

THE COMMUNIQUE NEWSLETTER

May Dinner Meeting
Tuesday, May 19, 2009

with The Honorable, Sam Mok, CGFM, CIA, CICA

"The CFO in the 21st Century"

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

Menu: Filet mignon served with garlic mashed potatoes and roasted button mushrooms served with a cabernet demi-glace, chef's choice of salad, and dessert.

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.

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 BIO

The Honorable, Sam Mok
CGFM, CIA, CICA

Samuel Tinsing Mok is the managing member of Condor International Advisors, LLC, a Washington DC-based management consulting firm providing innovative business relationship management and business advisory services.

He served as the chief financial officer of the U.S. Department of Labor from January 2001 to May 2007. He was confirmed by the U.S. Senate in January 2002 after being appointed to the position by President George W. Bush. Previously, he served as managing member of Condor Consulting LLC, comptroller and the first career CFO of the U.S. Department of the Treasury, U.S. Foreign Service officer, and captain in the U.S. Army. Additionally, he was the director of accounting for Time-Life Books and treasurer of *U.S. News and World Report*.

In 2006, Mr. Mok received the prestigious Donald L. Scantlebury Memorial Award for Distinguished Leadership in Financial Management Improvement. He was named as one of the "Fed 100" by *Federal Computer Week* and the recipient of the Association of Government Accountants (AGA) Washington, DC, Chapter Einhorn/Gary Award. In 2005, he received the AGA Distinguished National Leadership Award. Mr. Mok served on the Republic of the Marshall Islands Trust Fund Committee and the General Administration Board of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Graduate School. He was elected as a fellow of National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA) in 2005 and serves on the Government Accountability Office Advisory Council on Government Audit Standards. He is the vice chairman of the board of trustees of the Academy for Government Accountability and is a 2006 distinguished practitioner in residence at the University of Kentucky Martin School of Public Policy and Administration. Mr. Mok is also the recent recipient of the 2007 Ellis Island Medal of Honor. Mr. Mok is currently the national president-elect of the Association of Government Accountants and a board member of Monte Jade Science and Technology Association of Greater Washington, DC Area.

Mr. Mok received his B.S. in accounting from Fordham University and an M.A. in accounting from the Catholic University of America. He is a certified government financial manager (CGFM), a certified internal auditor (CIA), and a certified internal control auditor (CICA).

Mr. Mok and his wife, Nancy, reside in Maryland. They are the proud parents of two grown children, both attorneys, and five grandchildren.

CHAPTER PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Fellow Chapter Members:



It is hard to believe that this is my last column as the AGA Montgomery/ Prince George's County chapter's president. This was an extraordinary year for me, the chapter, and the country. For me—I had a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to work on multiple interesting tasks at the chapter and national level that allowed me to expand my own network with other professionals. I had the privilege to work with numerous dedicated volunteers that contributed their precious time for chapter matters. For the chapter—we continued moving the chapter forward with first-class training events, began accepting credit cards, and completed a total Web site redesign that won first place of the AGA 2008–2009 chapter Web site contests. And for the country—one of the longest presidential campaigns ever, unprecedented inauguration events, and the current economic and financial crisis that placed the federal government in a position not seen since the Great Depression, which formed two major programs that will affect every American's life in many years to come: the "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)" and the

"Troubled Assets Relief Program (TARP)";

It is no coincidence that April continued to be a busy month for us. The chapter sponsored the AGA Audio Conference on "Ethics," a monthly dinner meeting on "Accountability and Transparency in an Ever-Changing Single Audit Environment," and the Spring Workshop covering the

CHAPTER PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (continued)

"American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)" and the "Troubled Assets Relief Program (TARP)": See photos from the Spring Workshop in this newsletter.

The common ARRA theme we heard from all speakers was the unprecedented *accountability, oversight, and transparency* so that the American people know their money is being spent responsibly.

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

This month is the last active month for our chapter. I invite you to join us at the Annual Awards Banquet on Tuesday, May 19, 2009. Our keynote speaker is Samuel Tinsing Mok, AGA National President, who will present "The CFO in the 21st century". During the event, the chapter will award a scholarship award and recognize individuals in the following categories:

- Awards for Outstanding Achievement
- Awards for Outstanding Contribution to the Chapter
- Awards for Chapter Recognition

We are currently in the final phase of 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 members for those committees that might be of interest to you. They are listed at <http://www.marylandaga.com/info.html>.

On behalf of the chapter's board, we want to express our appreciation for your continued membership. We encourage you to renew your AGA membership and recruit additional members.

