Boston's Beacon

Volume 2009-2010, Issue 3 September 2009

Boston Chapter Calendar of Events Local

BOSTON CHAPTER

September 1, 2009

Regional Dialogue on the American Recovery and Investment Act of 2009



September 2, 2009 Audio Conference Grants Management in

Today's Environment



September 24, 2009 Fall Seminar The Many Faces of Fraud at Lombardo's



National

September 16 - 17, 2009

AGA National Internal Control and Fraud Conference Washington, DC



July 16 - 17, 2010 AGA Professional Developmental Conference Orlando, FL



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President's Message

As the fall abounds us, so does the exciting training courses and community services offered by the Boston Chapter. Our September schedule kicks off with AGA National hosting a unique opportunity to hear selected federal and state government officials discuss various implementation issues surrounding the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The invited officials, from the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the U.S. Departments of Health and Human Services, Agriculture, Education, Transportation and Energy, will also host breakout sessions during which attendees can ask questions about the implementation issues that are most vexing to them. The discussion will take place 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 1, 2009 at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, Boston, MA. All attendees will receive lunch and be awarded 4 CPE hours at the conclusion of the session.

In addition we are hosting an audio conference on September 2nd at the Federal Reserve Bank entitled *Grants Management*. Members will earn 3 FREE CPEs from this event. Please join us for two hours of lively discussion about this important and timely topic. In addition to the speakers' commentary, about 20 minutes is set-aside for Q & A at the end of the program.

Don't miss our upcoming Fraud workshop held at Lombardo's Function Hall in Randolph MA on September 24, 2009. We are gearing up for a day of procurement and investment fraud. See you there!

The community service committee is also working hard this month planning for the upcoming year. The Committee has adopted a "Go Green" focus this year. Along with its ongoing project collecting travel size toiletry items for a local charity, we will be collecting used eyeglasses, and used cell phones. Please bring donations of any of these items to our upcoming chapter events which will begin at the September 24, 2009 Fraud Seminar at Lombardo's. Look for our "Go Green" Box at or near the registration desk.

Also we will be collecting donations for the Quincy Animal Shelter. The Quincy Animal Shelter is a 100% volunteer run organization and a "no kill" shelter. Items needed include pet food, toys and blankets. Details are elsewhere in the newsletter.

Joe Valchuis

Save the Date!

Audio Conference - Grants Management

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



AGA National Training Event

A Dialogue on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

Date: Sept. 1, 2009

Location: Federal Reserve Bank of Boston

600 Atlantic Avenue Boston, MA 02210

Session: 9 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

CPEs: 4

Cost: Free to Government Employees

AGA is hosting a unique opportunity to hear selected federal and state government officials discuss various implementation issues surrounding the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

The invited officials from the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the U.S. Departments of Health and Human Services, Agriculture, Education, Transportation and Energy will also host breakout sessions during which attendees can ask questions about the implementation issues that are most vexing to them.

The discussion will take place from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 1, 2009 at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, Boston, MA. Lunch wil be provided and all attendees will be awarded 4 CPE hours at the conclusion of the session.



Register By Fax: to AGA at 703.684.6933

Questions?

Contact: Jennifer Varua 800.AGA.7211, ext. 322 *jvarua@agacgfm.org*

Boston Chapter AGA Educational Opportunity Audio Conference

"American Reinvestment and Recovery Act Reporting Requirements"

Date: Sept, 2, 2009

Location: Federal Reserve Building

Boston, MA, 3'rd Floor, Room A/V3

 Registration:
 12:30 - 1:00

 Speaker:
 1:00 - 2:00

 Session:
 2:00 - 4:00

CPEs: 3

Cost: Members Free, Non-Members \$20

Grants administrators operate in a dynamic and complex environment. They face an ever-growing list of compliance issues, closely scrutinized by internal and external auditors. State and local governments, not-for-profits and education and research grant administrators are struggling to untangle, interpret and manage the growing list of requirements that comes with the flow of federal dollars. The presenters will cover some of the recent changes related to grant regulations and begin to sort out the new reporting and compliance requirements related to grant funding. These requirements are not only important for grant administrators to know, but for auditors, accountants and other financial accountability professionals to understand.

