



# Nashville Notes

March 2005

Volume 27, Number 7

**President's Message,  
Melinda Parton**

**Performance – Are We Meeting  
Expectations?**

For the first time, the Nashville Chapter will have available, to our members, strategies and performance measures developed around our Chapter's Strategic Framework, which was developed last year. I want to thank our President-Elect, Dianne McKay, for leading this initiative. She worked with each committee chair to develop specific strategies and performance measures around our framework. I believe the benefits to be derived from this process will help us as an organization to better plan and develop activities around what our members want and need in an efficient manner. We will provide all members a hard copy of this program year's strategies at our March Chapter Meeting and also place this information on our website.

Speaking of performance, the February issue of Governing Magazine, issued a special report on government performance called, "Grading the States 2005." This government performance project (GPP) assessed the quality of management performance. Their research found that all states faced similar economic challenges, but their reactions differed widely. The four areas reviewed were people, money, infrastructure and information. The report highlights strengths and weaknesses in the criteria used to assess these management areas. So how did Tennessee fare in this assessment? Tennessee received an overall C+. In the area of money our State received a grade of B-. In the summary report of Tennessee's money category, they stated, "Tennessee conducts its financial management competently." The following subcategories in the area of money were reviewed; long-

term outlook, budget process, structural balance, contracting/purchasing, financial controls/reporting. As government financial managers at all levels of government, I believe this report and the criteria used to assess management performance is useful information for our members to review to assist us in continually improving financial management accountability. While this report contains one entities criteria and basis on which financial management should be measured, I believe it is relevant information from a group of citizens as to their expectations of government performance. You can view the full report at <http://www.governing.com/gpp/2005/intro.htm>.

Our chapter has a new website design. Please take time to look at the chapter's new website at <http://www.nashvilleaga.org/>. On February 7<sup>th</sup>, our Web Committee implemented a new website design. I want to thank Dan Willis, Web Committee Chair, and Web Committee member, Nathan Abbott, for their hard work in making this redesign happen.

Hope to see each of you at our Chapter Meeting, March 3rd.

<b>Chapter Recognition Points YTD</b> <i>(through February 10, 2004)</i>	
Leadership	3,625
Education	12,800
Certification	8,875
Communication	6,550
Membership	525
Community Service	1,225
Awards	700
<b>Total Points YTD</b>	<b><u>34,300</u></b>
<b>Chapter Goal</b>	<b><u>10,000</u></b>

**CHAPTER MEETING**  
**Thursday, March 3, 2005**  
**11:30 a.m.**  
**Speaker**  
**Mark Gwyn**  
*Director, Tennessee Bureau of Investigation*  
**COST: \$10.00 per member**  
 Make your luncheon reservation online at <http://www.nashvilleaga.org>.  
 If necessary you may call  
**(615) 401-7843**  
**by 6:00 p.m. Monday, February 28, 2005**

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## March Speaker Mark Gwyn

*Director, Tennessee Bureau of Investigation*



Mark Gwyn is a native of McMinnville, Tennessee. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from Middle Tennessee State University. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy and the Tennessee Government Executive Institute.

Director Gwyn began his law enforcement career in 1985 as a patrolman for the McMinnville Police Department. In 1988, he was appointed to Special Agent with the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation and assigned to Nashville Headquarters. In 1992, he was assigned to the field territory covering the 31st Judicial District of Warren and Van Buren Counties. He was named Officer of the Year by the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 34 in 1993. In 1994, he was named Outstanding Young Public Servant of the Year by the McMinnville Jaycees.

In 1996, he was promoted to Executive Officer of the TBI. He remained in this capacity until 2001, when he was promoted to Assistant Director of the TBI in charge of the Forensic Services Division.

In June, 2004, Governor Phil Bredesen appointed him to a six (6) year term as Director of the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation.

