

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.

December 2010

Volume 30, Issue 1

New Members

Gina Dorvilier
Leticia Timothy
Bradford Paul

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

Welcome All!

I would like to take this opportunity to say "Thank You" for allowing me to serve as your President for the 2010-2011 AGA program year. I look forward to working with everyone as we continue to grow and strengthen our Chapter.

Awards

This summer our Chapter received recognition at AGA's 59th Annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition that was held in Orlando, Florida. Our Chapter President, Amanda Green, accepted the Platinum Level Award in the National Chapter Recognition Program.

Our Chapter also received an award from the Orleans Parish School Board, for the "Back to School Drive" that's been held at the National Finance Center for the past two years. Last year's donations were enough to help over 500 needy students throughout the New Orleans metro area. Our Community Service Chairs, Monique Banks and Linda M. Lewis accepted the award on behalf of the New Orleans Chapter.

The awards and recognition achieved by our Chapter are a reflection of each and every member's dedication and service in meeting the goals and objectives of AGA. It is through your commitment to excellence in government financial management and service to the public that we will continue to be an outstanding chapter.

Celebrating 60 Years of Excellence

AGA is celebrating 60 years! The New Orleans Chapter honored Past Chapter Presidents with a luncheon at the National Finance Center on November 18, 2010. We honored 13 Past Presidents with a certificate and plaque for their outstanding dedication to AGA and the New Orleans Chapter. It was a great success!

Community Service in Action

Our Community Service Co-Chairs asked each member attending the Past Chapter Presidents' Luncheon to bring can goods for AGA's 2010 Annual Food Drive. We were able to stuff 22 boxes (1/2 pallet) with food. Thank you for your outstanding support!

Chris Cutitto and Gerry Knepp volunteered to work the phone banks during WYES' 2010 Wine Auction. Thank you Chris and Gerry for answering your Community Service Co-Chairs' call for volunteers!

Upcoming Chapter Events

Mark your calendars for the AGA Christmas Extravaganza!!! The party will be held on Friday, December 17, 2010, at the Best Western Landmark Hotel from 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm, 2601 Severn Avenue, Metairie, LA 70002. (Free for AGA members and only \$35 for guests). If you are planning to attend and have not done so already, please RSVP Knica or Gary by noon Friday December 10, 2010. Hope to see you all there!

Our next meeting, The IRS Tax Update, will be held on Thursday, January 20, 2011 at the National Finance Center, Executive Dining Room.

Have a Wonderful Holiday Season! Stay Safe, Stay Warm & See You Next Year!

***Darlene M. Fisher, MBA
Chapter President***

AGA Christmas Extravaganza

Best Western Landmark Hotel

2601 Severn Avenue
Metairie, Louisiana 70002

Friday, December 17, 2010
7:00 PM- 10:00 PM



Appetizers,
Cold & Hot Buffets
Soup, Beef, Dessert
& Beverage Stations

Open Bar

DJ

Door Prizes

Members: Free Guests: \$35

Attire: Festive

Please join us for three hours of fun

RSVP: Knica Lloyd, Klloyd@lla.la.gov or Gary Millet, gary.millet@nfc.usda.gov

November 2010 Association of Government Accountants

The November 2010 meeting of the Association of Government Accountants was held Thursday November 18, 2010 at the National Finance Center. The meeting was a gathering to celebrate and recognize AGA Chapter Past Presidents.

President Darlene Fisher called the meeting to order at 11:50 a.m. She recognized those guests attending the afternoon's meeting and led the members in the pledge of allegiance. Faye Martin gave the invocation and Officer Reports were then given.

Knica Lloyd, Meeting Chair thanked everyone for attending the day's meeting and announced the next meeting would be the Annual Christmas Party on December 17th from 7 -10 p.m. at the Best Western on Severn. She also announced that the January meeting will be held on January 20, 2011 at the NFC and will be the yearly Tax Update.

Darlene Fisher then introduced the Chapter Past President in attendance and the meeting broke for lunch.

After lunch, Darlene recognized each individual past president in attendance by reading a short bio from each and presenting each president with a plaque and certificate.

During the closing remarks by the President, she asked Mr. Herbert Kittrell for comments whose has been a member since 1958 and served as Chapter President and Regional Vice President of AGA.

