



New Orleans

Le Journal de Nouvelle Orleans

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

May 2010
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New Member

Michele Keeton

AGA operates under a national-chapter partnership with its 100 chapters located throughout the U.S., Guam, Japan, Puerto Rico and Saipan. AGA is governed by a National Board of Directors (NBD), which includes regional leaders and chapter presidents. AGA's 16-member National Executive Committee (NEC) acts for the NBD, meeting quarterly to discuss strategic issues. The day-to-day operation of the Association is handled by the National Office, headquartered in Alexandria, VA, with 28 employees reporting to an executive director who reports to the AGA National President. More than 800 volunteer members serve the Association through committees, boards, and chapters. Thanks for being one of them!

(An excerpt from the Journal of Government Financial Management)



President's Message

Greetings All!

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my thanks and appreciation to Christopher Lewis, Jeffrey Orillion, Knica Lloyd and Tracey Rollins for their wonderful work in putting together our Spring Seminar which was held on April 22, 2010, at Zea's Rotisserie Grill on St. Charles Avenue. For those of you who did not have the opportunity to attend, you missed a wonderful program of timely information conveyed by our speakers: Mr. Stephen B. Street, Inspector General for the State of Louisiana; Mr. Anthony Radosti, Vice President and Senior Investigator with the Metropolitan Crime Commission; and Mr. Daryl G. Purpera, Legislative Auditor for the State of Louisiana. Tracey Rollins presented this year's Chapter Scholarship Award to Lucas Shum, an accounting student from Tulane University; also present was Lucas's Accounting Professor Christine P. Smith. Thank you Christopher and Jeffrey for obtaining our slate of speakers, Knica for arranging such a lovely venue and menu, and Tracey for heading up the selection process for our scholarship recipient.

For the fourth year, Jeff Hart rallied the troops for the Annual AGA National Community Service Project with Habitat for Humanity and led 17 of our fellow AGAers from around the nation to New Orleans for this worthwhile event. Project dates were April 27-30, 2010, sandwiched between the two weekends of the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival.

During the week, the volunteers worked to help build a house in New Orleans East; enjoyed music out at the fairgrounds and around town; and feasted on the wonderful food that can only be found in our beloved New Orleans. My thanks to Five Happiness, Zea's on St. Charles, and Jack Dempsey's for the food donations to feed our hard working volunteers on workdays; and to Peggy Javery, Gary Millet, Pam Lincoln, Howard Tamborella, Clyde and Debbie McShan, Knica Lloyd, Darlene Fisher, Marcie Tureaud, and Jullin Rethrope, for all of their hard work in helping to make this year's project come together in such a tight timeframe.

It is hard to believe that the month of May is already upon us. We still have two great functions taking place before the end of the Chapter's year of activities. On Thursday, May 20, 2010, we will have our annual Crawfish "Boil" and Officer Appreciation Program at Green Acres Country Club; and then on Friday, May 28, 2010, we will join the LA CPA for a Zephyrs baseball game. I hope that you all have these events marked on your calendars and will be able to participate in the fun!

Also occurring this month, on May 18, the Orleans Parish School Board will be presenting an award to our Community Service Chairs, Linda Lewis and Monique Banks, for the Back to School Drives that were previously held. In support of your donations, over 500 local school children were given the necessary supplies to begin the school year. Thank you all for your generous donations.

I look forward to seeing you all at Green Acres on the May 20th!

Amanda L. Green, CGFM
Chapter President

Spring Seminar

Tracey Rollins, Awards Chair, thanks Mr. Stephen B. Street, Louisiana State Inspector General, for his participation in the Chapter's Spring Seminar as Marcie Tureaud, Immediate Past President, and Christopher Lewis, Education Co-Chair, look on.



Mr. Daryl G. Purpera, Louisiana Legislative Auditor, is thanked for his Spring Seminar presentation by Tracey Rollins.

Tracey Rollins presents Mr. Anthony Radosti, Senior Investigator with the New Orleans Metropolitan Crime Commission, with a thank you gift for his participation in our Spring Seminar.