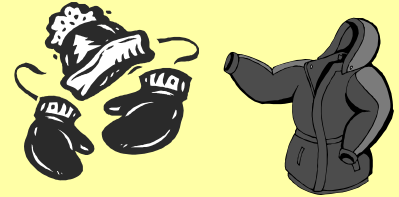
## Tsunami Relief Efforts

The Nashville Chapter of AGA will be accepting donations to aid in the Tsunami disaster relief efforts. Donations will be accepted until our March Monthly Chapter meeting. If you would like to donate, you may contact Tammy Farley, [Tammy.Farley@state.tn.us](mailto:Tammy.Farley@state.tn.us) or Amy Czerwinski, [Amy.Czerwinski@state.tn.us](mailto:Amy.Czerwinski@state.tn.us). Additionally, you may make donations through PayPal on our website at [www.nashvilleaga.org](http://www.nashvilleaga.org). We will issue a single check to AmeriCares after the March meeting. AmeriCares is a nonprofit disaster relief and humanitarian aid organization providing immediate response to emergency medical needs, as well as supporting long-term humanitarian assistance programs, for all people around the world, irrespective of race, creed or political persuasion. AmeriCares solicits donations of medicines, medical supplies and other relief materials from U.S. and international manufacturers, and delivers them quickly and efficiently to indigenous health care and welfare professionals around the world. For more information on this organization, please visit [www.americares.org](http://www.americares.org).



## RESULTS

### HATS/COATS AND GLOVES DRIVE



This year the community service committee started a new program. We collected new or used hats/coats and gloves to be donated to the Community Care Fellowship.

The following donations were taken to Community Care Fellowship during AGA's hat/coat/glove drive:

26 shirts

26 coats/jackets

16 sweat shirts

12 pairs of socks

5 sweaters

4 pairs of pants

4 hats

4 pairs of shoes

4 pairs of shorts

1 robe

1 baby blanket

3 scarves

The community service committee would like to thank all who donated and especially to those who were willing to set up the sites for collection. We look forward to continuing this project in the future. Thanks again.

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## News From National

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### Governors Converge on Capital to Discuss Future of Medicaid

Congress, governors and the secretary of health and human services began negotiations Wednesday on the future of Medicaid, with a view to making fundamental changes in the program to control its costs. Gov. Mark Warner of Virginia, a Democrat who is chairman of the National Governors Association, said the Washington, D.C. meeting was “the beginning of a process” that could fundamentally alter Medicaid, the federal-state insurance program for more than 50 million people with low incomes. Medicaid spending has shot up 63 percent in the last five years, so that federal and state outlays together now total more than \$300 billion a year. With no change in current law, the Congressional Budget Office says, the cost will grow an average of 7.7 percent a year in the next decade. Governors desperately want to slow the growth of Medicaid, which they say is eating up state tax revenues they want to use for education. Governors fear that Congress, in an effort to reduce the federal deficit, will limit federal Medicaid spending without relieving the states of any of their legal or financial obligations. “We don’t want to see the federal government simply shift costs to the states,” Warner said. —Robert Pear, *The New York Times*.

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### Salary Survey Says Certifications Pay

Accountants with at least one professional certification—whether it be a CPA license or an MBA—reported substantially higher salaries than accountants with no certification, according to the new SmartPros Salary Survey just released. Nearly 2,500 respondents answered the nine-question online survey between September and December 2004. Respondents included a wide range of accounting professionals, but the majority reported their professional title as staff accountant (34 percent), director/manager (20 percent) or CFO/controller (12 percent). By area of practice alone, and without considering certifications, accounting professionals in regional public accounting averaged \$61,493; in national public accounting, \$58,959; and in local public accounting, \$58,391. Government accounting salaries averaged \$56,036. In addition, the survey found that accounting professionals with both a CPA license and another certification made more than twice the salary (\$87,396) as those without a certification (\$43,510). —SmartPros To view the whole article, visit <http://accounting.smartpros.com/x46852.xml>

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### Virginia’s Excess Tax Revenue Could Top \$1B

Gov. Mark R. Warner said Virginia’s superheated economy will generate \$265 million more in tax revenue than he estimated when presenting his budget amendments last month, handing lawmakers a windfall as they debate tax cuts and funding for transportation and the environment. Warner had announced that tax collections for the two-year, \$60 billion budget approved last year would exceed the forecast by more than \$900 million. Estimates now show the excess could total close to \$1.2 billion, in part because corporate taxes had increased 78 percent since the previous fiscal year. But Warner cautioned that huge spikes in corporate taxes and revenue from home refinancings are not likely to last, and he urged the Republican-controlled General Assembly to spend the windfall in ways that don’t involve overly rosy assumptions about the future. “I’m not going to bet the future of the commonwealth on extraordinary growth on our most volatile revenue sources,” Warner told the Washington Post. —Michael D. Shear, *The Washington Post*.

