

Calendar of Events

Boston Chapter

December 8, 2005

Annual Holiday Charity Luncheon at Maggiano's Little Italy, Boston to benefit Christmas in the City

January 19, 2006

Winter Seminar at Volpe Center, Cambridge with Mark Abrahams and Jay Fountain presenting *Accountability Reporting*

February 16, 2006

Winter Workshop at the Federal Reserve Bank on a topic TBD

March 14, 2006

Regional Professional Development Conference at Bentley College, Waltham

April 13, 2006

Spring Workshop (Location and topic TBD)

June 2, 2006

Annual Awards Dinner aboard the
(Continued on page 4)

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Let there be joy in our laughter, love in our thoughts, hope in our lives and peace in our hearts.

— The Chapter Executive Committee

Annual Holiday Charity Luncheon

Date	Thursday, December 8, 2005	Price	Members: \$20 and Non-members: \$25 Note: Each chapter member who brings one or more non member guests will receive a \$10 discount for the event and their guest(s) will be allowed to register at the member price.
Time	11:30 - 12:00 Registration and the opportunity to network 12:00 - 12:30 Lunch 12:30 - 1:30 Charity Event	Registration	You can register by contacting Howard Olsher, CGFM at 617-727-6200 or online at www.aga-boston-chapter.org .
Place	Maggiano's Little Italy Restaurant, 4 Columbus Avenue, Boston	Registration Deadline	December 5, 2005

As in previous years, we are sponsoring a raffle table at our Annual Holiday Charity Luncheon. We will donate the proceeds from our raffle to **Christmas in the City**, a local organization that provides a fun-filled party for children (and their parents) from local homeless shelters.

We are asking attendees to consider bringing a new, unwrapped toy and/or personal hygiene items to the luncheon. These items will help **Christmas in the City** ensure that each guest receives a holiday gift.



President's Message

Later this month we officially start the Winter Season. Funny how the calendar and the white stuff all over my lawn don't seem to coordinate and wait until we're ready. However, once we get past the shortest day of the year it's all up hill from there.

Mark your appointment books. On December 8th we will be hosting our annual Holiday Party at Maggiano's in Boston. This is a great chance to socialize with your friends and get together with other members. Non-members are invited and very welcome. More on this and a chance to save money in this newsletter and on the web site.

Beyond the party is a chance to help out others. This is also a very important charity event benefiting Christmas in the City. As part of the Holiday Party we hold our Community Service fundraising raffle. If you have any items that you could donate it would be greatly appreciated. Remember, it's tax deductible. All proceeds from this raffle will benefit Christmas in the City. We will also be collecting toys and personal hygiene items to be donated to their program. Please help out in any way you can.

Last month we had a lunch meeting at the Harp restaurant in Boston on November 17th covering the topic of GASB Updates. Eric Berman, Boston Chapter Member and Deputy Comptroller of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts spoke to the members about the changes and ramifications regarding these topics. Our thanks again to Eric for his time and knowledge.

For education next month we will have a full-day session at the Volpe Building in Cambridge covering the topic of Accountability. Speaking will be long time Boston Chapter member and trainer extraordinaire, Mark Abraham and Jay Fountain. Details regarding the session and registration information are elsewhere in this newsletter and on our web site.

Any member that has attended at least one of our first three trainings is in the running to win our chapter scholarship to the National AGA Professional Developmental Conference in San Diego next June. If you are not a member but have attended at least one training session, you are also in the running if you join AGA by the last training session in April. Eligibility is for members that attend five out of seven offered training sessions.

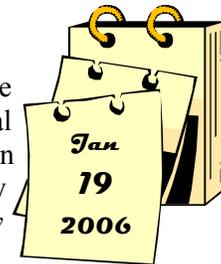
Whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, or Kwanzaa I hope you have a great Holiday Season. Looking forward to seeing you at the Holiday Party. If not, see you in 2006.

Till *next year*, thanks for your support.