AGA's Spring Luncheon - Examples of Today's Leader's with Integrity

Approximately 55 members and invited guests attended the New Orleans's Chapter's annual spring luncheon seminar at Zea's Rotisserie Grill on St Charles Ave on April 22nd. A delicious lunch featuring a choice of rainbow trout or Zea's famous chicken led into an inspiring, informative, and entertaining trio of programs kicked off by our keynote speaker Mr. Stephen Street, the Louisiana Inspector General, this was followed by Anthony Radosti, the Vice President and lead investigator of the Metropolitan Crime Commission and the final presentation given by Mr. Daryl Purpera the newly appointed Louisiana Legislative Auditor.

The theme of this year's seminar was *"Developing Transparency and Integrity in Local, State and Federal Government"* and all of our special guest presenters spoke to this theme but each one related it to their own personal and professional experiences as recognized leader's in the areas of Public sector, and governmental fraud-busting. Each presenter has many years of experience leading Investigations and prosecutions of Fraud, waste, abuse, malfeasance of office, theft, and misappropriation of funds by elected or appointed officials and civil servants.

The Inspector General, an Attorney with over 20 years experience as a "white collar" prosecutor, described how the office since its inception in 1988 has finally transitioned into an agency that has the authority, independence, funding and the wherewithal to investigate and prosecute any branch and any official of State and local government in Louisiana. As Mr. Street said himself, "They've come along way Baby..." Explore the OIG website for some of the numerous successful stories of Fraud, Waste & Abuse that have been stopped over the last two years since Stephen Street's appointment. <http://oig.louisiana.gov/>

Tony Radosti has been with the MCC over seventeen years and as a former New Orleans police detective with over 23 years experience he has investigated some of the most notorious and public cases in the last decade. Obvious from the start of his presentation, Tony pulls no punches and he names incidents, dates, places and names using the truth as his shield, his wealth of contacts, and his vast investigative experience he has, with no formal authority, been able to uncover and get to the bottom of some of the most sensational crimes that have occurred in New Orleans. The most recent examples were the "Danziger Bridge Seven" and the resignations that occurred recently in the Jefferson Parish government.

Daryl Purpera, a CPA and Auditor with over 26 years of experience appointed by a special committee with a unanimous vote on April 9, 2010 is the newest Louisiana head auditor. Daryl's message tied together the themes of how the future of government depends on developing new and innovative ways of becoming transparent to the citizen /customers that it serves. He believe that agencies like his, as the "Watchdog of Public Spending" hold the key to making sure those agencies account for the effectiveness, efficiency, and efficacy in the way they conduct their missions and programs.

Each of our invited presenters told their stories in a manner that truly inspired our AGA members and as all of the attendees know we are all standing on the 'front-lines' of the war to ensure that government's resources are safe guarded against fraud, abuse, waste and theft. By having Leaders of Louisiana political and civil watchdog agencies and groups such as these who stand for what is right, believe in what they do, demonstrate strong convictions and unshakeable personal and professional integrity it helps make it possible for the "average" guy to stand up and do the right thing if the occasion arises in their day to day work life. The New Orleans chapter of the Association of Government Accountants (AGA) has a long history of being the thought leader for the government accountability profession. Over the years through our education, publications, conferences, and seminars just like this Spring Luncheon we reach thousands of professionals with vital and needed Continuing Professional Education.

In addition, by our member's support we are also able to contribute to our chapter's financial success as well. The program netted a contribution to our operating fund that in turn allowed us to offer real help such as the \$500 merit Scholarship that we awarded to Mr. Lucas Shum the Tulane University Accounting and Public Administration Masters degree candidate just prior to the beginning of the program.

Christopher R Lewis, CPA
Education Co- chair

**AGA New Orleans Chapter
Community Service Event
April 26 - May 21**

DVD MOVIE COLLECTION

**Please consider a donation of a DVD movie that you
have enjoyed and would like to share
with our senior citizens**

**All family or dramas DVD Movies will be accepted;
No X-Rated DVD Movies!!**



**All donations will be donated to the
Metro New Orleans Area Senior Assisted Living
Facilities and Nursing Homes**

AGA Community Service

Cell Phones Drive

April 28 – May 21

Your donated phone could save a life!

All cell phones collected during this drive will benefit the St. Bernard Parish Battered Women's Program located at 3010 Jean Lafitte Pkwy, Chalmette, LA 70043. Please consider donating your old used cell phones.