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### States, Cities Seek Internet Tax Revenue

At a time when states are grappling with record shortfalls, many are taking a closer look at how they can tax Internet sales, which are siphoning revenue from state coffers, the Wall Street Journal reported. Cities are getting in on the act too with New York City notifying 2,000 residents last week that they owe back taxes on cigarettes they bought online. People are using the web to save on the nearly \$7 per pack they would pay at a retail outlet. Technically these taxes are owed on purchases of music, books and other common items, but usually they are only due when the items are bought out of state and then transported or shipped home. However, New York City has not indicated that it plans to expand its efforts to collect use taxes beyond tobacco, the Journal reported. State and local governments have pressured national web retailers to collect more taxes, and states such as California and New York now have “use tax” lines on personal income-tax forms, making it harder for consumers to claim ignorance, the Journal reported. —*AccountingWEB*.



## Spring Social

Members reserve your tickets for the Spring Social, TPAC's

# Chicago

The performance is May 5, 2005 from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

To make a request, please e-mail Brian Derrick at [brian.derrick@state.tn.us](mailto:brian.derrick@state.tn.us) and please specify whether you want one or two tickets.



### 3 Ways to Make a Luncheon Reservation

1. **Standing Reservation** (automatic reservation each month, will still need to cancel if unable to attend) To update or make a standing reservation or to see if you have a standing reservation, go to <http://www.nashvilleaga.org/reserv.html>
2. For **Reservation On-line** go to the Nashville Area Chapter website at <http://www.nashvilleaga.org/reserv.html>.

**PLEASE NOTE: Any on-line reservation made after the deadline, 6 pm the Monday before the meeting, will NOT be accepted.**

3. For **Reservations** or **Cancellations** by Phone or E-mail contact Kevin Huffman at (615) 401-7843 or [Kevin.Huffman@state.tn.us](mailto:Kevin.Huffman@state.tn.us).

**Cancellations** – Made NO LATER than 6 pm on the Monday before the luncheon. A member may send someone in their place to the luncheon. If none of the above occurs, then the member must pay \$10.



# Prevention of Unwanted Pets



During March, the Nashville AGA Chapter is sponsoring a drive for P. U. P., a small, nonprofit, all volunteer group formed in 1991 to help with the cost of spaying/neutering companion pets. Their goal is to prevent unwanted litters of pets that may end up being “dumped” or destroyed because there simply are not enough homes for all of them.

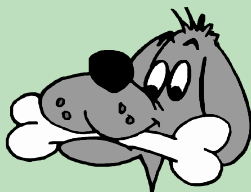


## What They Do

P.U.P. will pay part of the veterinarian fee for spraying/neutering an individual's cat or dog. Income must qualify for this assistance. Their web site helps place a cat or dog that needs a new home.

## How Can You Help P. U. P.?

By donating doghouses, pet food, cat litter, and money. Monetary donations are tax deductible.



Please make all checks payable to AGA and reference “PUP” on the checks. Your donations can be taken to approved drop sites.

Contact TammyThompson by phone at 615-747-5219 or e-mail her at [Tammy.Thompson@state.tn.us](mailto:Tammy.Thompson@state.tn.us). You can also bring donations to the March 2005 chapter meeting.

# Certified Government Financial Manager: Benefiting Employers and Employees



— by Gerry Boaz, CPA, CGFM



A few years ago the state of Tennessee formally recognized the value of AGA's Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) certification. However, only a small number of the state's employees, including department and agency heads, know what the CGFM is. By the time you finish reading this article, you should have a general understanding of the benefits the CGFM program provides for employers and employees. All over the United States, many government employers recognize the certification as a preferred hiring requirement in the financial management field. The Tennessee Department of Personnel includes the CGFM certification in the list of certifications eligible for a one-step salary increase if the certification is obtained by passing the CGFM exams. With this recognition, the CGFM carries the same weight as the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and is the mark of excellence in the government accountability profession.

