

Calendar of Events

Boston Chapter

February 16, 2006

Winter Workshop at the Federal Reserve Bank Building on *Spend Management* presented by Gary Lambert of CGI

March 14, 2006

Regional Professional Development Conference at Bentley College, Waltham

April 13, 2006

Spring Workshop at the O'Neill Federal Building on *Interviewing the Auditee* presented by John Sullivan of the SAO

June 2, 2006

Annual Awards Dinner aboard the Spirit Elite with a cruise around Boston Harbor.

New England Region

February 14, 2006

The Maine Chapter is sponsoring a Chapter Meeting with guest speaker

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Spend Management

Winter Workshop on February 16, 2006

Spend management means different things to different people. What sounds like a simple concept and approach on the surface is really a complex business transformation effort for government and the private sector.

- Does spend management save government money, and is this direct dollars or administrative savings?
- How do you count the savings from spend management?
- What type of people do I need to have a successful spend management program?
- What are the impediments to generating savings and transforming the business process in government?
- What makes this different from outsourcing?

(Continued on page 5)

Gary Lambert is a senior member of CGI-AMS Public Sector Group where he serves as Vice President for Spend Management Solutions. At CGI-AMS, Mr. Lambert manages Spend Management initiatives with a focus on the public sector. He is also the solutions architect for the Commonwealth of Virginia's nationally recognized, award winning eVA eprocurement system. Mr. Lambert also spearheaded the development and

(Continued on page 5)

Winter Workshop

Date	Thursday, February 16, 2006	CPE	4.0 CPE hours
Time	8:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m. Registration 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Program	Place	Federal Reserve Bank Building 600 Atlantic Avenue, Boston, MA
Price*	Members: \$40 and Non-members: \$50	Registration	You can register by contacting Howard Olsher, CGFM at 617-727-6200 or online at www.aga-boston-chapter.org .
Program	Gary Lambert of CGI-AMS will present <i>Spend Management</i>	Registration Deadline	February 13, 2006

President's Message

February, the shortest month of the year.

We start with Groundhog Day. So let me understand this, if the little guy sees his shadow we get six more weeks of winter. The TV crews have so many lights on this critter he can't help but see his shadow. I swear he's come out of the hole wearing sunglasses. He knows what's coming.

Our monthly holiday in February is President's Day. I won't ask for a show of hands, but how many people remember when instead there was no school for both Lincoln's birthday and Washington's birthday in February. If only one of them was born in August!

Last month we had a full-day session at the Volpe Building in Cambridge. As always, Boston Chapter Member Mark Abraham and Jay Fountain were great in their session covering the topic of Accountability. We are, again, in Mark's and Jay's debt for volunteering to present to the chapter.

For education this month we will have a half-day, morning session at the Federal Reserve Building in Boston covering the topic of Spend Management. Speaking will be Gary Lambert of CGI Spend Solutions Management Practice. Details regarding the session and registration information are elsewhere in this newsletter and on our web site.

In the midst of the month Red Sox pitchers and catchers report to Fort Myers and we will see them on TV jogging around in the warm weather while we shovel up the walk and driveway.

When we get to the end of the month we can hopefully see the end of the tunnel and start thinking about spring. Rain instead of snow can be a welcome sight.

Till next month, thanks for your support.

- DAVE

Save the Date!

On Tuesday, March 14, 2006 the Boston Chapter will host its annual Regional Professional Development Conference at Bentley College, Waltham. The conference will offer 10 tracks and attendees will earn 8 CPEs. For more details please see pages 11-12.



To register please contact Maria Mamakos at mmamakos@doe.mass.edu or via phone at 781-338-6537 or www.aga-boston-chapter.org.



TRIVIA QUESTION!

Title: U.S. Geography

Which four of the fifty states are actually "Commonwealths"?

Answer found elsewhere in the newsletter.

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.

As of the publication of this newsletter there are **31** individuals that have that have met the membership and attendance eligibility and an additional **16** non-members that have currently met the attendance eligibility.



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

Brenda Delasanta
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Go for Growth!

