



New Orleans Chapter
**Le Journal de
Nouvelle Orleans**

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www.nfc.usda.gov/aga

February 2003

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Carolyn Sibley, CGFM
CGFM Director
255-6291

DINNER MEETING

Doug's Restaurant
348 Robert Blvd.
Slidell, LA

Thursday, February 20, 2003

Featuring

**George Panzeca, CPA, CFE, Bourgeois Bennett, LLC
and
Laura East, CPA, CFE**

TOPIC: Let's Explore the World of Forensic Accounting!!

George Panzeca serves as Director of Litigation Consulting and Forensic Accounting Services for Bourgeois Bennett, LLC. The focus of George's professional practice is the provision of forensic accounting services for attorneys and their clients in matters involving commercial litigation, bankruptcy, insurance claim disputes, and fraud and embezzlement prevention and detection. He has testified previously as an expert in Federal and Louisiana courts, and has served as a court-appointed Special Master.

Laura East is a Sole Practitioner, specializing in forensic accounting and financial investigations in both civil and criminal matters. She recently worked for the FBI on the investigation of riverboat gaming and for the US Attorney on the trial of Edwin Edwards. Prior to the FBI, she worked for the Louisiana Legislative Auditor investigating fraud in state government.

This informative talk will last approximately fifty minutes and will qualify for one hour of professional education credit.

Please join us for an informative and enjoyable night.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Year 2003 is off to a great start! Our chapter is on track and thanks to you we will continue to achieve our mission and goals for this program year.

What a superb January luncheon meeting at the National Finance Center...over 75 attendees! If you were in attendance, it was a great opportunity to network with many AGA colleagues. In summary, there was a good turnout, good food, and a great presentation by Hank Padeletti, Senior Tax Specialist, Internal Revenue Service. A special thanks is given to Vincent Parenti for his cost containing efforts and his attention to detail for this month's meeting. I commend all Chapter Executive Committee members and committee volunteers for ensuring a seamless event.

Speaking of taxes, our Chapter is participating in the VITA program again this spring at Clearview Mall. For success in this worthwhile program, we need volunteers. Contact Betty Salisbury at 504-255-2344 to participate.

Our Programs Chair, Jim Julian, has another great program scheduled for our February 20th meeting with a presentation on "Forensic Accounting" qualifying for one hour of CPE credit. I look forward to seeing you on February 20th at Doug's Restaurant in Slidell.

With much appreciation, I send thanks to all for the prayers and well wishes during my husband's recovery from heart bypass surgery. I am thankful for his speedy recovery.

Have a safe and fun-filled Mardi Gras,
Pam

FROM THE PRESIDENT- ELECT

I would like to take this opportunity to request that all members go to our website and review an electronic copy of our proposed bylaws @ www.nfc.usda.gov/aga. If you have any comments please forward them to Ronald Parent at ron.parent@usda.gov

The Chapter has been notified that the National Bylaws and Procedures Committee have approved the bylaws for the New Orleans Chapter.

It is important that everyone become familiar with the bylaws, because they are the rules under which the chapter operates.

We will vote on the bylaws at the February 2003 meeting.

Ron Parent, President-Elect

JANUARY MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

AGA President Pam Lincoln called the meeting to order at 11:50 a. m. She introduced Betty Salisbury who announced the plans for the VITA Program this year. AGA will once again provide volunteer income tax assistance at the Clearview Mall. Any one interested in volunteering should contact Betty. For those who wish to volunteer there is an income tax refresher course available. Betty also announced that there was \$100.00 left over from the food basket drive and that the money was donated to the food bank.

Pam announced that all members should record their email address on the forms left on each table so that AGA records could be updated.

Marcie Tureaud announced that the next education event would be in March. It will be an ethics class.

Pam announced that Ron Parent is in the process of updating AGA's bylaws and after they are finalized they will be emailed to the members.

Linda Lewis then gave a presentation on the changes being made for membership dues. The dues have increased but National is offering a \$5.00 discount to members who renew by February 28, 2003.

The meeting broke for lunch.

Jim Julian introduced the afternoon's speaker, Hank Padeletti, Senior Tax Specialist, from the Internal Revenue Service. Mr. Padeletti went over changes in the tax law for 2002. Some of the highlighted changes included changing of the threshold for filing a Schedule B, the adoption credit is at \$10,000.00, and personal exemptions are at \$3,000.00. Mr. Padeletti then discussed the Tip Income Program which very pertinent to the New Orleans economy.

