzzle for Thursday's meeting. Tammy will contact Ron Anderson about the puzzle. Tammy also informed everyone that she is in the process of ordering ribbons for name tags. These ribbons are for new members, past presidents, etc.

Program

Brian Derrick reminded everyone that our speaker this Thursday will be Bill Ezell. Brian also shared a list of speakers for the upcoming meetings. The committee discussed possible speaker gifts, such as pen/pencils or gift certificates. Brian also introduced the idea of making a donation to a charity of the speaker's choice. It was decided that the speaker gifts would be left to Brian's discretion.

Brian also provided information about the social. He has gathered pricing and schedule information for the musical Chicago that will be playing at TPAC. A date of Thursday, May 5, was discussed. Other details will be decided later.

Education

Karen Hale distributed an updated education plan and budget document. She reported that brochures for the business tax seminars have been delivered to the Department of Revenue and should be mailed out soon. The Nashville seminar will be held on November 30 and the Memphis seminar will be held on December 2.

Karen also reported that response to the training event in October has been low. If we do not meet the minimum attendance requirements by September 17, we will have to cancel the event. Karen will make an announcement to promote the training at the luncheon meeting.

Awards

Donna Duarte reported that she has e-mailed the spreadsheets for recording points to each of the committee chairs. She requested that the spreadsheets be completed and returned to her by the third Thursday of the month. She also announced that October 29 is the deadline for our chapter to submit nominations for the various national awards.

September CEC Minutes Continued

Newsletter

Beth Pendergrass reported that the deadline for submissions for the newsletter is Friday, September 10. She also informed everyone of the passing of Gayle Wortham-Hatch. Gayle had been an active member of AGA, most recently in the area of community service. A card and small donation will be sent to her family. Beth also suggested that a tribute to Gayle be included in an upcoming newsletter. She encouraged anyone who would like to contribute to contact her.

Membership

Beth Pendergrass expressed her appreciation to everyone who helped contact members that appeared on the suspension list. There has been a drop in our chapter membership. Melinda Parton asked Beth to make an announcement regarding the new member incentives so that our current members will be encouraged to recruit more members.

CGFM

No report.

Community Service

Tammy Farley reported that we are continuing to collect supplies for Project Pencil. As part of this effort, we will also be selling Citipass books at the luncheon meeting. Karen Hale suggested that the chapter members may want to contribute something to the victims of Hurricane Frances. Melinda Parton will try to contact some of the Florida AGA chapters to determine how we may go about making donations.

Internet

Nathan Abbott reported that information on the website has been updated. He asked that any needed changes be sent to him or Dan Willis.

Early Careers

Randy Kinnersley presented a listing of possible ideas for creating interest in AGA at the college level. These included contacting college professors to invite them and some of the students to the luncheon meetings. After the luncheon, these students could tour some of the state offices. Brian Derrick suggested that the Careers Now director might be interested in speaking with the students also.

Randy reported that his committee had also discussed developing a mentoring program. An early careers member (three or less years of experience) would be paired with a mentor. Criteria for being a mentor were discussed. Randy welcomed any suggestions for this program.

Chapter Recognition

Dianne McKay confirmed that everyone had received the current copy of the chapter recognition point structure. She asked that everyone review the point structure and inform her of any points earned by our chapter.

Strategic Plan

Melinda Parton asked Dianne McKay to work with the committee chairs to further develop our strategic plan based on the framework that was approved at the August CEC meeting.

Retiring Members Committee

Phil Carr recommended that Donna Duarte, Dianne McKay, Jim Arnette, and Joe Holzmer serve on the retiring members committee. Melinda Parton made a motion that these members be appointed. Penny Austin seconded and the motion passed. Phil presented a draft of the policy for recognition of retiring members for review. This policy will be discussed at the next CEC meeting.

Other

Melinda Parton asked that Kevin Huffman, Tammy Thompson, and Karen Hale sit at the head table at the luncheon meeting.

Melinda Parton adjourned the meeting.