- DAVE

Save the Date!

On Thursday, January 19, 2006 the Boston Chapter will host its annual Winter Seminar at the Volpe Center in Cambridge. Mark Abrahams and Jay Fountain will present *Accountability Reporting*.



To register please contact Howard Olsher, CGFM at Howard.Olsher@sao.state.ma.us or via phone at 617-727-6200 or www.aga-boston-chapter.org.

Annual Holiday Party Discount

At the Boston Chapter of the AGA December Holiday Party, each chapter member that brings one or more non member guests will receive a **\$10 discount** for the event and their guest(s) will be allowed to register at the member price.

Also, any non-members that attend and then register as an AGA Boston Chapter member will receive a certificate for \$10 to use at a future chapter sponsored event.

Maggiano's Restaurant is always a great host with excellent food. This event is our major annual charitable fundraiser. We will have a variety of raffle gifts with all proceeds going to our designated charity, *Christmas in the City*.

We are asking everyone that attends to please bring a toy and / or personal hygiene items to be donated to the program.



Christmas in the City

The idea of Christmas in the City was formulated by John "Jake" and Patricia "Sparky" Kennedy. They wanted to expose their children to those people less fortunate than them.

The first Christmas in the City event in 1989 brought 165 children with their parents in tow from various shelters throughout the City of Boston to City Hall. Each child was given an individually purchased gift, taken from their wish list, from Santa. Entertainment and a holiday meal were also provided.

The growth of the program has been spectacular. The current edition of the Christmas party is held at the Bayside Expo and will host over 1500 children. There will be games, rides and performers along with a seven-course meal...and, of course, Santa.



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

Biruk Gebreamlak

MA Operational Services Division

Ronald Honesty

MA Department of Education

Sharon Sims, CPA

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

David Thomas

MA Operational Services Division

Gerald Wright

MA Department of Education

Membership Update

The Boston Chapter membership includes:

- 241 Active Members
- 15 New Members
- 0 Members Transferred In
- 0 Members Transferred Out
- 16 Suspended Members

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

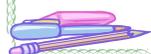
- David A. LeBlanc, CGFM..... 5
- Terrence P. McCarthy, CGFM..... 2
- Howard N. Olsher, CGFM..... 1
- Kimberly D. Rapoza 1
- William H. Withrow 1

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 [Julia Burns@osc.state.ma.us](mailto:Julia.Burns@osc.state.ma.us).



Thanks!

Did you know...

...that the geographic center of Massachusetts is the Town of Rutland?



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 1st and concludes on April 30th.

Boston Chapter credits as of October 31, 2005 are:

Categories	Maximum Credits	Credits Earned	Credits Allowed	% of Avail
Leadership, Planning & Participation	3,000	3,675	3,000	100%
Education & Professional Development	4,000	1,975	1,975	49%
Certification	4,000	2,275	2,275	57%
Communications	3,000	4,165	3,000	100%
Membership	3,000	1,575	1,575	53%
Community Service	2,000	26,275	2,000	100%
Awards	1,000	2,250	1,000	100%
Total	20,000	42,190	14,825	

**Boston Chapter Balance Sheet
October 31, 2005**

Assets

Cash	
Checking Account	\$ 2,805
Savings Account	8,129
Certificates of Deposit	<u>12,726</u>
Total Cash	\$23,660

Accounts Receivable	
Lombardo's	\$ 4,329
Total Accounts Receivable	<u>4,329</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$27,989</u>

Liabilities and Fund Balance

Accounts Payable	\$ 0
Current Fund Balance	<u>27,989</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	<u>\$27,989</u>

(Calendar Continued from page 1)
Spirit Elite with a cruise around Boston Harbor.

New England Region

May 16-18, 2006

The Maine Chapter is sponsoring "Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting" of the Government Financial Manager Series.

National

February 2-3, 2006

National Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C.

