

## ABOUT OUR UPCOMING EVENTS

**JUNE 10, 2003**

**ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING AND  
AWARDS LUNCHEON**  
AT THE QUALITY INN,  
EVERETT ROAD, ALBANY, NY.

(FOR RESERVATIONS, CONTACT BARBARA WAMPOLE  
AT 518-477-1102 OR BWAMPOLE@WOJESKI.COM)

**JUNE 11, 2003**

**WMHT MEMBERSHIP DRIVE**  
AT THE WMHT STUDIOS,  
17 FERN AVENUE, ROTTERDAM, NY,  
STARTING AT 6:30 P.M.

(CONTACT ANN MARSH AT 518-473-2020  
OR AMARSH@MAIL.NYSED.GOV)

**JUNE 13, 2003**

**AGA GOLF TOURNAMENT**  
AT THE STADIUM GOLF COURSE,  
SCHENECTADY, NY.  
\$55 FOR AGA/IIA/ISACA MEMBERS  
\$55 FOR OTHERS

(FOR RESERVATIONS, CONTACT KEN EVANS AT  
KEVANS@DOT.STATE.NY.US)

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER.  
THANKS FOR MAKING OUR 25<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY YEAR A HUGE SUCCESS.

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



## Chapter Receives Several National Awards

**C**ongratulations are indeed in order for the many hardworking Chapter members who are going to be honored in several National AGA award categories.

Not surprisingly, the 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 at the "platinum all-star" level. We attained this award for excellence in chapter administration, membership growth, educational programming, communications, and community service.

This year **Jim Nellegar** became the Chapter's webmaster and completely redesigned our website. To recognize Jim's exemplary efforts in this area, he got first place in the Chapter Website Award Competition and will receive an award plaque at the Chicago PDC.

AGA National also recognizes **Jill Flinton**. As Vice President for Membership, she was instrumental in the Chapter receiving the Highest Overall Membership Growth Award and for her efforts as Membership Chair; she won two airline tickets to anywhere in the continental United States as well as an award plaque.

**Ray Harris** was a dual winner this year. AGA National has recognized Ray for his long-time Chapter service. Also, President Bill Anderson will present Ray with the National President's Award for his contributions in support of the National Executive Committee at the upcoming PDC.

This year, AGA National started a new award to recognize chapters that have provided an excellent educational program to its members. Unless you are new to our Chapter, you won't be surprised to hear that we won this prestigious award (even though we had to share the award with our sister chapter in Sacramento, CA).

Come to the June 10<sup>th</sup> Business meeting and see what other awards our Chapter may receive. Local awards will also be given to recognize outstanding Chapter service this year.



# CAPITAL IDEAS

PUBLISHED BY: NEW YORK CAPITAL CHAPTER  
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS

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CAPITAL IDEAS IS PUBLISHED BY THE  
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P.O. BOX 1923  
ALBANY, NY 12201



## President's Message

from  
**Linda Zinzow, CGFM, CPA**



As my year and the Chapter's 25<sup>th</sup> year come to a close, I wanted to recap the year and thank those who worked so hard to make it possible. As I look back, I realize what an exciting year this really was. We won a number of national awards, Chapter Recognition Award program – Platinum Level, first place in the Chapter Website contest – Jim Nellegar, Highest Overall Membership Growth, and Jill Flinton won 2 round trip airline tickets to anywhere in the Continental US for her efforts as Membership Chair in achieving the Highest Overall Membership Growth.

Our Chapter has, in my opinion had its best year ever. We started out the year in September with an excellent presentation on taking the Civil Service Battery Exam, the first early careers event, and the first community service event of the year, Habitat for Humanity. From there we immediately went to our anniversary month of October. Our gala event of the year hosted many former presidents, Chapter Champions, and other cherished guests such as John Wrafter – our first president, Bill Anderson – AGA National president, Frank Gatti – Regional Vice President, and Bobbie Derrick – Senior VP for Regional Services. As part of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration a new Chapter Awards Program evolved. As a reminder three categories of awards were created which are: Chapter Champions, Tone at the Top Awards, and Corporate Partner Award.

For November, we saw the Fraud conference, a second early careers event, and we provided a donation to the Regional Food bank as part of the Fraud conference to help those in need for Thanksgiving. December was a memorable Holiday luncheon with Benita Zahn, and a donation to her favorite charity the Ronald McDonald House.

In January, we hosted our Annual Technology Conference and the launching of our Chapter's new website – Jim Nellegar webmaster. February was our first ever professional certification information seminar for those interested in putting initials after their name. (Just a little humor.)

March of course was our TCTC and another community service event, the Big Brothers/ Big Sisters Bowl-a-thon, in which a number of members participated. April was the Meet the New State Comptroller, who due to a legislative meeting unfortunately could not make the luncheon, but graciously rescheduled for May 29<sup>th</sup>.

June will be our Annual Business and Awards meeting as well as a Charity Golf Tournament and participation in the WMHT membership drive. Lots still to come.

We also held an audit director's roundtable discussion at which recruitment and retention issues were discussed, and another early careers roundtable.

*Continued on page 17.*

## Report Recommends Agencies Use Outside Experts to Evaluate Programs

by Amelia Gruber, GovExec.Com

**F**ederal agencies could benefit from hiring outside experts to help them analyze program performance data, according to a new report from the General Accounting Office.

Agencies need specialists in statistical and research methods, as well as specialists in relevant academic fields, to help them assess how their programs are doing, the report (GAO-03-454) said. If agencies do not have the appropriate analysts in house, they could look to experts from other agencies or private companies.

For example, the National Science Foundation (NSF) relies on experts from the National Institutes of Health to evaluate some programs, while the Coast Guard hired TRW Systems, a defense contractor acquired by Northrop Grumman in December 2002, to help evaluate security programs at 55 seaports. Contractors also collect data on lifejacket use and use of navigational aids such as buoys and electronic charting for the Coast Guard.

NSF and the Coast Guard are two of five agencies that GAO studied from June 2002 to March 2003 to glean tips on program evaluations. Along with the Housing and Urban Development Department, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and Administration for Children and Families, NSF and the Coast Guard serve as models for

agencies aiming to complete thorough and successful program evaluations, GAO said.

The five agencies run programs that range in mission from scientific research to providing assistance to low-income families, but they all share a commitment to evaluating their work frequently, according to GAO. More than half of 234 federal programs evaluated by the Office of Management and Budget failed to adequately assess program performance for fiscal 2002.

In addition to relying on help from outside experts, the five agencies GAO studied worked on improving the quality of information gathered, the report said. The agencies improved their administrative procedures for gathering and storing data.

For instance, HUD created an automated system to collect data on outstanding grants. The system alerts workers if the data is incomplete or inconsistent. The Coast Guard developed a database to track hours and money spent operating and maintaining specific boats and aircraft. This information is useful when managers are drawing up budgets and would like to allocate funds based on program performance, the report said.

The five agencies all said GAO's report accurately portrayed their methods of evaluating programs.

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE MANAGING \$MARTER FOR THE FUTURE

June 29 to July 2, 2003  
Sheraton Chicago  
Chicago, Illinois  
26 CPE Hours Available



For 52 years, the AGA Annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition has been the premier education and training conference for government financial managers and accountability professionals. The 2003 PDC covers the perspectives of all governments: federal, state and local.

