



<http://www.agafortworth.org>

Association of Government Accountants (AGA) Chapter at Fort Worth, TX
COWTOWNER NEWSLETTER FOR CHAPTER YEAR 2009-2010

MARCH 2010

Table of Contents:

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

Chapter President's Message

Welcome to the March 2010 Edition of the Fort Worth AGA's Newsletter the "Cowntowner". It is AGA Membership renewal time. I hope we can count on you as a Chapter member for next year. You can pay your dues on line, I did.

If you are a Chapter member and wish to become more active by becoming a Chapter Officer, please contact me at rhkanaga@aol.com.

Our February 10 audio conference had four members and one guest in attendance. The topic of **Understanding IT Audits for Program Managers and Auditors** was presented by Jack Heyman, CGFM, CISA, CPA.

We do not have a group Community Service project for March. On April 29 our Chapter will be working at a soda booth at Mayfest from 3:30 to 6:30. You can contact any Chapter officer to volunteer.

Our Chapter Executive Committee (CEC) meeting was held immediately following the Chapter Meeting on February 10.

Our March 3 audio entitled **The War Against Fraud and Abuse: Are We Winning?** was very well attended. The Texas-Oklahoma Regional Vice President, Carol McFarland from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma visited and answered questions posed to her about National AGA. Carol presented information on the Sectional Leadership meeting to be held in Kansas City, MO on May 14-15, 2010 for next year's officers.

Our Chapter Executive Committee (CEC) meeting was held immediately following the Chapter Meeting on March 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 March 3, 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 thirteen attendees; twelve members and one guest from City of Hurst present. A sandwich lunch was served to all attendees. The presentation was “**The War Against Fraud and Abuse: Are We Winning?**” David L. Cotton, CGFM, CPA, CFE who is the CEO of the Cotton and Company LLP was the speaker.

Babette Haines reported that she has enrolled two new members from GSA.

Bob Kanaga reported that he and Paul O’Connor participated in the February Community Service activity by attending the Tarrant Area Food Bank’s **Empty Bowl** luncheon on February 19, 2010.

Bob Kanaga, Chapter President opened the meeting by welcoming all members attending. The

AGA Moderator, Mr. Ray Harris conducted the seminar. The speaker presented the PowerPoint presentation which can be downloaded from:

Click on “March 3 ppt ” at public.me.com/ckanaga/ , then click on attached zip file screen.

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 and for showing the slides.

Bob Kanaga, CGFM Retired
Chapter President

The Latest Tools and Techniques for Auditors

April 21, 2010
2 CPE Hours Available!

AGA, in conjunction with the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers and the Association of Local Government Auditors is pleased to announce a new and increasingly important topic to our audio conference schedule—using auditing analytics to add value to your organization—set for 1 – 2:50 p.m. (CST), April 21. The audio conference is worth 2 CPE hours.

The use of technology—particularly audit analytics—is an internal audit industry best practice. Find out how government departments of all types can add significant value to the organization by using audit analytics to increase productivity and mitigate risks that lead to error, fraud and waste. Learn to:

- Develop an audit analytics strategy to support the risk assessment process
- Align audit analytics with strategic direction of your department
- Assign responsibility for key roles
- Standardize audit-relevant data into a controlled repository
- Identify key factors to ensure successful implementation of these analytic approaches

This audio conference features a case study. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has a crucial role to play in today's economy through their commitment to sustaining home ownership, creating housing opportunities and supporting community development for those in need. The agency's staff is challenged to oversee numerous programs nationwide and to provide assurance to the Office of the Inspector General in the integrity, efficiency and effectiveness of HUD operations.

To share their practical experiences in information technology audits and the use of audit analytics are **Steve Biskie, CPA, CITP, CISA**, director of services product management, ACL Services, Ltd. who has more than fifteen years of experience in information technology audit for public accounting (as a former Deloitte manager), private industry and with specialized risk management consulting firms; and **Cliff Cole**, computer audit specialist, Office of Inspector General, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Please join us for two hours of lively discussion about this important and timely topic. In addition to the speakers’ commentary, about 20 minutes will be set aside for Q & A so that the participants can ask the speakers questions and share their own experiences.

Chapter Recognition Program

The Fort Worth Chapter has earned a total of 18,232 points through February 2010.

Our next Chapter Recognition Report will be completed on May 31, 2010.

Chapter Executive Committee Meeting

The Chapter Executive Committee (CEC) met at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, March 3, 2010 at Fritz G. Lanham Federal Bldg, Fort Worth, TX 76102. Attendees were: Babette Haines (Membership, Early Careers & CGFM), Lakshmi Krishnamurthy (Treasurer), Bob Kanaga (President), and Bob Kanaga (Education). Debbie Currie, and Willie Hunter sent in proxy statements.