After the presentation, Mr. Padeletti was presented with a gift and the meeting was adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

Dawn Wagener, Secretary

COMMUNITY SERVICE

VITA

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) volunteers are needed to assist taxpayers to prepare 2002 income tax returns on February 25, March 11, March 18, March 25, and April 1 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. AGA will provide this assistance at the Clearview Shopping Center site.

VITA is an important service that AGA provides to the community every year and we need your support. Please volunteer. Self-study materials are available for those that are not CPA's or IRS personnel. Contact Betty Salisbury at 504-255-2344 or Betty.Salisbury@usda.gov to select a date.

Community Service Collections Continue

We can use the following:

- (1) **Old Cell Phones** to be reprogrammed and distributed to battered women to be used in emergency situations;
- (2) **Books and magazines** for La Fon's Senior Citizen Center;
- (3) **New or used maternity and baby clothing, baby toys, and diapers** for the Crisis Pregnancy Center; and
- (4) **Toiletries** for the homeless.

Please support these community service activities. Contact Betty Salisbury (504-255-2344) or Gerry Knepp (504-255-4602) for additional information.

AGA Members LIMITED TIME OFFER!!!

The AGA National Office is offering members a **\$5.00** discount on 2003-2004 national membership dues if they renew online by **February 28th**!

AGA members can renew membership online via the Members Only section of the AGA website. To renew online, just access the Members Only site, login, then press the "Renew Your Dues/CGFM Online" button. Your information is updated immediately into the AGA database.

Use your member ID number and password (your first initial and last name with no spaces) to access this exclusive site for members only. If you need your member ID number, contact Linda Lewis at 504-255-5902.

Don't fail to take advantage of this offer!!
This offer ends COB February 28th.

Sponsor's Honor Roll

The following list includes sponsors from May 2002 through January 2003:

Linda Lewis, 5 members
Jullin Renthrope, 2 members
Gerry Knepp, 1 member
Patricia Allison, 1 member
Michelle Taucer, 1 member

AGA's monthly newsletter, Government Financial Management TOPICS, recognizes all of the above sponsors in the February 2003 issue.

If you interested in joining this distinguished list of sponsors, START RECRUITING TODAY!

MEMBER NEWS

AGA New Orleans Chapter member **Clyde G. McShan, II, Senior Vice President, ACS Government Services, Inc.**, will be participating as a presenter at the 9th Annual Government CFO-CIO Program Managers Conference "Supporting the President's Management Agenda: Improving Government's Performance in Delivering Program, Administrative and Business Services." Clyde's presentation will cover Improving Performance: The Big Picture – Entrepreneurship vs. Competitive Sourcing vs. Privatization.

The conference will be March 19-21, 2003, Cafritz Foundation Conference Center, The George Washington University, 800 21st St. NW, Washington, DC. To view more detailed information, please go to:
www.iibt.org/9cfoprogram.htm.

AGA member **Betty Salisbury** will be participating in the National Finance Center's Quarterly Disability Meeting on January 27, 2003. Betty will provide general tax information that was of interest to employees that have family members with

disabilities. For the last 15 years, Betty has volunteered with the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA). VITA provides assistance with personal income tax preparation free of charge.

Please share news about yourself or other AGA members. Contact Linda M. Lewis at 255-5902 or linda.lewis2@usda.gov

EDUCATION

The New Orleans Chapter will hold its second training course for the program year in mid-March. Ray Sheehan, Director of USDA Office of Ethics, will be at the National Finance Center to give a two-hour Ethics presentation to our members. Mark your calendar for Tuesday morning, March 18th. Please contact Marcie Tureaud at 504-255-7818 or Chris Cutitto at 504-255-5903 to make reservations to attend. All of the members will receive an official flyer and registration form soon. But don't wait! Please make plans to attend now. As you know, the New Orleans Chapter relies on our support of education events to fund our scholarship program as well as our fun socials. We thank you for your continued support.