These phones could be reconditioned and processed by supporting agencies at no charge and given to victims and their families. There are no costs at all to victims in desperate situations and they receive FREE emergency use cell phones



Spread the word to co-workers, family members, church members, etc. Please remember to bring your unused cell phones to the next dinner meeting or contact your Community Service Chairperson to have your phones picked up.

**Contact: Monique Banks, Co-Chair Community Service 504-426-0282
Linda Lewis, Co-Chair Community Service 504-426-6121**

Together we can make a difference!

AGA serves government accountability professionals by providing quality education, fostering professional development and certification, and supporting standards and research to advance government accountability. AGA, in conjunction with the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers (NASACT) and the Association of Local Government Auditors (ALGA), is pleased to announce a new and increasingly important topic to our audio conference schedule – cases of ethical lapses.

During this audio conference, the presenter will recount some recent ethical lapses in government and examine the causes and effects. By examining a series of ethical lapses, we find that a pattern emerges. That pattern allows us to think about this question: **What is it in the culture of an agency that allows obvious ethical breaches to occur and continue?** Once we understand the culture, we can think about putting the detection methods, as well as antidotes, in place. The compliance training, the codes, and all those easily measurable components of ethical culture may not tell the full story. Without the full story, we can never be sure that we are catching all those gradual slips. The full story requires consideration of factors that are not easily placed into dashboard measures. The presenter takes a look at some of the faint signals which appear long before the ethical troubles emerge.

Ethics and Culture: Bad Apples or Bad Barrell?

Location:	NASA MAF Auditorium, Post P31
When:	Wednesday, May 19, 2010
Time:	1:00 PM – 2:50 PM CDT
Cost:	\$30 (members) \$50 (non-members)
CPE credit Hours:	2 Hours

During this audio conference, the presenter will recount some recent ethical lapses in government and examine the causes and effects. By examining a series of ethical lapses, we find that a pattern emerges. That pattern allows us to think about this question: **What is it in the culture of an agency that allows obvious ethical breaches to occur and continue?** Once we understand the culture, we can think about putting the detection methods, as well as antidotes, in place. The compliance training, the codes, and all those easily measurable components of ethical culture may not tell the full story. Without the full story, we can never be sure that we are catching all those gradual slips. The full story requires consideration of factors that are not easily placed into dashboard measures. The presenter takes a look at some of the faint signals which appear long before the ethical troubles emerge.

To share her expertise in ethical behavior and its ramifications is *Marianne M. Jennings, JD, Professor in the Department of Management in the W.P. Carey School of Business at Arizona State University (ASU)*. At ASU, Marianne teaches graduate courses in the MBA program in business ethics and the legal environment of business. Professor Jennings has authored hundreds of articles and has six textbooks and monographs in circulation. Marianne’s latest book, *The Seven Signs of Ethical Collapse*, was published by St. Martin’s Press in July 2006. She has conducted more than 300 workshops and seminars in the areas of business, personal, government, legal, academic and professional ethics. Among her many awards and honors, Marianne was inducted into the AGA Speakers’ Hall of Fame and also received a *writers’ award for best article in AGA’s Journal of Government Financial Management*.

Please join us for two hours of lively discussion about this important and timely topic. In addition to the speaker’s commentary, there will be approximately 20 minutes for Q & A so that the participants can ask the speaker questions and share their own experiences.

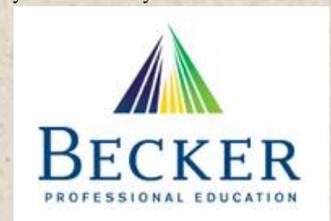
All interested employees should obtain their supervisor’s approval and submit Form SF-182, Request, Authorization, Agreement and Certification of Training, to *Dot Jenkins or Kelli Webb by COB May 17, 2010*. If you need any additional information please call *Chris Lewis at 504-426-5109 or Jeff Orillion at 504-42 6-5434*.