Since its inception in 1994, the CGFM has quickly become the standard by which government financial management professionals are measured. Its education, experience, and ethics requirements have served to elevate the most experienced financial professionals. Developed by government financial management experts, the CGFM is built on a foundation of expert knowledge. Currently, more than 13,000 individuals have been awarded the designation. Now it's your opportunity to experience the benefits of certification first hand.

The CGFM program responds to the call for government financial management professionals who can lead the way to a more accountable and effective government. For this reason, the CGFM Program does not deal solely with assessing a person's knowledge in a specific area. It measures a wide range of knowledge and skills that a government financial professional needs to succeed in today's challenging environment. The CGFM denotes individuals who have knowledge in many functional areas and who know how to apply that knowledge in all areas of government financial management (e.g., state, local, and federal).

The CGFM certification should be viewed within the broader context of the governmental environment and the growing trend of national associations establishing certification programs. Many government sectors (e.g., political consultants, knowledge management, and the IT field) are talking about, planning, or implementing certification programs. Certifications demonstrate a person's drive and ambition and signify a certain level of expertise and credibility in the field. These are just some indicators that all sectors of the work force are placing a high value on certification. Consequently, AGA developed the national certification believing every CGFM would benefit from the national recognition.

Certification benefits you and your employer and creates a win-win situation. If you want to become more competent, more competitive, and be eligible for pay incentives, then earning the CGFM is something you should seriously consider. The continuing professional education (CPE) requirement is the backbone of the program, encouraging you to keep up with the changes in the profession and remain a pioneer in the field. An employer also benefits when an employee earns a CGFM. An employee with a CGFM designation: enhances the employer's credibility and accountability; shows that the employer is a place where people with an interest in government financial accountability work; and builds public confidence.

For many employers, the CGFM is already recognized as a professional standard because citizens expect that level of professionalism and expertise from its government financial manager and management. The individuals who would most benefit from holding a CGFM are those who are in the field of public financial management whether they work in the public, private, or nonprofit sector. Financial managers, program managers, government contractors, public accountants (including auditors), and academics would all benefit from holding the CGFM.

So what are the requirements for becoming certified? The requirements for certification involve **education, experience, and examination**. A Bachelor's degree with 24 credit hours of study in accounting, auditing, budgeting, economics, and related financial management courses is the first step. Next, two years of professional-level government financial management experience is necessary. Finally, the CGFM examinations are computer-based and can be taken at your convenience at the time (six days a week, year-around) and place you choose from among over 300 locations. However, you must pass the three examinations in a 3-year eligibility period. You can begin taking and pass all three examinations any time after receiving your degree, but you must meet the experience requirement before you are awarded your certification. The examination consists of three computerized, 2 hour and 15 minutes exams, with approximately 100-110 questions (true or false and multiple choice) per examination. A nonrefundable application fee of \$85 applies. Each examination costs \$109 and can be purchased on AGA's website ([www.agacgfm.org](http://www.agacgfm.org)). There are three CGFM examinations: exam 1, *Governmental Environment*, exam 2,

*Continued on Page 7*

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*Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting*; and exam 3, *Governmental Financial Management and Control*. Once you become certified, you will need to maintain your certification by adhering to AGA's Code of Ethics, obtaining 80 CPE hours every two years, and paying your annual renewal fee. Visit AGA's website to learn more about the CGFM examinations (a detailed outline of the content); the application process; the CGFM program; and financial management training courses. In addition, our Nashville AGA CGFM Committee developed training courses for Exams 2 and 3.