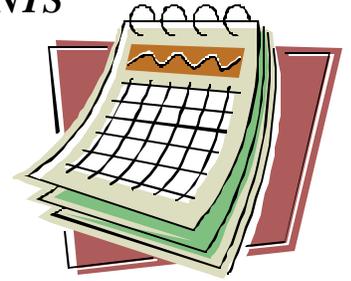
Marcie and Chris



**ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS
NEW ORLEANS CHAPTER**

2002-2003

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Date/Time	Location	Event	CPE
March 20, 2003 5:30 pm Social/6:00 pm Dinner	Five Happiness 3511 Carrollton Ave. New Orleans, LA	Joint Dinner Meeting with ASWA	Yes
April 24, 2003 5:30 pm Social/6:00 pm Dinner	Bull's Corner (Laplace) 1036 W. Airline Hwy. Laplace, LA	Joint Dinner Meeting with Baton Rouge Chapter	No
May 9, 2003	Green Acres Country Club 5000 West Napoleon at Transcontinental Metairie, LA	Annual Crawfish Boil	No
June 13, 2003	Zephyr's Stadium	Zephyr's Baseball Game/ Tailgate Party	No



2002 – 2003 AGA CALENDAR

- Feb. 20 – 21:** First AGA National Leadership Conference, Washington, DC.
- March 6 – 7:** NEC Meeting, AGA National Office, Alexandria, VA.
- March 8 – 9:** Leadership Training Workshop, Alexandria, VA.
- June 29 – July 2:** AGA's 52nd Annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition, Chicago, IL.

NATIONAL NEWS

2003 CALL FOR NATIONAL AWARDS

AGA CONTINUES TO SHOWCASE THE BEST AND BRIGHTEST!

We have some exciting AGA news and would like you to please help us spread the word. AGA's National Executive Committee has created a chapter level award called "The Chapter Education Award". This award recognizes the outstanding work of AGA chapters in marketing and delivery of continuing professional education. The criteria and nomination form for this new award is posted on the homepage at http://www.agacgfm.org/about/a_awards.htm.

AGA's National Awards Committee is now accepting nominations for our ten National Awards that recognize the leaders and chapter

CHAPTER RECOGNITION CREDITS

Recognition Categories	Max Credits Per Category	Credits Through Dec. 2002
Communications	3,000	3,000
Membership	3,000	1,175
Community Service	2,000	2,000
Awards	1,000	1,000
Chapter Leadership, Planning Participation	3,000	2,875
Education & Professional Development	4,000	1,400
Certification	4,000	2,525
Total	20,000	13,975

teams advancing our profession and setting the standards of excellence:

- Einhorn-Gary Award
- Robert W. King Memorial Award
- Frank Greathouse Distinguished Leadership Award
- Achievement of the Year Award
- Education and Training Award
- Cornelius E. Tierney/Ernst & Young Research Award
- Special Achievement Award
- Chapter Education Award (NEW!)
- Chapter Service Award
- Community Service Award

These awards will be presented during AGA's Professional Development Conference and Exposition in Chicago, IL June 29 -July 2, 2003.

In many cases, individuals do not have to be members of AGA to be eligible.

New Orleans Chapter members please submit completed packages for any award nominations to Shirlaine George, Scholarship and Awards Chair, shirlaine.george@usda.gov by Friday, February 21, 2003.

Visit

http://www.agacgfm.org/about/a_awards.htm for all nomination forms and more information or contact Sebrina Bridgers at bridgers@agacgfm.org or 800-242-7211, ext. 131.

Thank you for your time and assistance in getting the word out on this opportunity.

**The Certified Government
Financial Manager (CGFM)
Corner....**

APPLICATION PROCEDURES.

To participate in the CGFM Program, the candidate must provide the following information:

1. A CGFM application.
2. One of the following: a copy of a college degree or copy of college or university transcripts showing that a degree was issued (unofficial transcripts are accepted) or a statement or transcript from the current employer showing that a degree was earned.
3. A nonrefundable application fee of \$75, payable to the Association of Government Accountants, by check or money order (in U.S. dollars only); or by credit or debit card that carries one of the following logos: Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover.
4. The Verification of Government Financial Management Work Experience Form. This form should be completed by the candidate and signed by the candidate's supervisor, verifying two years of professional-level employment in the government financial management field. An

employer transcript may be submitted with this form.

The work experience requirement is not a prerequisite to sit for the CGFM Examinations. Candidates who have met this requirement are requested to submit this form at the time of application. Please note that a certificate will not be issued until this form has been submitted.

Once the application has been received by AGA, it will be reviewed to ensure that the above criteria have been met. A Confirmation of eligibility will be sent to the candidate. The confirmation will include the candidate's unique ID number. Once the confirmation has been received from AGA, the candidate will have three years to pass the three examinations. For instance, if a candidate's confirmation of Eligibility is dated June 15, 2000, he or she will have until June 15, 2003 to pass all three examinations.

