

## Calendar of Events

### Boston Chapter

**September 15, 2005**

Chapter Lunch Meeting with Program at The Harp Restaurant, Boston

**October 20, 2005**

Fall Seminar at Lombardo's in Randolph

**November 17, 2005 (Date Change)**

Fall Workshop

**December 8, 2005**

Annual Holiday Charity Luncheon

**January 19, 2006**

Winter Seminar at Volpe Center in Cambridge

**February 16, 2006**

Winter Workshop

**March 14, 2006**

Regional Professional Development Conference at Bentley College, Waltham

**April 13, 2006**

Chapter Lunch Meeting with Program

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Inside this Issue

CGFM .....	4
Chapter Balance Sheet.....	3
Chapter Recognition Program .....	3
Member News .....	3, 4
National Office News .....	9
New England Region.....	2
Professional Dev Conference ...	6, 7
Professional Opportunities .....	8

## President's Message

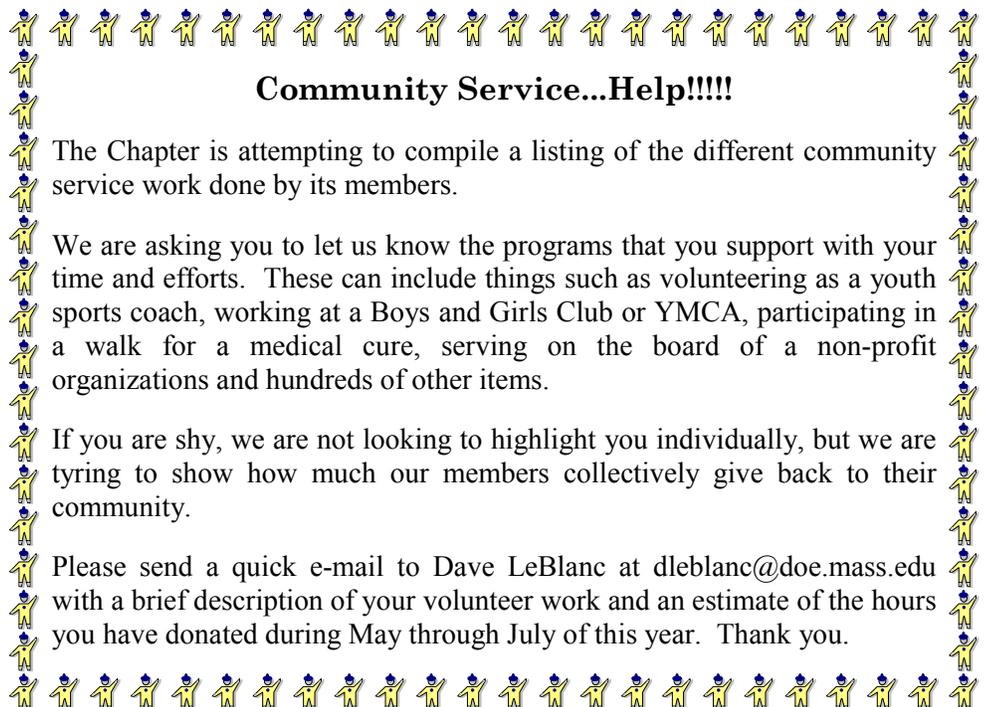
I don't know why they call these the dog days of August. I have a 9-year-old, 85 pound golden lab and he won't take responsibility for the weather. Come to think of it, he doesn't take responsibility for anything he chews up either. Oh well!!

From all reports last month's National PDC in Orlando was a success. The chapter was directly and indirectly the recipient of three awards. Attending were members Julie Burns, Dave LeBlanc, Susan Perna-Damon, Howie Olsher (National Chapter Service Award winner), Nick Dahl, Mike Armstrong, Dick Donaldson, Barry Russell, Maria Mamakos (Boston Chapter PDC Scholarship winner), and Bill Kilmartin.

I can honestly say these people attended the offered sessions and not just rode the attractions at Walt Disney World down the street from the hotel. In full disclosure mode I have to admit that I made use of my annual pass at night though. For those that couldn't attend, think about next year's session in San Diego.

