

### ABOUT OUR UPCOMING EVENTS

**JUNE 8, 2011**

**AUDIO CONFERENCE - IMPROVING  
CONTROLS CAN IMPROVE PROGRAM**

**PERFORMANCE FROM 2:00 PM TO 4:00 PM**

AT THE OFFICE OF THE STATE COMPTROLLER  
AND DOT, ALBANY, NY

**JUNE 9, 2011**

**ANNUAL AWARDS CELEBRATION LUNCHEON**

FROM 11:30 AM TO 2:00 PM

AT THE WOLFERT'S ROOST  
COUNTRY CLUB, ALBANY, NY

**JUNE 22, 2011**

**AUDIO CONFERENCE - MOVING BEYOND  
THE NUMBERS: TURNING PERFORMANCE**

**MEASURES INTO DOLLARS FROM 2:00 PM**

TO 4:00 PM AT THE OFFICE OF THE STATE  
COMPTROLLER AND DOT, ALBANY, NY

**JUNE 24, 2011**

**GOLF TOURNAMENT TO BENEFIT THE  
ALBANY MEDICAL CENTER'S CHILDREN'S  
HOSPITAL STARTING AT 7:45 AM AT THE VAN  
PATTEN GOLF CLUB, CLIFTON PARK, NY**

RESERVATIONS: ONLINE AT  
WWW.AGANYCAP.ORG OR CONTACT  
REGISTRAR@AGANYCAP.ORG

NO-SHOWS WILL BE BILLED THE  
FULL COST OF THE EVENT.



### Chapter Honored with Several National AGA Awards Again

Congratulations are in order again this year for the many hardworking Chapter members who are going to be honored in many National AGA award categories. It was another stellar year for us!

Not surprisingly, the New York Capital Chapter again receives an award in AGA's Chapter Recognition Program. This award recognizes individual chapter performance and provides a standard by which each AGA chapter maintains a well-rounded operation for the professional growth of its members. Our Chapter has won this award every year in memory and, this year, we are again at the "Platinum all-star" level. We attained this award for excellence in chapter administration, membership efforts, educational programming, communications and community service. In fact, our Chapter had the most points of any other AGA chapter. Incoming President **Thalia Melendez** will accept the award on our behalf of **Shelly Taleporos** and our Chapter at AGA's Professional Development Conference in Atlanta, GA.

This year, the AGA National Office recognized the many years of hard work and dedication of **Michael A. Abbott, CGFM** with a Chapter Service Award. **Nicole Van Hoesen** won the Group A Chapter Community Service Award for her work in leading the

Chapter's varied community service projects, which benefited organization at both the local and national levels. Congratulations also go to **Brian Gee**, whose outstanding efforts as this past year's Education Vice President have earned the Chapter the AGA Education Award for our category. While final news was not out as of this printing, **Laura J. Brown, CGFM** should be awarded first place in the Group A Chapter Website competition.



Our Chapter also won first place in AGA's PDC Video Contest. We won a free PDC registration and five nights hotel accommodations this year in Atlanta or next year in San Diego. Our video was featured on a PDC e-mail blast and might be shown at a general session at PDC.

Thank you to everyone involved in creating the video, most especially **Roger Mazula** who produced the video and did an amazing job of putting it all together. Here's a link to the video for those who haven't seen it yet: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sJXXd7e9rQ>

Please join us on June 9<sup>th</sup> at the Wolfert's Roost Country Club as we recognize the hard work and efforts of these individuals and the many others that have helped the Chapter continue to be one of the model chapters within the AGA organization.

# CAPITAL IDEAS

PUBLISHED BY: NEW YORK CAPITAL CHAPTER  
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS

## OUR MISSION IS...

TO SERVE PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY COMMUNITY BY PROVIDING QUALITY EDUCATION AT A REASONABLE COST, SUPPORTING PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS, PROMOTING PROFESSIONAL INTERACTION AND NETWORKING, RECOGNIZING PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT, AND SERVING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.

## OUR VISION IS TO BE...

- THE BEST AGA CHAPTER;
- THE BEST ORGANIZATION SERVING THE NEW YORK CAPITAL AREA GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY COMMUNITY; AND
- A MODEL PROVIDER OF QUALITY AND AFFORDABLE CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION.

## WE VALUE...

### INTEGRITY

FOSTER THE HIGHEST PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS OF ETHICAL CONDUCT AND BEHAVIOR.

### EXCELLENCE

STRIVE FOR THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT.

### ACCOUNTABILITY

MAINTAIN AND ADVANCE SOUND FISCAL AND OPERATIONAL PRACTICES.

### LEADERSHIP

BE PROACTIVE AND INNOVATIVE IN DIRECTING OUR ACTIVITIES.

### RESPECT

TREAT EVERYONE FAIRLY AND WITH DIGNITY.

### SERVICE

ATTEND TO THE NEEDS OF OUR MEMBERS, THE GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL SECTOR AND COMMUNITY.

## President's Message

from  
Shelly Taleporos



The Chapter's program year is winding down, and with that, this is my last President's message. It's hard to believe an entire year has passed already since I took over as Chapter President last June. As I prepare to turn the gavel over to the incoming Chapter President, Thalia Melendez, I look back at this last year with great pride. We have accomplished so much this past year as a chapter, including: providing over 60 CPEs, participating in over 12 community service projects, and obtaining the designation as March 2011 as CGFM month. We were able to get the Chapter's Facebook and Twitter pages active, and produce excellent bi-monthly issues of our award-winning newsletter *Capital Ideas*.

It has truly been a privilege to serve as Chapter President. I have grown so much both personally and professionally as a result of this experience. The New York Capital Chapter is one of the best AGA chapters in the country and after serving as President, I have greater understanding and appreciation of what makes the chapter so great. The Chapter is run by an amazing group of volunteers who donate freely of their time and, most importantly, their knowledge. I feel honored to have to been able to work with such a wonderful group of people.

At the kick-off breakfast in September, I encouraged everyone to take a more active role in the Chapter and talked about all of the benefits of being an active member. After serving as President, I cannot put into words all of the benefits I have received from being a part of such an amazing chapter. The Chapter has not only given me a chance to develop leadership skills, but also the unique experience of having not one, but several mentors who have shared their knowledge and experience to help me succeed. I am grateful and humbled by the amount of support I have received from them.

I would strongly encourage others to pursue leadership positions within the AGA. Holding an AGA leadership position will not only provide you with opportunities to learn from outstanding professionals, but also help develop your organizational and public speaking skills.

I invite you to join me on Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup> for the Annual Award Celebration Luncheon held at Wolfert's Roost. I look forward celebrating the success of the chapter and thanking those who made it so successful!

## CityTime Payroll Scandal

by David R. Hancox, CGFM

**C**ityTime is an automated payroll system for New York City employees. It's been more than 11 years in the making, has cost over \$722 million (originally estimated to cost \$63 million in 1998) and six consultants have swindled more than \$80 million from it according to a New York Times article.<sup>[1]</sup>

Incredibly, Karen Shaffer, an assistant commissioner of the Department for the Aging, acknowledged in a signed statement to the city's Conflicts of Interest Board that between March 2009 and August 2010 she was paid for 290 hours of work that she did not perform.

She said she did so by manually entering false information into the CityTime automated payroll system.<sup>[2]</sup>

Finally, Officials at the contractor, Science Applications International Corp., said they will reimburse the city the \$2.47 million that project manager Gerard Denault unfairly billed when he worked on the massive project to switch city employees to the system.

In a letter to the executive director of the city's Financial Information Services Agency - which now oversees CityTime - SAIC's senior vice president said it was impossible to determine how many hours Denault should have been paid for.<sup>[3]</sup>

### Wrong Focus

CityTime was pushed by one powerful administration insider: the budget director, Mark Page. According to the New York Times, "Mr. Page, 62, a numbers cruncher ... had become frustrated and distrustful of city workers... They described Mr. Page as "...a veteran bureaucrat and descendant of the financier J. P. Morgan -- ...appointed in 2002. A dour man respected for his mastery of numbers, Mr. Page had long been frustrated by myriad union timekeeping rules."

So we have a dour, frustrated, city bureaucrat who thinks strong controls are necessary to properly control the time

keeping practices of city employees. Unfortunately, these **strong controls are the wrong controls.**

How many times have you observed an employee coming to work on time and leaving on time, but doing nothing during the day? Absolutely nothing!

In Albany New York, several auditors in my office observed a State employee sitting on top of a parking garage getting a tan every day. He would clock in, and then proceed to his supposedly hidden location. This went on for weeks. It took us a little time to identify the person, but our major question was - where was the supervisor?

Isn't it more important for employees to be productive than to be clock watchers? Shouldn't supervisors monitor productivity more than time? Personally, I value productivity over time rules.

People don't like to be controlled. The more you control them, the more they rebel and figure out how to beat the system. Years ago, a major New York State agency required its employees to punch a time clock. One smart employee realized that Macy's had the same time clock for its employees. So this enterprising State employee and a few of his colleagues would simply take the afternoon off and punch out at Macy's!

Another important concept to keep in mind - most employees want to do the right thing. There are a relatively small group of liars, cheaters and people who steal. Unfortunately, management in many organizations create an environment that fosters the mistrust and distrust the dour Mr. Page was concerned about.

The CityTime system is approaching 3/4 of a billion dollars. It's predicated on a concept that is doomed to failure as Assistant Commissioner Karen Shaffer already showed.

If managers would move to managing based on values instead of rules - the workplace would be better for it.

<sup>[1]</sup> Chen, David W., Serge F. Kovaleski, and John Eligon. "Behind troubled city payroll project, lax oversight and one powerful insider." *The New York Times*. (March 28, 2011)

<sup>[2]</sup> Chen, David W. "Assistant Commissioner Who Faked Time Sheets Is Demoted." *The New York Times*. (May 26, 2011)

<sup>[3]</sup> "CITYTIME BOSS' OWN CHEAT SHEET." *New York Post* (New York, NY). (May 26, 2011)

## CNN Poll: Americans Flunk Budget IQ Test

by CNN Political Unit

If you think cutting the government's budget is as easy as taking the ax to some unpopular federal programs, a new national poll suggests that you should think again.

According to a CNN/Opinion Research Corporation survey released Friday, most Americans think that the government spends a lot more money than it actually does on such unpopular programs as foreign aid and public broadcasting.

The poll's release comes one week before current funding for the government runs out. If there is no budget agreement between congressional lawmakers by next Friday, some government programs and offices may shut down.