To share their practical experiences in grants management are Thomas A. Cooley, MS, Chief Financial Officer and Director, Office of Budget, Finance and Awards, National Science Foundation; W. Scott Erwin, CGFM, CRA, Director, Office of Sponsored Programs, Texas State University – San Marcos; and Joseph L. Kull, CGFM, CPA, Director, PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP.

Registrations due by 8/10/09, To register please contact Howard Olsher, CGFM at Howard.Olsher @ sao.state.ma.us or via phone at 617-727-6200 or online at www.aga-boston-chapter.org.

Any individual that may require special accommodations for the disabled at any Boston Chapter Training should communicate this and include the Information in their registration prior to the event.

Calendar of Events Tentative Program Year 2009 - 2010

August 12, 2009

Audio Conference - Stimulus Spending Controls Federal Reserve Building, Boston, MA

3 CPEs

December 16, 2009

Audio Conference - Trends in Occupational Fraud

Federal Reserve Building, Boston, MA

3 CPEs

September 2, 2009

Audio Conference - Grants Management Federal Reserve Building, Boston, MA

3 CPEs

January 21, 2010 Winter Seminar

Volpe Transportation Building, Cambridge, MA

7 CPEs

September 24, 2009 Fall Seminar - Fraud

Lombardo's, Randolph, MA

7 CPEs

February 11, 2010 Winter Workshop

Single Audit A - 133 Updates

4 CPEs

October 7, 2009

Audio Conference - Internal Controls for Auditors

Federal Reserve Building, Boston, MA

3 CPEs

March 9, 2010

Regional Professional Development Conference

Bentley University, Waltham, MA

8 CPEs

October 22, 2009

Fall Mini Seminar - ARRA Reporting: Is it Working?

TBD

6 CPEs

April 15, 2010

Spring Workshop

TBD 4 CPEs

November 17, 2009

Fall Workshop

IT Security

4 CPEs

May 19, 2010

Audio Conference - Ethics

Federal Reserve Building, Boston, MA

3 CPEs

December 3, 2009

Annual Holiday Party and Charity Fundraiser

Magianno's, Boston, MA

June 2010

Chapter End of Year Appreciation Dinner

TBD





HARTFORD CHAPTER

AGA Hartford Chapter Presents
The Annual One Day Seminar
8 Cpe Credit Earned
Thursday, September 17, 2009
City Of Hartford
Conference Room Center
260 Constitution Plaza
Hartford, Ct



SCHEDULE

7:45 Check-in

8:15 Opening Remarks: Nancy S. Wyman, State of Connecticut Comptroller

Howard Pitkin, State of Connecticut Banking Commissioner Ralph Lambiase, Director - Securities & Business Investments,

the Connecticut Department of Banking.

8:25 – 10:05 Ethics, Speaker – Carol Carson

10:05 – 10:20 Morning Break *

10:20 – 12:00 Active GASB Projects, Speaker – Jay Fountain

12:00 – 1:00 Lunch Break (Numerous Restaurants Available)

1:00 – 2:40 Government Accounting/Auditing, Speaker – John Rasimas

2:40 - 2:55 Afternoon Break *

2:55 - 4:35 Investigating White Collar Crimes, Speaker – Timothy Kobelia

4:45 Program Ends

* Refreshments provided during breaks

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

AGA Members \$110.00 Non-Members \$130.00

Return completed registration forms along with payment made payable to AGA Hartford Chapter prior to September 10, 2009. Forms should be mailed to:

Charles Heaven & Co. Attn: E. Melaragno, CPA, CGFM 207-231 Bank Street, 5th Floor Waterbury, CT 06702

For questions, FEIN# or directions contact Percy Cave at (860) 205-4581.