CPA REVIEW, CPE, CFA REVIEW & PROJECT MANAGEMENT

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Professor Marianne M. Jennings, JD



Professor Marianne Jennings is a member of the Department of Management in the W.P. Carey School of Business at Arizona State University and is a professor of legal and ethical studies in business. At ASU, she teaches graduate courses in the MBA program in business ethics and the legal environment of business. She served as director of the Joan and David Lincoln Center for Applied Ethics from 1995-1999. From 2006-2007, she served as the faculty director for the MBA Executive Program. Professor Jennings earned her undergraduate degree in finance and her J. D. from Brigham Young University. Her internships were with the Federal Public Defender and U.S. Attorney in Nevada, and she has done consulting work for law firms, businesses and professional groups including AES, Boeing, Dial Corporation, Mattel, Motorola, CFA Institute, Southern California Edison, the Arizona Auditor General, the Cities of Phoenix, Mesa, and Tucson, the Institute of Internal Auditors, Coca-Cola, DuPont, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Motorola, Mattel, Pepsi, Hy-Vee Foods, IBM, Bell Helicopter, Amgen, Raytheon, and VIAD.

Professor Jennings has authored hundreds of articles in academic, professional and trade journals. Currently she has six textbooks and monographs in circulation. The sixth edition of her textbook, *Case Studies in Business Ethics*, was published and the eighth edition of her textbook, *Business: Its Legal, Ethical and Global Environment* was published in January 2008. Her first textbook, *Real Estate Law*, had its ninth edition published in January 2010. She was added as a co-author to *Anderson's Business and the Legal Environment* in 1997, a text whose 21st edition was published in January 2010. Her book, *Business Strategy for the Political Arena*, was selected in 1985 by Library Journal as one of its recommended books in business/government relations. *A Business Tale: A Story of Ethics, Choices, Success, and a Very Large Rabbit*, a fable about business ethics, was chosen by Library Journal in 2004 as its business book of the year. *A Business Tale* was also a finalist for two other literary awards for 2004. In 2000 her book on corporate governance was published by the New York Times MBA Pocket Series. Professor Jennings' book on long-term success, *Building a Business Through Good Times and Bad: Lessons from Fifteen Companies, Each With a Century of Dividends*, was published in October 2002 and has been used by Booz, Allen, Hamilton for its work on business longevity. Her latest book, *The Seven Signs of Ethical Collapse* was published by St. Martin's Press in July 2006. Her books have been translated into five languages.

Her columns have been syndicated around the country, and her work has appeared in the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Chicago Tribune*, the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, and the *Reader's Digest*. A collection of her essays, *Nobody Fixes Real Carrot Sticks Anymore*, first published in 1994 is still being published. She was given an Arizona Press Club award in 1994 for her work as a feature columnist. She has been a commentator on business issues on *All Things Considered* for National Public Radio.

She has conducted more than 300 workshops and seminars in the areas of business, personal, government, legal, academic and professional ethics. She has been named professor of the year in the College of Business in 1981, 1987 and 2000 and was the recipient of a Burlington Northern teaching excellence award in 1985. In 1999, she was given best article awards by the Academy of Legal Studies in Business and the Association for Government Accountants. She was given best article awards by the Institute of Internal Auditors and Association of Government Accountants in 2001 and 2004. She has been a Dean's Council of 100 Distinguished Scholar since 1995. In 2000, the Association of Government Accountants inducted her into its Speakers Hall of Fame. In 2005, she was named an All-Star Speaker by the Institute of Internal Auditors. In 2006, her article, "Ethics and Investment Management: True Reform," was selected by the United Kingdom's *Emerald Management Review* from 15,000 articles in 400 journals as one of the top 50 articles in 2005.

During 1986-1988, she served as Associate Dean in the College of Business. From 1986-87, she served as ASU's faculty athletic representative to the NCAA and PAC-10. From 1999-2009 she served as president of the Arizona Association of Scholars. She is a member of twelve professional organizations, including the State Bar of Arizona, and has served on four boards of directors, including Arizona Public Service (now Pinnacle West Capital) (1987-2000), Zealous Capital Corporation, and the Center for Children with Chronic Illness and Disability at the University of Minnesota. She served as chair of the Bonneville International Advisory Board for KHTC/KIDR from 1994-1997 and was a weekly commentator on KGLE during 1998. She was appointed to the board of advisors for the Institute of Nuclear Power Operators in 2004. She has appeared on CNBC, CBS This Morning, the Today Show, and CBS Evening News.

Personal: Married since 1976 to Terry H. Jennings, Maricopa County Attorney's Office Deputy County Attorney; five children: Sarah, Sam, and John, and the late Claire and Hannah Jennings.

