

AGA Boston Chapter 2001-2002 Chapter History Report

The Boston Chapter of the AGA had a very successful 2001-2002 program year. Attendance at our meetings and training events reached or exceeded our expectations in most cases. During the year, the chapter had the following functions.

May 17, 2001: *Annual Awards Dinner* – Held at Anthony’s Pier IV Restaurant in Boston. A number of awards and 3 - \$1,000 scholarships were presented while past chapter presidents were honored. A new chapter award—the “Agency Service Award”—was presented for the first time. The State Auditor’s Office received the award in recognition of their long-standing and active support of the AGA.

June 5, 2001: *Public Service Event* – 7th annual assist at the WGBH (Public Television) auction. Twelve individuals participated as bid takers for the WGBH annual auction.

July 2 – 6, 2001: *Host Committee, National PDC* – Approximately 60 members and friends of the chapter volunteered to serve on the Host Committee for the National PDC held at the Sheraton Boston Hotel. Under the leadership of Susan Perna-Damon, with help from a number of committee chairs, the Host Committee made the chapter proud with their outstanding efforts and contributions to the success of the PDC.

July 2001: *Public Service Event* – A handful of chapter members volunteered their time as event monitors/judges at the Bay State Games.

August 23, 2001: *Public Service and Social Function* – Thirty men and women took part in the 10th annual charity golf tournament held at President’s Golf Course in Quincy. A donation was made to the Lazarus House in Lawrence.

September 20, 2001: *Lunch Meeting* – Held at Filippo’s Restaurant in Boston. This non-CPE lunch meeting served as an introduction for the new chapter officers. The attendees viewed the “Happy Faces” video produced at the 2001 PDC. We also held a raffle and raised \$220 for disaster relief efforts in New York City.

October 18, 2001: *Full-day of Training* – Held at Lombardo’s Restaurant in Randolph, MA. Phil Simard presented a Single Audit Update during the morning session while John Fisher led a session on Indirect Costs in the afternoon. About 65 people were in attendance.

October 25, 2001: *Early Career Event* – Three AGA members participated in a “Career Day” with members of Beta Alpha Psi at Suffolk University. They spoke on accounting career opportunities with the state government. This was chapter’s first, of hopefully many, events with Beta Alpha Psi.

November 15, 2001: *Lunch Meeting* – Held at the Harp Restaurant in Boston. E.J. Landry, a partner at Deloitte-Touche, spoke on COSO and Internal Controls. Approximately 40 members and guests attended the session. Attendees brought non-perishable food items to be added to a Thanksgiving Day basket. The chapter purchased a turkey and donated the basket to a local homeless shelter for veterans.

December 11, 2001: *Annual Holiday Fund Raiser and Social Event* – This luncheon was held at Maggiano’s Little Italy Restaurant for the first time after many years at Tecce’s. About 55 members and guests attended. Many toys were collected for the Toys for Tots campaign and a lot of money was raised through a raffle table and a 50-50 drawing. Susan Perna-Damon, the 50-50 winner, graciously donated her winnings back to the chapter to be included with the checks the chapter sent to the AGA National Relief Fund (\$200), the New England Home for Little Wanderers (\$400), and the Lazarus House (\$400).

January 17, 2002: *Full-day of Training* – Held at the Volpe Center in Cambridge. About 75 members and guests attended this session. Timothy Galvin, CFE, spoke on a variety of fraud topics, while Jim Jennis, HUD OIG, presented a case study on housing fraud.

February 1, 2002: “*Shadow Day*” – Five members were shadowed for the day by local high school students as they went through their normal workday. This experience allowed the high school students the opportunity to observe first hand what a government accountant/financial manager does during a typical day.

February 14, 2002: *Breakfast Meeting* – Held at the Federal Reserve Bank in Boston. Peter Jaworski spoke on Tax and Personal Financial Planning. About 35 members and guests were in attendance.

March 12, 2002: *Regional Professional Development Conference* – Held at Bentley College in Waltham, MA. Almost 200 members and guests attended this full day session. There were 10 education tracks offered (5 each in the morning and afternoon). National President Richard Norment was the luncheon speaker.

April 25, 2002: *Lunch Meeting* – Held at the Commonwealth Fish and Beer Company Restaurant in Boston. David Loewy, from the

Massachusetts Executive Office for Health and Human Services spoke on the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act. About 35 members and guests attended this luncheon.

The Boston Chapter's web page continued to provide members up-to-date information on future events, national AGA news, and copies of chapter newsletters. On-line registration for monthly meetings and training sessions was also popular with members. Ten chapter newsletters were issued during the program year.

Due to the efforts of our Community Service co-chairs, Pat Ghannam and Nilsa Morales (with assistance from President-elect and past Community Service chair Julia Burns), the chapter received a National Community Service Award at the National PDC held in Atlanta during July 2002. The chapter was also accorded All-Star status for receiving the maximum number of chapter recognition points and Platinum and Gold status because the chapter received at least 10,000 chapter recognition points for the 11th consecutive year.

In conclusion, the Boston Chapter had a very successful year. Membership remained steady, community service participation was high, and attendance at training sessions remained strong.

Submitted by:

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