



<http://www.agafortworth.org>

Association of Government Accountants (AGA) Chapter at Fort Worth, TX
COWTOWNER NEWSLETTER FOR CHAPTER YEAR 2010-2011

JANUARY 2011

Table of Contents:

President's Message	pg 1
Meeting Minutes	pg 2
CEC Minutes	pg 3
Recognition Points	pg 3
Treasurer's Report	pg 3
Next Meeting	pg 4
Community Service	pg 4
Activity Plan	pg 5
National News	pg 6
Chapter Officers	pg 7



Chapter President's Message

Welcome to the January 2011 edition of the Fort Worth AGA's newsletter the "Cowtowner". In this issue we will cover both Dec 2010 and January 2011 Chapter meetings and CEC activity.

The chapter welcomes new members **Helene Backer** (transfer from San Antonio Chapter) and **Jamie Graham** (new Member). Both work at DCMA at Fort Worth Lockheed Martin.

If any of you had time to reflect on the future of the Fort Worth AGA Chapter over the holidays, I hope you came up with the realization that we need to make some decisions about the continued existence of our Chapter. I will be less and less available to perform my AGA duties. My wife, Cindy, is retiring from the Fort Worth Independent School District after thirty-three years of teaching. We will both be busy with ever increasing eldercare duties in our parents' homes in New Mexico and in Michigan. I have greatly enjoyed all the years I have served the AGA at the Chapter, Regional and National levels. **I will be retiring from all AGA activities this coming May.**

Anyone interested in serving as a Chapter Officer for the next year will be eligible for training from National AGA. On May 13-14, 2011 next year's Officers receive free hotel stay, meals, and training at the **Sectional Leadership Meeting (SLM)**. Our Section II training will be held at the DFW Marriott. Five Chapter officers can attend. Please contact Bob Kanaga for details. Please decide to become one of our next chapter Officers by March 1. SLM reservations are due March 14, 2011.

Our February **Community Service Activity** is to help the Tarrant Area Food Bank by attending their **Empty '11 Bowls** luncheon. Details of the event are presented on Page 4.

Our December 8, 2010 Chapter Meeting and CEC Meeting minutes can be found on page 2 and 3.

Our January 19, 2011 Chapter Meeting and CEC Meeting minutes are presented on page 2 and 3.

Our next Chapter audio conference will be held on February 2, 2011. See details on page 4.

Bob Kanaga, CGFM
Retired
Chapter President

December Chapter Meeting Minutes

Our December 8, 2010 AGA Chapter Meeting/Training Seminar was held at the Fritz Lanham Federal Building, Room 4A14B, 819 Taylor Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76102. We had a total of five members and three non-members present. A sandwich lunch was served to all attendees.

The audio conference was entitled “Internal Control, Risk Assessment & Performance Auditing (Thoughts from SAS’s 109 & 115), and presented by **Billy Morehead, Ph.D., CPA, CGFM, CPM**, AGA Past National President and Chair, Division of Accountancy, CIS & Finance, Delta State University, Cleveland, Mississippi.

Bob Kanaga, Chapter President opened the meeting by welcoming all members attending. Thanks to Sharon Richman, DCAA, for making copies of slides and Bob for lunch. The AGA Moderator, Mr. Ray Harris conducted the seminar.

Billy Morehead discussed how the establishment of internal control is management’s

responsibility. He then discussed COSO internal control components of control environment, risk assessment, control activities, information and communication, and monitoring. SAS 109 requires auditors to evaluate the design of controls and determine whether they have been implemented. It is anticipated that this phase of the audit will require more work than simply gaining an understanding of internal control.

Click on “Dec 8 ppt ” at public.me.com/ckanaga/ , then click or double click on attached zip file screen to download the presentation or to open it.

At the end of the seminar, the presenters held a question and answer session which lasted about 20 minutes. Each participant will be awarded 2 CPE for attending this seminar. The meeting ended at 2:50 p.m.

Special thanks was given to Babette Haines, GSA Analyst and member, for arranging the use of the GSA Conference Room.

Eric Kline, CPA, MBA
Chapter Secretary

January Chapter Meeting Minutes

Our January 19, 2011 AGA Chapter Meeting/Training Seminar was held at the Fritz Lanham Federal Building, Room 5A30E, 819 Taylor Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76102. We had a total of eight members present. A sandwich lunch was served to all attendees.