The conference theme for 2003 is Managing \$marter for the Future, and the program is filled with dynamic sessions to help all financial managers deal with the challenges of working in a rapidly changing government environment. The four-day conference has something for everyone. Sessions cover all levels, from basic to advanced. Topics and speakers are selected by volunteer committees of your peers -- because they know the issues most pressing to you.

To learn more about AGA's 52nd Annual Professional Development Conference, go to <http://www.agacfm.org>

# How Did We Get Started As a Chapter?

## N.Y. Capital Chapter

### How Did We Get Started As a Chapter? Association of Government Accountants

All area government accountants, auditors, budgeters and financial managers.  
Invitation to A.G.A. Local Chapter Maiden Meeting.

The Organizing Committee cordially invites you to the maiden dinner meeting of the N.Y. Capital Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants.

Date: October 20, 1977  
Time: 6:45 p.m.  
Place: The Crossroads  
Routes 9 & 7, Latham, N.Y.  
Dinner: Approx. \$7.00  
Speaker: Dr. Mortimer Dittenhofer  
Executive Vice President, A.G.A.

The meeting agenda will include:

1. Presentation of a local Chapter Charter.
2. Consideration of Chapter Bylaws.
3. Nominations Committee report and selection of permanent Officers and Directors.
4. An address by Dr. Dittenhofer.

Dr. Dittenhofer retired from government service in 1976, following service with the Atomic Energy Commission, N.A.S.A., the General Accounting Office, and the Joint Financial Management Improvement Program. He is presently serving on the accounting faculty at American University.

A long time member of A.G.A., he has served as president of the Montgomery - Prince George's Chapter, and has held key positions on national committees, particularly in the education and research areas. He has also been active in the Municipal Finance Officers Association and in the Institute of Internal Auditors.

Dr. Dittenhofer is widely known through his broad experience in working with financial managers in State and local governments and has published extensively in the government accounting field.

The Organizing Committee looks forward to your participation in this milestone event and we sincerely hope that you will seriously consider joining our organization. If you have any questions or would like to indicate that you will attend our maiden meeting, please contact one of the following Organizing Committee members:

John Wrafter, Co-Chairman,	NYSDSS,	474-9727
Bob Holland, Co-Chairman,	FHWA,	472-4469
John Chevalier, Treasurer,	NYSDOT,	474-8657
Tom Goodfellow, Secretary,	NYSDOT,	457-2520
Dave Hodgkins,	NYSDSS,	474-9746
Fred Guillmette,	HEW,	472-3971

Your R.S.V.P. to our Maiden Meeting Invitation will aid us in planning our meeting. Please call us by October 14.

\*\*\*\*\* PLEASE POST \*\*\*\*\* PLEASE POST \*\*\*\*\* PLEASE POST \*\*\*\*\* PLEASE POST \*\*\*\*\*

## NY CAPITAL CHAPTER

40 N. PEARL STREET - 15th FL. ALBANY. N.Y. 12243

October 26, 1977

Capital Chapter Update1. Charter Awarded at Maiden Meeting

Approximately 90 persons were on hand at the Crossroads on October 20th to participate in the Chapter Charter presentation ceremonies. Dr. Mortimer Dittenhofer, Executive Vice-President, represented A.G.A. national office on this momentous occasion.

Dr. Dittenhofer, a noted academician and practitioner in the government financial management field, addressed the group on "A.G.A.'s Continuing Programs for Members". Of particular interest were his comments on the history of A.G.A., its outreach to state and local government members, its many educational programs, and the development of a certification program based on government financial management experience and continuing education.

During the business part of the meeting actions taken by the Organizing Committee were formally ratified and bylaws were presented and adopted on an interim basis until ratification on November 9th. Copies are available for review and comment from Tom Goodfellow (457-2520).

The Nominations Committee report was presented and adopted on the same basis as the bylaws - the report will be voted on November 9.

II. Membership Goal Set at 100 by December 31

Membership Chairman John Chevalier reports that membership subsequent to our first chapter meeting numbers 67. We are permitted to enroll charter members until January 1, 1978 in accordance with an agreement with National Offices. Let's keep our strong momentum rolling!

III. Congratulations to the Organizing Committee for a Job Well Done!

John Wrafter, NYSDSS, Co-Chairman  
 Bob Holland, FHWA, CO-Chairman  
 Tom Goodfellow, NYSDOT, Secretary  
 John Chevalier, NYSDOT, Treasurer  
 Jim Held, Dorm. Auth., Meetings Chairman  
 Fred Guilmette, HEW, Nominations. Chairman  
 Dick Kane, NYSDOT, Nominations  
 George Gamble, NYSDAC, Nominations  
 Bill Ramage, NYSDMH, Nominations

George Konta, LCER, Nominations  
 Dan DeRossi, Thruway, Meetings  
 Bill Provost, HEW, Meetings  
 Dave Hodgkins, NYSDSS  
 Neil Blanton, LCER  
 Tim Moore, Dorm. Auth.  
 George Davis, Education  
 Randy Symanski, SUNY  
 Jim Boyle, SUNY  
 Howard Kahn; Urbach, Kahn & Werlin  
 Dick Nawrot, HEW  
 Ray Battazar, NYSDFY  
 Bill Hebert, NYSDEC

IV. Next Meeting to Hear Bill Sharkey

Mr. William A. Sharkey, Executive Director of the NYS Dormitory Authority will address our meeting on November 9 on the topic "Fiscal Management During Crises Operations". Spread the word that all are invited to join with us as we share some of Bill's first-hand insights into the recent fiscal crunch. Bill is one of our chapter's first and most ardent supporters.

Meeting Notices are enclosed. Let's get the most mileage from them - Please post or circulate.

V. Nominations

The following members have been nominated for positions as officers and directors for terms to expire June 30, 1978.

John Wrafter, NYSDSS, President  
 John Rosebrook, IRS, Treasurer  
 Tom Goodfellow, NYSDOT, Secretary

Directors

Michael DeSimone, Albany County  
 Chuck Forbes, GAO  
 Howard Kahn; Urbach, Kahn & Werlin  
 George Konta, LCER  
 Joe Mahron, NYSDEC  
 Norma Telefus, HEW  
 Joe Smith, NYSDOT  
 Doug Stewart, City of Saratoga Springs

Nominated officers and directors are requested to meet at the Crossroads at 5:15 on November 9.

*A Blast from the Past...*

## Early Articles from Our First Chapter President

### Victoria Was Kissed by John

by John Wrafter

*Capital Ideas*, October 1986

I had initially intended to confine my Newsletter articles to items on government programs. I now feel that a change of pace may be in order and I intend to alternate articles on government programs with articles on writing problems.

All of us involved in government financial management are frequently required to communicate our ideas in writing. For most, no matter how proficient we are in the technical aspects of our chosen field, original writing is a real chore. While we may have a few problems in communicating our ideas orally, we experience great pains when required to reduce those same ideas to writing.

In reviewing written material (for my part, audit reports), I have frequently observed patterns of errors in writing style. The errors ordinarily are not grammatical, but fall in the category of gobbledygook.

According to Webster, gobbledygook is “wordy and generally unintelligible jargon.” While government writers are most often accused of its use, I have found it as frequently in writings from other sources. It is a monster with many tails. It is passive and wordy. It hides the real subject of sentences and weakens verbs. It uses abstract words.