Meet A Fellow Chapter Member...

Bill Muench, CGFM, CPA Senior Auditor - DCAA



Meet A Fellow Chapter Member...

Ralph DeAcetis , CGFM, CPA, CMA National Managing Director - PWC



William (Bill) Muench, CGFM, CPA is a Senior Auditor for the Defense Contract Audit Agency (DCAA) where he currently provides accounting and contract auditing services in support of criminal/civil investigations, primarily for the Department of Defense investigative agencies (i.e. NCIS). As well as being a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM), his current professional goal is to become a Certified Fraud Examiner to enhance his current role as a fraud investigation auditor.

A native of Syracuse, New York, Bill currently resides in Hopkinton, MA with his wife of 17 years, Bobbie, and two teenage children, Rachel and Rolly. Bill is a veteran of the US Navy and the US Naval Reserve. He is a graduate of Villanova University with an MBA from Syracuse University. In his spare time, Bill enjoys golf, tennis, table tennis and reading. He is also active in coaching Hopkinton Town youth soccer, baseball and basketball, and the Hopkinton Lions Club.

Bill has been a member of AGA since 1993 and is currently the Director of Scholarships and Awards for the Boston Chapter. AGA is important to Bill because he believes that it is very important to belong to a professional organization in order to keep current in your professional field and to share "best practices." As a member of the Boston Chapter Executive Committee for the past several years, he has enjoyed serving with his dedicated colleagues to provide high quality educational opportunities, community services, and foster camaraderie in the government financial management arena.

As a National Managing Director for Pricewaterhouse-Coopers (PwC), Ralph DeAcetis specializes in regulatory compliance associated with federal award funding. During his 32 years with PwC, Ralph has worked with clients in higher education, healthcare, government, not-for-profit, and for-profit entities receiving federal awards for research and development, student financial aid and social service programs.

Ralph was born and raised in the Boston area and graduated Malden Catholic High School and Boston University. He is a CPA, CMA, and CGFM. Ralph is also member of the Massachusetts Society of CPAs, the AICPA and the IMA; and is active in the regulatory standard setting process through various committees and task forces.

Ralph enjoys coin collecting, reading about archaeological digs around the world and spending time with his wife Joyce and daughter Molly.

"I joined AGA many years ago because it provides quality training opportunities and promotes the development of industry networking that enhances a member's career. I enjoy working with individuals that are members of an organization such as the AGA because association with the AGA adds to the credibility of those individuals' knowledge and skills".



Community Service Notes

The Community Service Committee has adopted a "Go Green" focus this year. Along with its ongoing project collecting travel size toiletry items for a local charity, we will be collecting used eyeglasses, and old cell phones.

Please bring donations of any of these items to our upcoming chapter events which will begin at the September 24, 2009 Fraud Seminar at Lombardo's. Look for our "Go Green" Box at or near the registration desk. Recycling these items will not only benefit the needy recipients but will help save the environment. Thank you in advance for your assistance on this project.

Community Service Committee Collecting Donations for Quincy Animal Shelter

The Community Service Committee is also collecting donations for the Quincy Animal Shelter. The Quincy Animal Shelter is a 100% volunteer run organization. It is also a "no kill" shelter.

At the September 24, 2009 Fraud Seminar a box will be available near the registration table where any of the following items will be accepted:

Kitten or Cat Food - wet or Friskies Cat Food, Fancy Feast Kitten Food - for our Shelter Residents Cat Litter (Yesterday's News or Fresh Step Clumping brand is preferred)

Cat and dog beds

Cat Carriers, new or used

Laundry detergent & Bleach

Trash bags (tall kitchen and strong 30-gallon)

Furry Mice toys for cats

Cat treats

Canned tuna

ALPO Brand Dog Food

KMR brand powdered milk replacement for nursing kittens

Kongs, Buster Cubes and balls for dogs Harnesses

Small corrugated cardboard scratching pads for cats Small dog treats for training, BilJac brand is preferred