The audio conference was entitled “The Fight Against Improper Payments – One Year Later” presented by a panel including **Jeff Steinhoff**, Executive Director, KPMG Government Institute, and Managing Director, Federal Advisory, KPMG LLP; **George Strudgeon**, Audit Director, Human Services Management Specialty Team, Virginia Auditor of Public Accounts; **Jeanette Franzel**, Managing Director for Financial Management and Assurance, U.S. Government Accountability Office; and **Danny Werfel**, Controller, Office of Federal Financial Management, U.S. Office of Management and Budget.

Bob Kanaga, Chapter President opened the meeting by welcoming all members attending. Thanks to Sharon Richman, DCAA, for making copies of slides and Bob for lunch. The AGA Moderator, Mr. Ray Harris conducted the seminar.

George Strudgeon discussed the fight against improper payments from the State perspective. He stressed that the key to reducing improper payments was prevention and that

eligibility determination was the critical step in assuring proper payments.

Jeanette Franzel explained the provisions of the Improper Payments Information Act of 2002 (IPIA) and the Improper Payment and Elimination and Recovery Act of 2010 (IPERA). She also summarized primary causes of improper payments reported by agencies and emphasized the need to dissect the primary causes further to understand and be able to address the issues. **Danny Werfel** highlighted some of the significant administrative actions to fight improper payments. Action items include increasing data sharing to improve fraud and error results, and expanding and intensifying payment recapture activities. **Jeff Steinhoff** referenced a white paper found on the KPMG website entitled “A Practical Look at What Government Agencies Can Do”. More information can be found regarding improper payments at www.paymentaccuracy.gov. At the end of the seminar, the presenters held a question and answer session which lasted about 20 minutes. Each participant will be awarded 2 CPE for attending this seminar. The meeting ended at 2:50 p.m.

Special thanks was given to Babette Haines, GSA Analyst and member, for arranging the use of the GSA Conference Room.

Eric Kline, CPA MBA
Chapter Secretary

December Chapter Executive Committee Meeting

The Chapter Executive Committee (CEC) met at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 8, 2010 at Fritz G. Lanham Federal Building, 819 Taylor Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102. Attendees were: Bob Kanaga (President), Lakshmi Krishnamurthy (Treasurer), Babette Haines (Membership Coordinator), and Eric Kline (Secretary).

Bob Kanaga opened the meeting and thanked all for attending. The following topics were discussed during the meeting:

President Discussion. Our Chapter recognition points are due December 31st. A discussion concerning the future of the Chapter was held. Most important action is to recruit a new Chapter President for the 2011-2012 Chapter year. Our current President-Elect, Willie Hunter has said he would not serve as president next year.

Treasurer Discussion. Lakshmi reported that \$40 was going to our account. \$30 for today's non members in attendance and \$10 from the November 17, 2010 meeting.

Membership Discussion. We will continue our efforts to get more members to come to the meetings. Bob reported on City of Fort Worth accounting and need for training.

Next Chapter Meeting. Our next chapter meeting will be held on January 19, 2011 at the Fritz G. Lanham Federal Building. The audio conference seminar will be "Are We Winning the Improper Payments Battle?"

Next CEC Meeting. Our next Chapter CEC Meeting will be at 3 p.m. at the Fritz G. Lanham Federal Building following our January 19 Chapter meeting.

Our meeting ended at 3:30 p.m.

Eric Kline, CPA, MBA
Chapter Secretary

January Chapter Executive Committee Meeting

The Chapter Executive Committee (CEC) met at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 19, 2011 at Fritz G. Lanham Federal Building, 819 Taylor Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102. Attendees were: Bob Kanaga (President), Lakshmi Krishnamurthy (Treasurer), Babette Haines (Membership Coordinator), and Eric Kline (Secretary).

Bob Kanaga opened the meeting and thanked all for attending. The following topics were discussed during the meeting:

President Discussion. There will be a Sectional Leadership Meeting in Dallas May 12-14. We missed our due date for Chapter recognition points, but will enter activity on March 31st.

Treasurer Discussion. Lakshmi reported that \$32.50 would be deposited into our account. Also, we received a voluntary donation of \$20 for food costs from Eugenia Brents for next month's sandwiches.