In my attempt to improve writing habits, I have labeled certain of the most error-prone items. Hopefully, the labels will both help writers observe their own problems, and help reviewers identify problems in others’ writings.

The subject of this article is the excessive use of passive voice, the most pervasive of the problems I have noted in written material. Later articles will cover other writing problems frequently observed and will provide what I believe to be, helpful hints on how to overcome them.

#### Excessive Use of Passive Voice

Although I stated that grammar was not the problem, I think it appropriate to preface this item with a short review of a grammatical structure called a sentence, and a sentence mode called voice.

A sentence is a grammatical structure with a meaning, usually containing a subject and a predicate, or verb. The verb is usually the action word of the sentence. Voice indicates whether the subject of the verb is performing or receiving the action in the sentence. If the subject is performing the action, the sentence is active. If the subject is receiving the action, the sentence is passive.

The following sentences are active:

- John kissed Victoria.
- Auditors write reports.

Without changing their meaning, the sentences can be turned into passive voice like so:

- Victoria was kissed by John.
- Reports are written by auditors.

Both sets of sentences are grammatically correct, but how do you feel about the use of the active versus the passive voice? My reaction is as follows:

“John kissed Victoria.” Evokes an image to me of – Smack!, but “Victoria was kissed by John.” seems kind of wishy washy –Was she? Really? It’s not because I’m John that I feel that way. Although the latter sentence carries the same meaning as the former, the passive does not connote as much action as the active.

“Auditors write reports.” Gives me a mental picture of an auditor plodding away, under deadlines, knocking out reports. “Reports are written by auditors.” simply seems to be saying – “It’s an every day occurrence. No sweat, no bother.”

What differences do you observe in the physical characteristics of the two sets of sentences? The passive sentences each have two additional words: a form of the verb “to be” and a preposition. That is the way with passive. Not only is it less active, but it uses more words to get across the same meaning.

Rules

We can't say that one voice is correct in some instances, but incorrect in others. Here are two rules for your guidance:

- If you wish to emphasize who performed the action, use active; but if you wish to emphasize who received the action, use passive. For example, which of the following sentences would you prefer: "A shaggy mongrel, called "Tag," bit

President Reagan as he strolled through the Rose Garden." Or "As he strolled through the Rose Garden, President Reagan was bitten by a shaggy mongrel called "Tag."? I prefer to emphasize "the shaggy mongrel," but from recent political polls, I would guess that most would want to emphasize "President Reagan."

- If it doesn't make a difference, use active.

## A Verb With a Thousand Faces

by John Wrafter

*Capital Ideas*, November 1986

This is a continuation of my October article. It covers another characteristic of the passive voice which sometimes disguises the verb (supposedly the action word of the sentence) as a noun, and uses a form of the verb "to be" coupled with a weakened (diluted) verb. Take a look at this sentence:

- Some improvement in John's appearance was effected as a result of his acquisition of a wig.

Ponder the sentence for a moment. What action takes place in it? Look at each of the words. Try to figure out the action. I'll give you a hint. There's a verb in the sentence disguised as a noun. Can you identify it?

Once you have realized that "improvement," "appearance" and "acquisition" are three such nouns that could be used as verbs, it won't be long before you realize that "improvement" is the action taking place. Now turn the noun "improvement" into a verb and use it as such to reconstruct the sentence:

- A wig improved John's appearance.

Now notice something about the reconstructed sentence versus the initial one. It carries the same meaning with 5 words instead of 16. Using the initial sentence to demonstrate keys to effective review of writing, this can be said:

- The sentence is passive.
- Verbs are lurking disguised as nouns.
- Three of the words are prepositions; one "in," and two "ofs." This is a sign of what is referred to as "prepositional decay."
- The verb "was effected" does not connote much action. It seems more a state of being.

- The phrase "as a result of" is generally a "wordy" expression which can be eliminated by reconstructing the sentence in which it appears.

Take a look at the following sentences and try to reconstruct them using the paragraph after the "Some improvement, etc." sentence as a guide (suggested improvements appear at the end of this article):

- Refusal of employment of women is common on the part of the construction industry.
- Some loss of weight was accomplished by Loretta last year.
- The hitting of a low drive was accomplished by Gary Carter. Interruption of the ball was affected by Spike Owen and the motivation of it to first base for the put-out was executed by the same member of the Boston team.

Rules

- Watch for verbs disguised as nouns. Try to turn them back into verbs.
- Look for diluted verbs that don't connote action. Examine each sentence to see what action is taking place and try to put the action into a verbal form.

Suggested Improvements

- The construction industry often refuses to employ women.
- Loretta lost weight last year.
- Gary Carter hit a low drive. Spike Owen snagged it and threw it to first for the out.

## Who She? Who They

by John Wrafter

*Capital Ideas*, December 1986

My usual routine for the past 12 years has been to return to my Oneida home on weekends after a week of work in Albany. Should I not return one weekend or two successive weekends, hardly a soul would infer something was wrong. But if I did not return for three or four successive weekends, the neighbors, and especially Loretta, might begin to suspect that something was wrong with our marital relationship. That is the way it is in our society. Husbands and wives are expected to be more not less together.

What is true of the husband-wife relationship in society is equally true of the pronoun-antecedent relationship in sentences. Readers normally expect to find pronouns close to their antecedents. The more distant a pronoun is from its antecedent, the more confused the reader becomes about the correct antecedent to which the pronoun relates.

Take a look at the following sentence and try to answer the question, "Who she?"

- Mary met with Ann and said she should lose ten pounds.

Without knowing or seeing both Mary and Ann, the reader would be confused as to whether Mary meant that she (Mary) should lose ten pounds, or that Ann should lose ten pounds. The meaning may still be unclear after knowing or seeing both Mary and Ann.

Now take a look at the following sentence and answer the question, "Who they?"

- The third copy of the forms was not initialed by the clerks but they were sent back to the payroll office.

"They," a plural pronoun, seems to attach itself to "clerks" since it is closest to that noun and since the only other possible antecedent would be "copy," a singular noun. But most of us would concede that copies of forms are usually sent hither and yonder.

A final sentence:

- Gentlemen prefer blonds because they are attracted to girls with fair hair.

Since "they" appears closest to "blondes," does the sentence mean that gentlemen prefer blondes because blondes are attracted to girls with fair hair? Hardly. Because "blondes" and "girls with fair hair" are the same, the sentence contains both a redundancy and excessive words (more later on these two items). It could easily be revised to read:

- Gentlemen prefer blondes.

As some of the sentences demonstrate, obscurity sets in even when the meaning is understood. Here are two obvious examples of misplaced modifiers:

- A radio announcer said, "Stay tuned and I'll be back to tell you how you can spend six weeks in Hawaii in a minute."

- A woman wrote to a newspaper, "Moving high in the sky and emitting a loud whooshing sound, my husband and I saw a silver, cigar-shaped object."

### Rule

- Place modifiers, particularly pronouns, as close in the sentence to that which they modify.