Mr. Kittrell expressed how much being a member of AGA has meant to him.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Dawn Wagener, CGFM
Secretary

2010 PAST CHAPTER PRESIDENTS' RECOGNITION LUNCHEON



Standing: Herbert Kittrell, Jim Juilan, Jullin Renthrope, Chris Cuttito, Clyde McShan II, Ron Tamborella, Gary Millet, Charles Kyser, John Hall; ***Sitting:*** Pam Lincoln, Jill Byrd, Darlene Fisher (current chapter president), Amanda Green

AGA - New Orleans Chapter 2010-2011 Community Service Plan Planned Community Service Events

- 1. Toys for Tots - Adopt-A-Child**
Christmas Gifts for Needy Children - December 2010
- 2. Children's Hospital**
Teddy Bear collection for hospitalized children - December 2010
- 3. Rebuilding Together New Orleans** www.rtno.org
Assist with revitalizing houses for the elderly, disabled, or families with children - TBD
- 4. Dress for Success - SOS "Send One Suit" Week**
Accept donations of slightly used clothing for disadvantaged women entering the workforce - TBD
- 5. On-going Community Service Collections**
Slightly used DVDs for area Nursing Homes
Magazines for Nursing Homes
Cell phones for Battered Women

2010- 2011 New Orleans Chapter Community Service Contacts:

Monique.Banks@usda.gov

504-426-0282

Linda.Lewis2@usda.gov

504-426-6121

AGA Kicks off its Toys for Tots campaign

December 6, 2010 – December 17, 2010

TOYS FOR TOTS - With the holiday's right around the corner, the AGA New Orleans Chapter is once again collecting toys for the annual "Toys for Tots" drive beginning Monday, December 6 through Friday, December 17. Also, we are asking all members to bring a toy for the annual toy drive to the AGA Christmas Party.

Donations must be new, unwrapped gifts for children ranging in ages from infant to 12 years old. This year's donated toys will benefit U. S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program at the National Finance Center.



For more information, contact AGA's Community Service Coordinators listed below.

Toys should be new and delivered to:

Monique Banks, Post P 17, 2nd Floor (504) 426-0282 or

Linda Lewis, Post U45, 2nd Floor (504)426-6121

WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR PARTICIPATION

Darlene Fisher, MBA, AGA President, New Orleans Chapter 504-465-3200

Monetary donations may be sent to: Association of Government Accountants (AGA), POB 29186, New Orleans, LA 70189-0186, noting Toys for Tots on the memo line

Community Service (AGA) Cell Phones Drive (January 2011) Your Donated Phone could save a life!

If you plan to upgrade your mobile device, please consider donating your old cell phone to our 2011 Phone Drive to be donated to The Metropolitan Center for Women and Children in New Orleans. These phones will 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.

Darlene Fisher, MBA, AGA President New Orleans Chapter

Together we can make a difference!



A dark red banner with the CGFM logo on the left and the words "NEWS FLASH" in large, bold, gold-colored capital letters on the right.



AGA is once again offering a great opportunity to take the CGFM Examinations and earn your CGFM after the Ninth Annual National Leadership Conference (NLC). Whether you've found it difficult to find time to complete the three exams or just need an extra reinforcement of the material, this is your chance to get it done!

To help you reach that goal, we are offering a two-day Intensive Review Course on Monday, February 21, and Tuesday, February 22, 2011, and an opportunity to take the CGFM Examinations on February 23–24, 2011. The event will take place in Alexandria, VA. The cost of the course is only \$279 for qualified participants, and it offers 18 CPE hours. Special Bonus: The CGFM Examinations are offered at no cost to course attendees.

This course is designed as a supplement to previous preparation for the CGFM Examinations, so this is a perfect opportunity for those individuals who have already attended CGFM training courses or have been preparing by using the CGFM Study Guides. Enrollment is limited and popular exam time slots are reserved quickly, so don't delay.

More information and a registration form for this event are available on the AGA website (http://www.agacgfm.org/nlc_2011/cgfm_exams.htm). If you have any questions, please contact Crystal Vanison at cvanison@agacgfm.org or at 800.AGA.7211, ext. 316.