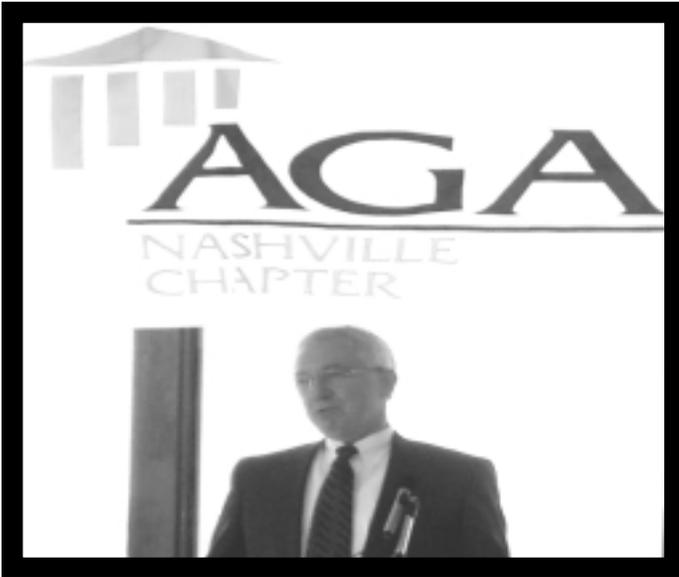
Meeting Minutes

September Chapter Meeting

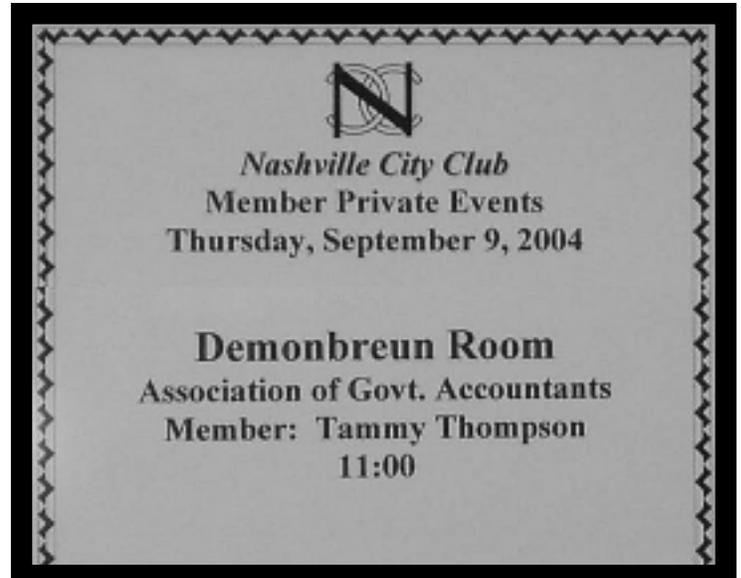
Submitted by Beth Pendergrass

The Nashville Area Chapter held its first monthly meeting of the 2004-2005 program year at the Nashville City Club on Thursday, September 9, 2004. President Melinda Parton called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance. Tony Turner offered the invocation. The minutes of the May Chapter meeting were approved as printed in the September newsletter. Guests were introduced and welcomed, and the names of new members were announced to those in attendance.

Bill Ezell, Chief Information Officer for the State of Tennessee spoke on "Views of Exploding Technology." As a speaker gift, he was given a certificate announcing a \$35 contribution on his behalf to his favorite charity.



Bill Ezell, September Speaker.



Our first meeting at the Nashville City Club.

Announcements

Karen Hale announced that the chapter would be sponsoring Government Financial Manager Training in October, pending sufficient enrollment. The chapter will also sponsor Business Tax Seminars in Memphis and Nashville, and a 2-day Winter Seminar in February.

Tammy Farley and Ray Register announced the Community Service opportunities coming up in the next months. Ray announced that the chapter would be sponsoring a food drive for Second Harvest Food Bank and that anyone willing to sponsor a box should contact him. Tammy announced that the deadline for Project Pencil had been extended to October's meeting, and the Nashville Citipass books are available again this year for a cost of \$20.

Beth Pendergrass reminded members of the incentives to recruit new members, and encouraged them to do so.

Donna Duarte reminded members about the points listing maintained on the chapter web site, and encouraged members to nominate individuals for the State and Local Government Leadership award, reminding members that the deadline for nomination is in late October.

Brian Derrick announced that the Spring Social would be the evening of May 5. The event will be the play *Chicago* at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center. Tickets will cost \$25 per person, and each member will be allowed to bring one guest.