Since I've mentioned the topic of education, Kathie Sill and the rest of the training committee have been working hard to come up with a year of training sessions for all of us. The first session will be a monthly lunch meeting covering the topic of Changes to SAS 99. This session will be presented by Bill Yazbek. The second item worth noting early is the fully day of fraud training in October at

*(Continued on page 2)*



### Community Service...Help!!!!

The Chapter is attempting to compile a listing of the different community service work done by its members.

We are asking you to let us know the programs that you support with your time and efforts. These can include things such as volunteering as a youth sports coach, working at a Boys and Girls Club or YMCA, participating in a walk for a medical cure, serving on the board of a non-profit organizations and hundreds of other items.

If you are shy, we are not looking to highlight you individually, but we are trying to show how much our members collectively give back to their community.

Please send a quick e-mail to Dave LeBlanc at [dleblanc@doe.mass.edu](mailto:dleblanc@doe.mass.edu) with a brief description of your volunteer work and an estimate of the hours you have donated during May through July of this year. Thank you.

(President's Message Continued from page 1)

Lombardo's. More information about these and other sessions can be found in this newsletter and on our website.

In other news we are very pleased to welcome two new elected members to our executive committee this year. Our President-Elect is John Beveridge, Deputy Auditor for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and our corporate secretary is Richard Sullivan, Partner, Powers & Sullivan, CPA. John was highlighted in our July newsletter and even though Dick is shy, he will be profiled in a future newsletter.

Hopefully the weather stays nice so that the golfers, boaters, campers and gardeners amongst us can keep enjoying their outdoor hobbies.

Till next month, thanks for your support.

- DAVE



### TRIVIA QUESTION!

**Movies:** Name the three movies that won the Academy Awards for Best Picture, Best Director, Best Actor and Best Actress in a single year?

Answer found elsewhere in the newsletter.

## Around the New England Region

The New England Region is comprised of three local chapters: Boston, Hartford and Maine. We extend a warm welcome to **Nicholas Dahl, CGFM**, Regional Vice President for New England. Nick is a member and Past President of the Boston Chapter. (Note: Nick was profiled in the June 2005 issue of *Boston's Beacon*.)

### Visit the New England Region online!

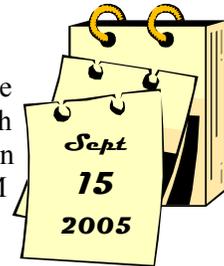
Hartford Chapter at [www.agahartford.org](http://www.agahartford.org)  
Maine Chapter at [www.gwi.net/~aga/](http://www.gwi.net/~aga/)

welcomes **Karen Doyle, CGFM** as its new Chapter President.

The Hartford Chapter thanks **Percy Cave, CGFM** for serving another year. And the Maine Chapter

## Save the Date!

On Thursday, September 15, 2005, the Boston Chapter will hold a lunch meeting at the Harp Restaurant in Boston. William J. Yazbek, CGFM will present SAS 99.



To register please contact Howard Olsher, CGFM at [Howard.Olsher@sao.state.ma.us](mailto:Howard.Olsher@sao.state.ma.us) or via phone at 617-727-6200 or [www.aga-boston-chapter.org](http://www.aga-boston-chapter.org).

Mark your calendar!



## CEC Meeting Highlights

On July 19, 2005, the Chapter Executive Committee met to discuss the following agenda items:

- Recap of the Professional Development Conference in Orlando, FL
- Chapter Participation in the 2006 National Awards
- Chapter Bylaws — update the website and National Office
- Community Service Ideas
- Education — The PDC Scholarship was a success in 2004-2005 so will continue in 2005-2006.
- Membership Update — 226 members, 6 new members, 23 suspended members
- Chapter Finances
- Search for a Professional Certification Director
- The Chapter Executive Committee voted to sponsor a “sock drive” for a local charity. Attendees at an upcoming event will be asked to donate a pair of new socks.

The next CEC meeting is scheduled for August 30, 2005.

## Technical Articles

We would like to include technical articles in future issues of the *Boston's Beacon*. If you are interested in writing an article, please contact Julie Burns at [juliab@osc.state.ma.us](mailto:juliab@osc.state.ma.us).