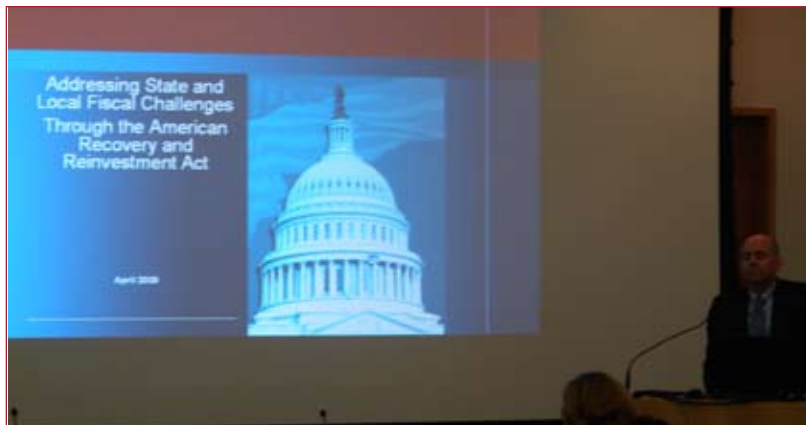
And last but not least, on behalf of the chapter's members, I want to thank our corporate sponsors for their generous contributions. Their sponsorship allowed us to move forward with multiple initiatives to improve the chapter's services to its members.

It has truly been a pleasure to serve as the chapter's president this year. I look forward to continuing to serve the chapter next year under Angela Walter's leadership.

Sincerely,

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

SPRING WORKSHOP PHOTOS



CHAPTER WEBSITE CORNER

After many long months of planning and deliberation, the redesign of our chapter's website is complete! We changed the layout of the website to showcase our chapter's events. We have separate pages for our dinner meetings, workshops, AGA audio conferences, and community service events. Another great new feature is that people can register to attend our monthly dinner meetings online. (Click on Events → Dinner Meetings → Register). We've also included some more information that we hope will be useful to our members. For example, we have included our chapter's bylaws, strategic plan, minutes to Board meetings, monthly president's message, and some FAQs—just to name a few. Enjoy the new website!

On April 28, the AGA announced the recipients of the 2008–2009 chapter newsletter and website contests, which are designed to recognize the hard work, creativity and dedication of AGA's chapter communicators. For the first time ever, our chapter's website won first place among the largest AGA chapters across the country! The awards will be presented during the PDC in New Orleans, June 21–24.

Feel free to contact the webmaster (webmaster@marylandaga.com) if you have any comments or suggestions for further improvements.

CHAPTER COMMUNITY SERVICE CORNER

Third Annual National Community Service Project Another Rousing Success—“Third-and-a-half” Habitat Event Coming Up June 25th

Thirteen AGAers supported by as many local chapter members participated in the Third Annual National Community Service project in New Orleans's 9th Ward April 27–May 1, 2009. Like last year, the project was sandwiched between the two weekends of the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festivals. Most out of town participants stayed in the beautiful, new University of New Orleans dormitory (two and four bedroom, furnished apartments).

One of the highlights in April was seeing Nathaniel Franklin, the owner of the first home we worked on two years ago. Nat clearly was doing well and was proud of his new home. He had made a variety of small improvements to his small home, including a new driveway and carport. Another highlight was the lunchtime concert presented by the musician-home owners of Habitat's Musician's Village.

This year's on-site volunteers included Past AGA National President Virginia Robinson, Past AGA National Treasurer Evelyn Brown, and Senior Vice President-at-Large Karl Boettcher from the DC Chapter; Past RVP Doreen Shute from Montgomery PG Chapter; Melinda Barbish from the Richmond Chapter; Janice and Thomas Wieberg of the Mid-Missouri Chapter; Yong-He Bae, Erin Koksall, and Thanh Le of the Denver Chapter; and Howard Tamborella and Marcie Turead from the New Orleans Chapter.

Thanks also to Past RVP Peggy Javery, Amanda Green, Gary Millet, and all the members of the New Orleans chapter for their always amazing and generous hospitality! Thanks also to the Capital Region chapters for providing us all with the fashionable lime-green T-shirts.

This year's volunteers clearly enjoyed themselves. Janice M. Wieberg, CGFM, said, “This was a most wonderful experience for me. Tom had explained how much it meant to him, after he'd worked this event last year, but until I actually experienced it for myself, I didn't truly and fully understand what he meant. We are both definitely planning on returning next year.” PNP Virginia Robinson said, “It was wonderful meeting AGAers and others with true grit and the real community service spirit. I've known for a long time that our New Orleans chapter is part of the crème de la crème in AGA, but this time they even out did themselves. I'm definitely planning to return.”

Over 2,000 families were to be evicted from their 300 square-foot FEMA trailers on May 31 according to the local newspaper. By one estimate, as many as 20,000 buildings in the city remain uninhabitable after the 2005 hurricane. This, almost four years since Katrina devastated New Orleans and the Gulf coast. Stay in New Orleans an extra day, and take part in this fun and meaningful event. You can make a difference.

All AGA hotels will honor the special AGA rate for this extra night if space is available. Volunteers will work from 7:45 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. Transportation will be arranged (perhaps for a small fee), and a delicious catered lunch will be provided by the New Orleans AGA chapter. Please complete the registration form as soon as possible to participate. Contact Jeff Hart for details at 303-312-6169 or hart.jeff@epa.gov. You can also read my description with photographs from AGA's April 2008 Habitat work project in New Orleans.

— AGA Past National President Jeffrey S. Hart, CGFM, CFE

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

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

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.

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.



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.

May 2009

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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