Melinda Parton announced that chapter member, and former chapter president and regional vice president, Deborah Loveless, has been appointed to a 1 year term as Senior Vice-President at-large of the National AGA. On a sad note, Melinda also announced that the chapter lost one of our own in the death of Gayle Wortham-Hatch on August 30, 2004.

Two door prizes of \$25 each were awarded, and Ron Anderson provided the answer to the monthly puzzle.

The meeting was adjourned.

Committee News

CGFM Committee

Win Financial Assistance Toward CGFM Exam Fees

The CGFM Committee 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 (<http://www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/start/>) 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 2004 meeting to determine winners. Winners must sit for all parts of the exam by September 2005. 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) or Rebecca Barr (Rebecca.Barr@state.tn.us) between now and **October 15** 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.

Awards Committee

Points for the Chapter Service Drawing

The drawing for the 54th Annual Professional Development Conference in Orlando, FL, July 10 – 13, 2005, will be held at the May luncheon meeting. To be eligible for the Chapter Service Drawing, you'll need 20 points. For each point you have earned, you'll receive one chance in the year-end drawing. Good luck!!

This is how to earn points:

Luncheon attendance	2 points
Attending chapter sponsored training	1 point
Sponsor a new member	2 points
Service on a chapter committee	2 points each
AGA community service projects	1 point per hour served (10 pt. max.)
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
Sponsoring a Luncheon Guest	1 point for each guest (10 pt. max.)

Member of the Year Award

The Awards Committee meets in April to determine the Member of the Year Award. This is usually awarded to the member who has the most points and has participated in the widest variety of activities when the Committee meets. In the event of a tie, the Awards Committee's tie-breaking vote will be final. The prior year's winner and Award Committee members are ineligible for this award.

Points Spreadsheet

Check the Points Spreadsheet on our website monthly to make sure your points are up to date for both the Chapter Drawing and Member of the Year Award. If you find discrepancies, please contact first Donna Duarte at 741-9681 and she will direct you to the Committee Chairperson who will make the corrections. Members of the Awards Committee do not update the spreadsheet.



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

Gerry Boaz
(Gerry.Boaz@state.tn.us) or

Rebecca Barr
(Rebecca.Barr@state.tn.us).

STOP!!!

HAVE YOU RECENTLY CHANGED
JOBS, MOVED TO A NEW AD-
DRESS, 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 SER-
VICE, OR SOCIALIZING. PLEASE DROP
AN E-MAIL TO

BETH.PENDERGRASS@STATE.TN.US

Committee News Continued

Awards Committee Announcement**Nominations for State & Local Government Leadership Awards Due Now**

These awards will be presented at the National Leadership Conference. If you would like to nominate someone in State or Local Government for one of these prestigious awards, please contact Donna Duarte at 741-9681. Formal nominations can be made via application from the National website at <http://www.agacgfm.org/membership/awards/> and should be submitted to Donna by October 15, 2004. This will allow us time to meet the National deadline. The award descriptions are as follows:

Excellence in Government Leadership Award

- Each year, AGA presents one crystal award to a government professional who exemplifies and promotes excellence in government, outstanding leadership, high ethical standards and innovative management procedures.
- The award recognizes the cumulative achievements of a professional who throughout his/her public career has served as a role model for others and has consistently exhibited the highest personal and professional standards.
- The nominee must have been employed by the government at the time the work being recognized was performed.
- Nominees do not have to be members of AGA. - AGA chapters, individuals or government units may make nominations.

William R. Snodgrass Distinguished Leadership Award

- Each year, AGA presents a maximum of two crystal awards to state government professionals who exemplify and promote excellence in government financial management and who have demonstrated outstanding leadership in enhancing sound financial management legislation, regulations, practices, policies and systems.
- The award recognizes 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.
- The nominee must have served in a state government position at the time of the recognized contribution.
- Nominees do not have to be members of AGA.

Distinguished Local Government Leadership Award

- Each year, AGA presents a maximum of two crystal awards to local government professionals who exemplify and promote excellence in government financial management and who have demonstrated outstanding leadership in enhancing sound financial management legislation, regulations, practices, policies and systems.
- The award recognizes the outstanding leadership of individuals in local government that led to improved financial management practices, policies, systems or operations and consistently exhibited the highest personal and professional standards.
- The nominee must have served in a local government position at the time of the recognized contribution.
- Nominees do not have to be members of AGA.