Visit NFC

We invite you to visit our facility in New Orleans. We will be happy to discuss our systems and services, address your unique needs, and demonstrate how we can be your source for solutions. For more information about our systems and services please contact:

USDA, National Finance Center
PO Box 60000
New Orleans, LA 70160
(504) 426-1032
(504) 426-9732 (Fax)
www.nfc.usda.gov
email: customer.support@usda.gov

Requests to visit the National Finance Center should be submitted in writing to Customer.Support@usda.gov. Our hours of operation are between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. CT.

- To coordinate a visit, we request at least a 60-day notice in advance of your projected visit to ensure adequate preparation time. The information below should be submitted to the above email address.
 - Name and telephone number of the agency's visit coordinator
 - Tentative Request Date(s) for the visit
 - Purpose of the visit
 - Attendee Information (name, title, and entity representing)
 - The agency's visit coordinator must identify visitors that are (1) Non-US citizens or (2) Contractors.
 - Special Accommodations (if appropriate, etc.)
- It is requested that the agency's visit coordinator provide an agenda containing talking points for discussion purposes, Software Problem Requests (SPR's), Incident Reports (IR's), Project Number(s), or other identifying information for research purposes.
- Indicate if the agency visiting would like a tour of NFC. In addition, indicate if you are interested in visiting with NFC contacts that are not participants of the scheduled meeting. To obtain prior approval for entrance to other areas within NFC, please submit your contact information and the NFC contact with whom you are interested in meeting. We request arrival 30 minutes in advance of your scheduled visit.



New Orleans Map

Directions to NFC

USDA's NFC is located on the NASA Facility, Building 350. **Note:** Government employees should present government identification. Everyone must present a picture ID.

From Louis Armstrong Airport (approximately 45-60 minutes):

- Leaving airport, take Airport Access Road to I-10 East.
- Take I-10 east seven miles to I-610 split.
- Go 12.7 miles on I-610, which later merges with I-10 again, to I-510 (Exit 246A).
- From I-10 go south on I-510 to Exit 2C (third exit).
- Veer left when exit splits and turn left onto Old Gentilly Road.
- Go east 0.7 miles to Michoud Assembly Facility on the right.
- Turn right at blue sign marked Bldg 350-Visitor Parking.
- Go into lobby and check in with receptionist.

To Louis Armstrong Airport from NFC (approximately 45-60 minutes):

- TURN LEFT on Old Gentilly Road as you exit the Visitor's Parking lot and go approximately 0.7 miles to I-510 North.
- ENTER on I-510 North and stay in the middle lane, then take the I-10 West exit to New Orleans (approximately 2.8 miles).
- TAKE I-10 West to where I-610 splits from I-10 West (approximately 8 miles). Take I-610 to Baton Rouge. I-610 will merge again with I-10 West (approximately 4.8 miles). Continue on I-10 West to the Airport Access Road exit. (This is the exit past the Williams Boulevard exit, approximately 7 miles.)

From downtown New Orleans or the French Quarter (approximately 20-25 minutes):

Note: The following directions apply to the majority of hotels located in downtown New Orleans. The only exception would be the distance from Canal Street to North Claiborne Avenue, depending upon the hotel in which you are staying. For instance, if you were staying at a hotel near the River (or Riverwalk), then the distance from Canal Street to North Claiborne Avenue would be greater.

- STAY on Canal Street to North Claiborne Avenue.
- TURN RIGHT on North Claiborne Avenue (approximately ½ mile).
- Continue on North Claiborne; ENTER elevated I-10 East "ON" ramp (Exit 235) on the right.
- Continue on I-10 East to the Chalmette Exit (I-510 South). Take the I-510 South exit. Continue on I-510 South (approximately 2.8 miles). TAKE the third exit (NASA/Almonaster, Exit 2C) stay in the left lane, and veer left.
- At intersection, make an IMMEDIATE LEFT. Cross over bridge and go east 0.7 miles on Old Gentilly Road.
- The NASA/Michoud Assembly Facility is on the right. NFC is located in the first 2-story blonde brick building. Enter the Visitor Parking area (look for sign).
- PARK in the "Visitor Parking Lot" (in front of the flag pole).
- ENTER the building through the glass doors and check in at the Reception's Desk in the lobby.