As part of the membership recruitment campaign, *Go for Growth*, a total of thirteen AGA members will receive complimentary national membership dues for the 2006-2007 year for sponsoring six or more new members before the initiative's deadline of December 31, 2005.



Congratulations to Boston Chapter President **David A. LeBlanc, CGFM** who recruited six new members before December 31st!

**Go for Growth!
Membership Update**

The Boston Chapter membership includes:

- 246 Active Members
- 20 New Members
- 0 Members Transferred In
- 0 Members Transferred Out
- 15 Suspended Members

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

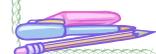
- David A. LeBlanc, CGFM..... 6
- Terrence P. McCarthy, CGFM..... 2
- Howard N. Olsher, CGFM..... 1
- Kimberly D. Rapoza 1
- Susan Tefft, CGFM 3
- William H. Withrow 1

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.



Thanks!

Do you know...

...that Esther Howland produced the first commercial American valentines in the 1840s and sold a then mind-boggling \$5,000 in cards during her first year of business? Today over 1 billion valentine cards are sent in this country each year according to the Greeting Card Association.



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 January 31, 2006 are:

Categories	Maximum Credits	Credits Earned	Credits Allowed	% of Avail
Leadership, Planning & Participation	3,000	3,850	3,000	100%
Education & Professional Development	4,000	3,475	3,475	87%
Certification	4,000	3,600	3,600	90%
Communications	3,000	6,672	3,000	100%
Membership	3,000	2,100	2,100	70%
Community Service	2,000	40,200	2,000	100%
Awards	1,000	2,250	1,000	100%
Total	20,000	62,147	18,175	

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

Assets

Cash	
Checking Account	\$ 5,467
Savings Account	8,137
Certificates of Deposit	<u>12,773</u>
Total Cash	\$26,377

Accounts Receivable	
Lombardo's	\$ <u>44</u>
Total Accounts Receivable	\$ <u>44</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$26,421</u>

Liabilities and Fund Balance

Accounts Payable	\$ 0
Current Fund Balance	<u>26,421</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	<u>\$26,421</u>

(Calendar Continued from page 1)

Dan Gwadowsky, Director of Lottery Operations presenting "20 Years of Megabucks and Its Impact on State Revenue."

March 14, 2006

The Maine Chapter is sponsoring a Chapter Meeting with guest speaker Jeff Sosnaud, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Economic and Community Development presenting "What is the Creative Economy and How Does It Benefit Maine?"

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

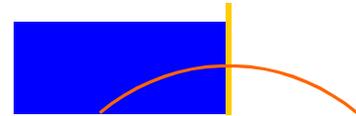
National Professional Development Conference at San Diego Marriott Hotel & Marina, San Diego, CA

January Winter Seminar: Managing for Results

On January 19th, eighty-five members and guests listened to a presentation on the subject of *Accountability Reporting* by chapter member, **Mark Abraham, CPA, CGFM** and **Jay Fountain, CPA, CGFM** at the Volpe Transportation Building in Cambridge, MA. Seven CPEs were awarded for this day of training.

Mark, who is the principle member of the Abrahams Group and Jay, who is the recently retired Assistant Director of Research for the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) in Norwalk, CT graciously volunteered to present on this subject. They discussed a variety of current and upcoming topics including, *Managing for Results, Performance Budgeting, Performance Reporting* and *Performance Auditing*.

On behalf of the chapter, we thank Mark and Jay for their time and sharing their experience.



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

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



Associate yourself with men of good quality if you esteem your own reputation. It is better to be alone than in bad company.

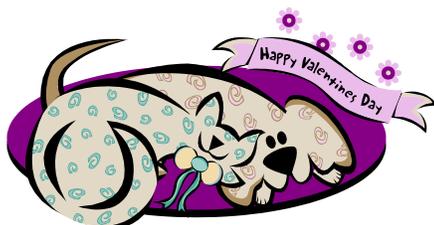
- George Washington



TRIVIA ANSWER!
Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Kentucky.

Independent National Officer Nominations

In accordance with the Association's bylaws, AGA will accept independent nominations from AGA members via petition until Feb. 1, 2006. At that time, if no other nominations are received, the Bylaws and Procedures Committee will conduct an election to determine the officers. If no other candidates are received, the Nominating Committee's slate will take office on July 1, 2006.