Bob Kanaga, opened the meeting and thanked Babette and Lakshmi for attending. Bob reminded officers that all Chapter Newsletter articles are due March 28, 2010 for the March newsletter. The following topics were discussed during the meeting:

1. **Treasurer Discussion.** \$10 in cash was collected from Paul Brown at the March 3 audio conference and deposited into the Chapter's account on March 3. Lakshmi and Bob reported that as of today they have successfully corrected the Chapter name on the Chapter's EIN with the IRS and on the account with the Federal Credit Union. Both Lakshmi Krishnamurthy's and Bob Kanaga's names are now listed on the Chapter's credit union account.
2. **Next Year's Officers.** At the audio conference Bob Kanaga asked members to volunteer to be officers for the 2010-2011 Chapter Year. He announced that new officers can attend the Sectional Leadership Meeting (SLM) to be held May 14 & 15 in Kansas City, MO.
3. **Membership Discussion.** Membership Officer Babette Haines announced she has signed up two more GSA staff to be AGA members.
4. **CGFM Plan Discussion.** CGFM Officer Babette Haines said she continues to work toward conducting a CGFM Course.
5. **Community Service Activities.** There will not be a Community Service project for March.
6. **Chapter recognition Points.** Bob Kanaga reported that the next report will be submitted before or on March 31, 2010.
7. **Education Report.** Bob reported that twelve members and one guest attended the March 3, 2010 audio conference training.
8. **Next Chapter Meeting.** Our next chapter meeting will be an audio conference held on April 21, 2010. The two hour seminar will be on **The Latest Tools and Techniques for Auditors.**
9. **Next CEC Meeting.** Our next Chapter CEC Meeting will be Wednesday April 21, 2010 at 3:00 p.m. at the Fritz G. Lanham Federal Bldg, Fort Worth, TX 76102.

Our meeting ended at 4:15 p.m.

Bob Kanaga
Chapter President

Chapter Treasurer's Report

As of February 28, 2009 we have a total \$5,719.93. There is \$117.60 in our Share Account; \$4,855.55 in our Money Market Account; and \$746.78 in our Share Draft (Checking) Account.

Lakshmi Krishnamurthy,
Chapter Treasurer

Community Service Project

Our next Community Service project will be to work a soda booth at Mayfest on April 29, 2010 from 3:30 to 6:30. If you want to volunteer please contact Lakshmi Krishnamurthy or Bob Kanaga.

The Dallas Association of Government Accountants
2010 Professional Development Conference
“Innovative Ideas: Revolutionary Results”

When: Thursday and Friday, April 22-23, 2010

Where: Renaissance Dallas—Richardson Hotel
900 East Lookout Drive
Richardson, TX 75082

CPE: 16 Hours

Cost:	<u>2-Day</u>	<u>1-Day</u>
AGA Member	\$295	\$185
Non-Member	\$365	\$255
Retiree	\$195	\$125

10% Discount for Organizations with 5 or More Attendees!

To Register go public.me.com/ckanaga/ ,

click or double click on “April 22-23 PDC” to open the registration information, then click on attached zip file screen to download the Event Flyer, Partial Agenda, and Registration Form. **Deadline is COB on April 16, 2010.**

Call Bob Kanaga (817)929-8243) for Car-Pool details to the event.