June 18-21, 2006

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

November Lunch Meeting

On November 17th, thirty members and guests listened to a presentation on the subject of *GASB Updates* by chapter member, **Eric Berman, CPA** at the Harp Restaurant in Boston. One CPE was awarded at this lunch meeting.

Eric, who is Deputy Comptroller of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, graciously volunteered to present on this subject. He discussed a variety of current and upcoming changes including, Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosure, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Impairment of Capital Assets and for Insurance Recoveries, Economic Condition Reporting and Accounting for Termination Benefits.

Eric is a member of the Association of Government Accountants, AICPA, MA Society of CPAs and is the Chairman of the Government Accounting and Auditing Committee of the Society. He also serves on GASB's Derivatives project and GASB's Environmental remediation project.

On behalf of the chapter, we thank Eric for his time and sharing his experience.

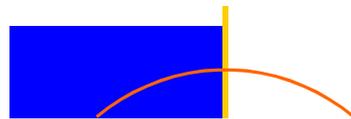
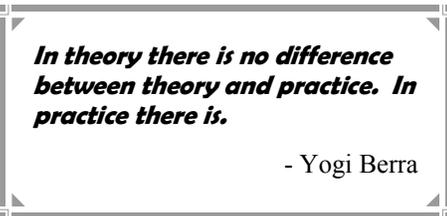
GASB Exposure Draft

In response to increased constituent interest, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) issued an exposure draft designed to clarify existing guidance on accounting for sales and pledges of receivables and future revenues.

Specifically, the proposal will address whether certain transactions should be regarded as sale or a collateralized borrowing. Such transactions are likely to comprise the sale of delinquent taxes, certain mortgages, student loans or future revenues such as those arising from tobacco settlement agreements.

For more information about the exposure draft including downloading a copy, visit www.gasb.org. GASB encourages interested individuals and organizations to comment through written response. The deadline for submitting comments is December 30, 2005.

GASB is an independent, private-sector, not-for-profit organization that—through an open and thorough due process—establishes and improves standards of financial accounting and reporting for US state and local governments. Governments and the accounting industry recognize the GASB as the official source of generally accepted accounting principals (GAAP) for state and local governments.



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

Comments should be forwarded to Julia. Burns@osc.state.ma.us.



Websites of Interest

- American Society for Public Admin (ASPA) www.aspanet.org
- MA Chapter of ASPA www.massaspa.net
- Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (CFE) www.cfenet.com
- Greater Boston Chapter of CFE..... www.acfc-boston.org
- Association of Government Accountants www.agacgfm.org
- AGA Boston Chapter www.aga-boston-chapter.org
- AGA Hartford Chapter www.agahartford.org
- AGA Maine Chapter www.gwi.net/~aga/
- First Gov www.firstgov.gov
- Governmental Accounting Standards Board..... www.gasb.org
- Government Executive www.govexec.com
- Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) www.theiia.org
- IIA Greater Boston Chapter..... www.theiia.org/chapters//index.cfm/name.page/cid/13
- Intergovernmental Audit Forum www.auditforum.org
- International Accounts Payable Professionals (IAPP) www.aippnet.org
- National Assoc of State Auditors, Comptrollers & Treasurers www.nasact.org

Meet the Chapter Executive Committee...



Susan Tefft, CPA,
CGFM

Susan A. Tefft, CPA, CGFM has been the Membership Chair for the Boston Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants for over a year now. As the Membership Chair, Sue is responsible for recruiting and welcoming new members and retaining current members of the chapter.

Sue began her career as a student at Merrimack College. While at Merrimack, Sue participated in a Cooperative Education Program, which allows student

to work in paid career-related jobs while pursuing an undergraduate degree. As a Co-op student, Sue spent three of her four Co-op internships working for Deloitte & Touche LLP in Boston. As an intern for Deloitte, Sue had the opportunity to work on various clients, but spent most of her time on the audit of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In May 1999, Sue graduated Magna Cum Laude from Merrimack with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration with concentrations in Accounting & Finance. From there, Sue joined Deloitte on a full time basis and began a 6-year career in Auditing. As an auditor for Deloitte, Sue chose to focus her attention on the Public Sector. She feels that her biggest contribution while working for Deloitte was her many years spent on the audit of the Commonwealth, which combined with her internships totaled eight annual audits.