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



CEC Meeting Highlights

The Boston Chapter Executive Committee met on January 10, 2006 and discussed the following agenda items:

- **Community Service** — Attendance at this year's Annual Charity Lunch was greater than that of the past few years. The Chapter sent \$700 to Christmas in the City.
- **Membership** — We have 19 new members so far this program year. This brings our total membership to 245.
- **Communication** — The chapter's newsletter is prepared / disseminated and our website is updated in a timely manner for our upcoming events.
- **Treasurer's Report** — No outstanding accounts payable or accounts receivable as of today. Our tax exempt status must be renewed shortly.
- **Nominating Committee** — President-Elect John Beveridge is forming a nominating committee to identify potential chapter officers for the 2006-2007 program year.
- **Awards** — The chapter is accepting nominations for the Chapter Awards to be presented at the Annual Awards Dinner on June 2nd. Also, National Office is accepting nominations for the national awards to be presented at the PDC in San Diego, CA on June 18-21st. Nation nominations are due by March 3rd.
- **CGFM** — Our newest scholarship recipient, Kim Rapoza, is preparing for her first of three CGFM examinations. There was a short discussion regarding encouraging more participation in the CGFM. More to follow.

The next CEC meeting is scheduled for February 28, 2006.

(Spend Management Continued from page 1)

For answers to these questions, plan to attend this half day interactive discussion on what spend management is, and learn about the current spend management landscape in government, what the current trends are in the industry, and the challenges that government and consultants face when executing a spend management program.

(Gary Lambert Continued from page 1)

implementation of this multi-jurisdictional electronic procurement system and the AMS Advantage Procurement solution, which is recognized as one of the leading end-to-end procurement solutions in state government today. Additionally, Mr. Lambert provides thought leadership and subject matter expertise in the area of public sector spend management, procurement, and enterprise resource planning. He is currently serving as the Executive in Charge of the State of California's strategic sourcing initiative, and is an executive advisor to the strategic sourcing projects in Iowa and Georgia.

Before joining CGI-AMS, Mr. Lambert spent almost 20 years working for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts where he served as the Deputy State Purchasing Agent for the Massachusetts Operational Services Division. In this capacity, Mr. Lambert worked as the Chief Operating Officer for a division charged with overseeing commodity, service, and health and human service procurements on behalf of the Commonwealth with annual expenditures of approximately \$2 billion US. He also developed and maintained the Commonwealth Procurement Access and Solicitation System (Comm-PASS), an Internet-based solicitation distribution system and was the champion behind the multi-state eMall pilot program. Other duties during his tenure with Massachusetts included developing policy and regulations for human and social service delivery systems as well as managing the operations of 20 commonwealth administration and finance agencies. Mr. Lambert is a frequent speaker on the subject of spend management, and has been featured in magazines such as Government Technology Magazine and Washington Technology Magazine.

Gary has been lauded for his efforts. He has earned three Commonwealth Pride in Performance Awards; the Governor's Manual Carballo Award for Procurement Reform, the Citation for Outstanding Performance and a Certificate of Recognition. He is also the recipient of the National Association of State Procurement Officials (NASPO) Giulio Mazzone Distinguished Service Award.

He has held leadership roles in several professional organizations, including the National Association of State Procurement Officials, where he is a Past President, and is one of the founding members the National Electronic Commerce Coordinating Council.

Mr. Lambert earned his bachelor's degree with honors in Government from Suffolk University.



Why become a Certified Government Financial Manager if you don't work for government?

The benefits of earning the CGFM for government finance professionals are well known, but two members of AGA's Corporate Partner Advisory Group (CPAG) recently talked about how the CGFM helps their private sector organizations and the clients they serve.

AGA's CPAG Program, which boasts more than 50 corporate partners, brings together executives from industry and government to exchange problems and solutions, build trust and work together to make government more accountable. One message government executives are hearing is that AGA's CGFM credential is not only a valuable addition to the resumes of government employees, but it also helps professionals at private firms demonstrate their expertise to work on government finance projects. Consider these comments.