## Cash-Strapped States Consider Corporate Sponsorship

Walden Woods for sale? If a proposal currently under consideration in the Massachusetts legislature gains support, the Commonwealth would join the growing list of states and localities looking to offset huge deficits by giving corporate America the chance to sponsor parks, landmarks and buildings. A number of mayors across the country have considered the idea of putting some of their treasures out for bid, but Massachusetts would be the first state to pass such a law. Faced with a \$3 billion shortfall, Massachusetts legislators are

considering offering up naming rights to parks and forests, including Henry David Thoreau's beloved Walden Woods. Greg Butts, Arkansas state parks director, said he thinks there's a place for corporate sponsorships to help cash-starved states, but he thinks naming rights might go too far for "public lands that belong to the people. I have a problem with Walden Pond being turned into 'Wal-Mart Pond.'" "But the Massachusetts lawmaker behind the proposal claims that desperate times call for desperate measures. "It seems to me, should there be parks, information kiosks and all kinds of potential opportunities, let's just talk about them," said Republican state Rep. Bradley Jones Jr., the House minority leader who drafted the measure. "If we weren't in a major budget crisis, people wouldn't necessarily focus their efforts there."

# Photos from New York State Comptroller Alan G. Hevesi Presentation on May 29, 2003



## Association of Government Accountants New York Capital Chapter 2003-04 Slate of Officers

**President** ..... Kirk Schanzenbach  
**President-Elect** ..... Lori Vaccaro

**Vice President – Certifications** ..... Francine Marzinsky  
**Vice President – Communications** ..... Roger Mazula  
**Vice President – Community Service** ..... Ann Marsh  
**Vice President – Early Careers** ..... Kenneth Evans  
**Vice President – Membership** ..... Jill Flinton  
**Vice President – Programs and Education** ..... Raymond Harris

**Treasurer** ..... Marcella Junco

**Secretary** ..... Deb Spaulding  
Shelly Taleporos

**Immediate Past President** ..... Linda Zinzow

**Board of Directors – Ending in 2004** ..... Martin Chauvin  
James Cox  
Kevin King  
Brian Mason  
Nancy Varley

**Board of Directors – Ending in 2005** ..... Mike Abbott  
Eileen Chambers  
Rosemary Ellis Johnson  
Thomas Mahoney  
James Nellegar

**Chapter Historian** ..... Katie Meyer

-Be sure to mark your calendars and come to the Chapter's June 10, 2003 Business Meeting and Awards Luncheon at the Quality Inn on Watervliet Avenue Extension (just off Everett Road) in Albany. Contact Barbara Wanpole at 518-477-1102 or bwampole@wojeski.com

**Is it too early to think about golf? Never!  
Wipe the dust of your clubs and get ready for the greens.**

**When:** June 13, 2003

**You're Invited...**

... to participate in a charity golf tournament to benefit the Albany Medical Center Children's Hospital and you are all invited to participate.

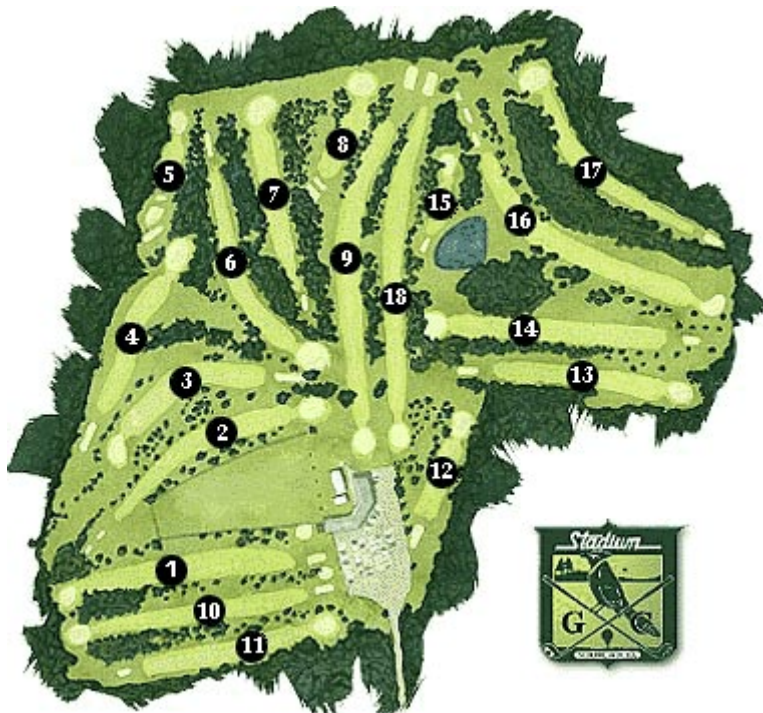
The day will include 18 holes of golf at Stadium Golf Course in Schenectady as well as food on the turn, and an awards ceremony with complimentary hors-d'oeuvres. The cost of this event will be \$55 per person with a portion of this cost to benefit the Albany Medical Center's Children's Hospital.

Please join us for a day of golf and to support the wonderful accomplishments of the Children's Hospital. We will compete in a best ball scramble with four-person teams. Have less than four? Go ahead and register and we will round out your team with other participants (we'll contact you about your groupings prior to the event).

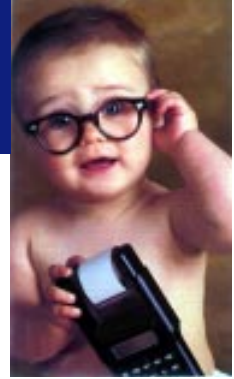
This event is open to the public so sign up today at the Chapter's web site [www.aganycap.org](http://www.aganycap.org) on the Community Service page. Contact Ken Evans at [Kevans@dot.state.ny.us](mailto:Kevans@dot.state.ny.us) for additional information.

Thanks for your support:

Ken Evans  
Vice President of  
Early Careers



## Early Careers Center Early Career Roundtable



Sitting left to right: Alison Pingelski, Lori Vaccaro. Standing left to right: Lisa Dunleavy, Pat Coonrod, Kerrie Ross, Ken Evans, William Steinbach, Mary Malaty

The Early Career Roundtable is a way for Early Career members as well as similar members in other organizations to provide feedback about the prior years' events and what Early Careers members are looking for from the Chapter.

I would like to take this time to thank all of the participants in this years Early Career Roundtable for all their valuable input and enthusiasm in making this a learning experience for all of us.

Thanks,  
Ken Evans  
VP of Early Careers

## Job Search King of the Hill? Tough Career Lessons Learned on the Playground

When you were a child, did you ever play a game called "king of the hill?" In my childhood neighborhood we had a low sand hill just right for playing king of the hill. A dozen of us would rush to the hill to scramble and push our way to the top. The hill only allowed one person on top - the king, the champ.

The competition of a job search is much like playing king of the hill. Instead of a hill, it's a job opening. But the rules of the game are about the same - one hill, lots of players and only one winner. Only now, the stakes are much higher.

In today's competitive job market, how does one become Job-Search King of the Hill? The answer - exercise better job search skills.

The four essential job search skills are:

- 1) Effective resume and cover letter writing
- 2) Uncovering job leads

- 3) Interview preparation
- 4) Salary negotiation

1) Effective resume and cover letter writing  
Your cover letter and resume are your first contact with potential employers. Make the most of the opportunity by written communication that sets you apart from the crowd. Here is a hint that's guaranteed to make you stand out. Focus your resume on accomplishments rather than responsibilities. For every accomplishment ask yourself, "how was this significant? How did this affect my employer's bottom line?" Your resume will catch attention no matter the level of competition because you've answered the reader's question, "what can this candidate do for my company?"