From Slidell, LA or points east:

- At Slidell, proceed on I-10 west across Lake Pontchartrain.
- After crossing the lake, go approximately eight miles to I-510 (Exit 246A).
- From I-10 go south on I-510 to Exit 2C (third exit).
Veer left when exit splits and turn left onto Old Gentilly Road.
- Go east 0.7 miles to Michoud Assembly Facility on the right.
- Turn right at blue sign marked Bldg 350-Visitor Parking.
Go into lobby and check in with receptionist.

**Association of Government Accountants
New Orleans Chapter Minutes
April 2010**

The AGA meeting was held on April 8, 2010, at Don's Seafood in Hammond, and was the joint meeting with the Baton Rouge Chapter. The meeting was called to order by Errol Smith, President of the Baton Rouge Chapter. Mr. Smith welcomed everyone and specifically mentioned Guest Speaker, Billy Morehead, AGA National President, and Donald Bellcock, Regional Vice President. Mr. Smith invited Amanda Green, President of the New Orleans Chapter, to say a few words. Amanda welcomed everyone in attendance and specifically mentioned Clyde McShan and Jullin Renthrope, AGA Past National Presidents, who are members of the New Orleans Chapter. She thanked all the New Orleans Chapter members for journeying to the joint meeting. Amanda invited the attendees to attend the upcoming Spring Seminar being held on April 22, 2010, at Zea's Restaurant on St. Charles Avenue in New Orleans.

Baton Rouge Chapter President, Mr. Errol Smith asked for the officer reports, and then introduced the evening's Guest Speaker, AGA National President Mr. Billy Morehead.

The meeting broke for dinner.

President Morehead discussed what is going on at the AGA. President Morehead made the following comments:

- ✦ Because of the economy, AGA had scaled back its budget, but by February was able to increase the budget.
- ✦ The Orlando PDC Conference Hotel is sold out, which is great news! Overflow hotels are now being filled.

President Morehead then spoke on the subject of "Think Big, Act Courageous...Make a Difference". Quotes from his presentation included:

- ✦ "Where there is no vision, People will perish"
- ✦ "If you advance with confidence toward your goal, you will meet with success"
- ✦ "Our challenge is doing more with less."

Lastly, Mr. Morehead spoke on Rules to Live By: "Don't accept the status quo, be prepared, take risks, use persuasion not coercion, share the spotlight, and follow your dream."

After his presentation, President Morehead pulled the ticket to award the New Orleans Chapter 50/50 raffle - the winner was me! "*Dawn Wagener.*"

The meeting was then adjourned.

Dawn Wagener, CGFM
Secretary

Nashville Chapter Secures

“Preferred” Status for CGFM Applicants

Job seekers with the CGFM will have an advantage over uncertified competitors if they apply for certain positions in Tennessee’s Office of the Comptroller of the Treasury.

AGA’s Nashville Chapter was instrumental in making the CGFM a “preferred” qualification for three positions in the Office of Management Services within the comptroller’s office: contract review administrator, business administration manager and legislative sourcing oversight manager.

Nashville Chapter President Karen B. Hale, MAOM, CGFM, said she was asked last spring to review job specifications, titles and duties after the retirements of two longtime leaders in the Office of Management Services – including Past AGA National President Charles Harrison, CPA, CGFM. During the reorganization, she proposed the three job specifications include the statement, “A certification as a government finance manager (CGFM) is preferred.” Comptroller of the Treasury Justin P. Wilson approved the change, effective Aug. 1.

The process took a few months, but it was fairly straightforward. Hale’s office is full of AGA supporters and CGFMs, many of whom were involved in the CGFM’s earliest stages, such as Harrison and Past AGA National President Richard Norment, CGFM, CIA. Her director, for example is Immediate Past Regional Vice President Melinda Parton, CGFM. “We’re fortunate here to have such a rich history,” Hale said. “They laid the groundwork.”

All three positions are now filled with professionals who have passed the CGFM Examinations. Hale, who is the current business administration manager, said she believes that the CGFM certification strengthens an applicant’s knowledge base. “You can’t just walk in off the street and start working and be successful right away,” she said. “These positions involve a lot of on-the-job training, a lot of mentoring, and the more knowledge you bring to the table on the front end, the better.”