Aside from the time she spent auditing the Commonwealth, Sue was able to spend her evenings enjoying the various classes that she took in order to obtain her Certificate in Culinary Arts from North Shore Community College. She also obtained certifications as a Certified Public Accountant and a Certified Government Financial Manager during her 6 years at Deloitte. Sue took part as an instructor at the annual Yellow Book training held by Deloitte and was a member of the following organizations: the Massachusetts Society of CPAs, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Government Finance Officers Association, the American Women's Society of Certified Public Accountants and the Association of Government Accountants.

This past June, Sue decided to make a career change and she now serves the citizens of the Commonwealth by working in the Budget Office of the Massachusetts Department of Education in Malden. By making this change, Sue hopes to focus her attention and abilities in Governmental Accounting on a full-time basis.

As a final note, Sue would like to thank Dan Bonnette and Bill Yazbek for all of the support that they gave her during her career at Deloitte. Without their support and leadership, her interest in Government Accounting would not be as strong as it is today.



CEC Meeting Highlights

The Boston Chapter Executive Committee had a virtual meeting on November 8, 2005 to vote on the following proposal:

To attempt to increase membership and to increase the attendance at the December Holiday Party, each chapter member who brings one or more non-member guests be allowed a \$10 discount for the event and their guest(s) be allowed to register at the member price. Further, any non-member who attend and register as an AGA Boston Chapter member will receive a certificate for \$10 to use at a future chapter sponsored event.

With a vote of 11 "yes," 0 "no" and 2 "abstentions" the proposal to offer a discount to the Holiday Party passed. The discount information will be included in the next newsletter and on the web site.

The next CEC meeting is scheduled for November 29, 2005.

AGA — Boston Chapter Annual PDC Scholarship

The AGA-Boston Chapter is awarding one paid annual registration fee to the Association of Government Accountants 2006 Annual Professional Development Conference. (Value is approximately \$900.) The conference is to be held in San Diego, CA on June 18-21, 2006.

To be eligible for this award, an individual must have attended at least five (5) of the seven (7) educational sessions sponsored and held by the Boston Chapter offering CPEs from September 2005 through April 2006. The individual must be a Boston Chapter member prior to the drawing that will be held in April 2006.

The award will be drawn at random from those meeting the eligibility through the last training session in April 2006. This award is not transferable by the recipient. However, an alternate(s) will be drawn in the event that the primary recipient cannot or chooses not to attend.



How Do I Maintain a CGFM?

The requirements for retaining your CGFM certification are as follows:

1. Pay the CGFM renewal fee at the beginning of every year.
2. Adhere to the AGA Code of Ethics.
3. Complete at least 80 hours of continuing professional education (CPE) every two years in government financial management topics or related technical subjects. During the first year of your CPE cycle, you must earn at least 20 hours of CPE. By close of your second year of the cycle, you must have earned at least 80 hours of CPE. Your first CPE cycle starts on January 1st of the year following the one when your CGFM is earned.
4. Maintain and, if requested by AGA, provide detailed information on CPE hours completed. (Please do not send your CPE documentation at this time).

Individuals not in compliance with the above requirements may not present themselves as a "CGFM" (either in writing or orally) or display the CGFM certificate.

Individuals who are retired from and are no longer substantially working in the government financial management community are not required to remit the CGFM renewal fee or earn the required 80 CPE hours, but should notify AGA of their retirement status.

If you are unable to renew your certification because you have not fulfilled the CPE requirement or if you have questions about your CPE cycle, please contact the Office of Professional Certification by calling 1-800-AGA-7211.

CGFM Renewal Cycles

If you received your certification in certification in 1994, 1995, 1997, 1999, 2001 or 2003, the end of your renewal cycle is December 31, 2005.

