Greetings Fellow AGA Members and Prospective Members:

The 2011-2012 Nashville Chapter program year has begun!! I hope you were able to attend the September chapter meeting. We had a wonderful turnout, including several guests, and Tre Hargett, Secretary of State, gave a very informative presentation on the many facets of the Secretary of State’s Office. They really do have a lot of different functions. As government accountability professionals, AGA members share a common bond with the Secretary of State’s focus on accountability to the taxpayers.

The chapter committees have met and developed their plans for the year, which as always will provide numerous opportunities for you to participate in chapter activities with your time, your talent, and your resources. You can see the following committee plans on our website: Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM), Community Service, Early Careers, Education, Membership, and Program.

For our October 6 chapter meeting, we are very excited to welcome our National AGA President, Dick Bunce, who will provide an update on AGA activities. You can read his bio in the newsletter. Please mark your calendar and make your reservation because you won’t want to miss this opportunity to hear what’s happening from a national perspective.

In the newsletter, we are highlighting some of our Early Career activities. Hank Clay has provided highlights of Early Career participation in 2010-2011. Early Career members are to be commended for their willingness to serve in many different capacities. Their involvement bodes well for the chapter’s future. The article, “Reflections of an Early Career Member,” was written by Joseph Waldrum, who joined the chapter last year and really got involved in a lot of chapter activities. He is definitely a good Early Career model. We also have a spotlight article about Hank Clay, an Early Career member who joined the Chapter Executive Committee (CEC) as a two-year director last year and served as Chair of the Early Careers Committee; he is completing his term on the CEC this year.

Please invite friends and colleagues that you think might be interested in joining AGA to come and hear our National President. I look forward to greeting you and your guests at the meeting.

If I can assist you in any way with your AGA membership or your interest in becoming an AGA member, please don’t hesitate to contact me. Also, the last page of the newsletter lists all of the committee chairs and co-chairs and their contact information.
I am sure these folks would love to hear from you if you have questions about committee activities or would like to participate on one or more committees.

Shirley Henry, CGFM, CPA, President
AGA Nashville Chapter

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October Luncheon Speaker

Richard O. Bunce, Jr.
AGA National President
Senior Advisor to the President
Virginia Commonwealth University

Mr. Bunce serves as AGA National President and chair of the National Executive Committee. He previously served as AGA’s National Treasurer, chair of the Professional Certification Board, and as a member of the National Finance and Budget Committee.

On May 20, Mr. Bunce was appointed senior advisor to the President at Virginia Commonwealth University. Prior to that appointment, he served for 21 years as the executive director of the Department of Assurance Services at VCU. In that capacity, he directed the audit, management advisory services, and compliance functions for the state’s largest university and largest health care facility. Prior to his employment at VCU, he served as audit director for the state Auditor of Public Accounts. Dick has more than 30 years experience in public accounting, legislative audit services, and internal auditing.

He has also served in several leadership positions for national and international organizations. In addition to his service with AGA, Mr. Bunce is a past member of the Best Practices Committee and the Quality Assurance subcommittee of the Association of College and University Auditors. He is a former member of the Board of Governors of the Central Virginia Chapter of the Institute of Internal Auditors, and has served on national task forces and advisory groups for higher education issues.

Mr. Bunce is a Certified Government Financial Manager and a Certified Public Accountant. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia and his graduate degree from Virginia Commonwealth University.
Chapter Members’ AGA National and Regional Participation

We would like to recognize members of the Nashville Chapter who are participating at the national and regional levels in AGA this year and thank them for their service.

