

THE COMMUNIQUE NEWSLETTER

April Dinner Meeting
Wednesday, April 22, 2009

with Morgan Aronson, Department of Interior OIG Single Audits Coordinator
"Accountability and Transparency in an Ever-Changing Single Audit Environment"

Time: Reception: 6:00 p.m.–6:30 p.m.
Dinner and Meeting: 6:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m.
(approximate ending time)

Location: Hilton Hotel, formerly the DoubleTree Hotel
1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD
301-468-1100
See our Web site at www.marylandaga.com for directions.
Self-parking is complimentary in the hotel garage. Metered parking is available behind and on either side of the hotel.

Menu: Chicken marsala served with orzo pasta and grilled vegetables, chef's choice of salad, and dessert.

Cost: \$30 for members and nonmembers. Cash or check made payable to "AGA" and **credit cards accepted**

RSVP to Scott Turnbull, 301-931-2050, meetings@marylandaga.com

SPEAKER BIOS

MORGAN ARONSON

Department of Interior, OIG Single Audit Coordinator

Morgan Aronson is the national Single Audit coordinator with the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Inspector General, where her responsibilities include managing the Single Audit Team, supervising the completion of single audit desk reviews and quality control reviews, and serving as the Department's single audit liaison with the Office of Management and Budget, the Federal Audit Clearinghouse, and other federal agencies and groups. Prior to joining the Department of the Interior, Morgan spent three years as an associate with KPMG LLP, where she participated in the single audits for a variety of clients including the State of New Jersey and Rutgers University. Morgan is a certified public accountant licensed in Virginia. Morgan is also a member of the AICPA and Virginia Society of Certified Public Accountants (VSCPA). Currently, Morgan serves on the AICPA Technical Standards Subcommittee and VSCPA Professional Ethics Committee. Morgan is a graduate of Washington University in St. Louis.

CHAPTER PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Fellow Chapter Members:

March continued to be a busy month for the AGA Montgomery/Prince George's County Chapter. The Chapter sponsored the AGA Audio Conference on "Internal Controls" and the monthly dinner meeting on "Internal Controls – In Today's Government Business Process." See photos from the dinner meeting in this newsletter.

AGA National sponsored a special intergovernmental dialogue on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act) featuring speakers from OMB, DHHS, FTA, DOJ, NSF, and AGA National. The dialogue was recorded and can be found on the AGA Web site at: <http://www.agacgfm.org/intergovernmental/recovery.aspx>. Click on AGA's Intergovernmental Dialogue Meeting, March 20, 2009.

As we learned from the dialogue, there are plenty of unanswered questions in areas such as reporting requirements at the federal, state, and local levels, and compliance with the Buy American Act and Cash Management Improvement Act (CMIA). OMB is currently working on revising the Initial Implementing Guidance for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, and will issue a revised guide in early April.

For more information, visit the Recovery Act Web site at <http://www.recovery.gov/>.

CHAPTER PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (continued)

April will continue to be a busy month for us. After months of deliberations and hard work behind the scenes to redesign the Chapter's Web site, I am happy to announce that our new Web site is up and running! The new Web site is miles ahead of what we had in previous years. The new Web site will allow us to better communicate with our members, post more useful and current information, and link to new Web pages. Many thanks to Corinne Dougherty, the Chapter's Web master, who single-handedly redesigned the Web site. I encourage you to visit the new Web site and provide us with your comments and suggestions for further improvements.

On April 29, we will host the Spring Workshop (4 CPEs) featuring the "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009" and the "Troubled Assets Relief Program" (TARP). We are in the final phase of planning this workshop, so please check the Chapter's Web site for additional details on the workshop and all other training events.

In addition, the AGA task force continues its initiative—***The AGA Your Money, Your Government***—a radio talk show, airing on WTOP 1500AM Federal News Radio. *The Your Money, Your Government*, hosted by AGA's Executive Director Relmond Van Daniker, features discussions about government performance, accountability, and management with a variety of government executives who are working to advance government accountability. This month's topic is "*Stocking the Federal Financial Management Workforce*" The programs can be replayed or downloaded at www.federalnewsradio.com/index.php?nid=78&sid=1556819.



**AGA - YOUR MONEY,
YOUR GOVERNMENT**

We are currently forming a nomination committee to begin forming next year's Board of Directors. Those wishing to become more actively involved should not hesitate to contact me at president@marylandaga.com or Angela Walter, our President Elect at presidentelect@marylandaga.com. There are always opportunities to enhance one's professional knowledge and networking experiences. Our chapter is only as strong as our volunteers and members. Please feel free to contact any Board member for those committees that might be of interest to you. They are listed at <http://www.http://www.marylandaga.com>.

On behalf of the Chapter's board, we appreciate your continued membership. We encourage you to renew your AGA membership.

And last but not least, I hope that you will find some time in April to enjoy the National Cherry Blossom Festival. For more information on the various activities, please visit: <http://nationalcherryblossomfestival.org/cms/index.php?id=390>.