Please join the Membership Committee in welcoming new member(s) to the Boston Chapter:

**Maureen Duddy**  
Homeland Security OIG

**Andrea Rousseu**  
HHS OIG

**Dante Zamora**  
MA Department of Education

### Membership Update

The Boston Chapter membership includes:

- 217 Active Members
- 6 New Members
- 0 Members Transferred In
- 0 Members Transferred Out
- 29 Suspended Members

\*\*\*\*\*

The Boston Chapter recognizes and thanks the following new member sponsors since May 2005:

- David A. LeBlanc, CGFM..... 2
- Kimberly Rapoza..... 1

### Electronic Notification



To add your name to the *Boston's Beacon* electronic distribution / chapter update list, please send an e-mail to [JuliaB@osc.state.ma.us](mailto:JuliaB@osc.state.ma.us). Thanks!

### From the Editor...

Do you know someone in the Boston Chapter who has recently received promotion, accepted a new position, retired or won an award? Would you like to share your good news with fellow AGA members?

Or maybe you're interested in writing a technical article for an upcoming issue of *Boston's Beacon*.

Please forward submissions for the next issue of *Boston's Beacon* to [JuliaB@osc.state.ma.us](mailto:JuliaB@osc.state.ma.us).



Thanks!

***Most of the arguments to which I am party fall somewhat short of being impressive, knowing to the fact that neither I nor my opponent knows what we are talking about.***

- Rodney Dangerfield

### TRIVIA ANSWER!

It Happened One Night (1934), One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest (1975) and Silence of the Lambs (1991)

## Chapter Recognition Program

The Chapter Recognition Program is designed to support, encourage, and promote the accomplishment of AGA's mission and to provide flexible noncompetitive guidelines for a well-rounded chapter. The Chapter Recognition Program year begins on May 1<sup>st</sup> and concludes on April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Boston Chapter credits as of July 31, 2005 are:

Categories	Maximum Credits	Credits Earned	Credits Allowed	
Leadership, Planning & Participation	3,000	1,325	1,325	44%
Education & Professional Development	4,000	150	150	4%
Certification	4,000	700	700	18%
Communications	3,000	1,867	1,867	62%
Membership	3,000	1,650	1,650	55%
Community Service	2,000	2,300	2,000	115%
Awards	1,000	2,050	1,000	205%
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>10,042</b>	<b>8,692</b>	

## Boston Chapter Balance Sheet July 31, 2005

### Assets

Cash	
Checking Account	\$ 4,438
Savings Account	9,612
Certificates of Deposit	<u>12,632</u>
Total Cash	\$26,682

Accounts Receivable	\$ <u>0</u>
Total Accounts Receivable	\$ <u>0</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$26,682</u>

### Liabilities and Fund Balance

Accounts Payable	\$ 0
Current Fund Balance	<u>26,682</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	<u>\$26,682</u>

*(Calendar Continued from page 1)*

**May 2006**

Annual Awards Dinner

**National**

**November 14-15, 2005**

National Performance Management Conference at the Portland Marriott Downtown, Portland, OR

**June 18-21, 2006**

National Professional Development Conference at San Diego Marriott Hotel & Marina, San Diego, CA

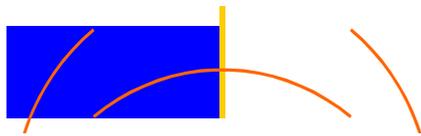
**Chapter History**

We are documenting our chapter's history. Any assistance you can offer is greatly appreciated. If you have information such as past newsletters, photos, names of chapter award winners and scholarship recipients, please contact Julia Burns, CGFM at [JuliaB@osc.state.ma.us](mailto:JuliaB@osc.state.ma.us).

**Chapter Survey**

Don't forget to complete a Chapter Survey! It is located on the home page of our website at [www.aga-boston-chapter.org](http://www.aga-boston-chapter.org).

Thank you to everyone who has already taken a moment to complete the survey!



**Boston's Beacon** is published by the Association of Government Accountants—Boston Chapter.

Comments should be forwarded to [editor@aga-boston-chapter.org](mailto:editor@aga-boston-chapter.org).



**Member News**



**Susan Tefft** of the Massachusetts Department of Education recently passed the final of three exam sections to become a Certified Government Financial Manager.