"The public has a better idea of how much the government spends on programs like Social Security and Medicare, but there is a related problem - cutting them has little public support," says CNN Polling Director Keating Holland. "The result: cutting unpopular programs would probably not cut the deficit very much, and cutting the deficit would probably require cuts in programs that Americans like."

Let's start with international assistance. Sixty percent of people we questioned say they'd like to put foreign aid on the chopping block. So would that make a dent in the deficit?

No - but try telling that to the American public. According to the poll, on average, Americans estimate that foreign aid takes up 10 percent of the federal budget, and one in five think it represents about 30 percent of the money the government spends. But the actual figure is closer to one percent, according to data from the Office of Management and Budget from the 2010 fiscal year's \$3.5 trillion budget.

OK. Let's try more low-hanging fruit - funding for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Our survey indicates nearly half of all Americans would like to see major cuts.

According to our poll the public estimates that the government spent five percent of its budget last year on public television and radio.

Not even close. The real answer is about one-tenth of one percent.

Want more examples?

Cutting pensions and benefits for government workers is popular, but once again most Americans overestimate how much that costs the government. On average, Americans think the federal government spent 10 percent of its 2010 budget on pensions and retiree benefits; the OMB figures indicate the real number is about 3.5 percent.

A sizeable minority would like to see food and housing assistance for the poor on the chopping block, but Americans' estimates of how much the government spends on those programs are three to four times higher than the actual price tag.

Cuts in military spending also have some support - more than a third of all Americans favor cuts in that area. But the public, once again, overestimates the amount of military spending. They told us 30 percent in our poll. In reality only 19 percent of the 2010 budget went towards military spending, according to 2010 OMB figures.

What Americans got right are the programs they don't want to cut.

When we ask Americans to guess how much Social Security cost the government in 2010, the median estimate was 20 percent. Not bad, given that OMB figures indicate that Social Security represented 20.4 percent of the federal budget in 2010.

"Budget experts agree that cutting a target that big would be a good start toward getting the deficit under control. Problem is, 87 percent of people we surveyed don't want to decrease the amount of money spent on Social Security - and four in ten would like to see that figure grow. The same is generally true for Medicare and Medicaid, which combined made up 19 percent of last year's budget," adds Holland.

The CNN/Opinion Research Corporation survey was conducted March 11-13, with 1,023 people questioned by telephone. The survey's overall sampling error is plus or minus three percentage points.

## Successful Preparation is the Basis for a Successful Presentation by Ellen Finkelstein

When you find out that you need to give a presentation, your first step should be preparation.

And to successfully prepare, you need to know what steps you need to take. What are the steps of preparation for a successful presentation?

### 1. Complete an overview/planning form



The very first step to take is to complete an overview/planning form. This form should guide you throughout and will keep you from wasting time by going off track. It should include your goal, main points, conclusion and more.

### 2. Brainstorm and collaborate ideas for the presentation



You're not finished with the overview/planning form because you should consider other approaches and ideas. Spend some time thinking of possible points that would be valuable or persuasive to your audience. Ask others. Then hone your ideas into 3 main points and modify your form if necessary. Remember that the purpose of brainstorming is to evoke creativity but that the second part of the process is to refine and come up with the best ideas.

### 3. Research your audience

Find out what your audience needs/wants to know. What is their current level of knowledge and interest? What problems are they experiencing? Sometimes, you can simply ask. Other times, you need to do some research. But you need to know.

Then modify your overview/planning form if necessary.

### 4. Figure out how long your talk should be



I'm going to blow your mind here. Let's say that you've been told that you have 30 minutes to present an idea to senior management for approval. The meeting will be to 5 people in an Executive VP's office at 3 pm. By 3:30, you need to be out of there.

So you think your presentation can be 30 minutes long? Think again!

You can't walk in until 3 pm because that's when you've been invited. You have to assume your EVP has something else going on before then. Then you need to set up your projector and computer and say hello to everyone. 5 minutes gone.

Your idea will evoke lots of questions. Your EVP is no pushover and will challenge your proposal. You need to leave 10 minutes for questions and answers. 10 minutes gone.

After the Q&A, you may need to ask for approval, get a Yes (hopefully) or request for more information. You need to say thank you and pack up your laptop and projector. 5 minutes gone.

Set up and pleasantries: 5 minutes

Q&A: 10 minutes

Close and pack up: 5 minutes

Total: 20 minutes

How much time does that give you to present?  
10 minutes!

### 5. Write out your talk

Now that you know how long you have to speak, write out your talk, including your opening and your closing.

There are two ways to write out your presentation's content:

If you're naturally a good speaker and can easily create smooth sentences from notes, without stumbling and searching for words, then you can write out notes rather than full sentences. If you struggle with speaking smooth sentences and need to work on your phrasing and wording, write out full sentences. You won't be reading from this paper when you present and you won't memorize your talk.

Work on your organization and logic. Spend extra time on the all-important opening and closing.

### 6. Get the supporting data you'll need and incorporate it into your talk



You may find yourself doing this step with the previous step, but it's better to focus on your organization when you write and add the supporting data later. Supporting data can be complex and can distract you from the basics of your message; you can easily start rambling.

### 7. Speak out your talk; record and time it

Set up an audio recorder, whether on your computer or with a separate device. Write down the starting time and start speaking out your presentation. Pretend that you are in front of your audience. Don't rush; remember it's easy to go too fast when you're reading. Write down the ending time.

### 8. Listen and edit

Check how long the talk took. If it's too long, you'll have to cut. If it's too short, you may need to add material. (You don't always HAVE to take up your full time!) Listen to the recording and write down notes on your script as you go. Stop and start as necessary so you have time to make those notes. Ask yourself:

- Does the presentation sound convincing?
- Does it sound smooth and professional?
- Did I leave anything important out?
- Did I stray off my points?
- Will this meet the wants/needs of the audience?

What would I think if I were in the audience? As Nancy Duarte says, "Never give a presentation that you wouldn't want to sit through."

If you think you need to make lots of changes, considering re-recording your presentation to get a better result.

### 9. Storyboard your presentation

A storyboard is a bunch of boxes, each representing a slide. I recommend doing this with pencil and paper, so that you can sketch out ideas for visuals.

Use the Tell 'n' Show Method. Don't worry how many slides you create, just write each new concept or thought as the title of a new slide. Then sketch out a visual that will show your point. The purpose of a visual is to help your audience understand and remember your point, and often to help persuade as well. Graphs, diagrams, and photos are essential for this purpose. All-text slides will hinder your audience from understanding and remembering what you say; they aren't very persuasive either, according to research.

### 10. Get approval from your boss



Do you need to get approval from your boss before presenting? Do so before you spend hours on your slides. Show him or her your storyboard and overview form. Make any changes required before going on.

Have you noticed that you haven't opened PowerPoint yet?

### 11. Open PowerPoint and create your title slide

I won't go into detail here about design; this post is already long enough!

### 12. Create the rest of your slides using the Tell 'n' Show Method

You will be amazed at how quickly you create your slides when you have your storyboard to follow. You will save LOTS of time.

### 13. Put the text of your notes in the Notes pane and print out Notes pages

You'll use these notes for practicing. If you feel you need notes to present with, create a condensed version, not in full sentences, so you won't be tempted to read. (BORING!!)

#### 14. Do your 1st practice in front of the computer



This is easiest for your first run-through with your slides. You'll feel comfortable, too. You'll notice that changes need to be made; perhaps the slides don't work in one place and the script needs changing in another. Make those changes so you can go through the presentation smoothly.

#### 15. Do your 2nd practice standing up and get feedback from colleagues, if possible

This practice is a little more formal and getting feedback is SO important. Ask your initial audience what they understood. Did they remember your key points. Were they persuaded? Try to get honest feedback. ("Tell me at least one good thing and one bad thing.")

#### 16. Do a 3rd practice in the final location with a projector, if possible

This is your dress rehearsal. Practice until you think you're ready for the big day!

## A Good Introduction/Opener by Ellen Finkelstein

A good introduction to the delivery of your presentation is extremely important. The first minute or so sets the stage for the rest of your talk.

You should start with an upbeat, positive mood. The first impression you make lasts. You want to quickly gain the attention, interest, and respect of your audience. Your first words should be lively, interesting, clear, and simple.

Start by expressing the fact that you're glad to be there. A statement like, "I'm glad/excited/pleased/thrilled to be here" is almost obligatory. It invites the audience to be glad that they're there, too. Your excitement is infectious and infuses the session with your energy.

Claudyne Wilder, in the July, 2007 issue of her newsletter, "Wilder's Presentation Points," said the following:

"A presenter who says, 'I know you are busy people and have many things to do. Thank you for coming,' only reminds everyone of all the things that they aren't doing because they are sitting and listening. Distracting the audience before the presentation even begins is hardly a positive way to begin!"

Your introduction should answer the following

Who are you?  
What is your topic?  
Why is it important?

#### \* Who are you?

If you will be introduced, re-mention your name and re-affirm the most important fact about yourself that the audience will find meaningful, such as your experience with the topic. Otherwise, provide a slightly longer introduction, but just enough to let people know why they should listen to you.

#### \* What is your topic?

Give a brief explanation of your topic, just a little longer than the title of your talk. Don't give away the secret of your talk, but whet their appetite.

#### \* Why is it important?

Finally, tell the audience why the topic is important to them. What will they have gained by the time the talk is finished? Don't feel shy to promise that they'll learn something useful; they really want to know that.

The entire opening should only take a minute or two. More than that, and it becomes boring because the audience will be impatient to hear the main content of your presentation.

Lori Giovannoni, in her e-book, *So You Want to Be a Speaker*, says, "Your intro should be well rehearsed, clear and filled with confidence. This is not the time to stammer and stutter and hope for the best. A poor intro will drop the energy in the room and

you will spend the next half hour trying to recapture it."

Here are some other ideas for openers:

Ask your audience a question and ask them to raise hands in reply. For example, "How many of you regularly give presentations to small audiences of 1 to 10 people?"

Begin with an interesting, relevant quote. Then use that quote to launch your talk. For example, "Author and columnist Earl Wilson said, 'If you wouldn't write it and sign it, don't say it.' This gives us a clue as to how you can gain believability from your audience."

Mention something another speaker said, or a current event, that is related to your presentation.

Start with a short, relevant personal story or experience.

When you've written your introduction/opening, rewrite it and edit it until you like it. Then practice giving it out loud. Practice again. Time it. Record it and listen to it. Make adjustments and practice the new version. You should be able to speak it out without looking at your notes. When you're done, you'll have a great opener to your presentation!