CGFMs who have not completed the required number of CPE hours for any two-year period will have the three months (January 1 - March 31) immediately following the two-year period to make up the deficiency. Any CPE hours completed toward a deficiency in one period should be documented in the CPE records and may not be counted toward the requirements for the next two-year period.

CPE Rule of Thumb: If CGFM was awarded in an even year, every CPE cycle will also end on an even year (Exception: 1994 follows the odd years schedule). Your award date can be found on your CGFM certificate and your annual CGFM renewal card.

AGA Membership Drive

AGA's National President, Sam M. McCall, CGFM, has challenged **EVERY** member to recruit at least **1** new member into AGA before the close of the membership year, April 30, 2006. We are aiming to have a net growth in membership this year, the first time since 1999! That's why we are calling this year's recruitment campaign **-Go For Growth.**

Remember, recruitment is so very important for a strong and viable AGA. Now's the time to **Go For Growth!** Recruit six new members by December 31, 2005 and receive your next year's membership renewal free from the AGA National Office.

Membership applications are available on the website and on page 11 of this newsletter. The Boston Chapter of the AGA will award a paid annual membership to the top chapter recruiter of the year. The following photo is documentation of one of our members reaching out to a prospective new member.



**Former President George Bush
and Boston Chapter Member Bill Yazbek!**



TRIVIA QUESTION!

Title: New England

What is the only airport in New England with a runway big enough to handle a landing of NASA's Space Shuttle?
Hint: It's not Logan Airport.

Answer found elsewhere in the newsletter.

Accounting Enrollment, New Hires Increase

A new report says enrollment in accounting programs continues to climb, as do the number of new hires. The AICPA report, *Supply of Accounting Graduates and the Demand for Public Accounting Recruits*, was based on a survey conducted of U.S. colleges and universities that offer accounting degrees at the bachelor's, master's or Ph.D. level, and a survey of public accounting firms and sole practitioners affiliated with the AICPA. Highlights of this year's report:

- For the four-year period 2000-2004,

enrollments in accounting programs are up 19% (to 171,000 in 2004).

- Since 2000, accounting graduates are also up 19%.
- The increase in enrollments from 2003 to 2004 was 1.5%.
- The number of bachelor's degree recipients (40,400) increased 9% compared to 2003.
- The number of master's degrees awarded in 2004 (13,350) increased 5.4% for the same period.
- In 2004, there was a 17% increase in the number of new accounting

graduate hires by firms compared to 2003.

— AICPA

To read the entire article, go to <http://accountingeducation.com/index.cfm?page=newsdetails&id=141703>.



TRIVIA ANSWER!

Pease International Tradeport in Portsmouth, NH

AGA - Boston Chapter Annual Awards — Brief Descriptions

AGENCY CHAPTER SERVICE AWARD

Purpose: To recognize an agency that has made significant contributions to the AGA.

Eligibility: All agencies that have exhibited support for the AGA are eligible for the award.

Criteria: The award is given for outstanding support provided by an agency to the local Chapter or National AGA. Eligible agencies will have consistently made important contributions in support of the development and enhancement of AGA.

2005 Award Winner—Massachusetts State Auditor's Office

ANNUAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Purpose: To accord recognition for leadership or outstanding achievement in developing, implementing, and improving financial management in government service in the past year.

Eligibility: The individual nominated must have been employed in government service at the time the work being recognized was performed. Nominees do not have to be members of the AGA.

Criteria: Selection criteria for the award will be generally limited to achievements accomplished during the preceding calendar year.

2005 Award Winner—Sandra Comerford

MEL PARTOL MEMORIAL AWARD

Purpose: To recognize an individual for superior dedicated service that enhanced the Chapter.

Eligibility: Any AGA member of the Boston Chapter.

Criteria: Superior and dedicated service will be considered

on a broad basis of acts, achievements or service that enhanced the prestige of the Boston Chapter, enabled the Chapter to provide greater service to its membership, or brought a sense of continued dedication to the Boston Chapter.