Sue, who is also a CPA, passed the three-part exam in her first attempt. She was recognized at the National Professional Development Conference in Orlando in July for this achievement.

Congratulations, Sue!



**Certified Government Financial Manager**

The challenge facing today's government financial managers is to keep up with the changing times. New innovations, new developments and new methods of implementation are creating a new environment in which government financial managers must function.

Increasing knowledge and skills is the key to staying abreast of the latest developments. AGA presents a dynamic program of events and courses every year containing solutions, innovations, and technological breakthroughs that you'll need to retain and enhance your CGFM.

The field of government financial management will be far different tomorrow from what it is today. Having a broad knowledge and a recognized professional designation will be the way to distinguish yourself from the crowd. There's no time like the present for joining the thousands of other leaders in government financial management who already have discovered the unique value and benefit of the CGFM designation.

**Update Your Member Contact Information**

Please take a moment or two to review and, if necessary, update your contact information. Your contact information is important because it allows us to keep in touch with you throughout the year!

Your office may have recently updated it's e-mail system and you now have a new e-mail address. Or, you may have moved to a new location within the same organization. Even if there were no changes in the past year, please check your information for spelling, etc.

You can make any updates online at the 'Members Only' page of National's website at [www.aga-cgfm.org](http://www.aga-cgfm.org).

Thank you!



Visit us online at

[www.aga-boston-chapter.org](http://www.aga-boston-chapter.org)

**Speaker Database**

The AGA-Boston Chapter is building a speaker database. Do you know a dynamic speaker who you would like to see at an upcoming educational event? Are you a speaker who would like to be included in the database? Please send the speaker's name, address, phone number, e-mail address and potential topics to Howard Olsher, CGFM at [Howard.Olsher@sao.state.ma.us](mailto:Howard.Olsher@sao.state.ma.us).

Thank you, in advance, for your assistance.

## From the Education Committee

- by Kathie Still, CGFM, VP of Education

Hope everyone is having a great summer. Your Chapter Education Committee has been hard at work scheduling sessions for the upcoming year. We wanted to make certain you plan now to save the dates for the outstanding sessions we have confirmed so far.

As you are aware, we distribute evaluation forms to you at our training sessions. We provide you with the space to suggest topics to us. The Committee reviews these evaluations carefully and uses them as the guide for selecting future sessions.

We are very excited about what we have planned so far and hope you will be as well.

We will begin the year on September 19th with a luncheon presentation on *SAS 99* at The Harp on Causeway Street in Boston. Committee member, Bill Yazbek, who recently retired from Deloitte & Touche, will be our presenter.

On October 20th, we will spend the day at Lombardo's in Randolph. The title of our session is *The Many Faces of Fraud*. We have heard your requests here, and we will be offering four separate speakers who will cover a wide range of fraud issues from consumer fraud to fraud within various government programs. Sign up for this one early!

In January (19th) we are pleased to announce that Mark Abrahams, one of our dedicated long-term members, has agreed to pull together an all-day session on Accountability. This one will focus on setting and managing performance measures, reporting on them and then auditing the measures. The session will touch on the AGA CEAR and SEA reporting. This is a topic that will eventually impact all of us in government, so make plans to start your education on this here and now.

For Bentley, on March 14th, sessions scheduled thus far include: Performing Technology Audits, Benchmarking, a GASB Update, Audit Report Writing, and for those of you who cannot seem to ear enough on the topic, we will offer a session on fraud detection. The committee is in the processing of securing speakers on a number of topics, we will keep you informed a we progress.

We are also in the process of confirming topics and speakers for a half-day session in November and another in April. Our goal this year is to offer you 35 CPEs worth of training.

We hope that you will take full advantage of these training opportunities during the upcoming year and, as always, if you have an idea for a session or know of a really good presenter, feel free to contact one of the committee members.

## GASB Completes Accounting Standards for Termination Benefits

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has issued Statement No. 47, *Accounting for Termination Benefits*. The Statement provides accounting and reporting guidance for state and local governments that offer benefits such as early retirement incentives or severance to employees that are involuntarily terminated. The Statement requires that similar forms of termination benefits be accounted for in the same manner and is intended to enhance both the consistency of reporting for termination benefits and the comparability of financial statements.