Clearly, the CGFM Program covers a broad knowledge and skill base. The challenge facing today's government financial managers is adapting with the changing times. New innovations, developments, and methods of implementation are creating a new environment in which government financial managers must function. Increasing knowledge and skills are the key to staying abreast of the latest developments. Having a broad knowledge and a recognized professional designation will differentiate you from the crowd. Join the thousands of other leaders in government financial management who already have discovered the unique value and benefit of the CGFM designation. Act now by applying for eligibility to become certified. Becoming a CGFM could be the most important decision for your career, and therefore your solution to success and mobility!

## Country Music Marathon:

*Lace Up Your Walking Shoes And Volunteer Today*



**GO VOLUNTEERS!**



**Who:** Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

**What:** The Country Music Marathon, ½ Marathon, and Fitness Expo.

**When:** April 26 – 29, Fitness Expo April 30, Marathon and ½ Marathon

**Where:** Nashville Convention Center, Centennial Park, and the Coliseum

**Why:** The proceeds from this event benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Last year's race raised over \$2 million (net).

The marathon relies on thousands of volunteers each year for its success. Each volunteer receives a volunteer t-shirt, goodie bag, and a ticket to the post-race concert featuring Phil Vassar.

**How:** To volunteer, contact [Jennifer.mcclendon@state.tn.us](mailto:Jennifer.mcclendon@state.tn.us) or volunteer online at [www.cmymarathon.com](http://www.cmymarathon.com)

If you volunteer online, make sure you let Jennifer McClendon ([jennifer.mcclendon@state.tn.us](mailto:jennifer.mcclendon@state.tn.us)) or Tammy Farley ([tammy.farley@state.tn.us](mailto:tammy.farley@state.tn.us)) know so that you get AGA points.

## February CEC Meeting

Submitted by Penny Austin, Chapter Secretary



The Nashville Chapter's Executive Committee met on Monday, February 7, 2005, in the 11<sup>th</sup> floor conference room of the Andrew Jackson Building. President Melinda Parton called the meeting to order. Chapter Executive Committee (CEC) members present were Melinda Parton, Dianne McKay, Amy Czerwinski, Melvin Jones, Kevin Huffman, Tammy Thompson, Susan Irby, Georganne Martin, Allen Staley, and Dan Willis. Committee chairs or representatives present were Ron Queen, Donna Duarte, Alla Baranova, Brian Derrick, Karen Hale, and Nathan Abbott.

### Welcome

Melinda Parton welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### January 4, 2005 CEC Minutes

The January 4 CEC minutes were published in the February newsletter. The minutes were approved.

### Committee Reports

#### Finance

Melvin Jones reported that the IRS has notified us that our return is late. Melvin has contacted the IRS and is in the process of verifying that the return was mailed on time.

#### Treasurer

Amy Czerwinski distributed financial statements for the period ending January 31, 2005. Amy pointed out that a new line item was added under community service labeled "Donations Received & Paid Out". Amy is going to email the CEC members an updated balance sheet.

Amy also announced that Regions bank has merged with Union Planters Bank and that our new branch location has moved to 315 Union Street.

Melinda Parton wanted to clarify that donations made to AGA in which the money is given to charity can be deducted on your personal taxes. Amy reported that so far \$60 has been donated to the South Asia Earthquake Relief Fund.

#### Meeting and Attendance

Kevin Huffman reported that 60 members are currently signed up to attend the luncheon. Kevin also announced that the location for the February chapter meeting has changed to the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the SunTrust building. An email will be sent out to all members reminding them of the changed location.

Kevin mentioned that in the last chapter meeting there was not enough seating for all who were present. He stressed that members who attend without making a reservation will need to wait until registered guests are seated before taking a seat. Melinda suggested making Kevin the contact for making reservations.

Kevin gave an update on the contract for next year. He stated that if we have between 86 and 100 people signed up for the luncheon, we will not have a buffet. Instead, we will be served by the staff in the meeting location. If we have more than 100 people signed up, the location will be moved to the larger dining room.

#### Program

Brian Derrick reported that Ronal Serpas, Chief of Police for Metro-Davidson County, will speak at the luncheon on Thursday. Ms. Jill Bachus will introduce Chief Serpas. Brian also reported that deadline for the spring social will be April 3, 2005. Tickets are \$25 each and money can be paid to Brian or Amy Czerwinski.