2005 Award Winner—Howard N. Olsher, CGFM, CFE

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Purpose: To annually recognize an AGA - Boston Chapter member who has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to volunteer community service by participating in a volunteer community service project or projects.

Eligibility: Current AGA - Boston Chapter member.

Criteria: Superior and dedicated volunteer community service will be considered on a broad basis of acts, achievements or service.

2005 Award Winner—David A. LeBlanc, CGFM

CHAPTER EDUCATION AWARD

Purpose: To annually recognize an AGA - Boston Chapter member who has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to providing educational opportunities to the AGA and other regional groups.

Eligibility: Current AGA - Boston Chapter member.

Criteria: Superior and dedicated educational service will be considered on a broad basis of acts, achievements or service.

New Award for 2006

For more information about the AGA - Boston Chapter Awards, visit our website at www.aga-boston-chapter.org.

Subject: You know you've lived in 2005 when...

1. You accidentally enter your password on the microwave.
2. You haven't played solitaire with real cards in years.
3. You have a list of 15 phone numbers to reach your family of three.
4. You e-mail your friend who works at the desk next to you.
5. Your reason for not staying in touch with friends is that they do not have e-mail addresses.
6. When you go home after a long day at work you still answer the phone in a business manner.
7. When you make phone calls from home, you accidentally insert a "9" to get an outside line.
8. You've sat at the same desk for four years and worked for three different agencies.
10. Your calendar is on a disk in your pocket.
11. You learn about your redundancy on the 11 o'clock news.
12. Your biggest loss from a system crash was when you lost all of your best jokes.
13. Your boss doesn't have the ability to do your job.
14. Contractors outnumber permanent staff and are more likely to get long-service awards.
15. Top manager's salaries are higher than all the Third World countries annual budgets combined.
16. Interviewees, despite not having the relevant knowledge or experience, terminate the interview when told of the starting salary.
17. Free food left over from meetings is your staple diet.
18. Your boss gets a brand-new state-of-the-art laptop with all the latest features, but you have time to go for lunch while yours boots up.
19. Being sick is defined as you can't walk or you're in hospital.
20. There's no money in the budget for the five permanent staff your department desperately needs, but they can afford four full-time management consultants advising your boss's boss on strategy.
21. Your relatives and family describe your job as "works with computers".

AND THE CLINCHERS ARE...

22. You read this entire list, and kept nodding and smiling.
23. As you read this list, you think about forwarding it to your "friends"
24. You get lists like this from a friend that never talks to you anymore, except to send you jokes from the net.
25. AND YOU ARE TOO BUSY TO NOTICE THAT THERE WAS NO #9

Professional Development Opportunities

Southern New England Chapter of IIA 2005-2006 Educational Programs

The Southern New England Chapter of the Institute of Internal Auditors is pleased to offer the following educational programs during the 2005-2006 Chapter year:

December 8, 2005 — **Quality Assessment, Part II**
presented by Mike Piazza

March 2006 (date TBD) — **Performance Audit / Managing Change** presented by Jeff Berk

Full Day Seminar: Member \$195 / Non-member \$245

Half Day Seminar: Member \$95 / Non-member \$120

For more information, visit www.theiia.org/chapters/index.cfm?act=home.page&cid=51.

Ocean State Chapter of IIA 2005-2006 Educational Programs

The Ocean State Chapter of the Institute of Internal Auditors is offering the following training sessions:

February 13-15, 2006 — **Foundations of ACL: Concepts and Practices** (Space is limited to 12 participants so please register early to get a spot!) This is a 3-day training session designed for beginner to intermediary level user of ACL. The course will be presented by an ACL trainer.