Sincerely,

Yehuda Schmidt, CPA, CISA
President, Montgomery/Prince George's County AGA Chapter



CHAPTER COMMUNITY SERVICE CORNER

On April 27–May 1, the AGA is organizing the 3rd Annual National Community Service Day – Habitat for Humanity. Community service and helping those who are less fortunate is an important part of the AGA philosophy.

The event takes place between the two weekends of the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival. There are still tens of thousands of people in New Orleans who are in need of new housing, so we are returning to the Crescent City to build a house with Habitat for Humanity. For more information, please visit our Web site at <http://http://www.marylandaga.com> or contact Doreen Shute at doreen.shute@cliftoncpa.com.

Marine Corps' Toys for Tots

This year, as part of the monthly programs, we have decided to collect, as part of our community service contribution, new or used toys that will be provided to the Marine Corps' Toys for Tots program. Please assist us in supporting this important program.

CHAPTER NEWSLETTER RESEARCH, ARTICLES, AND BOOK REVIEWS

The chapter encourages volunteers to provide newsletter articles on relevant subjects. We encourage all members to consider providing information that can enhance our knowledge base.

CHAPTER CGFM CORNER

Last month, both the State of Maryland and Montgomery County issued proclamations declaring March 2009 as CGFM month. This demonstrates both governments' commitment to transparency and government financial management professionals! The proclamations are below.

Proclamation

THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF
MONTGOMERY COUNTY
MARYLAND

- WHEREAS,** founded in 1950, the Association of Government Accountants (AGA) has 14,000 members in the United States and around the world representing federal, state, local and private sector government accountability professionals; and
- WHEREAS,** AGA serves government accountability professionals by providing quality education, fostering professional development and certification, and supporting standards and research to advance government accountability; and
- WHEREAS,** AGA's mission of advancing government accountability continues its educational efforts, with emphasis on high standards of conduct, honor, and character in its Code of Ethics, and are making significant advances both in professional ability and in service to the citizens of the Capital Region by mastering increasingly technical and complex requirements; and
- WHEREAS,** the Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) program of AGA has become the standard by which government financial management professionals are measured; and
- WHEREAS,** thousands of individuals have received the designation of CGFM, demonstrating professionalism and competency; which requires expertise in Government Environment, Government Financial Management and Control, and Government Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting, and requires each CGFM holder to maintain certification by completing at least 80 hours of continuing professional education in government financial management topics or related technical subjects every two years;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Montgomery County Council proclaims the month of March, 2009 as

CERTIFIED GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL MANAGER MONTH

Signed on _____ 13th _____ day of _____ February _____ in the year _____ 2009 _____


Phil Andrews
Council President



The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

**CERTIFIED GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL MANAGER MONTH
MARCH 2009**

- WHEREAS,** The Capital Region of the Association of Government Accountants is a professional organization, part of the Association of Government Accountants (AGA) which has a network of 15,000 members in 89 chapters in the United States and around the world and approximately 2,800 active members representing state, federal, municipal and private sector accountants, auditors, and financial managers in the Capital Region; and
- WHEREAS,** AGA has responded to AGA's mission of Advancing Government Accountability, as it continues its broad educational efforts, with emphasis on high standards of conduct, honor, and character in its Code of Ethics, and are making significant advances both in professional ability and in service to the citizens of the Capital Region, (which consists of the DC, Northern Virginia and Montgomery/Prince Georges Chapters) by mastering increasingly technical and complex requirements; and
- WHEREAS,** The Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) program of AGA provides a means of demonstrating professionalism and competency by requiring CGFM candidates to have appropriate educational and employment history, to abide by AGA's Code of Ethics and to pass a 3-part examination requiring expertise in Governmental Environment, Governmental Financial Management and Control, and Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting, and requires each CGFM holder to maintain certification by completing at least 80 hours of continuing professional education in government financial management topics or related technical subjects every two years; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARTIN O'MALLEY, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim MARCH 2009 as CERTIFIED GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL MANAGER MONTH in Maryland, and do commend this celebration to all four cities.

Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 1st _____ day of _____ March _____
A.D. 2009

and nine


Governor

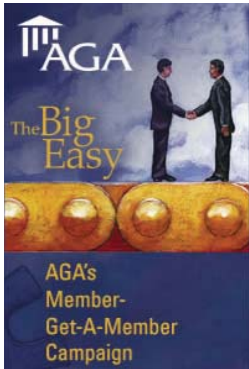
Lt. Governor

Secretary of State



The M/PG AGA Chapter purchased study guides for each of the three exams. CGFM candidates are encouraged to borrow these study guides to help succeed in the exam. For additional information, please contact Mike Loos at cgfm@marylandaga.com.