2) Uncovering job leads  
Before your resume can do any good at all, you've got to find job leads. This is sometimes the trickiest part of the job search process because a good percentage of job opportunities are found

in the hidden job market - job leads that aren't yet public knowledge. Think about this for a moment, what's more competitive, jobs that are posted for the whole world to see or jobs openings that haven't hit the want ads or online job boards? Which would you rather interview for?

There are several ways of uncovering job leads in the hidden job market. One of the most efficient is simply networking with persons within your sphere of influence. Just ask around. Always ask "who do you know that might know of a position that matches my qualifications?"

Another highly effective, inexpensive method of uncovering leads is through targeted email distribution of your resume. There are many reputable services online that allow you to target your distribution by industry, company size and geography. One caution - avoid resume blasting services. Blasting means your resume ends up everywhere but where you really want it: with employers most likely to have positions of interest to you.

### 3) Interview preparation

Once your resume has passed the screener's desk and you're invited for an interview, keep your competitive edge with pre-interview preparation. There are many outstanding interview prep books out there, but my all-time favorite is 101 Answers to the Toughest Interview Questions by Ron Fry. It's just recently been re-released and available in most book stores. A couple of hours with this book and you'll be better prepared than most job seekers.

### 4) Salary negotiation

You've made it through the interviews with flying colors and you've just received the phone call - they want you to extend an offer. Don't miss the opportunity to give yourself a nice raise. Go in prepared to negotiate for a better starting salary.

First, dollarize your worth. Demonstrate through quantifiable accomplishments that you are a high return on investment. Second, make sure you have the regional statistics for the salary range. The Occupational Outlook Handbook is a good source for that information. You can find them at <http://www.bls.gov/oco/>. Third, always let them be the first to state a salary or range. Don't inadvertently walk away from several thousand dollars by answering their question, "So what would it take to get you to come on board?" They might have a higher number in mind. And last, your bargaining power is the greatest if you have other offers on the table. Don't turn down interviews with companies you're not interested in. Those could turn into offers that increase your desirability as a candidate and ability to command the top of the salary range for the position you really want.

Once you've earned your position as "King of the Hill", you'll be less concerned with job security knowing the only real job security lies within your own ability to compete within the job market.

Deborah Walker, CCMC; Resume Writer ~ Career Coach. 888-828-0814 or [Deb@AlphaAdvantage.com](mailto:Deb@AlphaAdvantage.com); Call for FREE resume critique

## Getting Beyond the Screener and Into the Interview

I had an interesting conversation a while back with a hiring manager who made a comment about the surprising number of resumes she gets from people seemingly overqualified or from unrelated industries. Most of the resumes she tosses aside with disinterest.

I share her comments in case you fit the profile of candidate she mentioned. If so, there are steps to take to make certain your resume is seriously considered when applying for position outside your industry or for which you are overqualified.

1. Address the issue in your cover letter. State clearly your interest in changing industries. Express your knowledge of the industry and its challenges. Point out how your background experiences make you a great candidate. If you are seemingly overqualified, demonstrate your value: better perspective, more patient, and extensive industry knowledge.

2. If transitioning to a new industry, focus your resume on your transferable skills rather than routine responsibilities. Back up your transferable skills with illustrative accomplishments.

Translate industry-specific jargon into general terminology. Give less "white space" to company names if they are commonly connected with your industry. White space is just what it sounds like: white area around words. Words or phrases surrounded by white space stand out and attract the eye.

3. If over qualified, downplay your managerial responsibilities and highlight your hands-on activities and contributions. Give less "white space" to your job title. Don't quantify information such as number of employees managed, amount of budget overseen, etc.

Many job seekers feel that if they can just get the interview they can sell the interviewer on their qualifications. That may be so, but without a convincing cover letter and resume, the interview won't happen. If you feel you're being screened out unjustly, try these suggestions and see if you don't get better results.

Deborah Walker, CCMC; Resume Writer ~ Career Coach. 888-828-0814 or [Deb@AlphaAdvantage.com](mailto:Deb@AlphaAdvantage.com); Call for FREE resume critique



## WMHT Membership Drive

When: Wednesday, June 11, 2003

Time: Orientation: 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. - Pizza will be served  
Accepting Pledges: 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m

Where: The WMHT Studios - Directions below

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. This will be the second year that the AGA has participated in the live broadcast to answer phones to collect pledges for the station. Please join us! Contact Ann Marsh at [Amarsh@mail.nysed.gov](mailto:Amarsh@mail.nysed.gov) or at 473-2020.

## Community Service Corner

### DIRECTIONS TO WMHT

WMHT is located at 17 Fern Avenue in Rotterdam. This is a residential neighborhood. The most direct route to WMHT from most areas would be via the NYS Thruway. You can also access directions by dialing 357-1800.

#### FROM THE NYS THRUWAY:

Take **EXIT 25**. After the toll booth, take your first exit which will be:  
**EXIT 9 –Route7 West / Curry Road.**

#### FROM ROUTE 7 WEST / CURRY ROAD:

Follow Route 7 West/Curry Road to the intersection of **Altamont Avenue** (just past Malozzi's Restaurant, the road will come to a "T").  
**Route 7 West/ Curry Road** will **BEAR LEFT** at this traffic light.

After the turn, follow **Route 7 West / Curry Road** and turn **LEFT** onto **Route 158/Guilderland Avenue** (landmarks are Mobil Gas Station on the left, Rite Aid Drug Store on the right).

From **Route 158 / Guilderland Avenue**, you will make a **RIGHT** onto **Tulip Street**

(this will be the 4th street on your right, just after the Qik Pik Store and Car Wash).

There is a small **WMHT** sign on the telephone poll.

**Tulip Street** is a small residential street. It will bring you directly into the **WMHT** parking lot. The entrance to the building faces the parking lot, on the right front side.

The front door is locked after business hours (5pm). Please use the phone in the gray box (located on the wall to the right of the door) and let someone know you are here to volunteer.

### VITA Volunetters

The AGA members pictured below participated in the VITA program at the Albany Public Library from February to April 2003. From left is Kirk Schanzenbach, Wally Donnelly and Linda Cioffi. Wally was in charge of the program at the Library and the three AGA members devoted a combined total of over 150 hours to the program.



**CGFM**

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by Joan  
Schwartz  
AGA Deputy Executive  
Director, Professional  
Certification

## CGFM Helps Professionals Compete in Cost-Cutting Times as Governments Scale Back



**P**reliminary results of a recent survey conducted by the National Certification Commission indicates that there is a healthy increase in certification categories in the first three years of the 21st century. If the projected 6-7 percent increase for just the first three years of the decade continues, this decade will see the largest increase ever recorded.

But this is only one indicator of the growth of certification credentials. The demand is also reflected in the professional certification policies developed by federal agencies following passage of legislation in 2001 authorizing the use of appropriated funds to pay for professional certification exams. Four federal agencies-EPA, DFAS, GAO, DOD-have provided AGA copies of their policy. At AGA we are seeing an increased interest from federal employees in the CGFM designation.

Acceptance of the CGFM certification continues to grow at the state and local level as well. The CGFM designation is

now formally recognized in at least seven states, one county (Contra Costa, CA) and one city (Topeka, KS).