Association of Government Accountants Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) Annual Plan for the New Orleans Chapter 2010-2011

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 2010 - 2011

Date	Time	Place	Audio Sessions
02/02/2011	1:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.	National Finance Center Auditorium, 2 nd Floor 13800 Old Gentilly Road New Orleans, LA	Internal Controls (2 CPE)
03/23/2010	1:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.	National Finance Center (Same Address Above)	Improving Performance Reporting (2 CPE)
05/18/2010	1:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.	National Finance Center (Same Address Above)	Ethics in Government



What Drives You?
The membership experience begins here.

You chose AGA as your professional association—now help your colleagues do the same!

The “What Drives You” Member-Get-A-Member Campaign is the new AGA membership recruitment and rewards program running from May 1, 2010 until April 30, 2011. It offers you the opportunity to win great prizes for recruiting friends and colleagues by sharing the value of your AGA membership. Since you already know the benefits of being an AGA member and have contacts in the industry, this is a great way to increase AGA's membership, which in turn expands your own professional network and allows AGA to better meet your needs. The AGA “What Drives You” Campaign is intended to DRIVE networking, DRIVE professional development and DRIVE chapter participation.

Prizes are awarded to show appreciation for your support of AGA and your efforts to help the Association grow. For more information on the 2010-2011 “What Drives You” Member-Get-A-Member Campaign, go to www.agacgfm.org (under Membership Chapters / Recruit A Member).



CPA REVIEW, CPE, CFA REVIEW & PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Becker is on the GSA Schedule: Retirement is approaching. Is it time for your CPA? Becker offers discounts to all state and local government employees.

Call: Karen Whitaker 504-833-0008
E-Mail: KWhitaker@becker.com

*****New Agreement with Becker Educational Programs*****

Becker Professional Education programs and the AGA have renewed their annual cooperation agreement this month. This agreement provides AGA members with discounts for using Becker review classes. If you are a federal employee, Becker will provide a discounted rate of \$1930 for the CPA Exam Review full four-part course. New for 2011 is a larger discount of \$ 600 (increased from \$300 in 2010) off the list price for AGA members that are State and Local Government employees. If you are an AGA member but not a government employee, Becker provides a \$300 discount off the list price. All AGA members receive the Becker CPA Flashcard at no charge. The agreement also provides that AGA members may receive a discounted rate of \$150 per person per year for an agency sponsored direct bill CPE Distance Learning subscription and a discount off the list price for the Stalla Chartered Financial Analysts Review System. You must identify yourself as an AGA member when registering with Becker.

Steven Sossei, CPA
Director of Education
Association of Government Accountants
703-684-6931 ext. 307



Booth Attendees

From left: Brian Watkins, Certification Manager; Marcie Tureaud, Regional Coordinator of Chapter Development and Assistance; Pamela Lincoln, New Orleans Chapter CGFM Chair; Peggy Javery, Senior Vice President; Katya Silver, Director of Professional Certification.

And the Award goes to...

National President William A. Morehead, Ph.D. presented Amanda Green, 2009-2010 New Orleans Chapter President, with the Platinum Chapter Recognition Award at the Awards Breakfast on Wednesday, July 14 during the AGA 59th Annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition in Orlando, FL. The New Orleans Chapter earned this recognition by obtaining 19,501-22,000 Chapter Recognition Credits during 2009-2010.



**Professional Development Conference
Orlando, Florida
We missed you there!**



AGA Accomplishments 2010



Cathy Toni Chase Orleans Parish School Board Office, Monique Banks, and Linda M Lewis.

1st row left to right are: Lourdes Moran, Linda M Lewis, Monique Banks, Cynthia Cade 2nd row left to right are: Seth Bloom, Thomas Robichaux, Woody Koppel, Ira H. Thomas Sr., and Brett Bonin.



COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERISM AT ITS BEST

The National Finance Center (NFC) and AGA's New Orleans Chapter received an award plaque from the Orleans Parish School Board of New Orleans, La. The award was given in appreciation and recognition of the items contributed, which assisted over 500 needy students throughout the New Orleans metro area, during the 2nd Annual "Back to School Supply Drive", held at NFC.

