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

Table of Contents:

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

Chapter President's Message

Welcome to the June 2010 Edition of the Fort Worth AGA's Newsletter the "Cowtowner". Summer time is here and we have suspended our AGA Chapter activities until August 25, 2010.

Our Chapter officers for the 2010-2011 Chapter Year are presented on page 7. Neil Clark from GSA has volunteered to be our CGFM Officer. If you are a Chapter member and wish to become more active by becoming a Chapter Officer, please contact any officer on page 7.

Our May 19 audio conference had nine members and one guest in attendance. The topic of **Those Faint Signals: Learning to Catch Ethical Slippage Before It's Too Late** was very well presented and several positive comments were received. Minutes are presented on page 2.

Our volunteer work at Mayfest was successful. A brief write-up with photo is on page three.

Our Chapter Executive Committee (CEC) meeting was held

immediately following the Chapter Meeting on May 19. Minutes are on page 3.

Your Chapter Officers will keep you informed by newsletter as to our upcoming meeting dates, speakers and community service! Please support your AGA Fort Worth Chapter.

Volunteer!! Be active!! Help us be better for you!

**Bob Kanaga,
CGFM Retired
Chapter President**

Chapter Meeting Minutes

Our May 19, 2010 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 nine members and one guest from DCAA present. A sandwich lunch was served to all attendees. We received \$10 from Debbie Fancher, non-member. Babette Haines provided CPE certificates of completion to those who attended the April 21, 2010 AGA training. Bob Kanaga, Chapter President, presented for consideration the Chapter Activity Plan for 2010-2011 Chapter Year. We decided to purchase the planned Audio Conferences except for the August 11 date and the March 23 date. We would like to try to get our Regional representative to present training to our Chapter some time in August. Babette input attendees information into National AGA to set up CPE certification.

The audio conference was entitled **Ethics and Culture: Bad Apples or Bad Barrel?**, and the presenter was **Marianne Jennings, JD**, Professor, Department of Management, W.P. Carey School of Business at Arizona State University. Bob Kanaga, Chapter President opened the meeting by welcoming all members attending. The AGA Moderator, Mr. Ray Harris conducted the seminar. The PowerPoint presentation can be downloaded from:

Double click on "May 19 ppt" at public.me.com/ckanaga/, then click on attached zip file screen.

Ms. Jennings provided an excellent presentation on ethics issues. Drivers and enablers of ethical and legal debacles were discussed. Falsifying documentation due to lack of time, pressures, etc. was the number one ethical issue and could jeopardize cleanliness, health, and safety. We need to ask ourselves, "Do we have a culture which encourages ethical behavior?" Our organizations need to avoid the enablers by communicating the right message. 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. Also, special thanks was given to the members from DCAA who prepared the handout of the presentation for us.

Eric Kline, CPA, MBA
Chapter Secretary

August Speaker:

John Amidon, Texas-Oklahoma Regional Vice President
john.amidon@oag.state.tx.us

will present a one hour presentation on

"Medicaid Fraud Findings"

August 25, 2010

Sign in at 12:30 p.m. for lunch
Speaker Presentation: 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

**Room 5A30E South or Room 5A27 -
GSA Area 5th Floor
Fritz G. Lanham Federal Building
819 Taylor Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102**

Free for Members and Non-members

**One Hour CPE
(From Austin AGA Chapter available)**

Chapter Executive Committee Meeting

The Chapter Executive Committee (CEC) met at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 19, 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 and CGFM Coordinator), and Eric Kline (Secretary).

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

1. **Treasurer Discussion.** Treasurer Lakshmi Krishnamurthy reported there will be a \$10 cash deposit made for cash received from the May 19 audio conference meeting from Debbie Fancher. We discussed potential fund raisers such as AGA walk and T-shirts. PDCs held by El Paso and Dallas Chapters have generated a lot of money. We proposed and agreed to request an increase in Chapter membership share of National dues from \$5 to \$10 as we have never increased this amount before.
2. **Membership Discussion.** Babette Haines proposed and officers agreed that Neil Clark be CGFM officer.
3. **Community Service Activities.** It was discussed and agreed that our Chapter donate a gift basket to help National AGA raise funds for the National Community Fund Drive held at the National PDC every year. Our gift basket needs to arrive at the PDC in Orlando, FL by July 15, 2010. We agreed to limit the value of the gift basket to \$50.
4. **Chapter recognition Points.** Bob reported he will complete final Chapter recognition report due May 31, 2010. Bob reported that we now have over 20,000 points. Bob said he would submit our new Chapter Officer's List before May 31, 2010. Then, by July 15, the other Chapter Plans (Education,

CGFM, Membership, and Community Service) are due to National AGA.