Tennessee has had many successes over the years. The state formally recognizes the CGFM designation with a salary increase if that particular department chooses to do so. The comptroller’s office also sponsored legislation two years ago that requires all municipalities in the state to employ a certified municipal finance officer (CMFO) to produce its financial statements. CGFMs are exempt from the educational requirements of the CMFO designation.

Katya Silver, AGA’s director of Professional Certification Administration, applauds the Nashville Chapter for its work. “It is great to see the Nashville chapter’s initiative and hard work pays off. What a wonderful example of AGA leadership and teamwork!”

In fact, Silver encourages other chapters to learn from what’s been accomplished in Tennessee and around the country. AGA recently held a teleconference dedicated to CGFM recognition – successful practices, challenges, ideas and tools.

Katya Silver
Director of Professional Certification
AGA - Advancing Government Accountability

Association of Government Accountants Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) Annual Plan for the New Orleans Chapter 2009-2010

GOAL 1 - Support Current CGFMs

- ❑ Publish CGFM member's achievements in newsletter and local newspapers.
- ❑ Partner with other organizations and/or governmental entities to promote the CGFM designation.
- ❑ Recognize local CGFMs by using the CGFM designation in chapter publications, name tags, etc.
- ❑ Contribute items to chapter newsletter such as CGFM recognition, study suggestions, encouragement, and technical requirements.
- ❑ Publicize new CGFMs in chapter and local publications.

GOAL 2 - Market CGFM Locally

- ❑ Encourage employer policy change to recognize CGFM.
- ❑ Solicit endorsements of CGFM from area employers and elected officials.
- ❑ Coordinate with the Regional and National coordinators to assist in promoting the Chapters goal.
- ❑ Contact area government accountability leaders.
- ❑ Create an awareness of the value of CGFM to the general public.

GOAL 3 - Assist Potential New CGFMs in Attaining Certification

- ❑ Coordinate study groups.
- ❑ Develop a mentoring program.
- ❑ Develop other study options.
- ❑ Develop a plan in the Chapter to offer CGFM courses.
- ❑ Provide a CGFM Examination Scholarship.

AGA New Orleans Chapter Educational Sessions 2009 - 2010

Date	Time	Place	Audio Sessions
05/19/2010	1:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.	National Finance Center 13800 Old Gentilly Road New Orleans, LA	Ethics in Government

Indian Affairs Makes it Simple for Finance Employees to Earn CGFM

Janet Hogler, CGFM, is not only committed to bringing the best training to employees, but also to making it as convenient as possible.

About six years ago, Hogler brought AGA's three Government Financial Management (GFM) courses to U.S. Department of Energy employees in Pittsburgh, PA, and Morgantown, WV. While successful, in looking back she thought more employees would have taken the three examinations if she had brought the test to them, rather than expecting them to do that footwork on their own.

That's why Hogler added an extra step this time. As Chief Of Staff to the Chief Financial Officer – Indian Affairs, she asked AGA to bring the three GFM courses to their workplace in Reston, VA. She lined up 26 students, most of them from Indian Affairs and a few from the U.S. Department of the Interior's (DOI) Office of Financial Management, and also arranged for the exams to be held immediately after each course.

Hal Steinberg, CGFM, CPA, taught all three courses over a two-week period in January, with the examination for each course held the day after the class work ended. "Most of the folks said it was pretty intense," Hogler said. In fact, one employee told her, "You put me through hell those two weeks." In the end, most Indian Affairs employees, plus additional DOI employees have passed all three CGFM Examinations. Most others passed two of the three exams and are already studying to retake the exams they did not pass.

Hogler said the courses attracted a range of employees from GS-7 through GS-15. Some were from the Office of Internal Evaluation and Assessments, some from the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, and some from DOI.

"It was funny on the days of the test, they all wanted to change to the afternoon slots to allow more time to study. I would go around to the conference rooms and they were all studying," Hogler said.

Hogler, who says she's "big on training," particularly likes AGA's GFM courses and the fact that the CGFM credential is portable – employees who must move to another agency within federal government or to state or local government can use the credential to show they have a broad range of knowledge in government financial management. It also goes a long way toward boosting the credibility of the office within the financial management community.

