



New Orleans Chapter *Le Journal de Nouvelle Orleans*

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AGA serves government accountability professionals by providing quality education, fostering professional development and certification, and supporting standards and research to advance government accountability.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings,

Our joint dinner meeting with Association of Women Accountants, ASWA was held at the Five Happiness restaurant on March 19, 2009. There were 41 attendees that enjoyed the excellent dishes prepared by this favorite restaurant. Our speaker for the evening was Paul Thiels, Regional Director of Genworth Financial Investment firm. His presentation on the state of the economy and tips on how to invest our monies was excellent. Thanks to Knica Lloyd, Ida Holmes, Gerry Knepp and Gary Millet for all of their hard work and support for making this event a great success.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of the executive officers and members for their dedication and commitment on meetings and attendance of sponsored events this year. Your contributions have made my year as president very memorable and successful. A special "Thanks" to new members as we encourage them to accept the challenge and stay actively involved in our chapter, as we all will continue with hard work, perseverance and fun in making AGA a premier professional organization.

Our AGA Education officers, Tracey Rollins and Chris Lewis are planning opportunities for you to take advantage of and to earn the CPE hours needed to maintain your designations. The next audio conference, "Ethics in the Workplace", scheduled on May 13, 2009, will be held at the NASA auditorium, National Finance Center facility. Please submit your SF182 and send an email confirming your reservations to Tracey and/or Chris.

The Professional Development Conference, PDC will be held in New Orleans on June 21st through June 24th. Gary Millet, PDC Host Committee Chairman, will be soliciting your help in assisting him

assigned to our chapter. It is important for everyone to get involved. We have such a strong chapter and I want to thank everyone in advance for supporting and committing the efforts with many tasks that are needed to make this PDC the best ever.

Our spring and luncheon seminar will be held at Zea’s Rotisserie and Grill on April 16, 2009 from 11:30 A.M. – 3:30 P. M. The restaurant is located at 1525 St. Charles Ave, New Orleans. Our theme is “A Government Perspective: Strategies for Financial Empowerment” We have three interesting speakers, that will enlighten us on the impact on the economy and the effects on our personal investments. We will also present our AGA Scholarship Award to one of Dillard University student majoring in Accounting. Please send in your reservations as soon as possible to Tracy Rollins, Chris Lewis and/or Gary Millet.

Our next event which is the AGA Annual Crawfish Boil scheduled for May 8, 2009 at Green Acres Country Club. Please join in the fun

I hope to see all of you there.

Marcie A. Tureaud

2008 – 2009 New Members

Mr. Kevin John Cain, CGFM, CPA
Mr. Christopher R. Lewis, CPA
Mr. Anthony C. McGuire
Mrs. Edna Harrell
Ms. Tracey L. Rollins
Mr. Benjamin Amauwah
Ms. Helen M. Boyer, CPA
Mr. Frank A. Coolidge
Mrs. Annette Holcomb
Mrs. Andrea M. Johnson
Mr. Fitzpatrick S. Nedd
Mr. Robert W. Theriot, CGFM, CPA

Patrice S. Warren
Ms. Sherlyn M. Wyble
Ms. Sandy Carlton
Mrs. Jennifer B. Bertrand
Ms. Avis S. Crawford
Mr. Jason W. Harris
Ms. Barbara M. Hawkins
Mr. Jeffrey P. Orillion
Mr. Thomas Sylvester
Mrs. Michele Burks Watson
Mrs. Anne W. Castjohn
Mrs. Jo Ann L. Landry
Mr. Saed H. Abu Naser

Mr. Michael J. Bendich, Jr.
Mrs. Cloreece D. Cain
Mr. Barry A. David
Mr. Grant Dussom
Ms. Anethra A. Facione
Ms. Barbara B. Frye
Ms. Tameshia S. Hasten
Carolyn Landeche
Ms. Nicole Letort
Ms. Griselda Lamyra Taylor
Mrs. Jeanne Youngblood

MARCH MEETING MINUTES

March 2009 AGA Meeting:

The March joint meeting between the American Society of Women Accounts and the Association of Governmental Accountants was called to order by AGA President Marcie Tureaud at 6:15. Marcie introduced ASWA President Michelle Evilia. Michelle introduced Margret Fugetta who announced ASWA slate of nominated officers for 2009-2010.

Shelda Melancon gave the invocation and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Marcie asked for any Committee reports and Peggy Garvey announce National AGA will be sponsoring a Habitat for Humanity project April 27 thru May 1 and volunteers will be needed.