Statement 47 specifies when governments should recognize the cost of termination benefits they offer in accrual basis financial statements. Benefits provided for involuntary terminations should be accounted for in the period in which a government becomes obligated to provide benefits to terminated employees, which is not necessarily the same period in which the benefits are actually provided. Regarding benefits provided to employees that voluntarily terminate employment, Statement 47 requires governments to recognize the cost of all such benefits when the termination offer is accepted.

The Statement provides an exception to the general recognition requirements for termination benefits that affect defined benefit postemployment benefits, such as pensions or retiree healthcare. Those termination benefits should be accounted for in the same manner as defined benefit pensions or other postemployment benefits, although any increase in an actuarial accrued liability associated with a termination benefit is required to be separately disclosed.

The Statement also elaborates on how to measure the cost of termination benefits and requires disclosure of information about termination benefit arrangements, including a description of the plan and the cost of the benefits.

In general, Statement 47 is effective for financial statement for periods beginning after June 15, 2005. However, for termination benefits that affect defined benefit postemployment benefits other than pensions, governments should implement Statement 47 simultaneously with Statement No. 45, *Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*. Statement 47 (Product Code GS47) can be ordered through GASB's order department at 800-748-0659 or via its website at [www.gasb.org](http://www.gasb.org).

— [www.gasb.org/news/nr062705.html](http://www.gasb.org/news/nr062705.html)

The GASB is the independent, not-for-profit organization formed in 1984 that establishes and improves financial accounting and reporting standards for state and local governments. Its seven members are drawn from the Board's diverse constituency, including preparers and auditors of government financial statements, users of those statements and members of the academic community.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

### PDC Notes

Over 1,600 people from around the country and around the world attended the AGA National Professional Development Conference (PDC) in Orlando last month. It was held in the Marriott World Center Resort and Conference Center. The hotel has 2,500 rooms and a few of us thought our rooms in the West Tower were in Tallahassee!

At the PDC, the Boston Chapter made donations of items to be raffled in the National Community Service Fundraiser. We donated the following:

- \$75 gift certificate to Legal Seafood
- Boston Red Sox—2004 World Series Champions Hat
- New England Patriots—Super Bowl XXXIX Champions Hat

We couldn't guarantee that either of the hats were won by someone from New York but you can't have everything. The raffle raised \$16,928 during the PDC, half of which will go to the National Community Service Fund and the other half will be donated to the Fisher House, which supports America's military in their time of need by providing "a home away from home" that enables family members to be close to a loved one at the most stressful time—during hospitalization for an illness, disease or injury.

For the second year in a row the Boston Chapter web site won an award at the AGA National Professional Development Conference in Orlando as the best in all the Chapters in Group B (less than 300 members) in the country. Congratulations to our webmaster, Dan Simmons of HHS. We will be trying for a "three peat" next year in San Diego!

The Boston Chapter was awarded the platinum award for chapter recognition at the AGA National Professional Development Conference in Orlando again. This is the highest award that AGA can bestow upon a chapter. Congratulations to the leadership of Julie Burns and to the rest of the chapter membership.

And, most importantly, Howie Olsher of the Massachusetts State Auditor's Office won the National Chapter Service Award in Group B (Chapters with less than 300 members). There were only five of the awards presented for the entire country. This puts Howie in pretty good company.

To AGA Boston Chapter Readers,

I first would like to thank that AGA Boston Chapter for sponsoring me for the 54th Professional Development Conference held at the Orlando World Center Marriott Resort and Convention Center. I would also like to extend my thanks to Ms. Julie Burns who randomly picked my name from a hat, which made me the lucky Boston winner.

As being the lucky pick for the AGA Boston Chapter, I feel I should share a bit of what I thought of the PDC. I promise I will make it brief! First it was A for awesome. The AGA PDC delivered wonderful educational sessions as well as ample time after each session for questions from the participants. The PDC also gave me the opportunity to meet other AGA members, who were very nice and open to share their knowledge and experiences of the financial field.

In conclusion, I would like to strongly encourage non-members to join and perhaps, next year you'll be the lucky one! I can promise you that it will be a rewarding enhancement to your current financial position whether it is governmental or not. However, I can't promise an ice cream on Main Street at Disney, since, I was stood up for Minnie Mouse! I won't mention any names, Dave. Thanks again AGA and Ms. Burns.