PO Box 1923  
Albany, NY 12201  
[www.aganycap.org](http://www.aganycap.org)

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Government  
Accountability*

## NEW YORK CAPITAL CHAPTER

### TOPIC:

**IMPROVING CONTROLS CAN IMPROVE  
PROGRAM PERFORMANCE**

### FORMAT:

**NATIONAL AUDIO CONFERENCE**

### DATE:

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 2011**

### TIMES:

**2:00 –3:50 P.M.**

### SPEAKERS:

**KATHY HILL  
RORY SOUTHER**

### CPEs:

**2 CREDITS**

### LOCATION:

**OFFICE OF THE STATE COMPTROLLER  
110 STATE STREET, ALBANY, NY**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
50 WOLF ROAD, ALBANY, NY**

**NOTE: AN ID SUCH AS A DRIVER LICENSE IS  
REQUIRED FOR ENTRY INTO EITHER BUILDING.  
PLEASE ARRIVE EARLY TO ALLOW TIME TO CHECK IN.**

### COST:

**FREE FOR AGA MEMBERS  
\$15 FOR NON-MEMBERS**

Establishing and maintaining effective internal controls are key factors for managing risk while improving operational efficiency and effectiveness. Many government agencies are making progress on improving controls, but are hampered by limited resources and the proliferation of requirements.

This audio conference focuses on how some agencies are meeting this challenge. Participants will gain insight into the methodologies, solutions and tools available to enable agencies to more effectively and efficiently assess entity-wide risks, evaluate internal controls, improve processes, comply with government requirements, and achieve agency program goals and business objectives.

To share their expert knowledge and practical experience in internal controls are **Kathy Hill**, director, Risk Management and Compliance, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and **Rory Souther**, chief, Office of Resource Management, U.S. Coast Guard.

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 questions.

**Learning Objectives:** To understand how government agencies can improve operations by balancing good internal controls, risks, mandates and agency goals

**Prerequisite:** None Required

**Advance Prep:** None Required

**Field of Study:** Auditing

**NYS License Number:** 00329

Registration: Online at [www.aganycap.org](http://www.aganycap.org)

Remember to register early: capacity is limited



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Albany, NY 12201  
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## NEW YORK CAPITAL CHAPTER

### TOPIC:

**ANNUAL APPRECIATION LUNCHEON  
CHAPTER AWARDS AND RECOGNITION  
CEREMONY**

### DATE:

**THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 2011**

### TIMES:

**11:30 AM – 12:00 PM – REGISTRATION  
12:00 PM – 12:45 PM – LUNCH  
12:45 PM – 2:00 PM – AWARDS AND  
RECOGNITION CELEBRATION**

### HOSTS:

**SHELLY TALEPOROS, CHAPTER  
PRESIDENT  
THALIA MELENDEZ, INCOMING  
CHAPTER PRESIDENT**

### LOCATION:

**WOLFERT'S ROOST COUNTRY CLUB  
VAN RENSSELAER BLVD., ALBANY, NY**

### MENU CHOICES:

**ASIAN CHICKEN SALAD  
LONDON BROIL  
PASTA PRIMAVERA  
(DESSERT: APPLE CRISP)**

### COST:

**\$10 FOR AGA MEMBERS  
\$20 FOR OTHERS  
AWARDEES ATTEND FREE OF CHARGE**

President Shelly Taleporos will first summarize the Chapter's successes for the 2010-2011 program year and will turn the gavel over to our incoming President, Thalia Melendez, who will outline her goals for the 2011-12 program year.

This year-end event is marked by numerous



recognition awards presented to the hardworking volunteers that help make our Chapter one of the most highly-regarded of all AGA chapters. We will also recognize the 2011 recipient of our Outstanding Achievements in Government

Accountability Award. As you will recall from last year, Lynn Canton from the United States Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency won this prestigious award.

The Annual Appreciation Luncheon always provides excellent networking opportunities, as well as a chance to meet the Chapter's new officers and Board members.

So please mark your calendars and attend this special event. The Luncheon brings together our Chapter family to conduct a little business - while having great food and lots of fun!



Registration: Online at [www.aganycap.org](http://www.aganycap.org)



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*Advancing  
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## NEW YORK CAPITAL CHAPTER

### TOPIC:

**MOVING BEYOND THE NUMBERS - TURNING  
PERFORMANCE MEASURES INTO DOLLARS**

### FORMAT:

**NATIONAL AUDIO CONFERENCE**

### DATE:

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2011**

### TIMES:

**2:00 –3:50 P.M.**

### SPEAKERS:

**RONALD P. HORNBOSTEL  
SHERI CHANEY JONES  
BEV SEFFRIN, PH D**

### CPEs:

**2 CREDITS**

### LOCATION:

**OFFICE OF THE STATE COMPTROLLER  
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PLEASE ARRIVE EARLY TO ALLOW TIME TO CHECK IN.**

### COST:

**FREE FOR AGA MEMBERS  
\$15 FOR NON-MEMBERS**

In today's environment, it is critical for government organizations to clearly measure and communicate their value and return on investment for their stakeholders. Although leaders may understand the importance of using data and information in their decision making, they often lack the staff, resources, time and expertise to fully utilize these efforts. This presentation will show how to overcome these barriers by outlining five effective and inexpensive elements of performance and outcome measurement. Participants will learn specific methods for measuring their mission and impact and transforming results into powerful communication tools that generate positive outcomes. In addition, the presenters will share how they have used performance measurement to communicate impact and realize significant savings and results.

To share their practical experiences and expertise in performance measures are Ronald P. Hornbostel, deputy director, Policy and Programs, Ohio Department of Aging; Sheri Chaney Jones, president, Measurement Resources Company, and Bev Seffrin, Ph.D., deputy director, Performance Evaluation, Franklin County Domestic and Juvenile Court, Columbus, OH.

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 questions.

**Learning Objectives:** To learn how measuring performance can result in positive outcomes

**Prerequisite:** Some familiarity with measuring performance

**Advance Prep:** None Required

**Field of Study:** Management Advisory Services

**NYS License Number: 00329**

Registration: Online at [www.aganycap.org](http://www.aganycap.org)

Remember to register early: capacity is limited



*New York Capital Chapter  
Association of Government  
Accountants*



**Albany Chapter**

*Albany Chapter  
Institute of Internal Auditors*



*Hudson Valley Chapter  
ISACA*



*Albany Area Chapter  
Association of Certified  
Fraud Examiners*

## EVENT:

**GOLF TOURNAMENT TO  
BENEFIT THE ALBANY  
MEDICAL CENTER'S  
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL**

## DATE:

**FRIDAY,  
JUNE 24, 2011**

## LOCATION:

**VAN PATTEN  
GOLF CLUB  
924 MAIN STREET  
CLIFTON PARK, NY**

## TIME:

**8:00 A.M. START  
SCRAMBLE FORMAT**

**COST: \$85 PER PLAYER**

## AWARDS:

**1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE TEAM PRIZE  
LONGEST DRIVE  
CLOSEST TO THE PIN**

## REGISTRATION:

**[WWW.AGANYCAP.ORG](http://www.aganycap.org)  
BY JUNE 10, 2011**



The local chapters of the AGA, IIA, ACFE and ISACA are co-sponsoring their annual golf tournament to benefit the Albany Medical Center Children's Hospital and you, your friends and colleagues are invited to participate!



The day will include coffee, pastries, bagels and juice in the morning, 18 holes of golf (cart included) at the Van Patten Golf Club in Clifton Park, as well as an awards ceremony with lunch after golf. Lunch will include Barbequed Chicken, Sausage and Peppers, Ziti, Deli Platter, Cheeses, and Salads. The cost of this event is \$85.00 per person with the proceeds to benefit the Albany Medical Center's Children's Hospital.

Please join us for a day of golf and to support the wonderful accomplishments of the Children's Hospital. Don't have a full team? Not a problem! We will round out your team with other participants (we'll contact you about your team prior to the event). To register for this event, go on-line at [www.aganycap.org](http://www.aganycap.org) or contact



Brian Gee at [brian.gee@opwdd.ny.gov](mailto:brian.gee@opwdd.ny.gov), or at (518) 486-4248 if you have any questions.





### AGA's 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Professional Development Conference

Mark your calendar for **July 10–13, 2011** and make plans to join us in Hotlanta for AGA's 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition (PDC)—*the* premier education and networking event for government financial managers and accountability professionals. The theme for this year's conference is "Celebrating Our Past, Embracing the Future."

The PDC is the authoritative source for the knowledge and contacts you need to succeed in today's constantly changing environment. Offering 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.

In addition to an outstanding technical program, the conference features a numerous 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.

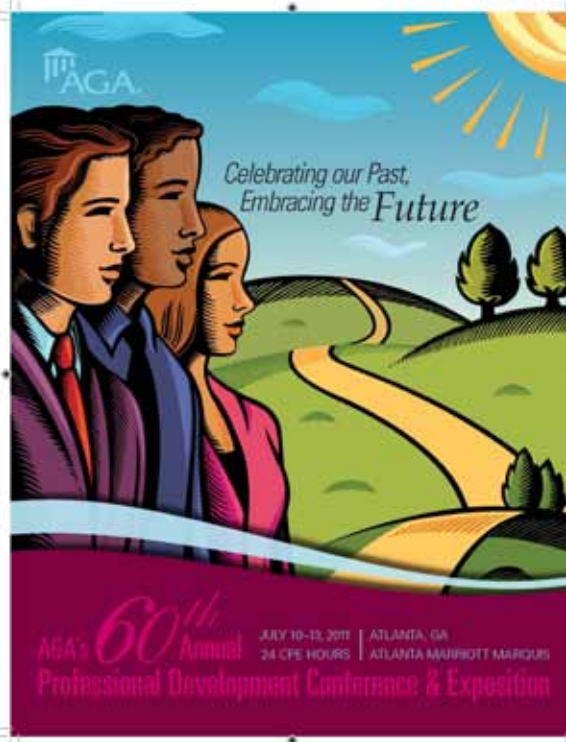
PDC 2011 will be bigger and better than ever! This event is packed with dynamic speakers, informative sessions and unparalleled opportunities to network.

Celebrating our Past,  
Embracing the Future

We want to go  
to AGA's 2011  
PDC in Atlanta



NEW YORK CAPITAL CHAPTER



## AGA New York Capital Chapter Community Services Calendar 2010-11

### **Pull Tab for the Shriner's Hospital**

When: All Year!