Thank you in advance for your assistance



Job Opportunities The Office of Inspector General (OIG)



US Department of Transportation (DOT)

has immediate openings in Washington, D.C., New York,

Baltimore, and Boston for

Analysts • Auditors • IT Specialists

StatisticiansEconomists

Join the dedicated staff of the DOT/OIG as we review, evaluate and investigate Recovery Act spending including oversight of Single Audit activities

Make a positive impact on some of the most important and visible parts of our Nation's transportation programs such as:

Aviation, Rail, Highway, Transit and Maritime Programs

Benefits include Competitive Salary, Telework,
Transit Benefits,
Health and Life Insurance, Annual and Sick
Leave,
and More

Positions are term appointments lasting 1 to 4 years

The initial appointment may lead to a permanent Federal appointment

Retired Annuitants: Dual compensation restriction waived

For additional information, please visit our website at www.oig.dot.gov/jobs.jsp

If interested, please contact the DOT/OIG Office of Human Resources at (202) 366-1490

You may apply directly through USA Jobs on www.usajobs.gov

Please join the Membership Committee in welcoming the following new members to the Boston Chapter:



Yadelyn Mahoney KPMG

Roberta Muench US Department of Labor

June Ng Massachusetts Water Resource Authority

Brian Rozowsky Massachusetts Water Resource Authority

Membership Update

The Boston Chapter membership includes:

233 Active Members

8 New Members

31 Suspended Members

Membership Sponsors

The Boston Chapter recognizes and thanks the following new member sponsors since May 2009:

David A. LeBlanc, CGFM2
Julia P. Burns, CGFM1
John Mahoney, CGFM1
William Muench, CGFM1

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 dleblanc@doe.mass.edu.

Thanks!



SUDOKU								
4	2				3	1		
7			2	6				9
					9	2		
		5		1				4
	4						8	
3				5		7		
		1	5					
6				2	8			7
		2	6				9	8

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 June 1st and concludes on May 31st.

Boston Chapter credits as of August 31, 2009 are:

Categories	Maximum Credits	Credits Earned	Credits Allowed	% of Avail
Leadership, Planning				
& Participation	3,000	3,225	3,000	100%
Education & Profession	nal			
Development	4,000	1,825	1,825	46%
Certification	4,000	1,225	1.225	31%
Communications	3,000	2,713	2,713	90%
Membership	3,000	2,450	2,450	82%
Early Career	2.000	575	575	29%
Community Service	2,000	1,350	1,350	68%
Awards	1,000	3,550	1,000	100%
Total	22,000	16,913	14,138	64%

Boston Chapter Balance Sheet August 31, 2009

Assets	
Cash	
Checking Account	\$ 3,112
Savings Account	12,959
Certificates of Deposit	0
Total Cash	\$16,071
Total Accounts Receivable	<u>\$ 1,050</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$17,121</u>
Liabilities and Fund Balance	
Accounts Payable	\$ 1,000
Current Fund Balance	16,121
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	<u>\$17,121</u>

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 the Chapter's Director of Education - Julia Burns, CGFM at Julia.Burns@state.ma.us.

Community Service News

The Community Service Committee is sponsoring an ongoing project to collect travel size toiletry items that will be donated to a local charity. Please bring donations to any of our upcoming chapter events. We had a nice collection at the Regional PDC at Bentley University and want to continue our efforts. Thank you in advance for your assistance on this project.

SUDOKU ANSWER

September Quote

"Actions speak louder than words but not nearly as often."

Mark Twain

SUDUKU ANSWEK								
4	2	9	7	8	3	1	5	6
7	1	3	2	6	5	8	4	9
8	5	6	1	4	9	2	7	3
2	6	5	8	1	7	9	3	4
1	4	7	3	9	2	6	8	5
3	9	8	4	5	6	7	2	1
9	8	1	5	7	4	3	6	2
6	3	4	9	2	8	5	1	7
5	7	2	6	3	1	4	9	8



TRIVIA QUESTION!