With sincere appreciation,

Maria C. Mamakos



(seated l to r) **L. Donaldson, M. Mamakos, J. Burns, D. LeBlanc, S. Perna-Damon and N. Dahl;** (standing l to r) **H. Olsher, L. Olsher and R. Donaldson** enjoy dinner at Disney World's Cape May Restaurant during the PDC in Orlando, FL.

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE**

Thank you!

This has been quite a year for me. I was awarded the prestigious Boston Chapter Mel Partol Award in recognition for dedication and devoted service to the AGA Boston Chapter. On top of that, I was nominated by the Boston Chapter and received the National Chapter Service Award for continuous leadership in the Boston Chapter, New England Region and at the National Level.

I am deeply honored and truly touched to have received these awards. I would like to thank the Boston Chapter Nominating Committee, the National Office and, most importantly, the Boston Chapter membership for these awards.

The awards represent my commitment to the AGA; however, more importantly, the Boston Chapter has given me the opportunity to meet, network and work with dedicated professionals in the federal, state and local governments. Involvement in AGA has allowed me to grow professionally. I cannot say enough about the dedicated individuals in the Boston Chapter and how proud I am to be part of this very special group of people. I would like to thank Auditor Joseph DeNucci, Deputy Auditor Ken Marchurs and former Deputy Auditor Bob Powilatis for their support of my involvement in AGA.

Howard Olsher, CGFM, CFE

**PDC Community Service Raffle  
Raises \$17,000**

Thanks to the generosity of companies and chapters that donated prizes, as well as PDC attendees, \$17,000 was raised during the Annual Community Service Raffle. Half of the money will go to the Fisher Home, which provides lodging to the families of hospitalized military members and the other half will go into the National Community Service Fund.

**Bobby A. Derrick, CGFM Passes  
the Gavel to Sam M. McCall, CGFM**



2004-2005 National President Bobby A. Derrick, CGFM formally passed the gavel to 2005-2006 National President Sam M. McCall at the National PDC.

Sam McCall is the City Auditor for the City of Tallahassee. He is appointed by and works under the administrative direction of the City Commission. As the independent appraiser of city operations, the City Auditor reviews and evaluates activities, both operational and financial, as a service to the City Commission and other Appointed Officials.



**Howard N. Olsher, CGFM, CFE  
National Chapter Service Award Winner**



**Howard N. Olsher, CGFM, CFE receives the National Chapter Service  
Award for Group B from National AGA President Bobby A. Derrick, CGFM**

**Professional Development Opportunities**

**IIA's Northeastern Regional Conference—*Bridging Past and Future...for the Internal Audit Revolution*  
August 28 - 31, 2005**

The Boston IIA Chapter, Ocean State Chapter and the Southern New England Chapter of the Institute of Internal Auditors invite you to join them for an Audit Revolution in Boston, MA on August 28-31, 2005.

The auditing profession is on the verge of a revolution. Driven by increased regulation and corporate scandals, auditing practices are predicted to change dramatically in the years ahead. At the 2005 IIA Conference in Boston, a dynamic lineup of speakers will explore key issues and address topics that will shape the future of auditing. The conference is an opportunity to gain insight, meet with peers, and discover new perspectives that can give your practice a competitive edge. And what better place to meet than historic Boston—a vibrant and exciting city that is no stranger to revolutions.

The 2-1/2 day conference will include the best programs available in 2005, covering five tracks: Risk Management, Governance Issues, Emerging Trends and Best Practices, Fraud and Technology, and Auditing Skills and Professional Growth. The conference incorporates world class speakers like Cynthia Cooper, Tom Wurga, Ed Robinson, and Dr. Chuck Ward, with great speakers from local and national audit shops.

The conference is at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel & Towers, 64 Arlington Street, Boston, MA. Early Bird registration (by July 15, 2005) is \$495 for members and \$545 for non-members and after July 15th registration is \$595 for members and 4645 for non-members.

For additional information about the Regional IIA Conference visit [www.iiaboston2005.org](http://www.iiaboston2005.org).