For two consecutive years, our Chapter has reached out to its membership to 'Pop-A-Top' from their soda or beer cans for the Shriners Hospitals for Children. The Shriners provide care to children with orthopedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries and cleft lip and palate. Those children eligible for care and receiving medical



**Shriners Hospitals  
for Children™**

treatment at the Shriners Hospitals receive all services in a family-centered environment at no charge – regardless of financial need. In addition, if transportation is needed, it is provided by the Hospital. Please stay tuned to our website and newsletters for how to

donate your cans' tabs to the Shriners. We will be setting up collections at our local training events this year. If you already have tabs collected and are waiting to donate them or if you have any questions or would like to help- please contact Sigrid Coons at [scoons@mail.nysed.gov](mailto:scoons@mail.nysed.gov).

**\*\* Pulling the tab off of the cans does not interfere with deposit refunds\*\***

### **Operation DVD**

When: All Year!

Last year we started a collection of DVDs to send to our troops in Iraq. As the troops will be pulling out of Iraq; the Chapter will continue to collect DVDs and send them to our troops in Afghanistan. When not on missions, our troops are hard at work at Physical Training and anything else to keep them occupied. Since they are willing to take a bullet for us, lets make their service more enjoyable and keep them entertained!



Please clean out your DVD collection and donate today! You can contact Nicole Van Hoesen at [nvanhoes@nysif.com](mailto:nvanhoes@nysif.com) or call her at 518-859-9005.

**August 2010**

### **WMHT Membership Drive**

When: August 4, 2010, 7:30 PM-11:00 PM

Where: The WMHT Studios  
4 Global View  
Troy, NY

As our local public broadcasting station and a non-profit organization, WMHT relies heavily on the support of the community. The membership drives enable the PBS station to provide quality television programs. Please join the New York Capital Chapter in collecting pledges in their live broadcast! Volunteers are trained before the shift and will be



answering phone calls of pledges for PBS's viewers. Snacks are provided and the AGA will receive on-air recognition for our efforts. This will be the eighth year we have participated in the broadcast. Parking is located adjacent to the studios. If you would like to participate or have any questions please contact Nicole Van Hoesen at [nvanhoes@nysif.com](mailto:nvanhoes@nysif.com) or 518-859-9005 no later

than July 27, 2010. To register for this event, click the register button at the bottom of this page. If you have any questions about this event, contact Brian Gee at [brian.gee@omr.state.ny.us](mailto:brian.gee@omr.state.ny.us) or at (518) 486-4248.

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## October 2010

### Step Out: Walk to Fight Diabetes

When: October 2, 2010

Where: Cook Park, Colonie



The American Diabetes Association and the New York Capital Chapter of the AGA are on a quest to cure diabetes, but we cannot reach our goal without your help. Please make a donation or join the AGA for a fun-filled day. Your support will take us one step closer to a cure.

The event is fun for the whole family. A light breakfast is served, along with lunch, entertainment and fitness fair. Step Out and experience the difference you can make; along with your fellow AGA members and friends. The more the merrier!! Contact Shelly Taleporos at [shelly.taleporos@labor.state.ny.us](mailto:shelly.taleporos@labor.state.ny.us) or (518) 457-0504 if you would like to donate or walk with us.

## November 2010

### Preparing and Serving a Meal for the Capital City Rescue Mission

When: November 5, 2010

Where: 259 South Pearl St, Albany, 12202



The AGA New York Capital Chapter will assist the Capital City Rescue Mission in preparing and serving a meal for Downtown Albany's homeless. The Rescue Mission provides three hot meals a day as well as shelter to homeless and needy families. The mission always needs volunteers to provide this valuable service to the Capital District. Please contact Thalia Melendez at [tmelendez@osc.state.ny.us](mailto:tmelendez@osc.state.ny.us) if you would like to help out or have any questions.

### Raffle to Benefit Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York at AGA Fraud Conference

When: November 22, 2010

Where: Holiday Inn, 205 Wolf Rd., Colonie



Since 1982, the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern NY is helping to feed the poor and hungry in our communities. It is the only organization of its kind in northeastern New York. Even if you are not attending the annual fraud conference, please drop by to make a contribution and enter the raffle for some terrific prizes.

### Project Equinox

When: November 23, 2010



During Thanksgiving week of every year, at least 7,500 meals are prepared at the Empire State Plaza and then delivered by volunteers to individuals who live within a 25 mile radius of downtown Albany. This year, the AGA will take part in this great cause, and help prepare 8,000 pounds of turkey, 2,000 pounds of ham, 2,800 pounds of yams, 940 pies, 625 dozen dinner rolls, 48 gallons of cider and 19,500 pieces of fruit. For more information, contact Thalia Melendez at [tmelendez@osc.state.ny.us](mailto:tmelendez@osc.state.ny.us).

## December 2010

### Holiday Luncheon Raffle

When: December 10, 2010

Each year, the local chapters of the AGA, IIA, ACFE and ISACA come together to celebrate the holidays and to listen to a motivational speaker. It's a great time for friendship and networking, as well as an opportunity to benefit a local charity. We hope that you will join us and perhaps win a prize or two!

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## January 2011

### IRS Voluntary Income Tax Assistance (VITA)

When: January - April 2011, Training in November 2010



VITA involves IRS-trained volunteers who provide free tax assistance at community locations to individuals who need assistance with basic income tax return preparation. VITA is aimed at those for whom paid professional assistance may be out of reach, those who are non-English speaking, persons with disabilities, those with a low to fixed income, the elderly, and other individuals with special needs. For more information or to volunteer, contact Linda Cioffi.

### Smart Investing @ Your Library

When: January 2011 - Summer 2011



Along with VITA, the Capital Chapter of the AGA would like to assist the Albany Public Library in this new program to help our community members in their household budgeting. The library will produce a training schedule in the fall of 2010 for volunteers. Volunteers will work at a convenience of their own schedule to help everyday people manage a good budget.

For more information about the program please contact Meg Maurer at 518-427-4328.

### Spring in January Flower Fundraiser

When: January 2011



The New York Capital Chapter of the AGA is proud to offer the “Spring-In-January” flower fundraiser to benefit the Capital District Sponsor-A-Scholar Program. The Program supports youth from low-income families at Troy, Albany, and Schenectady High Schools reach their goals. Those students selected must demonstrate leadership potential and have a commitment to their education. We will be selling mixed bunches of hybrid anemone bunches for \$12 each. To purchase a bunch of flowers, or for more information about this event, contact Nicole Van Hoesen at [nvanhoes@nysif.com](mailto:nvanhoes@nysif.com) or call (518) 859-9005.

## February 2011

### Valentines and Cookies to Veterans at the Stratton VA Medical Center

When: February, 2011



We will be baking cookies and delivering the cookies and valentines made by school children to the veterans at the medical center. Last year, the veterans were extremely touched by the valentines and appreciative of the cookies. It is a fun, heart-warming experience. If you would like to bake cookies or hand out the treats and cards to the veterans, please contact Ann Marsh at [amarsh@mail.nysed.gov](mailto:amarsh@mail.nysed.gov) or call (518) 473-2020.

## March 2011

### Preparing a Meal for the Residents of Ronald McDonald House

When: March 2011



The Ronald McDonald House’s motto is “a strong mind; a strong body; and a safe, supportive place to grow”. These are things that every child needs and deserves to have. Helping to provide these things is what the Ronald McDonald House Charities do. By creating, finding and supporting programs that directly improve the health and well being of children, Ronald McDonald

House Charities is working to better the lives of children and their families around the world. To volunteer, contact Brian Gee at [brian.gee@omr.state.ny.us](mailto:brian.gee@omr.state.ny.us) or call (518) 474-4376.

### TCTC Raffle

When: March 2011

Annually, during our most favored training conference TCTC (the Conference that Counts), the Chapter will contribute the proceeds of our raffles to a local Charity.



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## April 2011

### Big Brothers Big Sisters “Bowl for Kids Sake” Bowl-a-thon

When: April, 2011



This event raises funds, through amounts pledged for participating bowlers, for the Big Brothers Big Sisters organization. Due to the past success of the BFKS, Big Brothers Big Sisters has been able to provide hundreds of children, from their waiting list, with the friendship and guidance of a Big Brother or a Big Sister. For more information, contact Nicole Van Hoesen at [nvanhoes@nysif.com](mailto:nvanhoes@nysif.com) or call (518) 859-9005.

## May 2011

### Memorial Day Project with your Local VFWs

When: Memorial Day Week 2011



In honor of our fallen Veterans, The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) visit all of your local cemeteries and change the US flags of the grave of

our fallen Veterans. This year, the Capital District of the AGA would like to assist our VFWs with this task. This is a very rewarding event for such a great Holiday. If you have any questions please contact Nicole Van Hoesen at [nvanhoes@nysif.com](mailto:nvanhoes@nysif.com) or 518-859-9005.

## June 2011

### St. John's/St. Ann's Welcome Table (Soup Kitchen)

When: June 2011



Where: St. John's/St. Ann's Center is located at 88 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Albany, NY, 12202. Parking is available at the northeast corner of the intersection of South Pearl Street and 4th Avenue.

The church entrance is just east of the parking lot on 4th Avenue, between South Pearl Street and Franklin Street. Activity: Volunteers are needed to prepare and serve a meal to individuals living in Albany's South End in conjunction with St. John's/St. Ann's Welcome Table Program. To volunteer, please contact Ann Marsh at [amarsh@mail.nysed.gov](mailto:amarsh@mail.nysed.gov) or call (518) 473-2020.

### Golf Tournament for Albany Medical Center's Children's Hospital

When: June 2011

Where: Van Patten Golf Club



The local chapters of the Association of Government Accountant (AGA), Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA), the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (AFCE) and ISACA are co-sponsoring a golf tournament to benefit the Albany Medical Center Children's Hospital and you are invited to participate. The day will include coffee, pastries, bagels and juice in the morning, 18 holes of golf (cart included) at the Van Patten Golf Club in Clifton Park as well as an awards ceremony with lunch after golf. Lunch will include Barbequed Chicken, Sausage and Peppers, Ziti, Deli Platter, Cheeses, and Salads. The cost of this event will be \$75.00 per person with the proceeds to benefit the Albany Medical Center's Children's Hospital. Please join us for a day of golf and to support the wonderful accomplishments of the Children's Hospital. Don't have a full team? Not a problem! We will round out your team with other participants (we'll contact you about your team prior to the event). To golf for this worthwhile cause please contact Brian Gee at [brian.gee@omr.state.ny.us](mailto:brian.gee@omr.state.ny.us) or call (518) 474-4376.