Because of budget problems, the demand for greater productivity and accountability-with fewer resources-with continue. Qualified, skilled and knowledgeable employees are at a premium. For example, to attract more qualified applicants to state accounting positions, Maine increased its entry-level requirements for state accounting positions, according to State Controller Edward A. Karass. Shaun Bridge, a recent CGFM holder, earned promotions in the Everett, WA engineering department and the parks department because of his commitment to earning his CGFM. Dozens of examples of CGFM success can be found in "CGFM Profiles" on AGA's website at [www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/cgfm\\_profiles.htm](http://www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/cgfm_profiles.htm).

It's never too late-there is no better time to begin your journey to earning your CGFM credential than now! Once the self-study books are available, you can take the book to the beach this summer and begin your journey.

## CGFM Training Offered at AGA's Professional Development Conference

Don't miss this special training opportunity while you are in Chicago for the AGA PDC!

AGA and Management Concepts partner to bring you the Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) Training Series -

...and this year you can register to attend classes in Chicago during the AGA PDC!

Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting, and Budgeting - June 30-July 2, 2003

Government Financial Management and Control - June 28-29, 2003

The CGFM Training Series helps financial managers meet the practical and professional demands that exist at every level of government. Achieving the status of a CGFM demonstrates that:

- You have acquired a high level of knowledge and vast experience in government financial management
- You are aware of the latest policies and procedures
- You are a true professional

Register Today!

# Membership News

by Jill Flinton

## 2002-03 Membership Recap

We had a very good year as a chapter. National set goals for us, which included having 410 active members as of April 30, 2003; 75 new members; and retaining 336 members from last year.

I am pleased to say that we had 378 active members as of April 30, 2003 (92% of the goal), 40 new members (54% of the goal), and we retained 338 members from last year (over 100% of the goal). For our efforts, the chapter won the Highest Membership Growth in Group A (300+ members). We also received this honor last year. The award will be presented at the 2003 Professional Development Conference in Chicago on July 2, 2003.

Locally, we held our chapter membership contest. I am pleased to say that we had a tie for the top recruiter and a tie for the second highest recruiter. Marcella Junco, our Treasurer, and Kirk Schanzenbach, our President, recruited three new members each. Eric Swanson, Denise Grebert,

Ray Harris, and J. Dwight Hadley each recruited 2 new members. All winners will receive gift certificates at our Annual Business Luncheon on Tuesday, June 10 at the Quality Inn.

## 2003-2004 Membership Year

We are well on our way this year already!!! The National goals are: 416 active members, 76 new members, and retaining 340 members. We have already recruited 9 new members!! Special thanks goes to Denise Grebert for 8 of the 9 new members. Our annual Chapter membership contest is also underway – and Denise is well on her way to take the top sponsor spot this year. The top sponsors will receive AGA merchandise. So if you recruit a new member, make sure your name is on the application as the sponsor (you don't need your member number)!!

Remember, if you have any membership questions, need applications, or are not sure who to contact, please call me at 518-437-9390 ext 241 or via email at [jflinton@oig.hhs.gov](mailto:jflinton@oig.hhs.gov)

## President's Message

*Continued from page 2.*

In my mind, the two most memorable parts of the year were recruiting an early careers member (Ken Evans) to take on the VP for early careers role and make it work, and our participation in more community service events than ever before.

I would like to thank the entire board for making this year such a memorable year. I would especially like to thank: Rose Johnson – VP for Programs and Education, Ray Harris – VP for Public Relations, Dan Tworek – Board member and overall adviser, Kirk Schanzenbach – President Elect, Marcella Junco – Treasurer (for keeping us mindful of our fiscal responsibilities), Roger Mazula – VP Chapter Communications (for the newsletters and TCTC brochure), Nancy Varley – TCTC Logistics, Gary Simpkins – TCTC Program Chair, Ken Evans – VP Early Careers, Ann Marsh – Community Service Coordinator, Jim Nellegar – Chapter Webmaster (for the superb website of which we can all be proud), Jill Flinton – VP Membership, Lori Vaccaro – VP for Certification, and to

Barbara Wampole of Wojeski & Co, CPA's who graciously acted as our registration liaison. I would also like to thank all the members who participated in any of our events, but especially those who participated in our community service events whether by donation of money or time.

Now, my last pitch for volunteers – change in composition of the board must happen continuously or the organization cannot grow. New blood is needed to ensure the future of the Chapter. It is an interesting group of people to work with, who have many years of experience and a passion for seeing the Chapter succeed and move forward for years to come. This can only happen when those entering the work force step forward to participate and understand the value of belonging to a professional organization. The rewards and benefits are countless. Think of this as those extracurricular activities you participated in the high school or college. Why did you do those? If you have children, why do they participate in activities? Step up to the challenge. Your participation does not have to be big, you can start small. Participate in our WMHT membership drive. June 11, 2003. Call Ann Marsh for details. It is up to us to recruit you, but you to be the future of our Chapter. It has been my pleasure and honor to have served you as president this year. Thank you for having been part of a terrific year!!



I'd like to take one last opportunity to say welcome to our new members and say thank you to their sponsors.

**Joseph Ambrose**, NYS State Department, sponsored by Mark Mitchell  
**Stephanie Bartkowiak, CPA**, Teal, Becker, Chiaramonte, CPAs  
**Marianne Boyer**, sponsored by Eric Swanson  
**J. Christopher Callaghan**, Saratoga County, sponsored by Nancy Varley  
**Stephen Capozza**, NYS Office of State Comptroller, sponsored by Joel Biederman  
**Angela Fabian**, Colvin, Wojeski & Co, CPAs, sponsored by Denise Grebert, CPA  
**Rory Costello**, KPMG, sponsored by Marcella Junco  
**Craig Coutant**, NYS Office of State Comptroller, sponsored by Ray Harris, CGFM  
**Brian Gee**, NYS Office of State Comptroller, sponsored by Jim Nellegar  
**Gretchen Guenther**, CPA, Teal, Becker, Chiaramonte, CPAs  
**G. Edward Hack**, sponsored by Ann Marsh, CPA  
**Nicholas Halko**, CPA, CFE, HHS Office of Inspector General, sponsored by Jill Flinton, CPA  
**Paul Hernandez**, KPMG, sponsored by Marcella Junco  
**Henry Hess**, CGFM, Town of Queensbury  
**Cole Hickland**, CPA, CMA, NYS Office of State Comptroller, sponsored by Kirk Schanzenbach  
**Susan Higgins**, HHS Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, sponsored by Marcella Junco  
**Andrea Inman**, NYS Office of State Comptroller  
**Michael Lefebvre**, NYS Division of Housing & Community Renewal, sponsored by Katie Meyer, CGFM  
**Dwayne Lovely**, Albany Airport, sponsored by J. Dwight Hadley  
**Jeff Madej**, NYS Office of State Comptroller, sponsored by Kirk Schanzenbach  
**Thomas Mahoney**, NYS Office of State Comptroller, sponsored by Ray Harris, CGFM  
**Robert Mainello**, CPA, NYS Office of State Comptroller  
**Francine Marzinsky**, CGFM, NYS Department of Taxation & Finance, sponsored by Lori Vaccaro  
**John Matthews**, sponsored by Dianne Hart  
**Donetta Morse**, CPA, Teal, Becker, Chiaramonte, CPAs  
**Diane Palmer**, NYS Division of Housing & Community Renewal, sponsored by Karen Cushman  
**Jennifer Paperman**, NYS Office of State Comptroller, sponsored by Debra Spaulding, CGFM  
**Amanda Radley**, NYS Office of State Comptroller, sponsored by Kara Mitchell  
**Caroline Ramos**, Salvation Army, sponsored by Ramon Jimenez-Acosta  
**Michael Reles**, NYS Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse  
**Robert Scott**, Scott Stackrow & Co, CPAs PC  
**Barbara Seeberger**, NYS Department of Taxation & Finance, sponsored by Linda Zinzow, CGFM  
**Frederick Shellard, Jr.**, NYS GFOA, sponsored by J. Dwight Hadley  
**Denis Sheriff**, NYS Office of State Comptroller, sponsored by Linda Malloy  
**Amanda Shook**, sponsored by Bill McCormick  
**William Steinbach**, HHS Office of Inspector General  
**Maria Stewart**, NYS Office of State Comptroller, sponsored by Kirk Schanzenbach  
**Shelly Ann Taleporos**, NYS Department of Labor, sponsored by Eric Swanson