Michael T. Smokovich, CGFM, Senior Vice President, Delta Solutions - Having once served as the chief financial officer of U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and as a deputy at the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Smokovich knows what it takes to successfully bring a new financial management solution to a federal agency.

One of the reasons failures occur, Smokovich said, is because the people who are working on the systems "don't understand the playing field they're working in."

"What happens with the CGFM is there's a whole lexicon of terminology and understanding that goes with the federal environment in particular, but also with state and local governments."

He recalled talking with vendors working on an IRS systems project who had no understanding of budgetary accounting. "How are they ever going to succeed if they fail to understand what it takes to solve the problem?"

"If you go through the process of understanding all the principles, standards, rules and conventions that are made known to people in the certification process, you have a better way of understanding what your clients are saying about their particular financial management problem," he said.

Having CGFM on the project team is a good marketing tool for the firm and it gives the government clients the confidence that the contractors are speaking the same language.

Smokovich said federal agencies or private firms that contract with government should "buy into" the CGFM. "If you have young people coming into the federal environment or the corporate environment to work with government, it's a good investment."

Ron Smith, CGFM, Vice President of Enterprise Financial Services, Systalex - Smith said government agencies are starting to request CGFM on project teams contracted to install new financial systems. It is becoming more and more important for the contractors to receive the same training as the financial managers themselves, he said.

"We're moving into an era of what I'll call a 'blended work force,' with the financial functions that were formerly performed by government employees now being done by contractors," said Smith, who has also worked for the federal government before moving to the private sector.

Smith, who has been in the federal financial management consulting business for 30 years, said he is constantly on the lookout for talented systems accountants who are knowledgeable about the federal environment, but it's difficult to find people with a good grasp of federal rules and regulations.

The CGFM, he said, is "an indication of a skill set that a person has. It's another measure of their potential value to a project."

To become a CGFM, candidates must have the appropriate education and professional experience and pass three rigorous examinations that cover a broad range of issues in federal, state and local government financial management. For more information about AGA's CGFM Program, go to <http://www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/cgfmdefault.aspx>. Detailed information about AGA's Corporate Partner Program can be found at <http://rmtrgweb.caci.com/aga/docs/index.cfm>.

- by Christina M. Camara

Regional Professional Development Conference on March 14, 2006 at Bentley College, Waltham...

GASB 43 & 45 Post Employment Benefits

This session will provide an explanation of GASB's new accounting and financial reporting standards related to Post Employment Benefits other than pensions—GASB 43 and 45.

Fraud Around Us

This session will present a variety of topics on fraud. Topics covered will include discussing the different definitions of fraud as well as the types of fraud we encounter as accountants, auditors and program administrators.

How to Motivate & Retain Outstanding People

This new workshop focuses on the continuing challenge to motivate and retain good people and emphasizes the critical role of the manager in creating an environment conducive to productivity and loyalty.

Advertising that works . . .

In a Podiatrist's office:

"Time wounds all heels."

On a Septic Tank Truck in Oregon:

"Yesterday's Meals on Wheels"

On a Plumber's truck:

"We repair what your husband fixed."

At a Tire Shop in Milwaukee:

"Invite us to your next blowout."

At a Towing company:

"We don't charge an arm and a leg. We want tows."

In a Nonsmoking Area:

"If we see smoke, we will assume you are on fire and will take appropriate action."

At an Optometrist's Office:

"If you don't see what you're looking for, you've come to the right place."

On a Taxidermist's window:

"We really know our stuff."

On a Fence:

"Salesmen welcome! Dog food is expensive!"

At a Car Dealership:

"The best way to get back on your feet - miss a car payment."

Outside a Muffler Shop:

"No appointment necessary. We hear you coming."

In a Veterinarian's waiting room:

"Be back in 5 minutes. Sit! Stay!"

At the Electric Company:

"We would be delighted if you send in your payment. However, if you don't, you will be."

In a Restaurant window:

"Don't stand there and be hungry, Come on in and get fed up."

In the front yard of a Funeral Home:

"Drive carefully. We'll wait."