**Members Participating at the National Level**

**Kathy Anderson**, CGFM, Financial Management Standards Board

**Gerry Boaz**, CGFM, Chair of the Professional Certification Board

**Hank Clay**, Emerging Leaders Focus Group

**Jeff Hughes**, Emerging Leaders Focus Group

**Talia Lomax-O’dneal**, CGFM, Awards Committee

**Melinda Parton**, CGFM, Senior Vice President At-Large and Chair of the Governance Committee

**Members Participating at the Regional Level**

**Karen B. Hale**, CGFM, Regional Vice President Elect

**Ron Queen**, CGFM, Certification Regional Coordinator

**Welcome New Members!!!**

**Joseph Aaron Maynard**, Wilson County (Returning Member)

**Laura B. Isbell**, TN Comptroller - Department of Audit

**La Donna Copeland**, TN Department of Veterans Affairs

**Bryan Scott Chriske**, TN Comptroller - Department of Audit

**Russell W. Lee**, City of Lebanon

**Phillip McGovern**, CFE, TN Department of Transportation
Job Opportunities
From time to time departments forward job opportunities to the Website Committee which are posted for members’ convenience. If you are interested in new job offerings or know someone who is, go to this link for detailed information:

http://nashvilleaga.org/jobs.html

From the Editor
We truly enjoy reading articles submitted from our membership. Please share your thoughts and ideas or interesting news with us by submitting your article to me at Penny.Austin@tn.gov no later than October 7 for the next edition of our newsletter. If you have any questions, please let me know. Thanks and start writing!

September Luncheon
To read the minutes from the September Chapter Luncheon please visit the chapter website. The minutes will be presented for approval at the next business meeting scheduled for October 6, 2011.

Minutes
http://nashvilleaga.org/monthlymeetings.html
Committee News

Education

Education opportunities are well under way with the Nashville Chapter of AGA. We had our first Audio Conference August 24, 2011 titled “Building a Sustainable Performance Management Framework – Supporting Government Programs with Valuable Data.” Our next Audio Conference titled “Continuous Monitoring - Management’s Window to Preventing Fraud, Waste and Abuse” will be held September 28, 2011 at the normal time slot; 1:00 PM – 2:50 PM CST. The registration page for this event is available on Nashville AGA’s website home page.

Our committee is working to finalize our Fall Breakfast Seminar. The seminar date has been set for October 18, 2011. The breakfast buffet will be open at 7:30 AM with introduction of the speaker tentatively set to begin at 8:00 AM. The event will be held at the Doubletree Hotel again this year in conference room Salon E with two hours of CPE credits being offered. We are very close to securing a speaker for this event. More information will come within the next two weeks.

Last, but certainly not least is the Annual Winter Seminar. Early planning is already in progress. We hope to have the dates secured within the next week.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns about any of our events, please contact Corey.Tester@tn.gov 615-401-7772 or Rhonda.D.Williams@tn.gov 615-532-2608.

Recruitment Incentives

There will be two local campaigns for the 2011-2012 AGA year. The first campaign will run from May 2011- November 2011. During this time, the member who recruits the most new members will receive $100 cash!!!! There will also be a drawing of all members that recruited at least one new member for a $50 cash prize. The more new members you recruit, the better chance you have to win! We will also be running a second campaign for December 2011-May 2012. Stay tuned for more details!

New Members

- Receive a lunch voucher for a free lunch ($11 value) with paid membership.
- Start earning incentives and points by bringing guests to the luncheons and recruiting new members.

Guests

- Receive a free lunch for being a first time guest at a chapter meeting.
- Join and start receiving all other AGA membership benefits.

Local prizes!!!!

Existing members:
- Earn a point for every guest you bring to the chapter meeting (3 point maximum)
- Recruit two new members and receive a lunch voucher for a free lunch ($11 value)
- Earn 3 points for every new member that you sponsor (unlimited points)
- Earn 30 points throughout the 2011-2012 AGA year from such things as meeting attendance, educational events, community service participation, and sponsorship of new members AND pay your dues by March 31, 2011, and the Nashville Chapter will pay $45 towards a full (not a student or early career) membership for the next year. That means you get half of your dues back, so start earning points early!
Help Transform Careers and Lives by Sponsoring A Member Today

You depend on AGA, and we count on you, too! Sharing the benefits of AGA helps grow careers and AGA’s network of financial management professionals. Nominate your colleagues for AGA membership.