Who has hosted the TV show "Saturday Night Live" more often than anyone else?

Answer found elsewhere in the newsletter.



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

Comments should be forwarded to dleblanc@doe.mass.edu.



Websites of Interest

American Society for Public Admin (ASPA)www.aspanet.org
MA Chapter of ASPAwww.massaspa.org
Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (CFE) www.cfenet.com
Association of Certified Fraud Specialists (CFS)www.acfsnet.org
Greater Boston Chapter of CFEwww.acfe-boston.org
Association of Government Accountantswww.agacgfm.org
AGA Aroostook County Chapterwww.agaaroostookcounty.org
AGA Boston Chapterwww.aga-boston-chapter.org
AGA Hartford Chapter www.agahartford.org
AGA Maine Chapterwww.gwi.net/~aga/
First Gov
Governmental Accounting Standards Boardwww.gasb.org
Government Executivewww.govexec.com
Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA)www.theiia.org
IIA Greater Boston Chapter www.theiia.org/chapters/index.cfm/home.page/cid/13
Information Systems Audit & Control Associationwww.isaca.org
Intergovernmental Audit Forumwww.auditforum.org
International Accounts Payable Professionals (IAPP)www.iappnet.org
National Assoc of State Auditors, Comptrollers & Treasurerswww.nasact.org
National Assoc of State Comptrollerswww.nasact.org/community/nasc.html
National Assoc of State Treasurerswww.nasact.org/community/nast.html
National State Auditors Association www.nasact.org/community/nsaa.html
National Electronic Commerce Coordinating Councilwww.ec3.org

CEC Meeting Highlights



The Boston Chapter of the AGA Executive Committee met on August 4, 2009. The following items were discussed:

- On going discussions for next year's training calendar were discussed along with tentative dates and subject matter.
- Discussion were made regarding the upcoming event held in association with national on September 1,2009 on ARRA funding.
- CGFM Coordinator reports were presented and received.
- Treasurer's and Membership Reports were presented and received.
- The Budget for the year was discussed and reviewed.
- A vote was held approving the Fall Workshop from Thursday, November 19'th to Tuesday November 17'th. This was due to a conflict with the Massachusetts Office of the Comptroller's CFO Meeting.
- A Vote was held approving the pricing for the Fall Seminar on "The Many Faces of Fraud" at Lombardo's in September. The prices will be \$65 for members and \$100 for nonmembers. This price is for seven (7) CPEs and will include lunch.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 15, 2009.

Trivia Answer
Steve Martin



Please tell me that these signs were not purchased with ARRA Stimulus Funds.

There ought to be a law.



Did you know.....

In Mississippi it is illegal to teach someone what polygamy is.

In Nebraska it is illegal to pilot a plane when drunk.

In Reno it is illegal to lay down on a sidewalk.

In New Hampshire it is illegal to take seaweed off of the beach at night.

In New Jersey it is illegal to wear a bullet-proof vest while murdering someone.

In Sag Harbor, New York it is illegal to disrobe in any wagon or automobile.

In Virginia it is illegal (with the exception of raccoons) to hunt any animal on a Sunday.

In Massachusetts it is illegal to serve beer or alcoholic beverages to hospital patients.

News from National

Internal Control and Fraud Conference

Join AGA at its Fourth Annual Internal Control & Fraud Conference, set for Sept. 16–17 in Washington, D.C.

With an unprecedented emphasis on transparency and accountability by the Obama administration, the public's expectation for efficiency and effectiveness from their governments has never been greater.

Do your part to boost public confidence in the integrity and professionalism of government financial managers by learning the latest information on preventing and detecting fraud, waste and abuse.

AGA's Internal Control & Fraud Conference, worth 14 CPE hours, will focus on the responsibilities of all accountability professionals in ensuing a good system of internal controls to lower the risks of wrongdoing.