Private Sector Financial Excellence Award

- Each year, AGA presents a maximum of two crystal awards to financial executives in the private sector who exemplify and promote excellence in state or local government financial management, outstanding leadership, high ethical standards and innovative management techniques.
- The award recognizes the cumulative achievements of private sector professionals who throughout their careers have served as a role model for others and have consistently exhibited personal and professional standards.
- The nominee must have been employed in the private sector at the time of the recognized contribution.
- Nominees do not have to be members of AGA.



Congratulations!

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 Continued

Meeting and Attendance Committee

Come join us for the October Chapter meeting scheduled for October 7 at 11:30 a.m.

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 20th 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. NOTE: If you do not cancel a luncheon reservation by this deadline, you will still be charged for the meal unless someone comes in your place.

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 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 **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.

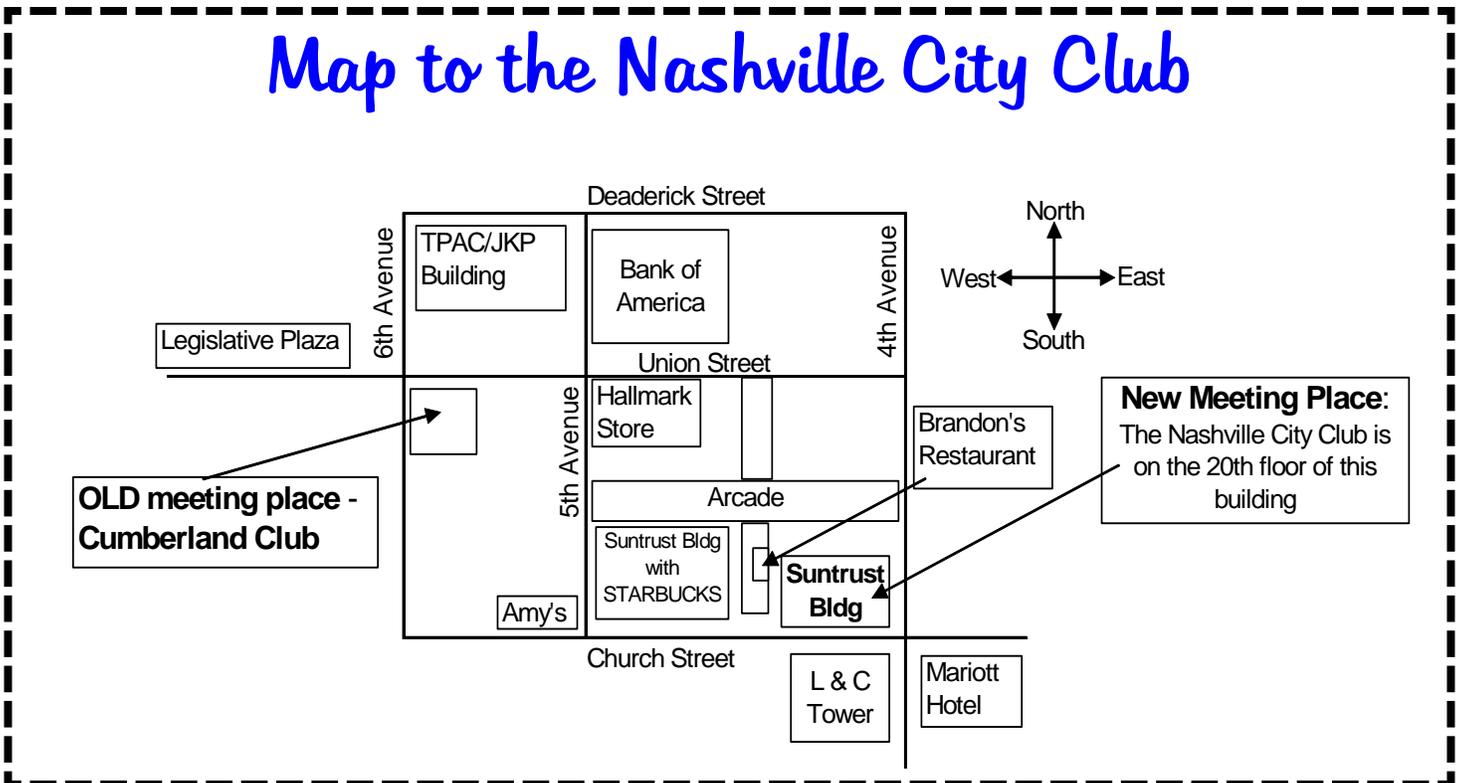
To cancel a Reservation

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

Cancellation Policy

Will be voted on at the next CEC meeting.