Chapter Activity Plan 2009-2010 Chapter Year

Months	CEC Meetings	Chapter Luncheons	Community Service/Social Activity	Other Events
May 2009	Wed. May 13 CEC Meeting Welcome new Officers	Wed. May 13, 2009 Audio Conference <i>Ethics in the Workplace</i> 2 CPE	Work at Mayfest on April 30 Chapter provided Gift Junk Yard Dog Golf Tournament is May 15 at Whitestone Golf Course.	May 15 Officer's List Due May 31 Fourth Qtr CRP Due
June 2009		GSA members attend National PDC.	Worked at Habitat for Humanity at PDC in New Orleans.	Sent Basket to National Community Service Fund at PDC
July 2009	Sat. July 10 CEC Meeting	Officers Prepare Activity Plans	Presyberian Night Shelter On going Volunteer work	July 15 Chapter Plans Due
Aug 2009	Wed. Aug 12 CEC Meeting after AC	Wed. Aug 12 Audio Conference <i>Stimulus Spending: Are Internal Controls in Place?</i> 2 CPE		
Sept 2009	Wed. Sept 2 CEC Meeting	Wed. Sept 2 Audio Conference <i>Grants Management in Today's Environment</i> 2 CPE	Wed. Sept 16 Chapter members attended an orientation presentation at the Trinity River Valley Project Headquarters.	Sept 30 First Qtr CRP Due Annual Chapter Audit Due
Oct 2009	Wed. October 7 CEC Meeting	Wed. October 7 Audio Conference <i>Internal Controls for Auditors, Managers and Staff</i> 2 CPE	Chapter members donated food items to the Tarrant Area Food Bank. Collected food was added to the GSA office location food drive.	
Nov 2009	Wed. Nov. 18 CEC Meeting	Wed. November 18 Audio Conference <i>Auditor's Role in Government Performance Measures</i> 2 CPE	We collected monetary donations for the Tarrant Area Food Bank and mailed in \$110 to the food bank.	
Dec 2009	Wed. December 16 CEC Meeting	Wed. December 16 Audio Conference <i>Latest Trends in Occupational Fraud</i> 2 CPE	Bought gifts for needy students at the Meadowbrook Middle School through the Buffalo Santas Program.	Dec 31 Second Qtr CRP Due
Jan 2010	Wed. January 13 CEC Meeting	Wed. January 13, 2010 Audio Conference <i>Internal Controls</i> 2 CPE Wed. January 27, 2010 Audio Conference <i>President's Executive Order: Reduce Improper Payments and Eliminate Waste.</i> 2 CPE	No Community Service project for January.	
Feb 2010	Wed. February 10 CEC Meeting	Wed. February 10, 2010 Audio Conference <i>Understanding IT Audits for Program Managers and Auditors</i> 2 CPE	Fri. Feb 19, 2010 Community Service Event: Attend the Tarrant Area Food Bank's Empty Bowls event. Advance ticket purchase only.	
Mar 2010	Wed. March 3 CEC Meeting	Wed. March 3, 2010 Audio Conference <i>Fraud</i> 2 CPE	No Community Service project for March.	Mar 31 Third Qtr CRP Due
April 2010	Wed. April 21 CEC Meeting	Wed. April 21, 2010 Audio Conference <i>The Latest Tools and Techniques for Auditors</i> 2 CPE	Thurs., April 29, 2010 Work at a soda booth at Mayfest	Chapter Officer Elections
May 2010		Wed. May 19, 2010 Audio Conference <i>Ethics</i> 2 CPE	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 or 5A27

AGA National News

Summer Professional Development Conference in Orlando, FL

Mark your calendar for **July 11–14, 2010** and make plans to join us in sunny Orlando for AGA's 59th Annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition (**PDC**)—*the* premier education and networking event for government financial managers and accountability professionals.

Worth 24 CPE hours, the conference covers the latest research and information about the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the constantly changing rules and standards, new management techniques, technological advances and practical tips for bringing greater efficiency to government operations. The PDC offers a comprehensive program, captivating speakers, lively discussions, top-quality education sessions, and equips you with knowledge and skills you need to be a more effective leader.

While the PDC has long been respected for offering the best training in the profession, it also offers a number of networking events to help you make new contacts, exchange ideas and collaboratively work on solutions to common problems. Exhibitors are also available to demonstrate the newest products, tools and cutting-edge technology available to help your agency achieve its mission.

Advance registration fees are \$800 for AGA members and \$1,000 for nonmembers until June 11. Register online and save \$25! Early registration also increases your chances of obtaining accommodations at the conference hotel.

We encourage you to bring your families to enjoy everything the Orlando World Center Marriott has to offer. A championship golf course, a full-service spa, a network of six pools, waterfalls, waterslides and whirlpools, delectable dishes at world-class restaurants, and fun and games at the upscale sports bar make this hotel a one-stop-shop for relaxation and fun. Discover the magic of Orlando with its theme parks, water attractions and many other family destinations, along with the best golfing, night clubs and restaurants in the country.

We expect PDC 2010 to be bigger and better than ever. Information about the agenda, speakers and technical education sessions is coming soon. Watch the website for more information...See you in Orlando!

- [Register Online Now](#)
- [Registration Form](#) (PDF)
- [Reserve a Room Online](#)

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	Robert Kanaga	rhkanaga@aol.com	(817) 929-8243
Membership	Babette Haines	babette.haines@gsa.gov	(817) 978-0432
Newsletter	Robert Kanaga	rhkanaga@aol.com	(817) 929-8243
Education	Robert Kanaga	rhkanaga@aol.com	(817) 929-8243
Meetings	Willie Hunter		
Community Service	By Committee		
CGFM Officer	Babette Haines	babette.haines@gsa.gov	(817) 978-0432
Early Careers	Babette Haines	babette.haines@gsa.gov	(817) 978-0432
Chapter Historian	Appointed		
Awards Committee	By Committee		
Webmaster Officer	Debbie Currie	agaftw@yahoo.com	
Chapter Research	By Committee		