## Member Items

**Dan Towle** and his wife Erin welcomed a baby boy, Peyton Anthony Towle. He was 9 lbs 1 oz and 22 in long.

We welcome the following new CGFMs: **Donna Greenberg, CGFM** and **Jennifer Hallahan, CGFM**

**David Hancox, CGFM** has retired as an Audit Director at the Office of the State Comptroller

# BST





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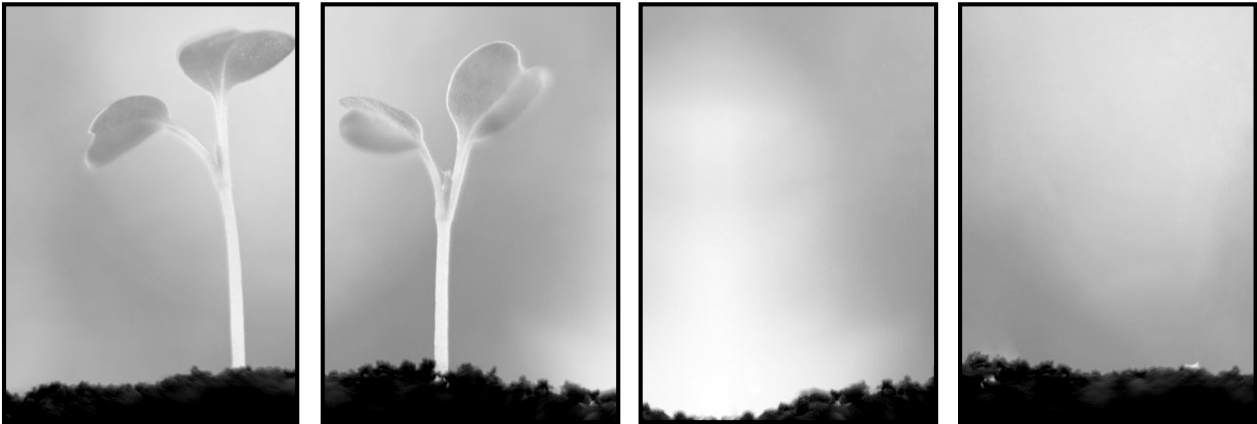
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KPMG LLP is pleased to recognize and support the New York Capital Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants.

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AUDIT ■ TAX ■ ADVISORY



# Chapter Awards Luncheon

Come to the June 9, 2011 Chapter Awards Luncheon at the Wolfert's Roost Country Club and help honor the following people who have contributed to the success of the New York Capital Chapter.

## Certificates of Appreciation/Participation

These certificates are awarded for a wide variety of Chapter activities and achievement. It can be used to recognize departing CEC members, member participation such as: coordinating event registration, contributing original articles to the newsletter, assisting with conferences or events, and nonmember support staff who have assisted throughout the year.

- Michael A. Abbott, CGFM
- Debra Carpenter
- Linda M. Cioffi, CGFM
- Sigrid L. Coons, CGFM
- Taryn Davila-Webster
- Lynn Farruggia
- Marcella Junco
- Jessica Lynch
- Ann Marsh
- Katie Meyer, CGFM
- Mary E. Peck
- Scott Ray, CGFM
- Sandra M. Schleicher
- Steve Sossei
- Richard K. Sturm, CGFM
- Daniel Towle
- Ashley L. Weil

## Chapter Service Award

These awards are used to recognize participation above and beyond the call of duty, for matters that have made a positive impact and improvement on Chapter operations, membership, etc.

- Laura J. Brown, CGFM
- Anthony Calabrese, CGFM
- Brian E. Gee
- Deborah K. Harrington
- Raymond H. Harris, CGFM
- Roger C. Mazula, CGFM
- Thalia J. Melendez
- Mark B. Mitchell, CGFM
- Kirk Schanzenbach
- Todd Seeberger
- Nicole Van Hoesen
- Linda Zinzow, CGFM

## New CGFMs

- Donna Greenberg, CGFM
- Jennifer Hallahan, CGFM

## Corporate Partner Awards

- KPMG LLP
- BST Advisory Services/TG Associates

## Tone from the Top Excellence Awards

These awards recognize those members who set the tone at the top with their staff for encouraging professional development, certification, and association membership and participation.

- Walter Gerald Barber, CGFM
- James J. Nellegar, Jr. CGFM

## John Wrafter Distinguished Chapter Service Award

This award is the Chapter's highest honor and recognizes outstanding contributions that have had a major impact on Chapter activities. Past recipients generally have had more than one year of significantly active service and most have also previously received the Chapter Service Award (although this is not a prerequisite).

- Amanda L. Zibella

## Outstanding Achievement in Government Accountability Award

This award recognizes government employees who have demonstrated sustained outstanding leadership and made notable contributions to government accountability.

- Suzette Baker, CGFM

## Longevity Awards

### 30 Years

- David Hancox, CGFM
- David Hasso, CGFM
- Richard Houlihan, CGFM

### 25 Years

- Michael Farrar, CGFM
- J. Dwight Hadley
- Linda Zinzow, CGFM

### 20 Years

- Donald Geary, CGFM
- Dorothy A. Ryan

**CGFM****O  
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## Intensive Review Course/CGFM Examinations to Take Place in July 2011 in Atlanta



### CGFM Exams

Interested in the CGFM certification? Sign up for AGA's special Intensive Review Course and take the CGFM Examinations before the PDC. Don't miss this opportunity to earn your CGFM!

The Intensive Review Course will take place from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 7, and Friday, July 8, 2011. The CGFM Examinations will be offered by appointment only on July 9-10, 2011.

The cost of the course is only \$279 for qualified participants, and it offers 18 CPE hours. Special Bonus: the CGFM Examinations are offered at no cost to course attendees. The cost of this course is not included in the PDC registration fee.

### *What is the Intensive Review Course?*

It is a special limited enrollment opportunity for those individuals who have already been studying for the CGFM Examinations and want extra reinforcement of the material. It is a way to save money on the examination fees (and get the course with it!). It is a review of the main topics covered in the examinations. It is an opportunity to add the value of the instructor who can explain concepts, provide examples and answer questions for those who chose the self-study option. It is a refresher course for those who took the AGA instructor-led courses a long time ago. It is a great way to set a deadline for completing your certification examinations and get it done!

**What it is NOT:** It is not a shortcut. The Intensive Review Course is not a substitute for the three AGA instructor-led training courses. It is usually not enough by itself to prepare for the CGFM Examinations – advance preparation is strongly recommended (see How do I prepare? for more information). It is not

an exam prep course with strategies on how to pass the exams.

### Registration

**Registration:** To participate in this event, individuals must:

- 1) Apply for the CGFM Program (submitting CGFM application form, fee and college transcript – see Eligibility section below).
- 2) Pre-register for this event by submitting the Intensive Review Course Registration Form and appropriate fee. Walk-ins will not be accepted.

The complete application for the CGFM Program must be submitted BEFORE or TOGETHER with the Intensive Review Course Registration Form. Registrations for this event will not be confirmed until after the CGFM application is accepted. Registrations without the completed Intensive Review Course Registration Form will not be accepted.

**Cancellation deadline:** all cancellations must be received by **June 16, 2011**; refunds will not be granted after this date.

**Registration deadline:** Registrations will be accepted on a first come, first-served basis. Space is limited, so we encourage you to sign up early. Registrations will not be accepted after **June 23, 2011**.

### Location

The Intensive Review Course and the CGFM Examinations will be held at the same hotel as the Professional Development Conference:

Atlanta Marriott Marquis  
265 Peachtree Center Avenue  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
PH: 404.521.0000

### Eligibility

To attend the Intensive Review Course and/or take the CGFM Examinations participants must first apply and be accepted into the CGFM Program. Candidates need to submit the CGFM Program application form with \$85 application fee and a copy of a transcript from an accredited college or university. The transcript must show that a degree (bachelor's or higher) was awarded and list at least 24 credit hours of courses in financial management or related topics. Applicant's name and the name of the college or university must appear on all transcripts. Please see [www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/start/](http://www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/start/) for more information.

In addition, those individuals who want to complete their CGFM at this event need to submit a Work Verification Form listing at least two years of professional-level government financial management experience.

*Prior attendance of CGFM training course(s) or purchase of the CGFM Study Guides is not required but is strongly encouraged.*

If you have already taken a CGFM Examination and did not pass, you must satisfy the waiting period before taking that CGFM Examinations at this event.

### Materials

No materials will be provided at the Intensive Review Course. However, participants are encouraged to order CGFM Study Guides at least six weeks before the course date. For more information on study guides visit [www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/prepare/studyguide.aspx](http://www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/prepare/studyguide.aspx).

*The cost of the study guides is not included in the price of the Intensive Review Course.*

## Examination Information

Three time slots are available for CGFM Examinations to be held on July 9-10, 2011:

8:30 – 11:30 a.m.  
12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
3:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

The actual exam time is limited to 2 hours and 15 minutes.

Space is limited, so participants are encouraged to send in the registration form indicating their preference for an examination date and time as soon as possible (Intensive Review Course Registration Form). Some of the time slots may fill up and no longer be available. We will confirm your registration and indicate whether we are able to accommodate your request for the particular examination time slot(s).

Individuals who want to take the CGFM Examinations at this event without attending the review course can do so by following the same registration procedures. The cancellation and registration deadlines are the same, and the exams can only be taken during the dates/times and at the location specified above. The fee for taking the three CGFM Examinations is the same as the Intensive Review Course fee.

The CGFM Examinations are:

Examination 1 – Governmental Environment

Examination 2 – Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting

Examination 3 – Governmental Financial Management and Control

More detailed information on CGFM Examinations content can be found on [www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/exams/](http://www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/exams/).

The examination results will be available immediately.

## Testing Procedures

You must be at the CGFM Examination registration desk at least 15 minutes prior to the testing time to check in. If you are not at the registration desk at the start of your examination time slot, we cannot guarantee your requested time slot.

**Please bring a valid photo ID to the CGFM Examination registration desk**—your ID must match the name you provide in the Intensive Review Course Registration Form and on the CGFM Program application form and must contain a photograph and a signature.

Personal belongings, including food, drink, papers, books, writing utensils, electronic and other organizers, cameras, cell phones, beepers, briefcases, bags, purses, pocketbooks and hats, may not be brought near the testing computer station and must be left in the designated area within the testing room. Scratch paper, a pen and a calculator will be provided.

For more information, please contact Crystal Vanison, Certification Program Coordinator via e-mail at [cvanison@agacgfm.org](mailto:cvanison@agacgfm.org) or by phone at 800.AGA.7211, ext. 316.

Thank you!

## Community Service Update

Nicole Van Hoesen

Vice President for Community Service

I want to thank and update everyone on our recent Community Service Events. We raised \$380 for the Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowling Event for April 3, 2011.