Map to the Nashville City Club



Committee News Continued

Community Service Committee**Project Pencil Supply Drive**

The Community Service Committee has decided to extend the Supply Drive until the October 2004 AGA Luncheon.

Items can still be dropped off at any time before the October 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
16th floor Conference Room, (Contacts: Tammy Farley 747-5221 or Alla Baranova 747-5218)
- 2) Tennessee Tower, 14th floor (Contact: Margaret Walker, 741-9803)
- 3) Division of Accounts, 222 3rd Avenue North, 7th floor- by the elevators (Contacts: Pat Finney pat.finney@nashville.gov and Amy Staggs 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.

WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO SAVE MONEY AND SUPPORT ALEX GREEN?



ONLY \$20 (For every book sold, \$7 will go to Alex Green !!!)

Makes a great gift!

**New This Year
Get Buy One Get One
Free Tickets with the
Nashville Predators
and Nashville Sounds**

Featured Restaurants

- | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 12th & Porter | Davinci's | Princeton's Grille |
| Alabama Grill | Don Pablo's | Rademacher's |
| Amerigo | Ellendale's | Chop House |
| Anatolia | Front Porch Café | Red Wagon |
| Antonio's Ristorante | Germantown Café | Rumba |
| Basantes | Green Hills Grille | Safari's |
| Beethoven's Grille | Guido's | Shack |
| Blackstone | Jack Russell's | Shalimar |
| Bricks | Jackson's | Sunset Grill |
| Café 123 | Melting Pot | Trace |
| Courtyard Café | Merchants | Vito's Italian |
| Criallo's Bistro | Mere Bulles | Chop House |
| Dalts | Midtown Café | Woody's Steak House |
| Darfons | Nick & Rudy's | Zola |

Fun Stuff

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| A.J.'s Arcade | Madison Bowl |
| Adventure Science Center | Miss Marple's Dinner Theatre |
| Beech Bend | Movies Plus |
| Amusement Park | Mt. Juliet Skate Center |
| Belcourt Theatre | Music City Raceway |
| Belle Meade | My Gym |
| Plantation | Nascar Speedway |
| Belmont Mansion | Nashville Ballet |
| Blue Heron | Nashville Opera |
| Nature Cruises | Nashville Paintball Sports |
| Cedar Creek | Nashville Predators |
| Sports Center | Nashville Shores |
| Centennial Sportsplex | Nashville Sounds |
| Chaffin's Barn Dinner Theatre | Nashville Symphony |
| Cheekwood | Nashville Zoo at Grassmere |
| Cheers Gym | Oaklands Museum |
| Comcast Cable Television | Pro Bowl West |
| Cumberland Lanes | Recreation World |
| Discovery Center | Riverside Family |
| DJs Video | Fun World |
| Donelson Bowl | Rocketown |
| Drakes Creek Activity Center | Ryman Auditorium |
| Dream Flights | Sarratt Cinema |
| Europa Golf & Go Karts | Sixth Avenue |
| Family Golf Center | Skatepark |
| Franklin Cinema | Skate Center of Brentwood |
| Franklin Lanes | Skate Center of Rivergate |
| Frist Center | Smyrna Bowling Center |
| General Jackson Showboat | Snookers |
| Go USA Fun Park | Southern Ice Arena |
| Grand Old Golf | The Hermitage |
| Grand Slam USA | Tusculum Lanes |
| Grand Ole Opry | Valley AmusementPark |
| Hermitage Lanes | Valley Park Go Karts |
| Imagine & Play | Wave Country |
| Children's Museum | YMCA of Middle TN |
| Laser Chase | Zanies Comedy Showplace |
| Laser Quest | |
| Lebanon Lanes | |