The GFM courses were the culmination of a training program that also included courses on the Standard General Ledger, appropriation law and other topics. She said her boss saw the value in bringing the courses and exams onsite to "bring this group to the next level."

Katya Silver, AGA's director of Professional Certification, said Hogler put all the pieces in place to ensure success for the employees. "I am happy to see Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) make an investment in their staff. This is such a success story! The GFM training, the onsite exams, the employer support and the dedication of the candidates have all paid off – congratulations to BIA and our new group of CGFM's!"

RECOGNITION POINTS 2009-2010

Recognition Categories	Max Credits Per Category	Credits Through March 2010
Chapter Leadership Planning and Participation	3,000	2,825
Education & Professional Development	4,000	6,750
Certification	4,000	12,325
Communications	3,000	7,035
Membership	3,000	1,375
Early Career and Student Members	2,000	500
Community Service	2,000	1,100
Awards	1,000	400
Total	22,000	32,310



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2010 AGA New Orleans Chapter Meetings

Date	Time	Location* & Cost	Speaker* & CPE	Menu
May 20, 2010	5:30 p.m. - Till	Green Acre's Country Club 5000 W. Napoleon Avenue Metairie, LA \$10.00 Members/Guest \$3.00 Children Chapter Awards Ceremony		Crawfish Boil Corn Potatoes Sausage Desserts Beer/Soft Drinks
May 28, 2010	5:30 p.m.	Zephyr Stadium 6000 Airline Drive Metairie, LA	Zephyr 's CPA Night Chapter Awards Ceremony & Baseball Game	
* Tentative - Locations & Speakers based upon availability				

AGA - New Orleans Chapter 2009-2010 Community Service Plan Planned Community Service Events

1. Rebuilding Together New Orleans www.rtno.org

Assist with revitalizing houses for the elderly, disabled, or families with children - TBD

2. Dress for Success - SOS "Send One Suit" Week

Accept donations of slightly used clothing for disadvantaged women entering the workforce - TBD

3. On-going Community Service Collections

Slightly used DVDs for area Nursing Homes

Magazines for Nursing Homes

Cell phones for Battered Women

Personal Care Products

Slightly used clothes for mission centers

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New Orleans Chapter Association of Government Accountants

Statement of Net Assets		Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in New Assets		
March 31, 2010		March 31, 2010		Nine Months Ended March 31, 2010
Assets		Operating Revenues		
CURRENT ASSETS:		Education/Training	\$60.00	\$690.00
Cash	\$594.96	Monthly Meetings	679.00	4,318.00
Savings	9,429.96	Christmas Party	0.00	0.00
Deposit – Restaurants	600.00	50/50 Raffle	44.00	128.00
Prepaid Seminar Expenses	448.00	Membership Dues	55.00	711.70
Accounts Receivable	630.00	Sponsorship	0.00	200.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$11,702.92	Interest Income	23.71	48.54
		Total operating revenue	\$861.71	\$6,096.24
Liabilities and Net Assets		Operating Expenses		
Accounts Payable		Education	\$0.00	\$672.00
NET ASSETS:		Business Meetings	667.00	5,901.03
Membership Recruitment	560.32	Interpreter	0.00	80.00
Habitat Project Funds	0.00	Christmas Party	0.00	0.00
Hurricane Relief Fund	2,709.25	50/50 Raffle	22.00	54.00
Unrestricted net assets	8,433.35	Postage/Supplies/Gifts	0.00	0.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES		AGA PDC Raffle Basket	0.00	0.00
AND NET ASSETS	\$11,702.92	Scholarship	0.00	0.00
		Bank Charges	0.00	0.00
		Donations	0.00	0.00
		Speakers Gifts	0.00	29.95
		Habitat Crayfish Boil	0.00	0.00
		Officer Expenses	0.00	120.00
		Total operating expenses	\$689.00	\$6,856.98
		Operating Income (Loss)	\$172.71	(\$760.74)
		Non-operating Revenues (Expenses)	\$0.00	0.00
		Income (Loss) before Contributions	\$172.71	(\$760.74)
		Capital Contributions:	\$0.00	\$380.69
		Change in Net Assets	\$172.71	(\$380.69)
		Net Assets at Beginning of Period	\$4,224.14	\$8,813.40
		Net Assets at End of Period	\$4,396.85	\$8,433.35