Barbara Carmon announced that there will be a Spring Seminar on Aril 16th flyers where available.

Godwin Ndukwe announced that membership continues to increase and encourages any members to encourage old members to renew their membership by the March 31 deadline.

Linda Lewis announced that cell phones are still being collected for the Battered Women Shelter.

Pam Lincoln announce she is sell shirts that can be worn at the PDC Conference and Gary Millet, PDC Host Chair, is still rounding up volunteers for the June 21 -24.

At that time the meeting broke for dinner.

Jerry Knepp introduced the night's speaker Mr. Paul Thiels.

Mr. Thiels gave an very informative talk on how we got where we are today in the financial market. He discussed the big firms that went under and what the government has tried to do to help relieve the situation. He took several questions as the group discussed the state of the economy today.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45



“Purple Shirted” AGA members at March meeting

Attention Chapter Members – Here’s your opportunity to purchase an AGA New Orleans Chapter shirt! (Pictured above)

Type of shirt? A long sleeve twill blend (cotton & polyester) shirt in Mardi Gras colors.

Color? Mardi Gras “Purple” with embroidered stitching of the AGA logo in “Gold”, the New Orleans Chapter name & two small fleur de lis in “Green”

Sizes? Women’s – Small to 2XL (no button down collar and no pocket)
Men’s – Small to 4XL (with button down collar and a pocket)

Cost? Small to XL - \$29.00
2XL - \$31.50
3XL – \$32.50
4XL - \$34.25

TO ORDER NOW: Contact Pam Lincoln
Cell: 504-259-5229/O: 504-426-0422
E-mail: pamela.lincoln@usda.gov

April 16, 2009 Spring Seminar

REGISTRATION FEE: (Open Registration form below)

Early - Payments on or before Monday, April 6th \$ 60.00

Standard - Payments after April 6th \$75.00

Please email your registration form and reservations to: Tracey Rollins at, tracy.rollins@usda.gov. Chris Lewis at, christopher.lewis@usda.gov, or Gary Millet at, gary.millet@usda.gov.

Zea’s Rotisserie & Grill (Open PDF form below)
1525 St. Charles Ave.
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

11:30 am – 3:30 pm

The lunch buffet will feature the following items:

Zesar Salad - Crisp romaine ribbons, radicchio, zesty Caesar dressing and Parmesan cheese

Rotisserie Chicken - Seasoned with a terrific blend of herbs and then roasted on an open flame.

Shrimp Breaux Bridge Pasta - Shrimp sautéed in garlic and herbs, tossed in a cream sauce and served over penne pasta

Zea’s signature side of Corn Grits

A delectable scoop of Zea’s award winning Sweet Potato Bread Pudding



spring_lunch_flyer.pdf



1 Strategies for Empowerment -Regis

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE AGA/PDC 2009 IN NEW ORLEANS

The PDC will be in New Orleans in less than 4 months, June 21-24. Volunteers are needed to ensure a successful and profitable conference. There is a lot of work that needs to be done. However, rest assured, there is also a lot of fun to be had at this conference in New Orleans.

If you are interested in volunteering to work, from Saturday, June 20, thru Wednesday, June 24, please email or fax a letter to me confirming your desire to volunteer ASAP. I will add you to the list of volunteers I started in Atlanta last year. I have a form that the National office sent me that all volunteers must complete and forward to the National office. I will forward that form to each of the volunteers on my list by mid-March. So sign up ASAP to get on the list.

Thanks.

Gary A. Millet
Chairman, AGA PDC 2009 New Orleans Host Committee
504-426-1014
303-274-3800 FAX

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO SERVE YOUR CHAPTER?

We are looking for potential officers and committee chairmen or co-chairmen! While we have received a number of responses to the notice in last month's newsletter and the announcement at last month's dinner meeting, we would like to continue to look for more potential candidates to help lead the chapter. Help plan Chapter activities, learn more about AGA National plans and initiatives, have fun, learn more about your fellow members and yourself --- it is a rewarding experience!

Contact Amanda Green at algreen@uno.edu or 504.280.7333 with your area(s) of interest.