The plaque was awarded at the May 18, 2010 Board Meeting, which was held at McDonogh #35 Senior High School. It was presented to Chapter Community Service Co-Chairs, Linda Lewis and Monique Banks by Superintendent Darryl C Kilbert. After presenting the award, Mr. Kilbert stated, "The securing of resources and development of partnerships with businesses, civic organizations, and other community groups is vital to the education of our children."

"A generous man will prosper"



Serving with Pride



The St. Bernard Parish Public Schools says THANKS TO ALL AGA MEMBERS!

Thanks to each of you for your caring and support of the St. Bernard Parish Schools. You have made big difference in the support of needy students within the school system.



Supplies were donated to W. Smith Elementary, 6701 E St. Bernard Hwy, Violet, LA 70092. Smith Elementary is under leadership of Principal Dedra Bailey and has 385 students Pre K-5.

(Pictured from left are Linda Lewis, Benny Nunez, St. Bernard Parish Schools Maintenance Department, Orlando Portillo, SBPS Maintenance Department, Monique Banks, not pictured are Dedra Bailey, Principle W. Smith Jr. Elementary School, and Denise Cooper, Superintendent St. Bernard Parish Schools)

We appreciate your participation!

Thank You!

THANKS TO ALL MEMBERS - AGA's 2010 Annual Food Drive was a tremendous success. We appreciate all the efforts of our members in collecting 22 boxes "stuffed" (approximately ½ pallet) with food.



(Pictured from left are Linda Lewis, Sam Hayes, Pastor Gabriel Adetona, RCG, Dominion Sanctuary Baton Rouge, LA, Erica Branch, Church Administrator, RCG Dominion Sanctuary Baton Rouge, LA, Cory Smith, and Monique Banks)

Through your efforts, we were able to help meet the needs of the community through Second Harvest Food Bank of Greater New Orleans and Acadiana.

Together we made a difference! Thank You!

COMMUNITY SERVICE IN ACTION

Special thanks to the following members:

Chris Cutitto

Gerry Knepp

for volunteering with the phone bank of WYES Public Television & Digital Media for New Orleans and the Gulf South during the October 2010 Wine Auction.



WYES is a partnership between citizens, foundations, businesses and local, state and federal governments, working together toward the education and development of our community.

To learn more about what WYES does for the community, log onto <http://wyes.org/index.shtml>

Stay tuned for future volunteer activities with WYES Public Television.

AGA New Orleans Chapter Meetings 2010-2011 (Tentative)

Date	Time	Location* & Cost	Speaker* & CPE	Menu
December 17, 2010	7:00 P.M.	Best Western Landmark Hotel 2601 Severn Avenue Metairie, LA 70002	Christmas Party	See the AGA 2010 Christmas Extravaganza Flier
January 20, 2011	11:30 A.M.	National Finance Center Executive Dining Room 13800 Old Gentilly Road New Orleans, LA	Internal Revenue Service Representative Tax Update 1 CPE	
February 17, 2011	5:30 P.M.	TBD	TBD 1 CPE	
March 17, 2011	5:30 P.M.	Five Happiness Restaurant 3605 S. Carrollton Ave New Orleans, LA	Joint Meeting with American Society of Women Accountants Speaker - TBD 1 CPE	
April 29, 2011	5:30 P.M.	Zephyr Stadium 6000 Airline Drive Metairie, LA	Tailgate Party & Baseball Game	
May 19, 2011	5:30 P.M.	Green Acre's Country Club 5000 W. Napoleon Avenue Metairie, LA		Crawfish Boil & Chapter Awards Ceremony
June 9, 2011	5:30 P.M.	Don's Seafood Hut 1915 S. Morrison Blvd Hammond, LA	Dick Bunce, AGA National President- Elect Joint Meeting with BR Chapter 1 CPE	

*** Tentative – Locations & Speakers based upon availability**

RECOGNITION POINTS 2010-2011

Recognition Categories	Max Credits Per Category	Credits Through September 2010
Chapter Leadership Planning and Participation	3,000	2,450
Education & Professional Development	4,000	375
Certification	4,000	450
Communications	3,000	675
Membership	3,000	400
Early Career and Student Members	2,000	0
Community Service	2,000	200
Awards	1,000	0
Total	22,000	4,550

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2010-2011 Chapter Officers**

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2010-2011 AGA New Orleans Chapter Officers