Registration fee for members is \$800 and non-members \$900. To register contact Cheryl Silva at csilva@cucf.org or 401-233-4718. Registration deadline is January 20, 2006. Attendees will earn 25 CPE hours. The training will be at the Credit Union Central Falls, 1005 Douglas Pike, Smithfield, RI. For more information, go to www.theiia.org/chapters/index.cfm/view.event_detail/cid/160/event_id/7703.

March 23, 2006 — **Fraud 2006** (In conjunction with the RI CFEs) This course explores current fraud-related challenges facing auditors and their organizations and provides practical proven solutions to real problems. The program is high participative. Courtenay M. Thompson, Jr. is the speaker.

Registration fee for members is \$75 and non-members \$85. To register contact Carolee Pimentel at 508-949-4499 or cpiment@commerceinsurance.com. The registration deadline is March 17, 2006. Attendees will earn 8 CPE hours. The training is at Chelo's Restaurant, Post Road, Warwick, RI. For more information, go to www.theiia.org/chapters/index.cfm/view.event_detail/cid/160/event_id/7793.

April 26, 2006 — **IT Auditing: General Controls Review & Auditing LANS/WANS** (Save the date! Details to follow.)

Information Systems Audit and Control Association January 12, 2006

The New England Chapter of the Information Systems Audit and Control Association is offering **Compliance with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act: What Happened and What's Next** on Thursday, January 12th. This seminar will be instructed by "real-world" experts that are "in the trenches" helping companies comply with SOX.

The target audience for this seminar includes IT auditors, internal auditors, CISAs, CISSPs, controllers, accountants, compliance managers, information technology managers, CFOs, CIOs, CEOs, security personnel, business and financial analysts and risk managers.

The registration fee for members is \$75 and non-members \$125. To register go to www.isacane.org/meeting_detail/2005-2006/January_12,2006.htm.

Institute of Internal Auditors Conferences in Boston, MA

The Institute of Internal Auditors is offering the following educational programs during the summer of 2006:

- Jul 24-26 Auditing Investment Activities
- Jul 24-26 Effective Auditing of Construction Activity
- Jul 24-26 Enterprise Risk Management: What's New? What's Next? (featuring COSO's ERM Framework)
- Jul 24-26 Fighting Fraudulent Financial Reporting
- Jul 24-26 Introduction to Control Self-assessment
- Jul 24-26 Quality Assessment of the Audit Activity (includes Internal Assessor/Validator Accreditation Exam)
- Jul 24-26 Strategies for Managing the Small Audit Shop
- Jul 24-28 Introduction to IT Auditing (IIA/Deloitte)
- Jul 24-28 Operational Auditing
- Jul 24-28 Tools and Techniques for the Beginning Auditor
- Jul 26-28 Auditing Derivative Strategies
- Jul 26-28 Countdown to Internal Quality Assessment: Are You Ready?
- Jul 26-28 Enterprise Software Implementation for Auditors (IIA/Deloitte)
- Jul 26-28 Facilitating Results Using CSA
- Jul 26-28 Financial Auditing for Internal Auditors
- Jul 26-28 SOX Primer: Charting Your Course

For additional information on these trainings, visit the IIA web site at <http://www.theiia.org/?act=iia.trainingcalendar>.

News from National

Hurricane Relief Effort Tops \$17,500!

There's still time to contribute to AGA's Hurricane Katrina Relief Effort. More than \$17,500 has been raised to date and the funds will be distributed to AGA Chapters in the Gulf region. Make your checks payable to AGA, note "Hurricane Relief Effort" in the memo and send them to AGA, 2208 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22301-1314. To contribute via credit card, please contact John Harris with the Finance Department at 703.562.0360, or fax your information to 703.519.0039. All donations are tax deductible (Federal Tax ID #53-0217158). If you have questions, please contact the AGA National Office at 800.242.7211. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Note: The Boston, Hartford and Maine Chapters contributed to the AGA Hurricane Relief Funds. In addition,, some of our members made a contribution.

— The Editor

Annual National Leadership Conference

Join us! Make plans now to attend AGA's Fourth Annual National Leadership Conference (NLC) to be held February 2-3, 2006 in Washington, D.C. The NLC is an extraordinary educational and networking event designed for government financial managers by government financial managers.