Instructions on how to schedule an examination will be included with the Confirmation of Eligibility. Because the number of testing centers and locations is constantly expanding, they are not listed here. To locate the center nearest you, access the Prometric site finder on their website at www.2test.com.

When scheduling an examination, the Prometric operator will assist you in locating a convenient testing center.

If you need a CGFM application, please contact me at 504-255-6291 or email me at carolyn.sibley@usda.gov.

Carolyn Sibley, CGFM Director

RECRUITMENT NEWS

We have received these flyers from Special Agent Sheila Thorne, Recruiter at the FBI New Orleans Office. One lists all critical skills being sought by the FBI and the other is specifically targeted for CPAs or related degrees with 2 years work experience. Also, you can view other non-agent jobs, which do not have age restrictions at www.fbijobs.com. For more information, contact Agent Thorne at (504) 816-3315



WANTED BY THE FBI

ACCOUNTANTS TO SERVE AS SPECIAL AGENTS

- Must be certified as a CPA; or
- Possess a four year business degree that included 24 semester hours of accounting and six hours of elective business courses plus two years professional accounting work experience
- 23 to 36 years of age
- U.S. citizen
- Drug use policy/polygraph/background investigation

Entry-level salary is \$43,705 with additional compensation of 25% of salary for overtime plus locality pay

MALE AND FEMALE SPECIAL AGENTS

- Must possess 4-year college degree from accredited institution and 3 years full-time professional work experience (few exceptions)
- Critical skills which waive 3 years work experience:
 - o CPAs,
 - o many foreign languages,
 - o computer science or related field of study or select Cisco certification,
 - o electrical engineering and attorneys
- Other critical needs: engineering, biology, physics, chemistry
- 23 to 36 years of age
- Drug use policy/polygraph/background investigation
- Entry level pay- approx. \$53,000-\$58,000 (includes locality/availability pay) \$43,705 during training

For more information contact:

Special Agent Sheila Thorne, Recruiter

(504) 816-3315

An Equal Opportunity Employer

www.fbi.gov

**NEW ORLEANS CHAPTER
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS**

**STATEMENT OF NET
ASSETS**

January 31, 2003

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS:

Cash	\$7,702.52
Investments	4,352.48
Deposit - Restaurant	<u>100.00</u>

TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>\$12,155.00</u></u>
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**LIABILITIES AND NET
ASSETS**

Accrued Revenue	<u>.00</u>
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NET ASSETS:

Unrestricted net assets	<u>\$12,155.00</u>
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TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u><u>\$12,155.00</u></u>
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STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES

For the Period from January 1, 2003 to January 31, 2003

OPERATING REVENUES

Education/Training	
Business Meetings	\$897.00
50/50 Raffle	
Zephyr/Xmas Party	
Chapter Dues	
Total operating revenue	<u><u>\$897.00</u></u>

OPERATING EXPENSES

Education/Training	
Business Meetings	\$918.22
50/50 Raffle	
Postage/Supplies/Gifts	164.97
Crawfish Boil	
Scholarship Winner	
Bank Service Charge	31.86
Community Service Exp.	
Total operating expenses	<u><u>\$1,115.05</u></u>

OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	(\$218.05)
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NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)	<u>NONE</u>
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INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE CONTRIBUTIONS	(\$218.05)
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CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(\$218.05)
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NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD	<u>\$12,373.05</u>
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NET ASSETS AT END OF PERIOD	<u><u>\$12,155.00</u></u>
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*P.O. Box 29186
New Orleans, LA 70189-0186*



***TIME VALUE MATERIAL
PLEASE EXPEDITE***

Please contact Linda Lewis (504-255-5902) with address corrections.

When:

Thursday, February 20, 2003

5:30 pm - Social/Cash Bar

6:00 pm - Dinner

Where:

Doug's Restaurant

348 Robert Blvd.

Slidell, LA

Menu:

Appetizers: Soup and House Salad

Entrees: Seafood, Paneed Veal, or Ribeye Steak.

All entrees are served with Baked Potato

Dessert: Bread Pudding with Bourbon Sauce or
Lemon Ice Box pie

Cost: \$18.00 for members and \$20.00 for guests

Contact by COB Monday, February 17th:

For reservations: Vincent Parenti (504-255-5350) or vincent.parenti@usda.gov

For advance payment: Gary Millet (504-55-5220)

Drink: Iced tea and coffee