AGA NATIONAL UPDATES



Member-Get-A-Member Program

IAGA National has launched the latest Member-Get-A-Member campaign – The Big Easy. Please visit http://www.agacgfm.org/membership/mem_campaign.aspx for details on this program, the prizes available, and the rules for participation.

- Recruit ONE or more members, receive a Sponsors Only lapel pin, and get recognized in Topics and on the AGA Web site
- Recruit TWO members and start earning AGA Dollars. You'll earn five AGA Dollars for each new member that joins. AGA Dollars are like cash and can be redeemed towards publications, membership dues renewals, and national conference registrations.
- Recruit SIX members by January 31, 2009 and receive next year's membership dues renewal FREE.
- Recruit TEN or more members by March 31, 2009 and be placed into a fishbowl drawing for Sony Blu-Ray DVD player (valued at \$300)!



AGA's Professional Development Conference & Exposition (PDC)

The AGA's Professional Development Conference & Exposition (PDC) is now in its 58th year. This year's PDC will attract more than 1,700 government finance professionals from all three levels of government. Come hear from the best minds in the profession at education sessions, enjoy the displays in the Exhibit Hall, and network at daily social events.

At the PDC, you can hear from dynamic speakers, make new contacts, learn about the latest research, discover innovative management techniques, and see the technological tools that can aid efficiency and improve effectiveness.

CHAPTER UPCOMING EVENTS CORNER

The following are the chapter's upcoming monthly program highlights. Please visit our Web site at <http://www.marylandaga.com/meetings.cfm> and click the **Upcoming Chapter Events** for more details.

April 2009:

April 22

***FREE* AGA Audio Conference: Ethics**

AGA is pleased to announce its latest audio conference on GAO's Role in the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009.

Date and Time: Wednesday, April 22, 2009, from 2:00 to 3:50 p.m. EDT

Location and Cost: KPMG LLP, one of our chapter's corporate partners, has agreed to sponsor this event *free of charge* for our chapter members.

The conference will take place at KPMG LLP's offices, 2001 M Street NW, Washington, DC 20036.

Please contact Maria Rossel to RSVP for this event, 202-533-6396.

April 22

Dinner Meeting at Hilton in Rockville, MD, 6:00-8:30 p.m.

We will feature Chris Stubbs, Department of Interior Deputy Assistant IG for Audits, and Morgan Aronson, Department of Interior OIG Single Audits Coordinator, who will speak about "**Single Audit.**"

CHAPTER UPCOMING EVENTS CORNER

April 27 – May 1

Habitat for Humanity in New Orleans

The M/PG AGA Chapter is going to the Crescent City to build a house with Habitat for Humanity. We will seek lodging for volunteers in the new University of New Orleans dormitory (actually two-bedroom furnished apartments) with a rate of only about \$30/night/person.

If you are interested in participating, or have questions before you decide, please contact Doreen Shute, doreen.shute@cliftoncpa.com.

April 29

Spring Workshop

The M/PG AGA Chapter will host its **Annual Spring Workshop**. The topics will be American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and the Troubled Assets Relief Program (TARP)

Location: NIH Campus

45 Center Drive, Bethesda, MD 20814

Natcher Building #45 Conference Room F1 & F2

Event Time: 12:30–5:00 p.m.

Cost: Members \$65, Nonmembers \$85

May 2009:

May 2–3

Community Service – Susan Komen Breast Cancer Walk

The Montgomery/PG Chapter is pleased to announce its participation in the Susan Komen breast cancer walk in May.

Volunteers are needed to help participate in the project on May 2–3, 2009. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Leila Beigzadeh using the contact information below.

Location: Washington, DC

Event Time: TBD

Contact: Leila Beigzadeh at 301-443-0450

May 13

***FREE* AGA Audio Conference: Ethics**

AGA is pleased to announce its latest audio conference on Ethics.

Date and Time: Wednesday, May 13, 2009 from 2:00 to 3:50 p.m. EDT

Location and Cost: Clifton Gunderson, one of our Chapter's corporate partners, has agreed to sponsor this event *free of charge* for our Chapter members.

The conference will take place at Clifton Gunderson's corporate offices, 11710 Beltsville Drive, Suite 300, Calverton, MD 20705.

Please contact Elizabeth Robinson to RSVP for this event, 301-931-2050.

May 19

Dinner Meeting at Hilton in Rockville, MD

Presentation to be given by the Honorable Samuel T. Mok, CGFM, CIA, CICA, AGA national president who will speak about "**The CFO in the 21st century**".

June 2009:

June 25

Habitat for Humanity in New Orleans

The M/PG AGA Chapter is participating in a one-day community service event with Habitat for Humanity the day after AGA National's PDC ends. For this event, we will seek to extend AGA's special hotel rate to include this extra night.

If you are interested in participating, or have questions before you decide, please contact Doreen Shute, doreen.shute@cliftoncpa.com.

For additional information and to register for any of the above Chapter events, please go to our Web site at www.marylandaga.com.

Our Chapter wishes to thank the following corporate sponsors:

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