5. **Education Report.** Bob reported that 10 folks attended the May 19, 2010 Audio Conference training, one non-member and nine members. The formal Education Plan will be worked on and sent to National AGA by July 15.
6. **Sectional Leadership Meeting (SLM).** Bob Kanaga reported he and Babette Haines attended the Sectional Leaders Meeting (SLM) in Kansas City, Missouri on May 14-15. Training covered National activities, website and Chapter recognition point system. Group sessions were held for the various officers such as membership, education, presidents, etc. AGA National reported the National AGA (www.agacgfm.org) website will be redesigned this Summer and Fall.
7. **Next Chapter Meeting.** Our next chapter meeting will be held in August. We will try to get Regional Vice President to attend and present training.
8. **Next Year's Audio Conferences.** By a vote of those chapter members and officers in attendance at the May 19 CEC Meeting it was approved to sign the Chapter up for nine or ten audio conferences for the upcoming 2010-2011 Chapter Year.
9. **Other Matters.** The Chapter received a letter from the IRS indicating that a form was not received. Bob and Lakshmi will go to IRS located in Federal Building for explanation since the normal forms were turned in.

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

Our meeting ended at 3:30 p.m.

Eric Kline, CPA, MBA
Chapter Secretary

Community Service Project

Our May 2010 Community Service project was to work at a soda booth at Mayfest on April 29, 2010 from 3:00 to 7:00. Chapter members Lakshmi Krishnamurthy and Bob Kanaga (see photo below) volunteered and staffed Soda Booth # 1. It was 30 feet from the North entrance to Mayfest and we thought we would not sell many soft drinks because folks were just entering the event. However, as folks were leaving they were spending their left-over coupons on drinks. So, we were busy and felt useful after all.



Chapter Recognition Program & National Awards Earned

The Fort Worth Chapter has earned another GOLD AWARD for all our 2009-2010 Chapter Activities. The Fort Worth Chapter won First Place in Category E for its Web site for the 2009-2010 Chapter Year.

The Fort Worth Chapter won Honorable Mention in Category E for its Newsletters in 2009-2010.



1st Place



Honorable
Mention

Chapter Treasurer's Report

As of June 30, 2010 we have a total \$5,670.31. There is \$117.82 in our Regular Share Account; \$4,865.96 in our Money Market Account; and \$686.53 in our Share Draft (Checking) Account.

Lakshmi Krishnamurthy,
Chapter Treasurer

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, RVP 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 Started
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		
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 ?, 2011 Community Service Event: Attend the Tarrant Area Food Bank's Empty Bowls event	
Mar 2011	Wed. March 2 CEC Meeting	Wed. March 2, 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

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**Register Today for AGA's Performance Management Conference in Baltimore
Hotel Discount Extended to Sept. 24**

AGA's Sixth Annual Performance Management Conference (PMC), scheduled for Oct. 13-14 in Baltimore, MD, has it all. It is designed for those who are leading the performance practice at their government entity and for those who are new to the process. We'll talk about what works and what doesn't in performance management.

We've been told that the PMC is the place to be for those on the front lines of performance reporting. New ideas, successful practices and lessons learned are all a part of this event. Attendees are passionate about their role in government and that enthusiasm is infectious. They want to share their experience, and the best venue is AGA's PMC.

Head to Baltimore and experience the outstanding technical program planned and executed by your colleagues from around the country. This event is packed with opportunities to network as well.

Hotel Accommodations**Embassy Suites Hotel-BWI Airport****1300 Concourse Drive****Linthicum, MD 21090****410.850.0747****AGA Rate: \$139 Tax (Single/Double)****Discount Deadline Extended to Sept. 24, 2010**

When making your reservation, mention you are attending the "AGA PMC" to ensure you receive the discounted rate. [You may also reserve a room online.](#)

Keynote speakers include:

- **Beth Blauer**, Director, Governor's StateStat Office, State of Maryland
- **Shelley H. Metzenbaum, Ph.D.**, Associate Director of Performance and Personnel Management, U.S. Office of Management and Budget
- **Harry Hatry**, Distinguished Fellow, Director of the Public Management Program and Principal Research Associate for The Urban Institute
- **Jonathan Walters**, *GOVERNING* magazine correspondent and author of "Measuring Up: GOVERNING's Guide to Performance Measurement for Geniuses and other Public Managers"

Take the lead in your government to learn more about performance measurement and management.

[Register online](#)

[Print the registration form](#) and fax to 703.684.6933

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		