#### Education

Karen Hale reported that we have 42 paid attendees registered for the winter seminar. She asked to receive a list of names by Friday of those who plan on attending.

Karen announced that on March 2, 2005, AGA will be hosting an audio conference. There are 11 people who have signed up for this conference so far. This conference is free for AGA members and there is a \$20 charge for nonmembers. She wanted to stress that AGA members will have priority seating. The deadline to sign up for the conference is March 1, 2005.

## Meeting Minutes

Karen also announced that the spring workshop has been scheduled for April 21-22, 2005, in the multimedia room at the Tennessee Tower.

### Newsletter

Nichole Curtiss was unable to attend the meeting but asked Melinda Parton to remind everyone to send in submissions as soon as possible since the next meeting is a week earlier than usual.

### Membership

No report

### CGFM

Ron Queen reported that March 31, 2005, will be the day for Exam 2 preparation. This will be held on the 16<sup>th</sup> floor training room of the James K. Polk Building from 8:00-4:30. In addition, Exam 3 preparation will be April 28, 2005, at the same time and location as the Exam 2 session. Ron emphasized this will be 16 hours of free CPE credits, which will be announced at the Thursday chapter meeting.

### Community Service

Alla Baranova reported for Tammy Farley. The Coat/Hat/Glove drive will end February 10, 2005.

The deadline to donate for the South Asia Earthquake Relief fund will be February 28, 2005.

### Web Committee

Dan Willis and Nathan Abbott reported that if the transfers go well, the new website will be up and running by the end of the day. Melinda Parton thanked Dan and Nathan for their hard work and recommended our chapter submit the new site for a Chapter Award this year.

### Early Careers

No report

### Awards

Donna Duarte reported that they have only received 1 scholarship application. She suggested that we send out an email to all the schools reminding them of our March 4 deadline. She also suggested that we could extend the scholarship deadline by a week.

Donna also announced that it is time to submit nominees for national awards. Melinda requested that an email be sent out to all committee chairs with a list of available awards. Melinda wants the CEC committee to be thinking about who should be nominated and be ready to discuss this at the next meeting.

In addition, Donna announced that she is updating the points and should have it completed prior to Thursday's chapter meeting.

### Chapter Recognition

Dianne McKay reported that we are near 30,000 points for our chapter as of January.

The meeting was adjourned.



## Chapter Meeting Minutes cont'd.

### February Chapter Meeting

Submitted by Penny Austin, Chapter Secretary



The Nashville Area Chapter held its monthly meeting at the Nashville City Club on Thursday, February 10, 2005. President Melinda Parton called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance. Gerry Boaz offered the invocation. The minutes of the January Chapter meeting were approved as printed in the February newsletter. Guests were introduced and welcomed.

Jill Bachus introduced the guest speaker, Ronal Serpas, Metro-Davidson County Chief of Police. Mr. Serpas spoke about recent changes and accomplishments within the police department.

Melinda Parton announced that our redesigned website was published Monday. She recognized Dan Willis and Nathan Abbott for all their hard work on this project.

Karen Hale reminded everyone of the upcoming Winter Seminar that will be held at Nashville State Community College on February 16 and 17, 2005. Seats are still available. Karen asked that anyone interested in attending contact her as soon as possible so that registration materials can be prepared. On March 2, 2005, a teleconference will be held in the James K. Polk Building. The teleconference provides two hours of CPE credits. Karen also mentioned plans for a spring workshop to be held in April. More information regarding this training event will be coming. The Southeastern Regional Professional Development Conference will be held in Gatlinburg on March 2-4, 2005. Also, the Institute of Internal Auditors is holding a workshop on April 29. Cindy Walker can be contacted for more information.

Gerry Boaz announced that the CGFM committee is offering free training for Exam 2 on March 31 and Exam 3 on April 28. The training will be held in the James K. Polk Building. Eight hours of CPE will be earned for each session. Anyone interested in the training was asked to contact Gerry Boaz, Rebecca Barr, or any member of the CGFM committee.

Alla Baranova reminded everyone that we will be collecting donations for the South Asia Earthquake Relief Fund through February 28. Donations can be given to Tammy Farley or Amy Czerwinski.