The “Ready, Set, Grow” Member-Get-A-Member Campaign is the new AGA membership recruitment and rewards program running from May 1, 2011 until April 30, 2012. The campaign challenges AGA members to encourage their colleagues, friends and other interested individuals to join AGA during the program year. Current members are the best source for new members who could benefit from all AGA has to offer.

Each member who sponsors a new member is eligible for special recognition and rewards. Here’s your chance to get someone new involved in the personal and professional benefits of your Association.

How the campaign works:

- Download a membership application. You can also order applications by calling the Customer Satisfaction Center at 800.AGA.7211 and/or e-mailing agamembers@agacgfm.org.

- Tell your peers and co-workers about AGA. Simply encourage them to fill out AGA’s membership application or complete the application online. Be sure to include your name as the sponsor on the application.

You will be eligible to receive a sponsor pin when your first referral joins AGA.

After six of your referrals join AGA (prior to Dec. 31, 2011) you earn free dues during the 2012–2013 membership year.

The “Ready, Set, Grow” Member-Get-A-Member Campaign ends April 30, 2012. The grand prize recipient will be announced shortly thereafter.

Campaign Incentives

Everyone Wins!

- Recruit ONE or more members, receive a Sponsors Only lapel pin.

Sponsor a Member Before April 31

- Recruit a member before April 31, 2012 and be entered into a fishbowl drawing to win an iPAD.

Sponsoring Six or More

- Recruit SIX members by Dec. 31, 2011 and receive next year’s membership dues renewal FREE.

Sponsoring 10 or More

- Recruit 10 or more members by March 31, 2012 and be placed into a drawing for a $200 American Express Gift Card. After 10, each new member sponsored gives you another chance at the drawing. Recruit 10 members, get one chance at the drawing, recruit 16 members, get seven chances, and so on. The more members recruited, the more chances to win.
Spotlight on Early Career/Tomorrow’s Professionals New Members

- An AGA national meeting registration will be awarded to the AGA member who recruits the most new Early Career members during the campaign.

Spotlight on Chapters

- A recruitment stimulus in the form of a $100 American Express Gift Card will be raffled to chapters that have at least five members who have actively sponsored new members into AGA during the program year. There will be two drawings for members sponsored from May 1–Dec. 31 and Jan. 1–April 30. The gift cards must be used toward chapter recruitment and retention programming.

Sponsor Achievement Awards and Recognition

- **Recruiter of the Year** (one winner)—The member who recruits the most new members from May 1, 2011 through April 30, 2012 will be presented with the Recruiter of the Year distinction and receive a complimentary registration to the 61st Annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition in San Diego and two tickets to Sea World San Diego.

- **Top Sponsor** (two winners)—The next two members who recruit the most new members from May 1, 2011 through April 30, 2012 will each be presented with the Top Sponsor distinction along with a complimentary registration to the 61st Annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition in San Diego.

- **Chapter Overall Growth** (six winning chapters)—The six chapters achieving the highest overall growth percentage in their chapter size grouping for the membership year will each win a complimentary AGA national meeting registration. Chapters decide who receives the registration. Each chapter president and membership chair will be presented with an achievement plaque as well.

**Only you can best communicate to your colleagues what AGA does for you, your professional development and your career.**

**Help AGA Grow and Thrive. Start Recruiting Today.**

**Rules/Eligibility**

All AGA members in good standing are eligible to participate in the “Ready, Set, Grow” Member-Get-A-Member Campaign. The campaign period includes all new members joining AGA from May 1, 2011 through April 30, 2012—AGA’s membership year. The new member being sponsored must include the name of their sponsor on the membership application to participate. All federal, state and local laws apply. Void where prohibited.