Hear from leaders in government, academia and private industry discuss latest discovery techniques and lessons learned from various schemes; how poor internal controls can lead to fraud, waste and abuse; and how different levels of government are cooperating to improve services to citizens. The conference will also cover various aspects of the Recovery Act from an internal control and fraud perspective.

Cyberspace...Changing the Way You Network

AGA prides itself in its well-developed network of government financial managers. Members can tap into that network in a variety of ways, from the traditional conferences focusing on advancing your career to the ever-evolving resources on the Web. In the last few months, we've received a lot of encouragement from members to broaden our presence on the Web. This has led to our own channel on YouTube as well as an AGA group on LinkedIn. In the coming months, stayed tuned for the introduction of AGA's very own Facebook Page.

These initiatives will complement AGA's existing networking programs. AGA is offering more places for members to make connections, find information and keep pace with what's happening at AGA. For more information on how you or your chapter can get involved in social networking, contact Rodneikka Freeman.

AGA Announces Four New Courses

Four new AGA-sponsored courses are designed to help financial managers and auditors add value to government performance. The courses are presented in cooperation with The Auditor Roles in Performance Measurement Project Team of The Institute of Internal Auditors, which developed the courses under a grant from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. These courses can be customized to an organization's needs, to immerse participants in high-value audit skills and to provide additional ways to apply them. The four courses include:

A New Service Model: Auditor Roles in Govern ment Performance Measurement.

Assessing the Reliability and Relevance of Performance Information.

Assessing the Quality of Performance Information and Performance Reports.

Auditing Performance Management Systems.

Read more details about these and other AGA-sponsored training courses at www.agacgfm.org, or contact AGA Director of Education Joe Jozefczyk at 800.AGA.7211, ext. 307.

Additional Governments Produce Citizen-Centric Reports

The states of Washington, Texas and Maryland, Guilford County (NC), the U.S. Agency for International Development, National Science Foundation, Idaho State Police and the City of Las Vegas are the latest governments to join a growing list of state and local governments and federal agencies who are producing four-page Citizen-Centric Reports

Dates Set for Fifth Annual PMC

Mark your calendar for the Fifth Annual Performance Management Conference on **Nov. 5-6, 2009** in Seattle. Do you have something to share about your entity's experience in performance management? Contact Evie Barry to see if you can participate in the program.

Around the New England Region

Maine Chapter Meetings

Held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, September-May, at the Senator Inn. Meetings include a social lunch, chapter meeting/announcements, and an informational speaker.



Maine Chapter Executive Committee (CEC) Meetings

Held once each month, typically following the Chapter Meetings They are held as needed during the summer months. Minutes will be posted in the following month's newsletter. Maine Chapter at www.gwi.net/~aga/

Educational trainings are scheduled for September and October along with participating in AGA National's Audio Conferences.

Aroostook County Chapter

Plans are ongoing for the next chapter educational training event. Check their web site for upcoming events.



Meetings for the Hartford Chapter

These are generally held at 6:00 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month from September to May.

The meeting location is the Marco Polo Restaurant, 1250 Burnside Avenue, East Hartford, CT.

Hartford Chapter at www.agahartford.org

New England Region Vice President Team

Kathie Still, CGFM Regional Vice President Kathie.Still@state.ma.us



David A. LeBlanc, CGFM, CFS Immediate Past Regional Vice President dleblanc@doe.mass.edu

New England Regional Coordinators

Joseph Valchuis, CFE Regional Coordinator for Certification Joseph.Valchuis@sao.state.ma.us

Jane Gustowski, CPA Regional Coordinator for Chapter Development & Assistance j_gustowski@mwcc.mass.edu

David A. LeBlanc, CGFM, CFS Regional Coordinator for Education <u>dleblanc@doe.mass.edu</u>

Donna Ferenc Regional Coordinator for Membership Donna.Ferenc@maine.gov



Around the New England Region

The City of Saco, ME Honored as a 'Circle of Excellence' Award Recipient

Recognizing performance reporting excellence, the Association of Government Accountants (AGA) is honored to provide the City of Saco, ME, with a national Certificate of Excellence in Service Efforts and Accomplishments (SEA) Award. A distinguished panel of government financial managers chose to honor the City of Saco Finance Office for their exceptional Accountability Report. As this is the **fifth** consecutive year that the City of Saco has received an SEA award, the City is now the second governmental entity nationwide to receive the Circle of Excellence award.