We raised \$550 for the Capital Region Sponsor-A-Scholar Program at our annual Flower Fundraiser on April 15, 2011. Thank you to Laura Brown, Brian Gee, Mary Peck, Ann Marsh and Thalia Melendez for selling the flowers!

Also, Brian Gee, Marcella Junco, Mary Peck and family cooked a great dinner for 25 at the Ronald McDonald house on April 15, 2011.

For Memorial Day, local VFWs replace the American Flags on our fallen soldiers' grave-sites at local cemeteries. I will be doing this (down my way) with my local VFW. If you would like to help out a VFW in the Capital District- please let me know and I can also reach out and help you start the event. I find it extremely full-filling to spend an hour or two for this cause.

Please join us for the annual Golf Outing to support Albany Medical Center's Children's Hospital on June 24, 2011. You can contact Brian Gee for any questions.

On June 25, 2011 we will be doing the St. John's/St. Ann's Welcome table and be serving lunch for Albany's South End. We can use as many volunteers as we can get for this event!

Thank you all again.

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## Association of Government Accountants New York Capital Chapter 2011-12 Chapter Executive Committee

The AGA New York Capital Chapter's Nominating Committee has selected the following members to serve on the Chapter's Executive Committee (CEC) for the 2011-12 fiscal year beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>. We look forward to serving our members with excellent opportunities for education and networking events.

Position	Nominee	Employer
President.....	Thalia J. Melendez .....	<i>NYS Office of the State Comptroller</i>
President-Elect .....	Michael A. Abbott, CGFM.....	<i>State University of New York</i>
Vice Presidents		
- Certification.....	Lynn Farruggia.....	<i>NYS Office of the State Comptroller</i>
- Communications .....	Roger C. Mazula, CGFM.....	<i>Retired</i>
- Community Service.....	Taryn Davila-Webster .....	<i>NYS Office of the State Comptroller</i>
- Marketing .....	Raymond H. Harris, CGFM.....	<i>AGA National Office</i>
- Membership .....	Todd Seeberger .....	<i>NYS Office of the State Comptroller</i>
- Programs and Education .....	Brenda Carver .....	<i>NYS Office of the State Comptroller</i>
Treasurer .....	Anthony Calabrese, CGFM .....	<i>NYS Office of the State Comptroller</i>
Secretary .....	Deborah Harrington .....	<i>NYS Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse</i>
Board of Directors 2010-12 .....	David Hasso, CGFM.....	<i>NYS Office of the State Comptroller</i>
Board of Directors 2010-12 .....	Kirk Schanzenbach .....	<i>Bollam, Sheedy, Torani &amp; Co.</i>
Board of Directors 2010-12 .....	Daniel Towle .....	<i>NYS Office of the State Comptroller</i>
Board of Directors 2010-12 .....	Amanda L. Zibella .....	<i>NYS Office of the State Comptroller</i>
Board of Directors 2010-12 .....	Linda C. Zinzow, CGFM .....	<i>Retired</i>
Board of Directors 2011-13 .....	Suzette Baker, CGFM .....	<i>NYS Office of the State Comptroller</i>
Board of Directors 2011-13 .....	Brian Gee .....	<i>NYS Office for People With Developmental Disabilities</i>
Board of Directors 2011-13 .....	Ann Marsh .....	<i>NYS Education Department</i>
Board of Directors 2011-13 .....	Scott Ray, CGFM.....	<i>NYS Department of Labor</i>
Board of Directors 2011-13 .....	Dennis Holder .....	<i>NYS Office of Medicaid Inspector General</i>
Immediate Past President.....	Shelly Taleporos.....	<i>NYS Department of Labor</i>
Web Coordinator .....	Laura J. Brown, CGFM .....	<i>NYS Office of the State Comptroller</i>

### *Advancing Government Accountability*

**Surf over to the New York**

**Capital Chapter's Website**

**<http://www.aganycap.org>**



# Early Careers Center

## Strong Hiring Demand Forecast for Accounting Grads from AccountingWEB

Newly minted accountants have some of the brightest job prospects in the nation, with nearly 90 percent of accounting firms forecasting the same or increased hiring of graduates this year compared with 2010, and nearly three quarters, 71 percent, of the largest firms anticipating more hiring – an indicator of a rebounding economy.

That's according to survey results in the 2011 "Trends in the Supply of Accounting Graduates and the Demand for Public Accounting Recruits" report released in May by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The report shows record numbers of accounting students and graduates, but also hints at a potential challenge for the profession: demand for new talent eventually could outpace supply.

"Opportunities in the accounting profession continue to expand as the needs of firms and businesses grow ever more complex and global," said Jeannie Patton, AICPA vice president for students, academics, and membership. "As the U.S. and global economies recover, and as seasoned professionals begin to retire in unprecedented numbers, it's even more important to guard against a talent shortage. Employers increasingly want graduates with advanced degrees at the same time colleges, facing budget and other constraints, are restricted in their capacity to train all the students who want to join our profession."

The AICPA report echoes findings from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, which expects accountants to experience "much faster than average" employment growth in the coming years. The bureau's 2010-2011 "Occupational Outlook Handbook" estimates 22 percent growth in accounting and auditing jobs in the decade between 2008 and 2018, adding that job candidates with professional designations, particularly CPAs, and graduates with masters degrees have the brightest outlook.

All told, 226,108 students were enrolled in undergraduate or graduate accounting programs during the 2009-2010 academic year, 6 percent more than in 2007-2008, the last time the AICPA conducted its survey. A record 68,639 students graduated with accounting degrees in 2010. Nearly 4 in 10 accounting graduates hired last year by CPA firms had master's degrees, compared with 26 percent in 2008.

By contrast, 43 percent of graduates hired had bachelor's degrees, down from 56 percent in 2008.

The shift reflects growing complexity and globalization of the accounting industry. And against that backdrop, colleges and universities are struggling to keep up. According to the AICPA report, a growing number of accounting programs are rejecting qualified applicants because they don't have capacity to accept them. The increase likely is due to budget constraints at universities brought on by the economic downturn and a shortage of academically qualified professors as many longtime teachers reach retirement.

"The AICPA is diligently focused on this potential challenge, leading efforts like [www.startheregoplaces.com](http://www.startheregoplaces.com) and [www.thiswaytocpa.com](http://www.thiswaytocpa.com) to guide students into the profession and supporting and administering programs like Accounting Doctoral Scholars, which addresses the need for more PhDs in the classroom," Patton added. "We are committed to ensuring the accounting profession continues robust growth for years to come."



**Association of  
Government Accountants  
New York Capital Chapter  
Chapter Executive  
Committee  
February 9, 2011  
Meeting Highlights**

In attendance: Shelly Taleporos, Roger Mazula, Debbie Harrington, Michael Abbott, and Amanda Zibella; attending by telephone: Thalia Melendez, Ann Marsh, Brian Gee, Raymond Harris, Anthony Calabrese, David Hasso, Marcella Junco, and Kirk Schanzenbach.

**Action Items**

1. Develop written plan for membership follow-up. Todd Seeberger/ Membership Committee – March CEC meeting
2. Work on renewal membership lists. Todd Seeberger – March CEC meeting
3. Send out the draft of the Membership Centric Report and related links. Shelly Taleporos – March CEC meeting
4. Send updated balance sheet to Roger Mazula. Anthony Calabrese – March CEC meeting
5. Send nomination requests to VP's for National Awards. Amanda Zibella – March CEC Meeting
6. Look at PDC policy to enter general dates, clarify order in which people are selected to attend and who is responsible for estimating costs. Ann Marsh – March CEC Meeting
7. Contact Katya Silver at AGA National for CGFM materials for TCTC. Shelly Taleporos – March CEC Meeting

**Decisions Made**

1. **Motion:** To accept agenda.  
Motion Vote: Passed unanimously
2. **Motion:** To accept January minutes.  
Motion Vote: Passed unanimously
3. **Motion:** To adjourn.  
Motion Vote: Passed unanimously

**Discussions Held**

**1. Welcome**

**Review of Action Items from Previous Meeting**

No. 1 - Develop written plan for membership follow-up. This is still being worked on by the Membership committee.

No. 2 - Work on renewal membership lists. Will be discussed at the March CEC meeting.

No. 3 - Send out the draft of the Membership Centric Report and related links. Shelly plans to do this within the week.

No. 4 - Trying out various formats for Constant Contact e-mails. Dan Towle has taken over the Constant Contact function. Thank you Dan!

No. 5 - Send updated balance sheet to Roger Mazula. Anthony Calabrese will send this report to Roger for March 2011.

No. 6 - Send e-mail blast about TCTC. DONE

No. 7 - Linda to contact the 5 individuals who expressed interest in the CGFM courses. DONE

No. 8 - Decide who is going to the SLM. IN PROCESS

No. 9 - Need to update forms on the web for Local Award Nominees. Discussed at this meeting.

No. 10 - Send Local and National awards information out to CEC members. Discussed at this meeting.

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**Additional Comments/Discussions**

Constant Contact e-mails will be coming from Dan Towle beginning today. He will be sending out a message tomorrow (2/20/11). Constant Contact edits should be sent to Shelly Taleporos for now.

**2. Education Update**

Big events coming up include the TCTC in March. Registration is a little low right now.

May 25, 2011 is Part 2 of the CPA Ethics. This is a breakfast event at Wolfert's Roost. Kevin McCoy is the speaker.

It was asked if DOT or OSC was hosting the March 30, 2011 audio conference. Brian Gee was going to check on this.

The February audio conference (Internal Controls with John Hall as the speaker) was cancelled due to the very poor weather. This may be rescheduled.

**3. Award Nominations**

The Awards committee had a meeting this week, sent a file to everyone, will be adding the awards information to the website and information was sent in a constant contact e-mail. Regarding National award at the PDC, committee is looking for new people to nominate.

**4. TCTC Update**

Registration is down from previous years. At five weeks out, this year's registrations are less than half of last years. Possible reason for the low attendance is the lack of available budget money and agency approvals.

Raymond Harris was able to have this event added to the Albany.com events list.

Ann Marsh asked about using the distribution lists she has to send an e-mail about the TCTC. The note could include information about the vault voucher.

Kirk Schanzenbach suggested sending notification of the TCTC and other events out earlier in the future because it takes so long to get budget approval.

Moderators are needed for the TCTC. Moderators introduce speakers, make other announcements, etc... Monitors are messengers, distribute handouts, adjust room temperature, etc.