EDUCATION

AGA'S NEW ORLEANS CHAPTER MEETINGS 2008-2009 (TENTATIVE)

DATE	TIME	PLACE	SPEAKER
April 16, 2009	11:30 A.M..	Zea's Rotisserie & Grill 1525 St. Charles Ave. New Orleans, Louisiana 70130	John L. Morehead Sedrick Thomas Mark Rosa
May 8, 2009	5:30 P.M	Green Acres Country Club 5000 W. Napoleon Ave. Metairie, LA	Crawfish Boil

AGA New Orleans Chapter Educational Sessions - 2008-2009

DATE	TIME	PLACE	SESSION / SPEAKER
May 13, 2009	1:00 P.M. to 2:50 P.M.	National Finance Center MAF Auditorium 13800 Old Gentilly Rd New Orleans, LA	Ethics in Government

PDC 2009
New Orleans, LA

June 21–24

Jazz It Up with AGA...Get Ready for PDC 2009 in New Orleans

Join us in the “Big Easy” June 21–24 for AGA’s 58th Annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition (PDC)—the education and networking event of the year!

The PDC is the authoritative source for the knowledge and contacts you need to succeed in today’s constantly changing environment. Hear from top-notch speakers, make new contacts, learn about the latest research, discover innovative management techniques and see the technological tools that can aid efficiency and improve effectiveness. Offering 24 CPE hours, timely topics and an impressive lineup of speakers, PDC 2009 promises to be one of the Association’s best.

This year’s dynamic, high-profile keynote speakers include:

James Carville and Mary Matalin, Washington's best-loved political couple
Earl E. Devaney, Chairman, Recovery Act Transparency and Accountability Board
Gene L. Dodaro, CGFM, Acting Comptroller General, U.S. Government Accountability Office
John Edward Hasse, Ph.D., author, curator, music historian and expert on the music of New Orleans
Bobby Jindal, Governor of Louisiana (Invited)

Hotel Information: Reservations can be made at the New Orleans Marriott (800.654.3990) for \$120 (plus tax) per night for single or double occupancy, until May 29, 2009, or until the block sells out. You can also make reservations at the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel (888.627.7033) at the same rate. Mention you are attending the “AGA PDC” to receive the discounted rate. Hotel rooms are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis until the hotels are sold out. Make your reservations early. We look forward to seeing you in The Big Easy.

Register online and save! <https://members.agacgfm.org/source/security/member-login.cfm?origin=meetings>

Download registration form <http://www.agacgfm.org/conferences/downloads/PDCRegistrationForm.pdf>

Visit the website www.agacgfm.org/pdc

Transparency & Accountability In Government

Since September 26, 2006 the Federal Government has enacted three Public Laws that have identified accountability and transparency in government as primary objectives for the improved oversight and management of government. The initial legislation, Public Law 109-282, the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA) identified the purpose of the legislation as defined by Senate Report 109-329 with respect to Senate Bill S. 2590, to “increase transparency and accountability of Federal government expenditures by providing access to information on Federal funding awards through a single, searchable, publicly-available Web site.” The Conference Report further provides the additional views of the Senate Bill Sponsor Senator James Coburn and Senator Frank Lautenberg by identifying: “Transparency in government decision-making should not be limited simply to spending; it should also be extended to the decisions Congress makes about the tax code.”

Since the passage of FFATA, the nation’s financial crisis has generated two additional Public Laws and Senate Bill S.3077 of the 110th Congress that have reinforced the initial objective of FFATA. Senate Bill S.3077 was introduced “To strengthen transparency and accountability in Federal Spending” primarily through performance and procurement oversight, Public Law 110-343, Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008, provides for a Troubled Asset Relief Program, (EESA/TARP) and Public Law 111-5, American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) provides for fiscal stimulus. The latter two Acts authorized over \$1.5 trillion for the purposes of providing stability to and preventing disruption in the economy and financial system and protecting taxpayers and general fiscal stimulus with provisions for accountability and transparency of Federal spending. The original FFATA covers another approximate \$1.5 trillion in contract, grant, and loan payments.

The foregoing legislation also proposes solutions to overcoming Federal financial management problems by proposing new requirements for accountability and transparency that are not currently available through the Federal Government financial management and information architecture infrastructure. The critical source data that is required, i.e., expenditures data related to sub tier contracts, grants, and loans is not accounted for within the Federal Government’s Core Accounting Systems nor in some instances accounted for by the recipients of Federal funding. In addition, the Federal Government’s information technology infrastructure is also not a single architecture and does not connect to the private sector for the collection of the data necessary to meet the FFATA, EESA/TARP, and ARRA legislation. The foregoing problems is two fold, i.e., 1) to provide a short term solution to meet immediate financial information management needs of the Federal Government with existing technology; and, 2) initiate a long term solution that builds an integrated financial and information management infrastructure to replace the short term solution with a solution that can evolve in a managed information environment, i.e., functional financial management needs that is enabled by modern information technology architecture.