At a Propane Filling Station:

"Thank heaven for little grills."

JOB SHADOWING

Job Shadow Day 2006!

It's that time of the year again. Time to plan for Job Shadow Day 2006! On Thursday, February 2, 2006 - Groundhog Day - countless working professionals will see their "student shadows" as part of the 9th Annual Job Shadow Day!

Job shadowing is a yearlong national effort to enrich the lives of students by acquainting them with the world of work through on-the-job experiences and a carefully crafted school curriculum that ties academics to the workplace. The effort helps young people understand how what they learn in the classroom leads to success in the workplace. National job shadowing is a coordinated effort of Junior Achievement, America's Promise - The Alliance for Youth, the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Labor.

Please Note: If you participate in Job Shadow Day 2006, please notify me at Julia.Burns@osc.state.ma.us. I would like to include our successful participation in the March issue of the newsletter. Thanks. - the Editor

AGA Reinvigorates Academy for Government Accountability

Many longtime AGA members will remember AGA's Education and Research Foundation. Incorporated in 1979, the foundation was established "to contribute to the improvement of education in the field of federal, state and local government accounting, auditing, budgeting and financial management." The foundation provided educational events, scholarship awards and small research projects in the mid-1990s. In 1999 the foundation informally changed its name to the Academy for Government Accountability to oversee AGA's education and research programs.

Newfound interest in the Academy bloomed again last year. A presentation at the September 2005 National Executive Committee (NEC) meeting was made to introduce a revised mission statement that more accurately reflects the future of the Academy. The NEC approved the revised mission: to forge relationships among government, business and academia to support research and education initiatives and advance thought leadership in bringing transparency and accountability in government financial management. The NEC also appointed Ramamoorti to chair the Academy's Board of Trustees for one year. A task force, chaired by Wendy Comes, CGFM, executive director of the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB) was also established to review Academy progress.

For more information visit <http://www.agacgfm.org/publications/topics/012306/academy.aspx>.

Winter Workshop

Date: February 16, 2006

Time: Registration 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.
Program 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

CPE: 4 CPE Hours

Cost: Members \$40 / Non-members \$50

SPEND MANAGEMENT

Spend management means different things to different people. What sounds like a simple concept and approach on the surface is really a complex business transformation effort for government and the private sector.

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- What makes this different from outsourcing?

For answers to these questions, plan to attend this half day interactive discussion on what spend management is, and learn about the current spend management landscape in government, what the current trends are in the industry, and the challenges that government and consultants face when executing a spend management program.

Presenter: Gary Lambert, Vice President
CGI Spend Management Solutions Practice

Location: Federal Reserve Bank Building
600 Atlantic Avenue
Boston, MA 02106


AGA
BOSTON CHAPTER
Assoc. of Government Accountants
Boston Chapter

www.aga-boston-chapter.org

Registration: You can register by contacting Howard Olsher, CGFM at 617-727-6200 or online at www.aga-boston-chapter.org.

Boston Chapter AGA Regional PDC
March 14, 2006
Bentley College

Morning Sessions

Track 1 – GASB 45 (PEB), Shawn Warren, KPMG

Track 2 – Benchmarking, William Kilmartin, Accenture

Track 3 – Techniques for Technology Audits, John Beveridge, Mass State Auditors

Track 4 – Doing More with Less, Diana Ritter, New York State Comptrollers Office

Track 5 – Audit Control Language, ACL Lab (hands on class restricted to 35 attendees)

Afternoon Sessions

Track 6 – Fraud, Dick Wrona, Mass State Auditors

Track 7 – Homeland Security Issues and Updates, Homeland Security Administration
Staff

Track 8 – Audit Report Writing, Mary Ellen Kelly, Town of Framingham

Track 9 – Managing and Motivating Staff, Bob Carnegie, Carnegie Associates

Track 10 – Audit Control Language, ACL Lab (hands on class restricted to 35 attendees)
(repeat of track 5)

Schedule

8:00 to 8:30 Registration

8:30 to 8:55 Welcome & Opening Speaker Adamian Graduate Center Auditorium
Keynote Speaker: National AGA President Sam McCall, CGFM

