

> William J. Anderson Jr., CGFM, to Receive 2005 Robert W. King Memorial Award



Bill Anderson's contributions at all levels of AGA will be recognized in July when the Association presents its top honor, the Robert W. King Memorial Award, to Past National President William J. Anderson Jr., CGFM. Presented annually as a medallion to formally recognize superior service that has enhanced AGA's national prestige and stature, the award is named for AGA's founder and first National President.

"Bill Anderson's efforts are truly deserving of recognition through this award, AGA's top honor, for bringing high prestige, greater service and special honor to the

Association he has served," is one of the many quotations AGA received from chapters in their nominations of Anderson for the King Award.

Bill Anderson describes his entry into AGA's leadership ranks as being "dropped in from the top," meaning he was working at the organization's upper levels long before he'd done the usual stint as Chapter President or Regional Vice President. Anderson, the manager for professional programs at the U.S. Government Accountability Office where he has worked for 31 years, first became active in AGA in 1993 prior to the development and implementation of the Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) Program. His then-boss, Jeffrey C. Steinhoff, CGFM, CPA, led the charge that year as National President to establish the certification. Anderson was Steinhoff's "right-hand man" as the grandfathering period spurred more than 13,000 people to apply for the CGFM, and Anderson chaired the CGFM Application Review Group. Steinhoff became the first chairman of the Professional Certification Board and Anderson continued to assist him during the program's early years.

"Those in the government accountability profession did not have a professional designation of their own that highlighted their special skills and experience," he said in a 2002 interview just before taking office as AGA's 53rd National President. "The CGFM does just that."

"Establishing the CGFM Program required a tremendous effort over a number years," Steinhoff said. "AGA was most fortunate to have someone like Bill Anderson who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make the CGFM Program a reality."

Anderson credits Past National President WA "Bill" Broadus Jr., CGFM, with encouraging him to join AGA in 1988, when he worked for Broadus at GAO.

"Bill was an energetic and dedicated young man when he started to work with me," Broadus said recently. "I remember saying to Bill that his energy and dedication were also needed in outside professional organizations. I strongly recommended that he join AGA and he did. His AGA efforts speak for themselves. He has been a strong worker, follower and leader of AGA's efforts to advance government accountability."

After his "top down" introduction to AGA leadership more than a decade ago, Anderson went back to what he calls AGA's "grassroots," serving first as a director for the Washington, D.C. Chapter, then as Chapter President, and later as Capital Region Vice President. As Chapter President, he pushed for the establishment of the chapter's prestigious Einhorn-Gary Award, a recognition that is now also awarded at the national level. Anderson has been a dedicated and loyal friend to the two charter members for whom the award is named, Past National Presidents Raymond Einhorn, CGFM, (1960-1961) and the late T. Jack Gary Jr., CGFM, (1952-1953) often arranging transportation to enable the two elderly gentlemen to continue their active involvement in AGA programs. "Raymond and Jack provided lots of encouragement and positive feedback on the vision and ideas I had, including the proposed name change, as long as it remained AGA."

Anderson's AGA resume also includes service to AGA's National Executive Committee (NEC) from 1999-2004, as its 2002-2003 National President and as a Senior Vice President At-Large from 1999-2001. He currently chairs AGA's Professional Ethics Board and has chaired the National Past-Presidents Council, Nominating Committee, Bylaws and Procedures Committee, 50th Anniversary Gala and the 1998 Professional

Development Conference & Exposition Host Committee when he coined AGA's byline "Advancing Government Accountability."

"Bill has been a big contributor to AGA and improved government accountability for many years," said Joseph J. Donlon, CGFM, a longtime friend and colleague of Anderson's. "When he and I worked together at GAO, he was involved in and a major contributor to several government-wide financial improvement projects as well as a supporter of all our AGA national and Washington Chapter activities. More recently, Bill as Washington Chapter and AGA National President, continued to lead AGA forward. His leadership and actions have made AGA more involved and in the center of major steps to assure the relevance and stature of the government financial management community."

Among the numerous accomplishments he is most proud of from his 2002-2003 term as National President, Anderson includes the development and publication of the first of three CGFM study guides; a strengthened financial foundation for the Association; the advent of AGA's performance and accountability report; an updated Long Range Strategic Plan and Bylaws; the development of core values—service, accountability, integrity and leadership; expanding membership disciplines; and the establishment of the Certificate of Excellence in Service Efforts and Accomplishments (SEA) Reporting Program. "However, I fully realize that we would not have accomplished everything that we did without the strong support and commitment of our members at the chapter and regional levels, and an NEC that was willing to step up to the plate and make some tough decisions on AGA's future direction and priorities. I was very fortunate to have chaired an NEC that was willing to exercise their stewardship and oversight responsibilities of the Association."

"I've been privileged to work very closely with Bill, first as National Treasurer during his presidency, and then later with him on the National Executive Committee," said Past National Treasurer Richard O. Bunce, CGFM. "Bill is a very deserving recipient of the King Award. He has demonstrated a level of dedication and passion to AGA that few can equal. He works tirelessly to serve AGA and our members. Bill has worked to raise AGA's influence in the government accountability standards and performance measurement arenas, and during his presidency was very focused on increasing AGA's service and value to our members. I'm very pleased that AGA has chosen to present Bill with the Robert W. King Memorial Award in recognition of his lifelong service to our members and our profession."

Anderson has received numerous prior awards, including the Washington, D.C. Chapter's Einhorn/Gary Award, National President's Awards, Regional Vice President Gold-Level Award, National Chapter Service Award and Washington, D.C. Chapter President's Awards, among others.

He credits many people with helping him to succeed within AGA, including Broadus, Steinhoff, Donlon and Bunce as well as Bob Pewanick, Evelyn Brown, Pat Wensel, Paul Bognaski, John Hummel, former AGA Executive Director Charlie Culkin (all of whom are CGFMs), the National Office staff, and last, but not least his partner and chief counsel Eva Williams, CGFM. He also noted the contributions and help of Jullin Renthrope, CGFM, who served as President-Elect during Anderson's year as President, and Past National President Richard Norment, CGFM.

"William Anderson, CGFM, is my good friend and a colleague who has demonstrated admirable long-term dedication to AGA," Renthrope said. "He is most deserving of the 2005 Robert W. King Memorial Award, AGA's highest honor, and I am confident that Bill will continue his dedication to ensure AGA's future success in advancing government accountability."

Anderson, 59, is the father of two daughters—Heather and Kelly—and is the proud grandfather of Jacob, 8, and Jamey, 3. He and Williams live in Laurel, MD. She is AGA's 2001-2002 National Treasurer and is a current member of the National Executive Committee.

"I am truly humbled to receive the King Award," Anderson said. "It means a lot to me. My affiliation with this great Association has been one of the highlights of my professional career."