

THE COMMUNIQUE NEWSLETTER

March Dinner Meeting
Wednesday, March 18, 2009

**with Mike Najjum, Ginnie Mae SVP and CFO, and Stuart Kurlancheek, Deputy Chief,
Office of Audit of Administrative Office of the United States Courts.**

"Internal Controls – In Today's Government Business Process"

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: Fresh Mozzarella and Plum Tomato Salad served with
Kalamata Olives and Balsamic Vinaigrette, Maryland Jumbo
Lump Crab Cakes served with Jasmine Rice, Grilled Cherry
Tomatoes and Ginger Snow Peas accompanied by a Spicy
Remoulade Sauce; Sweet Charlotte for 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

MIKE NAJJUM

Senior Vice President/Chief Financial Officer, Ginnie Mae



Mr. Najjum is the Senior Vice President/Chief Financial Officer (SVP/CFO) of Ginnie Mae. Mr. Najjum is a CGFM with a Bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland and a Master's degree from American University.

As the SVP/CFO, Mr. Najjum prescribes and administers accounting systems and procedures, including the design, and installation, maintenance of the accounting and cost systems, and ensures maintenance and compliance of internal controls and auditing procedures. He has managed and performed numerous contract compliance reviews, risk assessments, and risk management analyses.

He manages the administrative control over funds authorized for administrative expenses, and the provision of cash management and investment services.

As the SVP/CFO, he manages the preparation and execution of the budget for Ginnie Mae.

Mr. Najjum plans and directs a program for establishment and maintenance of a comprehensive system of accounting designed to provide full disclosure of Ginnie Mae's financial results. This involves the following: adequate financial information needed for management purposes; effective control and accountability for all Ginnie Mae findings; and ensuring compliance with the reporting requirements of the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act and the Chief Financial Officer Act.

STUART KURLANCH

Deputy Chief, Office of Audit, the Administrative Office of the United States Courts (AO)

Stuart Kurlancheek is the Deputy Chief, Office of Audit, at the Administrative Office of the United States Courts (AO). He began his federal career in 1976 at the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) as a staff auditor with the HEW Audit Agency. In 1980, Stuart joined the policy staff in Office of the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as a systems accountant to implement its internal controls program. In 1984, Stuart was hired by the Office of the Inspector General, as Chief, EDP Audit Branch, to establish an information systems auditing program for HHS headquarter operations.

In 1985, Stuart was hired by the AO as Chief, Accounting Systems Development Staff, to modernize their accounting systems. Stuart implemented the Central Accounting System for the federal Judiciary. In 1993, he joined the Office of Audit as Chief, Court Financial Audit Branch. Currently, as the Deputy Audit Officer for the Judiciary, Stuart is leading the effort to implement the Internal Control Evaluation (ICE) system in all federal courts.

Stuart is a graduate of the Pennsylvania State University. He is a CPA and a CGFM and has received several awards during his career, including the AO's Meritorious Service Award.

CHAPTER PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Fellow Chapter Members:

On February 17, the President signed into law the \$787 billion economic stimulus plan – the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (“Recovery Act”) of 2009. The next day, OMB issued the Initial Implementing Guidance for the Recovery Act. The OMB memorandum transmits the first installment of governmentwide guidance for carrying out programs and activities enacted in the Recovery Act of 2009.

The Recovery Act and this Guidance include several provisions that require agencies to take steps beyond standard practice, including reporting, information collection, budget execution, risk management, and specific actions related to award type.

This will introduce countless challenges to financial managers at U.S. Federal, State, and Local government level, as well as reporting requirements not seen before.

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

Last month's AGA-National Leadership Conference was a great success. The conference covered several current issues that pose challenges and opportunities for the financial management community, as well as, hot off the presses – the Recovery Act of 2009.

On February 18, our chapter hosted the annual Networking Career Fair, followed by the monthly dinner meeting featuring the topic: “Marketing Brand You”.

Our Chapter sponsored a free AGA Audio Conference (2 CPE) featuring the topic: “Fraud”.