#### **New CGFM in Chapter**

Dr. Henry Hess, Comptroller, Town of Queensbury, and one of our members, has passed the exam and has been awarded the CGFM!

# Chapter Executive Committee

March 11, 2003  
Minutes

The Chapter Executive Committee (CEC) held a meeting on March 11, 2003 at the Department of Transportation on the State Campus in Albany.

In attendance were: James Cox, Ken Evans, Denise Grebert, Rosemary Ellis Johnson, Marcella Junco, Francine Marzinsky, Roger Mazula, James Nellegar, John Samaniuk, Kirk Schanzenbach, Lori Vaccaro (via phone), Nancy Varley, and Linda Zinzow.

Minutes were adopted for the February 11, 2003 meeting with approved changes.

**Charity Golf Outing** – The tournament will be held at Stadium Golf Course in mid-June. Although event details are still being set, the event will be posted on the Chapter's website and a registration form will be created. Participants are not required to be members. The IIA, ISACA, and ACFE will be invited to participate and co-sponsor the event. Ken is also seeking business sponsors to provide various prizes and draw additional participants to the event. He is developing a letter which Board members can use to help obtain sponsors.

**Chapter Recognition Program** – Kirk distributed a report listing all AGA chapters' point statistics. Our chapter has earned nearly 23,000 points, which far exceeds our chapter's goal. We are doing well in all areas, providing a well-rounded chapter. By April 15, 2003, officers are requested to enter chapter recognition points online for the period ending April 30. Kirk will suggest to National that last quarter's chapter recognition points be viewable when entering current quarter's points.

**TCTC** – TCTC revenues of approximately \$82,000 are expected from the anticipated 320 participants. This will cover the associated expenses to provide a profit for the organizations to share. Coupons for Tuesday's joint social event were mailed today. Linda will mention the Chapter's new website, online registration, and upcoming golf tournament at TCTC. Board members will provide coverage at our chapter's booth.

**Finances** – We owe the ACFE \$500 and other professional organizations owe our chapter a total of \$2,500. The Division of Budget's emergency fiscal management bulletin states that all disbursements that are not statutorily required to be paid this year will be subject to deferral until further notice. Therefore, vouchers may be processed slowly.

**Membership** – There are 37 new members and 375 active members. This is an increase of 3 members since last month. An electronic member directory will be produced as a web link. Since a national AGA survey was recently conducted, a survey of local members may not be necessary. However, Linda will discuss the idea further with Jill.

**Upcoming Programs** – Comptroller Hevesi will speak at our 4/29 joint event with IIA at the Crown Plaza, Downtown Albany. IIA will handle the registrations. Our annual business luncheon is scheduled for June 10. Costs for these events are being finalized. All programs will be listed on our website.

**Community Service Update** – April – March of Dimes Walkathon – those interested should contact Jim Cox. WMHT membership campaign – June 3 will be our proposed date. We will not participate in the United Way Hands-On project this year, due to the number of other chapter events near that time.

## Schedule of Chapter Executive Committee Meetings 2002 - 2003

September 10, 2002  
October 8, 2002  
November 12, 2002  
December 10, 2002  
January 14, 2003  
February 11, 2003  
March 11, 2003  
April 8, 2003  
May 13, 2003

All meetings will be held from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the State Office Campus, Building 4, Ground Floor, classroom 1

Parking is available in Lot D right behind building 3, the cafeteria. Any time after 3:00 p.m., parking is available in any of the adjacent lots such as C or E. Classroom 1 is on the ground floor on the South end of the building (Western Ave Side).

**PDC** – The CEC will decide who will represent our chapter at PDC, once finances post-TCTC are known. PDC hotel rooms will be reserved by Kirk. The reservations can be canceled later, if necessary.

**National Issues** - At a recent National AGA meeting, our chapter's programs were recognized for our exceptional planning and marketing efforts. Remember to renew your membership online and sign-up for the AGA's electronic newsletter.

## Chapter Executive Committee

April 8, 2003  
Minutes

The Chapter Executive Committee (CEC) held a meeting on April 8, 2003 at the Department of Transportation on the State Campus in Albany.

In attendance were: Ken Evans, Jill Flinton, Brian Gee, Ray Harris, Marcella Junco, Francine Marzinsky, Roger Mazula, Mark Mitchell, James Nellegar, John Samaniuk, Kirk Schanzenbach, Dan Tworek, Nancy Varley, and Linda Zinzow.

Minutes were adopted for the March 11, 2003 meeting.

**Membership Statistics** – Board members received Membership Challenge notices. Currently Marcella Junco & Kirk Schanzenbach are tied for each sponsoring 3 new members. Eric Swanson, Denise Gerbert, Ray Harris, and Dwight Hadley have each sponsored 2 new members. There are 377 active members. We have 38 new members, which is half of National's projection for our chapter. However, we are close to obtaining a National award for growth and new members.

**Membership Survey** – Jill drafted a proposed survey. Checkboxes will be added to distribute the surveys electronically. Some questions may be changed to be more open-ended. Vice President will review the survey questions for their area and provide feedback. Jill expects that the survey will not be sent out until next program year; Mark will assist Jill. Marcella will obtain a recent CFE survey. The Board will consider if members will be offered an incentive to complete the survey.

**Charity Golf Outing** – Brian Gee has co-chaired several successful charity golf tournaments and is assisting Ken with this event. The AGA, IIA, and ISACA have pledged \$150 each to the Albany Medical Children's Hospital. Board members were asked to obtain sponsorship for items such as tees and contests/prizes and publicize the event to draw additional participants. A letter is being developed which Board members can use to help obtain sponsors. Golfers' fees will be collected prior to the event.

**Early Careers** – Roundtable is scheduled for April 16. Topics will include what Early Career members want the AGA to provide to them and ways we can recruit additional Early Career members. Chapter members and non-members are encouraged to attend. Also, a picnic is being planned; specifics are not available yet. Board members will be asked to bring an item to share.

**Finances** – New financial statements were not prepared as there were no major changes. The 6-month CD will mature on 4/21/03 and will be deposited into the checking account. The cash analysis will be changed to reflect the reduction in PDC attendance and increase in business luncheon. Following the business luncheon, Marcella projects \$3,000 in cash. \$7,000 is projected after TCTC funds are distributed.