Services & Shopping

- | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| B. Moss | Fantastic Sams | Pro Cleaners |
| Belle Place Cleaners | Gas Lamp | Purity |
| Brentwood Express | Antique Mall | Rodeo Drive |
| Lube | Heritage Cleaners | Salon & Spa |
| Build A Bear | Hertz Rental Car | Salon FX |
| Workshop | Home Depot | Schwan's Food |
| Coldwater Creek | Home Pro Plus | Delivery |
| Cool Tan | Kroger | Shin's Cleaners |
| CoolSprings Galleria | Kroger Photo | Shoe Carnival |
| Daily's Convenience Stores | Imaging | Sky Cleaners |
| Davis Kidd Booksellers | Lee Company | Tennessean |
| Dry Clean USA | Mastercuts | Tower Records |
| Elysium Day Spa | Parent Teacher Store | Trace Retreat |
| Essential Therapy | Park Avenue Cleaners | Trade Secret |
| Family Care Connection | Phatkaps | UPS Store |
| | Plaza Cleaners | Venetian Nails |

Purchase the Nashville Citipass Book TODAY

For more information Contact: Tammy Farley by calling 747-5221

or

e-mail at tammy.farley@state.tn.us

Help out Alex Green Today

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, 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)

Monday, October 4, 2004

Monday, November 1, 2004

Monday, November 29, 2004

Tuesday, January 3, 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 soon. For more information, visit the Nashville Area Chapter website at

<http://www.theiia.org/chapters/index.cfm?cid=119>

American Society for Public Administration

ASPA Fall Symposium: 21st Century Challenges Facing Tennessee State and Local Governments: Debt Capacity, Homeland Security, Ethics, and Politics

Friday, December 10, 2004

Willis Conference Center

More details will be available soon.



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:

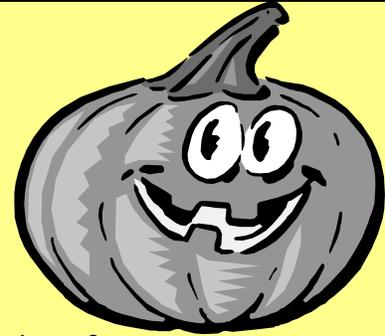
This unique program provides a foundation in all areas of government financial management and deals with all levels of government—federal, state, and local. Such broad coverage allows attendees to see the “big” picture of government financial management and better understand their role in the system.

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 or Gerry Boaz, CGFM Chair, at (615) 747-5262 Gerry.Boaz@state.tn.us .

October Newsletter Quiz

(Answers are at the bottom of the page)



1. Which US president made the first telecast from the White House in October 1947?

- A. Franklin D. Roosevelt
- B. John F. Kennedy
- C. Dwight Eisenhower
- D. Harry S. Truman

2. In October 1871, which city burned for approximately thirty hours?

- A. London
- B. Tokyo
- C. San Francisco
- D. Chicago

3. What woman, born on October 4, 1946, is an Academy Award winner for her 1995 movie 'Dead Man Walking' and has starred in such movies as 'Little Women,' 'Thelma and Louise,' and 'The Client.?'

- A. Winonna Ryder
- B. Geena Davis
- C. Susan Sarandon
- D. Claire Danes

4. Every Halloween, Charlie Brown helps his friend Linus wait for what character to appear?

- A. The Grinch
- B. Pigpen
- C. The Great Pumpkin
- D. Papa Smurf

6. What "phobia" do you suffer from if you have an intense fear of Halloween?

- A. Octobophobia
- B. Samhainophobia
- C. Necrophobia
- D. Goblinophobia

5. Pumpkins grow on a...

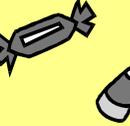
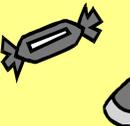
- A. Tree
- B. Vine
- C. Stalk
- D. Bush

Score your Quiz

Number Correct

- 6 You should be on Jeopardy
- 5 You should be on Who Wants to be a Millionaire
- 4 You should be on the Weakest Link
- 3 You should be on Wheel of Fortune
- 2 You should settle for being on Big Brother
- 1 You should cross your fingers and hope your application for Survivor is approved. Let's hope there's not a quiz on that application...

Answers
 1. D - Truman 2. D - Chicago 3. C - Sarandon 4. C - The Great Pumpkin
 5. B - Vine 6. B - Vine



2004-2005 Nashville Chapter Leadership

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

Also, visit these other AGA sites:

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