March will continue to be a busy month for us. On March 11, the Chapter will sponsor a free AGA Audio Conference (2 CPE) featuring the topic: “Internal Controls.” On March 18, our Chapter will host the monthly dinner meeting featuring the topic: “Topic: Internal Controls – In Today's Government Business Process”

For information about the upcoming March training events, please visit the **Chapter Upcoming Events Corner** below.

Once again, I encourage you to visit the AGA 2008–2009 Member-Get-A-Member Campaign – The Big Easy. It is your opportunity to share the value of an AGA membership with your friends and colleagues, and earn BIG rewards in the process!

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 the 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. The programs can be replayed or downloaded at www.federalnewsradio.com/index.php?nid=78&sid=1556819.



**AGA - YOUR MONEY,
YOUR GOVERNMENT**

As in previous years, we are looking for volunteers to assist the DC Habitat for Humanity in building low cost homes for the needy. Our work includes siding, painting, dry-walling, roofing, etc. The chapter's volunteers will work with the DC HFH on Saturday, March 28, from 8:15 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, please send an e-mail to Mike Kess at communityservice@marylandaga.com

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.marylandaga.com/info.html>.

We appreciate your continued membership, especially in these challenging times. Members are the reason the AGA exists.

Sincerely,

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

CHAPTER COMMUNITY SERVICE CORNER

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

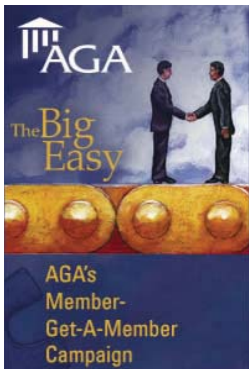
The chapter encourages volunteers to provide newsletter articles on relevant subjects. We encourage all members to consider providing information that can enhance our knowledge base.

CHAPTER CGFM CORNER

As of February 25, 2009, both the State of Maryland and the Montgomery County have issued proclamations declaring March 2009 as CGFM month. This demonstrates both governments' commitment to transparency and government financial management professionals!

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

Member-Get-A-Member program has been launched: 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 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 10 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 to hear from the best minds in the profession at education sessions, in the Exhibit Hall, and 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 efficiently 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.

March 2009:

March 11

***FREE* AGA Audio Conference: Internal Controls**

AGA is pleased to announce its latest audio conference on internal controls.

Date and Time: This conference is scheduled for Wednesday, March 11, 2009 from 2:00 to 3:50 p.m. EST.

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

March 18

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

We will feature Mike Najjum, Ginnie Mae SVP and CFO, and Stuart Kurlancheek, Deputy Chief, Office of Audit of Administrative Office of the United States Courts who will speak about "**Internal Controls – In Today's Government Business Process**"

March 28

Community Service – DC Habitat for Humanity

Our Chapter, in conjunction with the D.C. chapter, is pleased to announce a community service event to sponsor a home project in Washington, DC with Habitat for Humanity.

Volunteers Needed: We are seeking volunteers to help participate in the project on March 28, 2009. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Mike Kess using the below contact information.

Location: Washington, D.C.

Event Time: 8:15 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Contact: Mike Kess at 301-801-2319

April 2009:

April 8

***FREE* AGA Audio Conference: Auditing**

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

Date and Time: Wednesday, April 8, 2009 from 2:00–3:50 p.m. EST

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 Washington, DC office, 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.**"

April 29

Spring Workshop

The M/PG AGA Chapter will host its Annual Spring Workshop. (We are currently in the planning phase. Please visit the Chapter's Web site for more details.)

Event Time: 1:00–5:30 p.m.

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 Leिला Beigzadeh using the contact information below.

Location: Washington, DC

Event Time: TBD

Contact: Leिला 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 2:00–3:50 p.m. EST

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 AGA National President, Sam Mok.

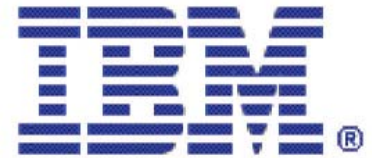
For additional information and to register for any of the above Chapter events, please go to our Web site at www.marylandaga.com.

Our Chapter wishes to thank the following corporate sponsors:

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