As a government finance professional, you perform an important public service in often difficult circumstances. The demands made of you are many, the resources available to you often few, and we are all witnessing the rapid multiplication of rules which goes hand-in-hand with ever-increasing workloads.

In these circumstances, it pays to seek out the best training available—training that exposes you to top leaders in the field, teaches you the ins and outs of the newest regulations and trends, and provides you with unparalleled opportunities to exchange ideas with your colleagues.

AGA's National Leadership Conference provides just this sort of training. Gain the education you need to further your own career and better serve the public interest.

The NLC will bring together the biggest thinkers from all three levels of government, as well as from the private sector and academia. You will have the opportunity to earn 14 CPE hours at dynamic, comprehensive sessions, share best practices, view exhibits of the latest technological advancement and meet your peers in the field.

All this and more awaits you at NLC 2006—register today!

AGA National Awards and Scholarships

A Proud Tradition—Paying Tribute to the Best and the Brightest

The National Awards are presented at the annual Professional Development Conference and Exposition. They primarily recognize individuals for their contributions to the Association.

- Robert W. King Memorial Award
- Einorn-Gary Award
- Frank Greathouse Distinguished Leadership Award
- Achievement of the Year Award
- Educator Award
- Cornelius E. Tierney/Ernst & Young Research Award
- Special Achievement Award
- Chapter Education Award
- Chapter Service Award
- Community Service Award

The deadline for receipt of nominations for the 2006 awards is March 3, 2006. The Awards Committee will select the award recipients by April 7, 2006. And, the recipients will receive their awards at the PDC in San Diego on July 18-21, 2006.

The National Scholarship deadline for receipt of applications is March 31, 2006. And the Awards Committee will select the scholarship recipients by May 5, 2006.

For more information about the National Awards and Scholarships, visit www.agacgfm.org/membership/awards/.

Special Opportunity!

Sign up for AGA's Intensive Review Course and take the CGFM Examinations this February in Washington, D.C.

The Intensive Review Course will take place on February 1-2, 2006. The CGFM Examinations will be offered by appointment only on February 3-4, 2006. The cost of the course is only \$195 for qualified participants, and it offers 16 CPE hours. Special Bonus: the CGFM Examinations taken during this event are free of charge!

Pre-registration is required. This is a special limited enrollment offer for those individuals who have already been studying for the CGFM Examinations and need extra reinforcement of the material. Only the individuals who register and attend the Intensive Review Course will have the opportunity to take the CGFM Examinations on February 3-4, 2006. Participants must have satisfied the education and experience requirements for the CGFM prior to registering for this event.



Membership Application

New Member Check here if renewing

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Responsibility Area:

- Accounting Budgeting Financial Management Management Academia
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How did you hear about AGA?

- Friend/Co-Worker AGA/Chapter AGA Conference Employer AGA Website
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Age:

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Please list any other financial management or accounting associations you are a member of:

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III. Sponsor's Name

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IV. Membership Data/Dues

Please choose a membership category and fill in the appropriate dues from the list on the back of this application. Retired? Call the AGA Customer Satisfaction Center at 800.AGA.7211 to find out about our retired membership category.

- Full Government**—\$90/year—This class of membership requires three or more years of government experience, involving the professional performance of financial management activities in an operational, administrative and/or supervisory capacity. This class is also available to individuals with similar experience outside the government who are engaged in educational activities having the same objectives as the Association, or who have made a contribution toward the improvement of government financial management.
 Private Sector—\$150/year—This class of membership is available to individuals working for commercial activities/ventures that are actively engaged in and support AGA's purpose and objectives.
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Dues

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www.agacgfm.org
agamembers@agacgfm.org

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: Julia.Burns@osc.state.ma.us

Richard Sullivan, CPA

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

Kimberly D. Rapoza, CPA

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: wmunch@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