Membership Discussion. We will provide \$25 scholarship amount to new member Jamie Graham. We will continue our efforts to get more members to come to the meetings.

CGFM. GAO working on plans for training.

Next Chapter Meeting. Our next chapter meeting will be held on February 2, 2011 at the Fritz G. Lanham Federal Building. The audio conference seminar will be "Making Internal Controls Work in Your Organization".

Next CEC Meeting. Our next Chapter CEC Meeting will be at 3 p.m. at the Fritz G. Lanham Federal Building following our February Chapter meeting.

Our meeting ended at 3:30 p.m.

Eric Kline, CPA MBA
Chapter Secretary

Chapter Recognition Points (CPR) Report

I was not available to input reporting data into the December 31, 2010 CRP, therefore the data will be input at the next opportunity on March 31, 2011. Our current total remains at 7,128 points.

Chapter Treasurer's Report

As of December 31, 2010 we have a total \$4,855.02. The total is broken down as follows: \$118.19 in our Regular Share Account; \$4,082.85 in our Money Market Account; and \$653.98 in our Share Draft (Checking) Account.

Lakshmi Krishnamurthy,
Chapter Treasurer

Next Chapter Meeting

The Association of Government Accountants
Invites you to attend their Audio Conference Seminar

Speaker:

John J. Hall, CPA, a professional speaker, seminar instructor and business consultant. He has 30-plus years of business experience in public accounting, multinational corporations and as a business owner and operator. His presentations stress active participant interaction, the development of high impact “how to” actions and solutions, and enhanced business and interpersonal skills for all involved.

will present a two hour seminar on

“Making Internal Controls Work in Your Organization”

February 2, 2011

Sign in at 12:30 p.m. for lunch
Audio Presentation: 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Room 5A30E South - GSA Area 5th Floor
Fritz G. Lanham Federal Building
819 Taylor Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102

Free for members, \$10 for non-members

Earn 2 Hours of CPE

Make Reservations with Chapter contacts listed below:
(Attendance is limited to first 20 persons who sign up)
Bob Kanaga Chapter Education Officer (817) 929-8243

Community Service Activity

Please join members of our AGA Chapter at the “Empty ’11 Bowls” on Friday February 18, 2011 at the Will Rogers Memorial Center.

All food is donated by local sponsors and restaurants. Bowls are donated by local ceramic artists.

Profit earned is donated to the [Tarrant Area Food Bank](http://www.tafb.org) to fund food distribution to the needy.

Tickets are \$40 on line at www.tafb.org. No tickets will be sold at the door.

Attendees please park near the Modern Museum. We will then meet in the lobby of the Modern Museum at 10:30 a.m. Friday Feb 18. We will then walk over to the Will Rogers Event area behind the Museum of Natural History.