Please feel free to contact the membership committee with any questions:

Valerie Oliver ([Valerie.Oliver@tn.gov](mailto:Valerie.Oliver@tn.gov))

Eugene Hampton, II ([Eugene.Hampton@tn.gov](mailto:Eugene.Hampton@tn.gov))
Call for National Awards Nominations

Please help us acknowledge financial professionals at the federal, state and local level and private sector who are leading the way! Nominees for the National Leadership Conference Awards do not have to be members of AGA.

These awards will be presented at AGA's 10th Annual National Leadership Conference February 16-17, 2012 in Washington, D.C.

Federal Leadership Awards
- Distinguished Federal Leadership Award
- Elmer Staats Award
- Andy Barr Award

State and Local Government Leadership Awards
- Excellence in Government Leadership Award
- William R. Snodgrass Distinguished Leadership Award
- Distinguished Local Government Leadership Award
- Private Sector Financial of Excellence Award

For more information about each of these awards or to download an award application, please visit: http://www.agacgfm.org/membership/awards/

Applications are due back to Jeff.Hughes@tn.gov by Friday, October 14, 2011.

Committee News (Continued)

Community Service

During the month of October, our chapter will be collecting monetary donations for A Kid's Place Child Advocacy Center in Lawrenceburg, Tennessee. All donations will be matched dollar for dollar up to $500 by the local chapter. A Kid's Place serves abused children from Wayne, Lawrence, Giles, and Maury Counties and their case load has been on the rise with them seeing over 200 children a year. More information about A Kid's Place and how you can donate will be coming soon.
Outstanding Early Career Member
Involvement in 2010-2011
By Hank Clay, 2010-2011 Early Career Committee Chair

Last year was an amazing one to be a part of the Early Career membership! We had such active members who took on great responsibility! Our members were a part of each aspect of our chapter. They volunteered many hours, were involved in social events, staffed registration tables, assisted with events, attended monthly meetings, and served on committees.

What is even more impressive is that they did all of this on their own motivation! They took the initiative to step into leadership roles, but they did so in a humble way.

Our Early Career members have demonstrated that they understand what an incredibly rich history our chapter has. These members became engaged so that they will be able to carry on the tradition of those who have come before.

Additionally, the Early Career members are committed to bringing new insight and original ideas. They have shown an investment in helping push the chapter into the next phases. Having worked alongside these Early Career members over the course of the past year, I am confident about the path forward for the Nashville Chapter of AGA, and I know that we will be in strong hands.

Reflections of an Early Career Member
By Joseph W. Waldrum

What a year 2010-2011 was! As I reflect on my first official complete year as an AGA Early Career Member, I recognize that AGA, under the able leadership of Melvin Jones, provided me with many benefits and opportunities to serve.

I was privileged to participate in valuable training, which by the way was very accessible, as well as network with fellow AGA members and guests. I have grown to respect, admire, and greatly appreciate what AGA has done and all that it represents to the greater community in and around Nashville.

There is a smorgasbord of opportunities to serve, more than available time would permit a single individual, but many hands make light the work. I discovered there are many folks constantly at work behind the scenes making it all happen. I did enjoy serving in whatever small capacity I was able, whether it was helping during an event or collecting and delivering supplies, and hope I can do even more this year. I was a bit surprised by all the many and varied ways in which AGA was involved in giving of both time and money, from the Elephant Sanctuary in Hohenwald, Tennessee.
to the Music City Marathon and making a wish come true for a child with a life threatening medical condition. The hearts of the members of AGA overflow with caring for the community that surrounds the places we work. We are not only public servants in jobs, but are public servants in giving back to the communities in which we work.

As I reflect on my first year, I also think of the valuable and diverse training that was made available to AGA members. The convenience of it makes it nearly impossible not to take advantage of. As luck would have it, it seemed that most of the training was in lock step with something I was working on in my position with the Tennessee Department of Transportation. I found the Regional Intergovernmental Dialogue: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, made available through AGA, to be particularly intriguing, and it provided me with insight from the federal government perspective of Pam Kordenbrock, Division Administrator FHWA, to the State of Tennessee’s own Justin Wilson, Comptroller of the Treasury. The audio conferences that were arranged were likewise helpful, applicable, if only tangentially, and useful to my work.