Melinda Parton reminded everyone of the March 4 deadline for scholarship applications. She also announced that we are now taking reservations for the spring social. This year's event is a performance of the musical Chicago at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center. The date is May 5 and the ticket price is \$25. Brian Derrick can be contacted for more information.

The door prize was awarded to Jim Arnette and Ron Anderson provided the answers to the monthly puzzle.

The meeting was adjourned.



*Congratulations!*

Have you or someone you know received an award, promotion, or certification? Well...don't keep it to yourself. Let us know about it! We are proud of our members and would like the opportunity to express our congratulations and make sure you are recognized for your achievements.

## Committee News

### Awards Committee

#### Points for the Chapter Service Drawing

The drawing for the 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Professional Development Conference in Orlando, FL, July 10 – 13, 2005, will be held at the May luncheon meeting. To be eligible for the Chapter Service Drawing, you'll need 20 points. For each point you have earned, you'll receive one chance in the year-end drawing. Good luck!!

#### ***This is how to earn points:***

Luncheon attendance	2 points
Attending chapter sponsored training	1 point
Sponsor a new member	2 points
Service on a chapter committee	2 points each
AGA community service projects	1 point per hour served (10 pt. max.)
Newsletter article	
(Financial topic)	8 points each
(Nonfinancial topic)	4 points each
Obtaining CGFM certification	8 points upon completion
Attending chapter sponsored social event	2 points
Sponsoring a Luncheon Guest	1 point for each guest (10 pt. max.)

#### Member of the Year Award

The Awards Committee meets in April to determine the Member of the Year Award. This is usually awarded to the member who has the most points and has participated in the widest variety of activities when the Committee meets. In the event of a tie, the Awards Committee's tie-breaking vote will be final. The prior year's winner and Award Committee members are ineligible for this award.

#### Points Spreadsheet

Check the Points Spreadsheet on our website monthly to make sure your points are up to date for both the Chapter Drawing and Member of the Year Award. If you find discrepancies, please contact first Donna Duarte at 741-9681 and she will direct you to the Committee Chairperson who will make the corrections. Members of the Awards Committee do not update the spreadsheet.



### Free Lunch for Those Passing the CGFM

The CGFM Committee is continuing its program to congratulate those individuals passing the CGFM exams by offering lunch certificates that are good for a free lunch at any AGA luncheon meeting. If you passed the CGFM exams during January 2004 – February 2005 and have not received a lunch certificate, please contact

Gerry Boaz  
([Gerry.Boaz@state.tn.us](mailto:Gerry.Boaz@state.tn.us))

### CGFM Committee News

The CGFM Committee is excited to announce that the CGFM Exam 2 and 3 Training sessions will be held on March 31, 2005, and on April 28, 2005, respectively, from 8:00-4:30 in the 16th Floor Training Room of the James K. Polk Building. The objective of the training is to provide essential training for those individuals who plan to sit for the CGFM exams with the goal of becoming certified. Please email me regarding your interest in this FREE training. Eight hours of CPE will be awarded. Depending on the amount of interest, the location may need to be moved; however, any change of venue will be conveyed to you in a timely manner. The training sessions will be based on AGA's Exam 2 and 3 study guides.

Also, as indicated several months ago, the CGFM Committee purchased two CGFM Exam 2 and Exam 3 Study guides developed by the National AGA office. These study guides are available for checkout after each training session on a first come first serve basis. **However**, we may give preference to individuals who have already registered to take the exams by September 2005 versus someone who is interested but has not yet registered. If you have any questions, please notify any of the Committee members: Gerry Boaz, Chair; Rebecca Barr, co-chair; Georganne Martin; Ron and Mary Anne Queen; and Jim Harrison.