Chapter Activity Plan 2010-2011 Chapter Year

Months	CEC Meetings	Chapter Luncheons	Community Service/Social Activity	Other Events
May 2010	Wed. May 19 CEC Meeting Welcome new Officers	Wed. May 19, 2010 Audio Conference <i>Ethics</i> 2 CPE	APR 29 Worked four hours at Mayfest at Soda Booth May 21 Chapter members played in Junk Yard Dog Golf Tournament at Riverside Golf Course.	May 13 Officer's List submitted May 31 Fourth Qtr CRP submitted
June 2010		AGA members attend National PDC.		Sent Basket to National Community Service Fund Raffle at PDC
July 2010	July EMail Meeting CEC Meeting	Officers Prepared Activity Plans for National AGA		July 15 Chapter Plans Due
Aug 2010	Wed. Aug 25 CEC Meeting after AC	Wed. Aug 25 RVP John Amidon visited Chapter and give presentation on Medicare. 1 CPE		
Sept 2010	Wed. Sept 29 CEC Meeting	Wed. Sept 29 Audio Conference <i>Improving Program Performance & Accountability Through Cooperative Audit Resolution</i> 2 CPE		Sept 30 First Qtr CRP Due Annual Chapter Audit Due
Oct 2010	Wed. October 20 CEC Meeting	Wed. October 20 Audio Conference <i>Was it Fraud or Just Poor Audit Quality?</i> 2 CPE		
Nov 2010	Wed. Nov. 17 CEC Meeting	Wed. November 17 Audio Conference <i>Achieving Transperancy--The Next Step to Integrating Your Data</i> 2 CPE	Social Event: Nov 11 Veteran's Day Golf Tournament at River Chase Golf Club, Coppell, TX	
Dec 2010	Wed. December 8 CEC Meeting	Wed. December 8 Audio Conference <i>Internal Control and Risk Assessment - Thoughts from SAS 109 & 115</i> 2 CPE		Dec 31 Second Qtr CRP Due
Jan 2011	Wed. January 19 CEC Meeting	Wed. January 19, 2011 Audio Conference <i>Are We Winning the Improper Payments Battle?</i> 2 CPE		
Feb 2011	Wed. February 2 CEC Meeting	Wed. February 2, 2010 Audio Conference <i>Internal Controls</i> 2 CPE	Fri. Feb 18, 2011 Community Service Event: Attend the Tarrant Area Food Bank's Empty Bowls event	
Mar 2011	Wed. March 9 CEC Meeting	Wed. March 9, 2010 Audio Conference <i>Auditing Tools</i> 2 CPE		Mar 31 Third Qtr CRP Due
April 2011	Wed. April 20 CEC Meeting	Wed. April 20, 2010 Audio Conference <i>Fraud</i> 2 CPE	Thurs., April 28, 2011 Community Service Event: Four hours volunteer work at Mayfest at a soda booth.	Chapter Officer Elections
May 2011	Wed. May 11 CEC Meeting	Wed. May 11, 2010 Audio Conference <i>Ethics</i> 2 CPE	Fri., May ?, 2011 Junk Yard Dog Golf Tournament	May 31 Fourth Qtr CRP Due

CEC Meetings: After Audio Conferences or as noted in Schedule above.

Chapter Meetings: See Audio Conference location below

Audio Conferences: Fritz G. Lanham Federal Bldg, 5th Floor (GSA), Suite 5A30E South

Notice: October & December Meetings will be held in Room 4A14B in the Federal Bldg.

AGA National News

Hotel Room Blocks Open for NLC



Government financial managers are deeply committed to producing timely, reliable and useful financial information, with the goal of running government programs more efficiently. At AGA's National Leadership Conference (NLC), those sentiments are more than just words. The NLC brings together a stellar lineup of respected government financial management and accountability leaders to share valuable insight, proven strategies, lessons learned, and discuss the newest management techniques and the most recent information on always-changing standards and regulations.

Stay on top of issues that affect you. Sessions cover current issues relating to the American *Recovery and Reinvestment Act*, the effects of political transitions, and what the future holds. This event also features the newest tools and innovations to help agencies do their jobs more easily and more effectively.

Don't miss this opportunity to earn 14 CPE hours, share best practices, find solutions to shared challenges, network with your peers and learn from the top financial management leaders and industry experts.

Join us **Feb.17-18, 2011** at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, D.C. and show your commitment to a more accountable future.

- [Register Online Now!](#)
- [Print Registration Form](#)
-
- Hotel accommodations are available for AGA's Ninth Annual National Leadership Conference in February and for the 60th Annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition in July.

Fort Worth Chapter Officers

Chapter Officers	Name	Email	Phone
Chapter President	Robert Kanaga	rhkanaga@aol.com	(817) 929-8243
President Elect			
Treasurer	Lakshmi Krishnmurthy	krishnamurthy.lakshmi@gmail.com	(817) 437-0451
Secretary	Eric Kline	eric.kline@dcaa.mil	(817) 763-4518
Membership	Babette Haines	babette.haines@gsa.gov	(817) 978-0508
Newsletter	Robert Kanaga	rhkanaga@aol.com	(817) 929-8243
Education	Robert Kanaga	rhkanaga@aol.com	(817) 929-8243
Meetings			
Community Service	By Committee		
CGFM Officer	Neil Clark	neil.clark@gsa.gov	(817) 978-7430
Early Careers	Babette Haines	babette.haines@gsa.gov	(817) 978-0508
Chapter Historian	Appointed		
Awards Committee	By Committee		
Webmaster Officer	Debbie Currie	agaftw@yahoo.com	
Chapter Research	By Committee		