**5. New Chapter Update**

The Defense Finance Accounting Services (DFAS) has five locations throughout the country. At the Rome, NY base, there are 1,100 employees working there. Raymond Harris, Bobby Derrick and Eric Elefante (RVP) met with the DFAS deputy director. They are very interested in forming a chapter. Due to the security on the base, it is not advisable to make membership available to "outside" interested parties at the present time.

Approximately 50 people attended the meeting yesterday (2/8/2011). AGA National provided lunch. Attendees were very interested in the CGFM program. They have their own certification program—CDFM. This is only good in the defense department.

It looks like a new chapter will be formed. Chapters from the region usually chip in a couple hundred dollars to help with start up. The new chapter could be formed by PDC.

Roger Mazula created a one-page flyer about the TCTC that was shared at this meeting. External training at DFAS is limited.

Of 15,000 AGA members, 9,400 have their CGFM.

#### **6. Certification**

Tomorrow (2/10/11) is the Professional Certification event. It is being held at the Wolfert's Roost. A group from Columbia High School is attending. In total, approximately 50 people are registered to attend this event.

#### **7. Membership Update**

Adirondack Community College would like AGA to take part in their event that is similar to a Career Day. This event is being held in March.

#### **8. Community Service**

Friday, April 15, 2011 AGA is preparing a meal at the Ronald McDonald House.

The VITA program starts February 12, 2011. Did a joint session with KeyBank with YNN 9 coverage. Usually have 9 preparers, this year there were over 20 preparers. The test is available on-line. It takes 4-5 hours to take the test.

Bowl for Kids Sake is coming up. Nicole Van Hoesen will be getting a flyer together for this event. It is being held at Latham Bowl.

Valentines for Veterans is being held February 14, 2011 at 12:30.

There is concern over the lack of participation at community service events. It was asked if we have too many events or the dates of the events that cause the participation level to be low. Perhaps people are not seeing the announcements for community service events.

Perhaps we should publicize how the event went and what we accomplished. Going forward in the new year, we need to re-evaluate the communications that go for our community service events.

#### **9. Sectional Leadership Meeting (SLM) Update/Professional Development Conference (PDC) Budget Update**

Potential attendees at the SLM include Todd Seeberger, Lynn Farruggia, Brenda Carver and Thalia Melendez. Thalia needs to confirm that Todd and Lynn are able to attend. The deadline to sign up is March 4<sup>th</sup>. Everything is paid for by AGA National. Each Chapter can bring four members.

For the PDC held in July 2010, approximately \$5,300 was spent for four members to attend. For this year, we have two hotel scholarships. Airfare is a little more expensive and parking is approximately \$60 per person. If three people attend, the estimated costs are \$4,500.

#### **10. Wrap Up**

It was suggested to invite Dan Towle to CEC meetings along with next year's new CEC members.

**Association of  
Government Accountants  
New York Capital Chapter  
Chapter Executive  
Committee  
March 9, 2011  
Meeting Highlights**

In attendance: Shelly Taleporos, Roger Mazula, and Debbie Harrington; attending by telephone: Thalia Melendez, Linda Zinzow, Todd Seeberger, Brian Gee, Raymond Harris, Anthony Calabrese, Michael Abbott, David Hasso, and Marcella Junco.

**Action Items**

1. Develop written plan for membership follow-up. Todd Seeberger/ Membership Committee – April CEC Meeting
2. Work on renewal membership lists. Todd Seeberger – April CEC meeting
3. Send updated balance sheet to Roger Mazula. Anthony Calabrese – April CEC meeting
4. Look at PDC policy to enter general dates, clarify order in which people are selected to attend and who is responsible for estimating costs. Ann Marsh – April CEC meeting
5. Send Constant Contact about membership renewal and get-a-member contest. Shelly Taleporos/Dan Towle – April CEC Meeting
6. Send draft of PDC attendance policy to CEC for comment. Ann Marsh – April CEC Meeting
7. Send Kirk Schanzenbach's comments about the no show policy to CEC. Shelly Taleporos – April CEC Meeting
8. Vice President's need to enter CRP points into system by 3/24 and notify Thalia Melendez when complete. Vice Presidents – April CEC Meeting

**Decisions Made**

1. **Motion:** To accept agenda with adjustment to move Membership Update to be item no. 2.

Motion Vote: Passed unanimously

2. **Motion:** To adjourn.

Motion Vote: Passed unanimously

**Discussions Held**

**1. Welcome**

This meeting did not have a quorum.

Minutes for the February 9, 2011 meeting received edits. The edits will be incorporated into the minutes and then the minutes will be distributed electronically.

**Review of Action Items from Previous Meeting**

No. 1 - Develop written plan for membership follow-up. This is still being worked on by the Membership committee.

No. 2 - Work on renewal membership lists. Discussed at March CEC meeting.

No. 3 - Send out the draft of the Membership Centric Report and related links. This was sent to the members interested in working on the Membership Centric report. The Centric report is in need of pictures and the 12/31/2010 financials. Shelly Taleporos included Thalia Melendez in the e-mail.

No. 4 - Send updated balance sheet to Roger Mazula. Anthony Calabrese will send March's report to Roger. Also, articles are needed for newsletters.

No. 5 - Send nomination requests to VP's for National Awards. DONE

No. 6 - Look at PDC policy to enter general dates, clarify order in which people are selected to attend and who is responsible for estimating costs. This was sent to the SPT committee and is in process.

No. 7 - Contact Katya Silver at AGA National for CGFM materials for TCTC. DONE

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## **2. Membership Update**

Membership committee will be forwarding the written plan for membership follow-up to the CEC.

Information was shared that the up-to-the-minute listing is available by going to the end of the list. Current membership is 266 members.

Todd Seeberger was invited to speak at Adirondack Community College on March 23, 2011 at 4pm.

Shelly Taleporos wants to send a constant contact about membership renewal and the get-a-member contest.

## **3. Updates for Next Year's Slate**

An e-mail was sent to members showing the slate for the new year. Thalia is putting a meeting together to give training for developing the budgets and what is expected of officers and directors. She hopes to hold this meeting the beginning of April. Anthony Calabrese is invited to attend. Inviting new CEC members to our current CEC meetings.

CRP points needed to be entered by 3/24/2011. Please notify Thalia Melendez when you had entered your points. If you have missed points in the past months, they can be entered now.

It is not known what category at AGA National we will be in this year due to our membership levels. Our membership had decreased.

## **4. Education Update**

Education is moving along. Have added another audio conference for March 30, 2011. This will be held at OSC only. A voucher has been sent to DOT for their portion of the audio conference registration fee for the year.

In May, the Ethics course will be held. The flyer is in draft form, will be finalized, printed and placed in TCTC bags to advertise the course.

The audio conference on internal controls that was canceled due to poor weather is available on CD and it is hoped that we can offer viewing of this audio conference the beginning of April.

TCTC—As of last Friday, attendance has jumped very nicely. From 151 to 409. This is the second highest attendance since 2006. Day 2 on Fraud has been closed. Seating has maxed out at 240. IIA has led the way for number of members attending the TCTC. Two-thirds of their members are attending. AGA has a little less than 40% of their members attending. A very few room monitors and moderators may still be needed. Fran Gardner is handling this function.

Raffle ticket sellers are needed at the TCTC.

## **5. Award Nominations**

The committee has talked and has sent an e-mail to membership asking for suggestions for nominations. The deadline for this is April 15, 2011.

National awards nomination requests have been sent to CEC. Selections are due in 6 weeks to Nationals.

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## **6. Certification**

Linda Zinzow will contact Jennifer Hanlon at the Governor's office for the TCTC proclamation. It should be ready this week.

## **7. SBDC Policy Update**

A copy of the No Show policy was e-mailed late yesterday. Questions and comments on the policy were sent by some members. The PDC attendance policy has some outdated material in it. With the PDC program dates changing, the policy needs to be updated. Ann sent a draft of the PDC policy to SBDC members.

Discussion was held about when/which budget the funds for the PDC should be included. The PDC dates change and the dates "conflict" with our budget schedule. The details of how to budget and account for the PDC need to be worked out.

## **8. Community Service**

Upcoming events: the flower sale is going on now; flowers will be delivered April 15, 2011. A count is due to Nicole Van Hoesen by April 12, 2011.

Bowl for Kids Sake is April 3, 2011. Two members have registered so far. Our goal is to raise \$300.

Ronald McDonald House meal preparation is Friday, April 15, 2011. AGA is preparing the meal for this night. This event is posted on the website. Will have details of what foods are needed a couple of weeks out from the event.

Golf Outing is being held June 3, 2011. Flyers are out for review and will be included in TCTC bags.

## **9. Sectional Leadership Meeting (SLM) Update/Professional Development Conference (PDC) Budget Update**

Potential attendees at the SLM include Todd Seeberger, Lynn Farruggia, Brenda Carver and Thalia Melendez. Thalia needs to confirm that Todd and Lynn are able to attend. The deadline to sign up is March 4<sup>th</sup>. Everything is paid for by the SLM. Each Chapter can bring four members.

For the PDC held in July 2010, approximately \$5,300 was spent for four members to attend.

For this year, we have two hotel scholarships. Airfare is a little more expensive and parking is approximately \$60 per person. If three people attend, the estimated costs are \$4,500.

## **10. Wrap Up**

Shelly Taleporos created a Facebook and Twitter account for our chapter (@AGANYCAP). Constant contact e-mails are tweeted each time they are sent. The Facebook page needs some more work and pictures.

Shelly would like to have some others have administrative rights to update both accounts.

National has 1001 people on LinkedIn. We can request that our Facebook or twitter links be added to National's page. Some other Chapters use LinkedIn.

**Association of  
Government Accountants  
New York Capital Chapter  
Chapter Executive  
Committee  
April 13, 2011  
Meeting Highlights**

In attendance: Shelly Taleporos, Todd Seeberger, Roger Mazula, Raymond Harris, Debbie Harrington, Michael Abbott, Marcella Junco; attending by telephone: Thalia Melendez, Brian Gee, Anthony Calabrese, Linda Zinzow, David Hasso, Kirk Schanzenbach, and Amanda Zibella. Also attending were Brenda Carver and Eric Elefante.

**Action Items**

1. Look at PDC policy to enter general dates, clarify order in which people are selected to attend and who is responsible for estimating costs. Tabled until it is decided how this function will be accounted/budgeted for. (This is a placeholder so this task is not forgotten.) Ann Marsh – May CEC meeting
2. Look at Registrar Policy and suggest changes. Brian Gee – May CEC meeting
3. Suggest Topic idea for October training event. CEC - May CEC meeting
4. Suggest a name for the Chapter's Outstanding Government Accountability Award. CEC – May CEC Meeting
5. Contact Eric Elefante, RVP about how other chapters handle no-shows at events. Shelly Taleporos – May CEC Meeting

**Decisions Made**

1. **Motion:** To accept agenda with adjustment to move SDBC Policy up on the agenda when Ann is able to call in and adjustment to the topic numbering.