**New England States GFOA  
September 22-25, 2005**

The Maine Government Finance Officers Association is excited to be hosting the 58th NESGFOA Annual Conference at the beautiful Colony Hotel. They invite you to discover the beauty and charm of this grand ocean front resort hotel splendidly situated in a glorious garden setting above the shimmering Atlantic which promises to offer you a unique experience that you'll never forget.

The local conference committee has put together a great educational program with a wide range of topics. Also offered this year are concurrent sessions to expand the choices available to you during the conference. They are especially pleased to bring David Bean, Director of Research for the Governmental Accounting Standards Board to Maine. He will be speaking at the Thursday afternoon session. They are also pleased to have Gregg Allison from the University of North Carolina's School of Government coming to Maine to do two sessions on Friday morning. Attendees are eligible for approximately 15 CPE credits.

The conference is at the Colony Hotel, Kennebunkport, ME. Early registration (by July 22nd) is \$225 for a regular session and \$150 for 1 day only registration and after June 22nd regular registration is \$275 and 1 day only registration is \$200.

For additional information, please contact Lisa Parker at 202-283-3303.

**Websites of Interest**

American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) .....	<a href="http://www.aspanet.org">www.aspanet.org</a>
MA Chapter of ASPA .....	<a href="http://www.massaspa.net">www.massaspa.net</a>
Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (CFE) .....	<a href="http://www.cfenet.com">www.cfenet.com</a>
Greater Boston Chapter of CFE.....	<a href="http://www.acfc-boston.org">www.acfc-boston.org</a>
First Gov .....	<a href="http://www.firstgov.gov">www.firstgov.gov</a>
Governmental Accounting Standards Board.....	<a href="http://www.gasb.org">www.gasb.org</a>
Government Executive .....	<a href="http://www.govexec.com">www.govexec.com</a>
Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) .....	<a href="http://www.theiia.org">www.theiia.org</a>
IIA Greater Boston Chapter.....	<a href="http://www.theiia.org/chapters//index.cfm/name.page/cid/13">www.theiia.org/chapters//index.cfm/name.page/cid/13</a>
Intergovernmental Audit Forum .....	<a href="http://www.auditforum.org">www.auditforum.org</a>
International Accounts Payable Professionals (IAPP) .....	<a href="http://www.aippnet.org">www.aippnet.org</a>
National Assoc of State Auditors, Comptrollers & Treasurers .....	<a href="http://www.nasact.org">www.nasact.org</a>

## News from National

### AGA's 54th Annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition

AGA kicked off its 54th Annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition in Orlando with more than 1,600 government accountability professionals gathered for "Leadership > Preparing Tomorrow's Accountability Professionals."

The conference brought together participants from federal, state and local governments, the private sector and academia to discuss issues of concern. The conference began with a keynote address from Retired Army General Jack Keane, who talked about his 37 years leading American soldiers and his thoughts on the War on Terrorism.

Rep. Todd R. Platts (R-PA), chairman of the House Subcommittee on Government Management, Finance and Accountability, began his address by complimenting the PDC attendees on their commitment to public service and said his desire to serve dates back to childhood when he learned by the example set by his parents.

David Walker, Comptroller General of the United States, said American needs strong leaders to deal with three critical challenges: the federal budget deficit, the balance of payments crisis and the dangerously low overall savings rate, which is the lowest of any major industrialized country.

Mae C. Menison, MD, the first black African-American woman in space, gave an inspirational talk. She is an engineer as well as the first woman of color to go into space in 1992 aboard the space shuttle Endeavor. She is now an entrepreneur, founding two technology companies, but describes herself as a wannabe dancer who chose to go to medical school after graduating from Stanford University rather than trying to make it in New York City. She left NASA in 1993 to start the Jemison Group, Inc. to focus on the integration of science and technology into everyday life.

Cynthia Cooper, WorldCom's former vice president of internal audit, was an AGA keynote speaker. She was one of Time magazine's 2002 Persons of the Year, one of only eight women to be named in the 77-year history of the magazine's award.

Ms. Cooper said most whistleblowers crack under the enormous strain, plunge into depression or even alcoholism; some lose their families or their homes. While she said her family, friends and faith sustained her while she was at the center of the storm, she and her co-workers suffered intense pressure from the media, investigators and members of the small community of Clinton, MS, where WorldCom was headquartered.