A business solution that meets the foregoing problem definition is also governed by existing Federal Government Policy regarding financial and information management. The following two OMB Circulars provide this direction: OMB Circular A-127, Financial Management Systems and OMB Circular A-130, Management of Federal Information Resources. OMB Circular No. A-127-Revised, Transmittal Memorandum No. 2, Section 8d(1) requires the *"Use of "Off-the-Shelf" Software*. Agencies replacing software to meet core financial system requirements are required to use the GSA FMSS Multiple Award Schedule until its expiration on September 30, 1999. As of October 1, 1999 agencies replacing software to meet core financial system requirements are no longer required to use the GSA FMSS Multiple Award

Schedule; they must use "off-the-shelf" software that has been tested and certified through the JFMIP software certification process as meeting JFMIP Core Financial Management System Requirements." In addition section 8d(1) also states "OMB policy pertaining to using "off-the-shelf" software is contained in OMB Circular A-130 and must be followed when replacing financial management systems." OMB Circular A-130 Section 8b(4) states: "Commercial-off-the-shelf (COTS) products can provide agencies a cost effective and efficient solution. However, often COTS products require customization for seamless use. Therefore agencies must still thoroughly examine the impact of a COTS product selection.

The accountability and transparency problem defined herein can be met in the short term with Commercial-Off-The-Shelf products and existing information technology and migrated in the longer term to modern information management architecture. A short term solution could establish a COTS Enterprise Data Warehouse (EDW) using existing data collection capabilities, (FTP, ETL & XBRL or direct web entry) and collecting the required financial data from Agency Core Accounting Systems to populate the Data Warehouse with the Agency data. Access could be provided to the Data Warehouse through the Internet and COTS Business Intelligence and other Analytical tools could be used for information retrieval and manipulation by the public.

Submitted by: Clyde G. McShan II

**NEW ORLEANS CHAPTER
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS**

**STATEMENT OF NET
ASSETS**

March 31, 2009

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS:

Cash	\$4,460.38
Savings	1,882.37
Accounts Receivable	800.00
Deposit – Restaurants	300.00
Prepaid Seminar Expenses	672.00
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$8,114.75</u>

**LIABILITIES AND NET
ASSETS**

Accounts Payable	\$1,710.73
NET ASSETS:	
Hurricane Relief Fund	\$2,709.25
Membership Recruitment	475.00
Habitat Project Funds	243.47
Unrestricted net assets	<u>2,976.30</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$8,114.75</u>

Katrina Relief Fund (Details)

Donations Received	+\$10,661.50
Member Dues Rebate	4,638.50
Members Meeting Subsidy	2,328.75
Audio Conf. Subsidy	435.00
April Spring Seminar	875.00

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES,
EXPENSES**

For 9 months ended to March 31, 2009

OPERATING REVENUES

Education/Training	\$790.00
Business Meetings	3,679.00
50/50 Raffle	70.00
Membership Dues	260.00
Donations	271.00
Interest Income	30.91
Total operating revenue	<u>\$5,100.91</u>

OPERATING EXPENSES

Education/Training	\$448.00
Business Meetings	5,744.75
Speakers Gifts	0.00
AGA PDC Raffle Basket	0.00
50/50 Raffle	35.00
Postage/Supplies/Gifts	0.00
Bank Charges	5.00
Scholarship Winner	0.00
Donations	116.00
Officer Awards	<u>0.00</u>
Total operating expenses	<u>\$6,348.75</u>

OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)

(\$1,247.84)

**NONOPERATING REVENUES
(EXPENSES)**

.00

**INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE
CONTRIBUTIONS**

(\$1,247.84)

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

(\$1,247.84)

**NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING
OF PERIOD**

\$4,224.14

**NET ASSETS AT END OF
PERIOD**

\$2,976.30

Remaining Balance \$2,709.25

RECOGNITION POINTS 2008-2009

Recognition Categories	Max Credits Per Category	Credits Through March 2009
Communications	3,000	6,440
Membership	3,000	978
Community Service	2,000	1,600
Awards	1,000	300
Chapter Leadership, Planning/ Participation	3,000	2,700
Education & Professional Development	4,000	3,525
Certification	4,000	4,075
Total	20,000	19,618



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Please contact Godwin Ndukwe godwinnola@aol.com with any e-mail address corrections.