Motion Vote: Passed unanimously

2. **Motion:** To accept February minutes.

Motion Vote: Passed, 1 abstained

3. **Motion:** To accept March minutes.

Motion Vote: Passes unanimously

4. **Motion:** To adjourn.

Motion Vote: Passed unanimously

**Discussions Held**

**1. Welcome**

**Review of Action Items from Previous Meeting**

No. 1 - Develop written plan for membership follow-up. This continues to be worked on. The preliminary copy of membership follow-up is being forwarded to Shelly Taleporos. Being moved to operating plan.

No. 2 - Work on renewal membership lists. This is on the agenda-item no. 8

No. 3 - Send updated balance sheet to Roger Mazula. Done

No. 4 - Look at PDC policy to enter general dates, clarify order in which people are selected to attend and who is responsible for estimating costs. This is on the agenda-item no. 7

No. 5 - Send Constant Contact about membership renewal and get-a-member contest. Done

No. 6 - Send draft of PDC attendance policy to CEC for comment. Done

No. 7 - Send Kirk Schanzenbach's comments about the no show policy to CEC. Done

No. 8 - VP's need to enter CRP points into system by 3/24 and notify Thalia Melendez when complete. Done Thalia set up a meeting for 4/18 at 4pm to go over reporting CRPs for new VPs and anyone else who would like to attend.

**2. Chapter Regional Governance Task Force**

Raymond Harris spoke about the Regional Governance Task Force. The group consists of the four Senior Vice Presidents for Regional Services, one SVPRS Designate, four Regional Vice Presidents and Ray. With the restructuring, some

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regions will remain the same, other regions may be adjusted. More clarity and more structure are needed for Regional Coordinators. The upcoming SLMs will emphasize the need for increased communications and understanding expectations.

### **3. Sectional Leadership Meeting (SLM)**

On Thursday evening, the Regional Vice Presidents and Regional Coordinators are having a dinner meeting. Anyone can attend this event.

Attendees of the SLM should be receiving an e-mail containing the link to see the handouts to print them if they would like. Approximately 150 people are attending this event in Philadelphia. Four members from our chapter are attending: Thalia Melendez, Lynn Farruggia, Brenda Carver and Todd Seeberger. In addition, Mark Mitchell is planning to attend as RVP-Elect.

### **4. Education Update**

For the Ethics event in May, there are 10 people signed up so far, but we expect more to sign up.

Preliminarily, the Chapter will make approximately \$11,000 from the TCTC. An audio conference for Performance Measures is being added for June 22. This will be held at OSC and DOT.

There are two remaining receivables from the Fraud Conference that was held in November 2010. DOH owes \$1,600 and there is a receivable from the Federal government.

Brenda Carver will be the Chapter's Education Vice President for 2011-12. The annual education plan is coming together. In October, the New York State Financial System will be rolled out; therefore, a different topic is being sought. April is always a hard month to fill for an education event. Raymond Harris suggested a luncheon speaker.

Contact Brenda Carver with any ideas or to volunteer.

We continue to look for CGFM trainers for course 1, 2, and 3, but the emphasis is on course 2 and 3.

### **5. Award Committee Update**

National nominations should be submitted by Friday, April 15, 2011. We are submitting for all of the usual awards to national. The first week of May, AGA National will look at chapter websites for the website contest.

Still looking for suggestions for the chapter's Outstanding Government Accountability Award.

Our Chapter awards can still be purchased through Linda Zinzow. A three week notice is appreciated.

The Chapter's awards luncheon is set for June 14 at Wolfert's Roost (subsequently changed to June 9).

### **6. Attendance Policy for Events**

The policy allows the registrar to attend events at no charge. It was brought up that the Registrar role has changed. Cvent software is used for the co-sponsored events such as the Fraud Conference and TCTC. The Chapter will not be purchasing Cvent software for our chapter. Generally, the registrar still has to attend other

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events to collect money, etc; however; overall the responsibilities have decreased substantially.

Thalia is planning to have the same person be the general registrar and the event registrar.

Brian Gee is going to look at the Registrar policy and suggest changes.

### **7. SDBC Policy Update**

The no-show policy continues to receive comments. There were suggestions that attendees should be able to cancel on-line, suggested that attendees receive an e-mail confirming their registration. For cancellation, it would be necessary to assign a date for final cancelation from an event.

There was further discussion about the no-show policy for people who do not show up for an event and the chapter incurs a cost. Raymond Harris suggested Shelly Taleporos speak with Eric Elefante, RVP to see how other chapters in the region handle “no-shows.”

Regarding the AGA Professional Development Conference (PDC) Attendance Policy, there were questions about which Spring the document was referencing. It was suggested that in place of specific months, the time be identified by how many months or how many weeks out to do the task. The PDC will be held in July through 2014. There is going to be a year in which we incur the cost of 2 PDCs in one year. At this time, the PDC policy will be tabled until we decide how we are going to account for the PDC—make it a budget item, etc.

### **8. Membership Update**

Membership is at 268 people at last check, suspensions take place in May. There were 11 new members this year, 2010-2011. There are two memberships to process for the winners of memberships at the TCTC.

Our chapter continues to be listed in the Over 300 group. Group A is over 300 members. At OSC, SGA will not be participating in the Advantage group membership program for the coming year.

Other chapters are experiencing similar membership declines because employers are cutting back on supporting membership costs.

Todd Seeberger attended an event at the Adirondack Community College event. The event focuses on opportunities in accounting for people with a two year degree. There were 50-60 attendees.

### **9. Community Service Update**

Flower orders are due today, April 13. The Bowl for Kids event went well. Volunteers are still needed for the Ronald McDonald House event that is being held April 15. The date of the golf outing has been changed to June 24.

### **10. Wrap Up**

Thalia Melendez has tentatively set the August meeting for August 5<sup>th</sup> at Wolfert’s Roost.

Thalia would like budgets to be submitted by June 10th.

Rick Sturm has resigned his Director’s seat. A board member is needed to replace Rick.

## AGA New York Capital Chapter 2010-11 Program Events Summary

September 24, 2010	CPE: 1	<i>Kick-off Breakfast - What's Happening in 2009-2010 - How Did I Get to Be Me? - James Sheehan, JD</i> Wolfert's Roost County Club, Albany, NY	8:00 AM - 9:30 AM
September 29, 2010	CPE: 2	<i>Audio Conference – Improving Program Performance &amp; Accountability Through Cooperative Audit Resolution</i> Office of the State Comptroller & Department of Transportation	2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
October 20, 2010	CPE: 2	<i>Audio Conference – Was it Fraud or Just Poor Audit Quality?</i> Office of the State Comptroller & Department of Transportation	2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
November 17, 2010	CPE: 2	<i>Audio Conference – Achieving Transparency - The Next Step to Integrating Your Data</i> Office of the State Comptroller & Department of Transportation	2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
November 22-23, 2010	CPE: 7/14	<i>Annual Fraud Seminar</i> Holiday Inn, Wolf Road, Colonie, NY	8:00 AM - 4:15 PM
November 30, 2010	CPE: 4	<i>Federal and New York State Tax Update</i> Century House, Latham, NY	4:00 PM - 8:30 PM
December 8, 2010	CPE: 2	<i>Audio Conference – Internal Control and Risk Assessment - Thoughts from SAS 109 and 115</i> Office of the State Comptroller & Department of Transportation	2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
December 9, 2010	CPE: 0	<i>Holiday Luncheon</i> Wolfert's Roost Country Club, Albany, NY	12:00 PM – 2:00 PM
December 15, 2010	CPE: 2	<i>Audio Conference – The Benefits of an Integrated Approach to GRC</i> KPMG, Albany, NY	2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
January 12, 2011	CPE: 2	<i>Audio Conference – Data Mining and Predictive Analysis</i> Department of Transportation	2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
January 19, 2011	CPE: 2	<i>Audio Conference – Are We Winning the Improper Payments Battle?</i> Office of the State Comptroller & Department of Transportation	2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
February 2, 2011	CPE: 2	<i>Audio Conference – Making Internal Controls Work in Your Organization</i> Office of the State Comptroller & Department of Transportation	2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Free for AGA Members; \$15 for others
February 10, 2011	CPE: 0	<i>Professional Certification Information Panel</i> Wolfert's Roost Country Club, Albany, NY	8:30 AM - 10:00 AM Free for AGA, ACFE, IIA, ISACA, IMA and for others
March 9, 2011	CPE:2	<i>Audio Conference – Planning, Conducting and Reporting Performane Audit Work Even More Effectively</i> Office of the State Comptroller & Department of Transportation	2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Free for AGA members; \$15 for others
March 14-16, 2011	CPE: 21	<i>The Conference That Counts 2011 – “March Madness”</i> Holiday Inn, Wolf Road, Colonie, NY (Separate Brochure will be provided for TCTC 2011)	
March 23, 2011	CPE: 2	<i>Audio Conference – Improving Performance Reporting</i> Office of the State Comptroller & Department of Transportation	2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Free for AGA Members; \$15 for non-members
April 20, 2011	CPE: 2	<i>Audio Conference – Mortgage Fraud and Beyond - Looking Towards the Future</i> Office of the State Comptroller & Department of Transportation	2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Free for AGA Members; \$15 for non-members
May 11, 2011	CPE: 2	<i>Audio Conference – Ethics</i> Office of the State Comptroller & Department of Transportation	2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Free for AGA Members; \$15 for others
May 25, 2011	CPE: 2	<i>CPA Ethics - Part 2</i> Holiday Inn, Wolf Road, Colonie, NY	
June 8, 2011	CPE: 2	<i>Audio Conference – Internal Controls</i> Office of the State Comptroller & Department of Transportation	2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Free for AGA Members; \$15 for others
June 9, 2011	CPE: 0	<i>Annual Awards Celebration Luncheon</i> Wolfert's Roost Country Club, Albany, NY	12:00 PM - 2:00 PM \$10 for AGA members; \$20 for others
June 22, 2011	CPE: 2	<i>Audio Conference – Moving Beyond the Numbers: Turning Performance Measures Into Dollars</i> Office of the State Comptroller & Department of Transportation	2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Free for AGA Members; \$15 for others

Registration online at [www.aganycap.org](http://www.aganycap.org)



## AGA New York Capital Chapter 2010-11 Officers and Directors

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