# Mark Your Calendars

## Meeting Dates

### AGA Nashville Chapter

*(All Chapter meetings will be held the First Thursday of the Month, except as noted below)*

Thursday, March 3, 2005

Thursday, April 7, 2005

Thursday, May 12, 2005

### Chapter Executive Committee

*All CEC meetings will be held on the Monday before the chapter meeting, except as noted below)*

Monday, February 28, 2005

Monday, April 4, 2005

Monday, May 9, 2005

## AGA Nashville Chapter Training Information

### AGA Teleconference (2 CPEs)

March 2, 2005  
14th Floor Conference and 17th Floor Training Rooms, James K. Polk Building

Free to AGA members  
\$20 to Non-AGA members (if seating becomes limited, members will be accommodated first)

### GASB/Single Audit Update

Sponsored by the Chattanooga Chapter of AGA

April 7-8, 2005

For more information, visit

[www.aga.taxpro.net/cpeseminars.htm](http://www.aga.taxpro.net/cpeseminars.htm)

### AGA 2005 Spring Workshop (16 CPEs)

April 21-22, 2005  
Multi-Media Room, WRS TN Tower

Free AGA members  
\$25 Non-AGA members (1 day)  
\$35 Non-AGA members (2 days)

### Southeastern Region PDC (16 CPEs)

March 2-4, 2005  
Park Vista Resort  
Gatlinburg, Tennessee

\$325 AGA members (after January 31, 2005)  
Group discount - 5 or more, 10% discount

## Other Professional Organization Training Opportunities

### Middle Tennessee Chapter ACFE Ninth Annual Fraud Conference

March 21-22, 2005  
Willis Conference Center  
Nashville, Tn  
16 hours CPE

<http://www.nashvilleaga.org/acfe2005.pdf>

### IIA Spring Seminar Best Practices in Value Added Auditing

April 29, 2005  
Lipscomb University Shamblin Theater  
8 hours CPE

[http://www.theiia.org/chapters/index.cfm?fuseaction=view\\_public\\_file&fileid=4271](http://www.theiia.org/chapters/index.cfm?fuseaction=view_public_file&fileid=4271)

### NASACT Tennessee Training Sessions (in conjunction with the Tennessee Comptroller Division of Audit)

*Program Objective:* To update participants on new developments in the area of governmental accounting and auditing.

Two day sessions held during April and May 2005 in Chattanooga, Nashville, Morristown, and Jackson, Tennessee. For additional information and registration, please visit

[http://www.nasact.org/conferences/conferenceinfo/2005\\_TN\\_Training\\_Seminars.pdf](http://www.nasact.org/conferences/conferenceinfo/2005_TN_Training_Seminars.pdf)



## Training Opportunities Relevant to the CGFM

### Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting, and Budgeting (Exam 2)

Sponsored by the AGA CGFM Committee  
March 31, 2005

### Governmental Financial Management and Control (Exam 3)

Sponsored by the AGA CGFM Committee  
April 28, 2005

### CGFM Exam 1 Study Course – online

AGA website: <http://www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/prepare/onlinecourses.aspx>  
anytime

The Department of Personnel includes the CGFM certification in the list of certifications eligible for a one-step salary increase. A salary increase *may* be granted to employees of the State of Tennessee if the certification is obtained by passing the exams. To be certain that you qualify for the salary increase, obtain approval from your supervisor and the Department of Personnel *before* sitting for the exams. For specific details see the Department of Personnel Policy #90-031 (10/10/90) amended March 23, 1999.

## 2004-2005 Nashville Chapter Leadership

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Visit the Nashville Area Chapter's web site at <http://www.nashvilleaga.org>.

Also, visit these other AGA sites:

AGA National Site	<a href="http://www.agacgfm.org">www.agacgfm.org</a>
Southeastern Region Site	<a href="http://agaservp.tripod.com">agaservp.tripod.com</a>
Atlanta Chapter	<a href="http://www.mindspring.com/~agaatl/agaga.htm">www.mindspring.com/~agaatl/agaga.htm</a>
Central Kentucky Chapter	<a href="http://www.ckyaga.com">www.ckyaga.com</a>
Chattanooga Chapter	<a href="http://www.aga.taxpro.net">www.aga.taxpro.net</a>
Columbia Chapter	<a href="http://www.columbiaaga.com">www.columbiaaga.com</a>
East Tennessee Chapter	<a href="http://www.kornet.org/etaga/">www.kornet.org/etaga/</a>