9:00 to 10:15 Concurrent Sessions Tracks 1 to 5

10:15 to 10:30 Break

10:30 to 12:00 Tracks 1 to 5 Continued

12:00 to 1:15 Lunch at the President's Dinning Room, LaCava Building

1:30 to 3:00 Concurrent Sessions Track 6 to 10

3:00 to 3:15 Break

3:15-to 4:30 Tracks 6 to 10 Continued

Registration Fee: \$105 for Members - \$130 for Non Members.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE MARCH 9, 2006

AGA Regional Professional Development Conference at Bentley College
March 14, 2006
Registration Form

8 Hours CPE for Attendance at this Regional PDC

Registration Fee: \$105 for Members - \$130 for Non Members.
REGISTRATION DEADLINE MARCH 9, 2006

Agency Vouchers and Training Forms will be accepted for billing - Please enclose the form with your registration.

Organization: _____

Billing Address: _____

Contact Person and Telephone: _____ Telephone: _____

NOTE: Due to the seating limitations of the rooms available, sign-up for specific sessions will be on a first come first served basis. Please indicate your preferences by using the Track Number(s). Your first choice for AM and PM sessions and a secondary choice in case that track is full. We have sometimes reversed AM and PM Choices in order to give you your first preference for the day.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Cancellations received up to March 9, 2006 will be fully refundable. Substitutions can be made at any time up until the time of the Conference. Individuals that do not cancel on or before March 9, 2006 are not eligible for a refund. No shows will be individually responsible for full payment.

Individual Attending	A.M. First Preference Track #:	A.M. Second Preference Track #:	P.M. First Preference Track #:	P.M. Second Preference Track #:	Amount Enclosed	Amount To Be Billed
	Track #:	Track #:	Track #:	Track #:		
	Track #:	Track #:	Track #:	Track #:		
	Track #:	Track #:	Track #:	Track #:		
	Track #:	Track #:	Track #:	Track #:		
	Track #:	Track #:	Track #:	Track #:		
	Track #:	Track #:	Track #:	Track #:		
Total Amount Enclosed/To Be Billed						

Mail Registrations To:

ACA Boston Chapter
 FED ID#: 04-2625265

Make Payment Payable to:
 ACA - Boston Chapter

Maria Mamaslos
 Dept of Education
 350 Main Street
 Malden, MA 02148

Phone: 781-338-6537
 FAX: 781-338-6565
 e-mail: mmamaslos@doe.mass.edu

You can also register on the Chapter's Web Page at www.aga-boston-chapter.org

In the event of a snowstorm, call Bentley College at (781) 891-2020 for an updated-recorded message regarding campus closing.

AGA - Boston Chapter Annual Awards — Brief Descriptions

The AGA Boston Chapter is pleased to present the following Awards at the Annual Awards Dinner.

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.

Award: Plaque

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.

Award: Plaque

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.

Award: Plaque

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.

Award: Plaque

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.

Award: Plaque

Free Research Reports Now Available from AGA!

Welcome to a new era in thought leadership—AGA is offering four research reports at no cost.

1. Trends in Technology
2. Financial Management Shared Services: A Guide for Federal Users—Landmark Research Report Solely Devoted to Melding Best Practices of Private Sector with Federal Agency Experiences.

3. Audit Federal Financial Controls: Sooner Rather than Later—Would Sarbanes-Oxley Benefit Federal Financial Management?
4. Integrating Internal Controls with Program Management

You can view a copy of the report or request a hard copy. For more information, visit the National website at <http://www.agacgfm.org/publications/topics/012306/research.aspx>.

News from National

AGA's Annual PDC in San Diego, CA

Join us in sunny San Diego, CA for AGA's 55th Annual Professional Development Conference and Exposition—the government financial management education event of the year!

Keeping pace with change in government financial management has never been more challenging. Effective training is essential for accountability professionals facing an array of new regulations, accelerated deadlines and heightened expectations at every level of government.