"Courage is acting in the face of fear." —Cynthia Cooper

### National Performance Management Conference

As a capstone to this year's SEA Report review process, a Performance Reporting Conference is planned for November 14-15, in Portland, Oregon. This conference is intended to provide insight into how reports could be prepared by having entities who have participated and/or won recognition in AGA's program share how they implemented and operate their performance systems.

Sessions will present how reports can be used to improve operations, build public trust, and be used for outsourcing and budget justification. The conference will have a nationwide perspective. Program participants and award recipients will be prominently displayed. And when possible Certificates will be presented at the conference. However, we anticipate that not all award recipients will be able to attend, so those will be received in their locale. And as available we will display photos of presentations at their locale.

AGA will offer opportunities for vendors to sponsor at the conference, to allow entities visibility as to what products and services are available to support their performance reporting efforts.

For more information about AGA's Service Efforts & Accomplishments Certificate program for state and local government agencies, visit the National Office website at [www.agacgfm.org](http://www.agacgfm.org).

### Intensive Review Course and CGFM Examinations A Success at PDC

#### AGA recognizes 19 new CGFMs!

Applying for the CGFM Program is the first step toward earning the CGFM certification. The next step is to take the three CGFM examinations. Having the exams administered in a year-round computerized format makes it a convenient way to accommodate candidates' schedules. It is also an opportunity for procrastination.

This year, AGA decided to give its CGFM candidates an extra motivation to complete the CGFM Examinations and earn either CGFM right at the PDC in Orlando. AGA offered a special two-day Intensive Review Course on Thursday and Friday, July 7 and 8, and an opportunity to take the CGFM Examinations during the following two days, July 9 and 10. What made this opportunity even more appealing is the fact that participants only had to pay for the course—the CGFM Examinations were scheduled at no cost.

**2005 - 2006 Officers, Directors and Chairs****David A. LeBlanc, CGFM**

President  
Office: 781-338-6485  
E-mail: dleblanc@doe.mass.edu

**John W. Beveridge, CPA, CGFM**

President-Elect  
Office: 617-727-6200  
E-mail: John.Beveridge@sao.state.ma.us

**Julia P. Burns, CGFM**

Immediate Past President  
Newsletter Editor / Chapter Historian  
Office: 617-973-2452  
E-mail: JuliaB@osc.state.ma.us

**Richard Sullivan, CPA**

Secretary  
Office: 781-937-9322  
E-mail: rsullivan@powersandsullivan.com

**Kimberly D. Rapoza**

Treasurer  
Office: 617-565-2019  
E-mail: kimberly.rapoza@oig.hhs.gov

**Kathleen A. Still, CGFM**

Vice President for Education and Programs  
Office: 617-973-2647  
E-mail: Kathie.Still@osc.state.ma.us

**Christine Donohoe**

Vice President for Planning  
Office: 617-946-4461  
E-mail: cdonohoe@massport.com

**Wallace Alan Franklin, CGFM**

Director of Bylaws and Procedures  
Office: 508-792-7810  
E-mail: Wallace.Franklin@SAO.state.ma.us

**Joseph Valchuis**

Director of Professional Certification  
Office: 617-727-0025  
E-mail: jvalchuis@rcn.com

**Margaret E. Carr, CPA, CGFM**

Director of Community Service  
Office: 617-723-5059  
E-mail: MECCPA@aol.com

**Susan Tefft, CPA, CGFM**

Director of Membership  
Office: 781-338-6589  
E-mail: stefft@doe.mass.edu

**Howard Olsher, CGFM, CFE**

Director of Registration  
Office: 617-727-6200  
E-mail: Howard.Olsher@sao.state.ma.us

**William Muench, CPA, CGFM**

Director of Scholarships and Awards  
Office: 508-490-4019  
E-mail: wmuench@DCAA.mil

**Mary T. Leyden, CGFM**

Career Day Chair  
Tel: 617-236-1630

**Daniel Simmons**

Webmaster  
E-mail: webmaster@aga-boston-chapter.org



Association of Government Accountants  
Boston Chapter  
17 Pleasant Street  
Malden, MA

[www.aga-boston-chapter.org](http://www.aga-boston-chapter.org)