The third and final benefit I’d like to mention is getting to know my fellow state employees and AGA members better by sharing a meal or working alongside them on various occasions. It is the people that matter the most—the members—particularly those that are active, because without them, the organization would cease to exist. It seems everyone is being challenged of late to do more with less, as we strive to serve the citizenry of this great state. It appears that such will also be the case going forward. AGA provides its members with an opportunity, through a regular coming together, to share ideas and thereby become more effective and efficient within their respective organizations.

I have for the bulk of my career worked in the private sector and have been in public sector work for just over 1 ½ years. In consideration of the public servants I have been in contact with and in response to the progressive citizen outcry, some justified—some not—of public servants, I’d like to conclude with a portion of the speech from Theodore Roosevelt, 26th President of the United States from his “Man in the Arena” speech, a speech from which we can draw inspiration.

“It’s not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again; because there is not effort without error and shortcomings; but who does actually strive to do the deed; who knows the great enthusiasm, the great devotion, who spends himself in a worthy cause, who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement and who at worst, if he fails, at least he fails while daring greatly. So that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat.”

AGA enables us to draw from one another’s strengths and more effectively engage in the battle of public service, day in and day out. With organizations such as AGA, I feel I am better fortified to do so.
I have been given the most amazing two years! Nashville is the best city in which to start my married life, the State of Tennessee has given me better jobs than I could have ever dreamt of, and the Nashville Area Chapter of AGA has been a huge part of making it all so wonderful!

I started in the Division of State Audit a week before graduating from the University of Georgia with master degrees in public administration and social work (emphasis in public policy) in May of 2009. State Audit was the perfect office in which to begin my career because of the skills I learned, the quality of the mission, and the amazing people with whom I got to work!

Based on the very strong history in the Comptroller’s Office of AGA service and through the encouragement of Shirley Henry, I joined AGA right away. AGA has been the best! It has connected me to people whom I respect tremendously, and who have been great mentors.

I moved to Nashville to join my wife, Hayley (who was then my fiancée). She is a PhD student at Vanderbilt studying neuroscience and is the most wonderful woman in the world! We met as

undergrads at UGA, first as friends, then as best friends, and then knowing that we wanted to spend the rest of our lives together.

Both my parents were Methodist ministers, and constantly showed me love, support, and the importance of service. My brother is such a smart, kind, and fun guy. He is a senior at UGA and just spent the summer in China. I was born in Atlanta, lived in Augusta during elementary school, and then we moved to Young Harris in the North Georgia Mountains.

I love to play tennis, backpack, cook, travel, and pretty much anything outdoors! I’m a huge fan of Mad Men, The West Wing, The Wire, The Office, Top Chef, and Parks and Recreation. I’ll read almost anything, but I’m particularly interested in Southern and African American literature, economics, and politics.

This past March I was offered a position at the Tennessee Department of Education, where I work in the Education Delivery Unit. Our job is to support the leadership in rigorous strategic planning, problem-solving, capacity building, and in many other ways to ensure that the state’s students actually make the ambitious but achievable gains set for Race to the Top. I also coordinate the Department’s project management oversight process. I’ve learned a tremendous amount already, and am fortunate to be so challenged, work with such talented people, and get to work on educational issues!

There is no doubt that I owe AGA so much! This chapter puts so much effort into the development of its members, and that is especially true for early career members. I firmly believe in investing in organizations that you believe in, and I feel guilty for how much I have received in return. I expect AGA to continue its strong tradition this year, and I look forward to seeing what we can accomplish together!
# 2011 - 2012 AGA Nashville Chapter Leadership Directory

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