The training you need can be found at the 2006 Professional Development Conference & Exposition set for June 18-21, at the San Diego Marriott Hotel & Marina. With the theme "Navigating the Way to Citizen-Centered Government," and offering 25 CPE hours, the PDC promises to be an excellent learning and networking opportunity for government financial managers and accountability professionals. Create your own curriculum from more than 75 concurrent sessions. Sessions will be organized around the following six tracks:

- Envisioning 2015: The Future of the Accountability Profession
- Building and Sustaining Strong Internal Controls
- State and Local Governments – Challenges, Strategies and Innovations
- Improving Public Performance: Transforming Data into Results
- Intergovernmental Financial Management: Collaboration or Frustration?
- Technology, Tools and Techniques for the 21st Century

Katrina Relief Effort Tops \$18,600—Funds Distributed to Affected Chapters

Thanks to the generosity of AGA members, we received \$18,615 in contributions to the ongoing Hurricane Relief Effort. And, we are pleased to report that checks have been distributed to those AGA chapters with members that were severely affected by the hurricane. The Montgomery and Jackson Chapters were each sent \$5,000 checks and the New Orleans Chapter was sent a \$10,000 check. The need continues, so if you'd like to contribute, please 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).

AGA National Awards

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

AGA's National Awards Committee is now accepting nominations for our 10 National Awards that recognize the leaders advancing our profession and setting the standards of excellence:

- Robert W. King Memorial Award
- Einhorn-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

These awards will be presented during AGA's Professional Development Conference and Exposition in San Diego, CA June 18-21, 2006. In many cases, individuals do not have to be members of AGA to be eligible. All nominations are due by Friday, March 3, 2006. Visit <http://www.agacgfm.org/membership/awards/> for all nomination forms or for more information contact Rosanna Ortiz at rortiz@agacgfm.org. The Awards Committee will select the award recipients by April 7, 2006.

AGA National Academic Scholarships

Are you or a family member pursuing undergraduate or graduate studies in disciplines such as accounting, auditing, budgeting, economics, finance, information technology, public administration, etc.? If so consider applying for an AGA National Academic Scholarship today!

Each year, AGA National awards:

- Up to six \$1,000 full-time merit scholarships to AGA members and their family members,
- Up to two \$500 part-time merit scholarships to AGA members and their family members, and
- One \$1,000 community service scholarship.

The deadline for receipt of applications is March 31, 2006. Apply now and take full advantage of your AGA membership. To download a copy of the application go to <http://www.agacgfm.org/membership/awards/> or contact Rosanna Ortiz at rortiz@agacgfm.org. The Awards Committee will select the scholarship recipients by May 5, 2006.



Membership Application

New Member Check here if renewing

I. Name & Mailing Address

Mr. Mrs. Ms. Dr. Prof.

male / female

Preferred Address

Name FIRST LAST MIDDLE

Address Apt/Suite#

City State/Province

Zip/Mail Code Country

Home Office Address

Business Phone Business Fax

Home Phone

E-mail

Second Address

Address Apt/Suite#

City State/Province

Zip/Mail Code Country

II. Business Information

Job Title Dept.

Organization

Employer: (Government):

- Federal State County City International
 Private Academia Student Retired Private International

Responsibility Area:

- Accounting Budgeting Financial Management Management Academia
 Contract Management Grants Management Program Management Administration Consulting
 Information Systems Retired Auditing Finance Legal
 Student Other

How did you hear about AGA?

- Friend/Co-Worker AGA/Chapter AGA Conference Employer AGA Website
 CGFM Program Internet Search Chapter Meeting AGA Publication Direct Mail

Age:

- Below 20 21 - 25 26 - 30 31 - 35 36 - 40 41 - 45 46 - 50 51 - 55 56 - 60 61 - 65 66+

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

Education: Highest degree attained: Accreditation and Certificates:

III. Sponsor's Name

(if applicable) Member ID #

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.
 Early Career—\$45/year—This class of membership is available to government employees with less than three years experience.
 Student—\$30/year—This class of membership is available to college/university students.

Primary Chapter Dues

Additional Chapter Membership(s) Optional Dues

Dues

(please refer to list on the reverse side)

V. Method of Payment

Check enclosed (make checks payable to AGA)

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