**PDC Attendees** – 2 Board members have free PDC registrations and their other expenses will be paid by the chapter. Another 2 Board members will be attending and their expenses will be paid by their employer. If our chapter wins a community service photo or membership award and receives another free PDC registration, the Board will discuss if/how the free registration will be used.

**National Community Service Raffle** – At the PDC local chapters donate an item which is raffled to benefit charity. Kirk and Ray will attempt to obtain a promotional shirt from Albany sports team. Mark will attempt to obtain a promotional item from Center for Economic Growth. The Board established the maximum amount to donate to this on behalf of the chapter will be \$100.

**Hevesi Luncheon** – Registration for this event ends April 25; 58 have registered so far. Ken will provide the press release to Denise. Ray will determine if Crown Plaza contract for Hevesi luncheon includes a guarantee.

**Community Service Update** – April 27 Walk of Dimes event– those interested should contact Jim Cox. June 3 WMHT membership campaign – schedule of times has not been received yet.

**Website** – Jim suggested a training/events calendar be added to the website which would include events of other organizations, such as IIA, ACFE, and GOER. Providing a comprehensive event schedule would be a service to our members, bring more visitors to our website, and possibly increase attendance at our chapter's events. The Vice President for Education is responsible for compiling the various training dates and sending them to the Web Coordinator. In addition, an internal calendar, including various due dates and meetings, will be created. All officers are responsible for ensuring that their events are reflected on the internal calendar.

**TCTC Feedback** – Marcella will attend a TCTC wrap-up meeting and requested the Board's feedback. The long breaks between sessions were good for networking. Having the same session offered more than once enabled attendees an additional opportunity to not miss a topic. We anticipate lower registrations in 2004 due to the state's current poor finances. Therefore, purchasing cancellation insurance, reducing the number of free attendees, requesting monitors to volunteer, and having a half-day session to reduce meal expenses are all ideas that will be pursued. Jim suggested that organizations be contacted in the fall to gauge possible attendance.

### AGA New York Capital Chapter Financial Condition As of May 11, 2003

Assets			
Checking/Savings		\$4,486.93	
Accounts Receivable		233.00	
Other Current Assets		<u>2,531.58</u>	
Total Assets			<u>\$7,238.51</u>
Liabilities and Equity			
Accounts Payable	\$342.70		
Other Current Liabilities	<u>320.00</u>		\$662.70
Equity			
Reserve for PDC	\$6,400.00		
Retained Earnings	17,084.36		
Net Income	<u>-16,908.55</u>		<u>6,575.81</u>
Total Liabilities and Equity			<u>\$7,238.51</u>

### Advancing Government Accountability

Surf over to the New York

<sup>new</sup>  
Capital Chapter's Website

<http://www.aganycap.org>



## New York Capital Chapter Schedule of Events: 2002-2003

September	17	Lunch / Seminar	<i>Luncheon and Civil Service Exam Preparation Seminar</i> <b>Alan Stern</b> , NY SED Jack's Oyster House, 42 State Street, Albany, NY 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Registration and Lunch 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Seminar
September	18	Early Careers Event	<i>Networking with Other Early Careers Members</i> Jillians, 59 North Pearl Street, Albany, NY 4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Networking
October	22	Seminar CPE: 4	<i>The New Yellow Book - and - Where Did We Miss the Boat?</i> <b>Marcia Buccanan</b> , GAO; <b>Rick Hannmann</b> , KPMG; <b>David R. Hancox</b> , NYS OSC Century House, Route 9, Latham, NY 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Registration and Lunch 1:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. - Seminar
October	22	25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner	<i>Celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with Your Friends and Colleagues</i> Century House, Route 9, Latham, NY 5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Reception and Awards 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. - Dinner
November	26	Conference CPE: 8	<i>Fraud Prevention and Investigation</i> <b>Arthur A. Hayes</b> , State of Tennessee; <b>Ronald R. Stevens</b> and <b>William Mosher</b> , NY State Police Century House, Route 9, Latham, NY 7:45 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. - Registration 8:30 a.m. - 4:45 p.m. - Conference
December	10	Luncheon	<i>Holiday Luncheon - Health and Wellness</i> <b>Benita Zahn</b> , WNYT, Channel 13 Wolfert's Roost Country Club, Van Rensselaer Boulevard, Albany, NY 12:00 p.m. - 12:45 p.m. - Lunch 12:45 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Presentation
January	29	Conference CPE: 8	<i>3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Technology Conference</i> <b>Carmella Carnevale</b> , NYS OFT; <b>Diane Taylor</b> , NYS OSC; <b>John Sennett</b> , FBI, <b>John Beveridge</b> , Massachusetts State Auditor Office Empire State Plaza, Meeting Room 6, Albany, NY 7:45 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. - Registration 8:30 a.m. - 4:45 p.m. - Conference
February	25	Seminar	<i>Professional Certification Information Seminar</i> Holiday Inn Turf, Wolf Road, Colonie, NY 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Registration and Workshop 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - Networking
March	17-19	Conference CPE: 21	<i>The Conference That Counts 2003</i> Joint Conference with IIA and ISACA Holiday Inn Turf, Wolf Road, Colonie, NY 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Conference (each day)
April	29	Luncheon (Rescheduled to May 29)	<i>Meet the New State Comptroller</i> <b>Alan G. Hevesi</b> Crowne Plaza Hotel State and Lodge Streets, Albany, NY 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - Registration 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Lunch and Presentation
May		Seminar CPE: 8	<i>State and Local Government Financial Managers' Seminar</i> State and Local Government Representatives to Be Announced RESCHEDULED to Fall 2003
June	10	Luncheon	<i>Annual Business Meeting and Awards Luncheon</i> Quality Inn, Everett Road, Albany, NY 11:45 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Luncheon and Awards Presentation

To register for any Chapter event, except TCTC, please contact Barbara Wampole at [bwampole@wojeskico.com](mailto:bwampole@wojeskico.com) or call (518) 477-1102

# AGA THE ASSOCIATION FOR ACCOUNTABILITY PROFESSIONALS

**The Association of Government Accountants** was founded in 1950 and has grown into an international organization embodying the professional efforts of more than 18,000 distinguished members representing all forms and levels of government. AGA is a professional organization dedicated to the enhancement of public financial management and the safeguarding of the public trust by ensuring compliance and accountability for public funds and efficient and effective delivery of services.



## Membership Application

Name	<input type="radio"/> Mr.	<input type="radio"/> Ms.	Employer
Job Title			
Employer Address	City	State	Zip
Home Address	City	State	Zip
Work ( )	Home ( )	Fax ( )	
Preferred mailing address	<input type="radio"/> Business	<input type="radio"/> Home	
Sponsor's Name (if applicable)	Membership# (if known)		
Employer:	<input type="radio"/> Federal	<input type="radio"/> State	<input type="radio"/> County
	<input type="radio"/> City	<input type="radio"/> Private	<input type="radio"/> Academia
Field:	<input type="radio"/> Accounting	<input type="radio"/> Auditing	<input type="radio"/> Budgeting
	<input type="radio"/> Systems	<input type="radio"/> Financial Management	<input type="radio"/> Other
Education: Highest degree attained	Year	Accreditation & Certificates:	
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