AGA established this award program in conjunction with the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. The Foundation granted AGA funds to launch the Certificate of Excellence in Service Efforts and Accomplishments (SEA) Reporting Program. The program offers in-depth evaluation of SEA reports (also called performance reports), recommendations for improvements and recognition of excellent reports with a Certificate of Excellence. The SEA Program encourages issuing regular high-quality service efforts and accomplishments reports and helps state and local governments effectively communicate performance to the public. The Circle of Excellence award recognizes those governments that have received the "GOLD" award (or the former award) for five or more consecutive years.

"This award for excellence should alert the tax-paying public, Congress, public interest groups and other fi-

nancial management professionals that state and local government agencies are strenuously working to make the government more accountable," stated AGA Executive Director, Relmond P. Van Daniker, DBA, CPA. "Not only are they working hard, but they are also achieving these sought after goals," he said.

Van Daniker said that governments issuing performance reports would like these reports to be not only complete and comprehensive, but also interesting, informative, and inviting to read. They would appreciate knowing if the report is fulfilling its purpose of effectively informing readers of the government's performance and if it is recognized as an "outstanding document."

The purpose of the reviews is to evaluate how well the government or other organization informs the public about its performance. The review is not intended to evaluate the quality of the government or its performance. Rather, the focus is entirely on the report's usefulness to the public and other decision-makers who have a stake in the effectiveness of the government's services and programs.

AGA would like to honor the City of Saco's team headed by Tax Collector, Stephanie Weaver, and Finance Director, Beth Cote. Congratulations.



Maine AGA Chapter Member Jody Breton, CGFM and Stephanie Weaver of the City of Saco



Membership Application

New Member Check here if renewing

I. Name & Mailin	g Address						
Mr.							
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				
Zipiriuii code			Country				
II. Business Info	rmation						
Job Title	лпасоп		Dept.				
			Dept.				
Organization L Employer: (Governmer	nt)·						
© Federal	State State	County	© City	□ International			
Private	Academia	Student	Retired	Private International			
Responsibility Area:							
Accounting	Budgeting	© Financial Management		Academia			
Contract Management Information Systems	 Grants Management Retired 	 Program Management Auditing 	Administration Finance	Consulting			
Student	© Other	Additing	Tirance	L egal			
How did you hear abou	ut AGA?						
Friend/Co-Worker	AGA/Chapter	AGA Conference	Employer	AGA Website			
CGFM Program	Internet Search	Chapter Meeting	AGA Publication	Direct Mail			
Age:	n nc 20 en n1 25 en nc	i – 40 🔘 41 – 45 🔘 46 – 50	0 FI EE FLEE EN FE	tC1 CE ⊕ CC.			
Delow 20 0 21 - 25	20 - 30 (231 - 35 (230	1-40 041-45 040-50	0 21-22 1220-00 1	J01-00 EJ00+			
Please list any other financial mana	gement or accounting associat	ions you are a member of:					
Education:	Highest degree attain	ed:	Acc	creditation and Certificates :			
III. Sponsor's Nar	ne						
(if applicable)			Member ID#				
IV. Membership [Data/Dues						
Please choose a membership category	y and fill in the appropriate dues	from the list on the back of this	application. Retired? Call the AG	A Customer Satisfaction Center at			
800.AGA.7211 to find out about our n	etired 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.	r activities naving the same obje	cuves as the Association, or who	Trave Trade a contribution towa	id the improvement or government			
Private Sector—\$150/year —Thi	s class of membership is availab	le to individuals working for com	mercial activities/ventures that a	are actively engaged in and			
support AGA's purpose and objectives				,,			
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