JANUARY 2000
• The National Nominating Committee chooses Richard V. Norment, CGFM, a member of the Nashville Chapter, as its candidate for President-Elect Designate. National Treasurer-Elect Designate is Eva J. Williams, CGFM, a member of the Washington, D.C. Chapter.

FEBRUARY 2000
• AGA plans to cosponsor a nationwide satellite teleconference with the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers and the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), covering the implementation of GASB's new reporting model for state and local governments.

MARCH 2000
• AGA members now opt to receive their monthly newsletter TOPICS electronically.
• AGA closes the books on fiscal year 1999–2000, the first year using improved cost accounting techniques intended to record the full cost of major programs.
• AGA welcomes the Northern Mari-ana Islands Chapter.

MAY 2000
• The NEC appoints a Regional Governance Task Force to study national committees and Regional Vice President responsibilities.

JUNE–JULY 2000
• AGA's 49th Annual PDC in San Francisco, “Expand Your Government Accountability Horizons,” is judged “Simply the Best,” as the Association continues its 50th Anniversary celebration. A high point was the awarding of the Robert W. King Award to charter member and Past National President Raymond Einhorn, CGFM. Incoming National President WA “Bill” Broadus Jr., CGFM, CPA, accepted the gavel from outgoing National President Thomas J. Sadowski, CGFM, CPA.

• The Association’s new corporate identity and logo are unveiled at the PDC.
• The Academy for Government Accountability takes a bold step by moving one of the Government Financial Management Courses to the Internet.
• Rutgers University requires students in its governmental accounting graduate program to take the CGFM Exams.

AUGUST–SEPTEMBER 2000
• AGA’s 50th Anniversary comes to a gala close on Sept. 14–16 in Washington, D.C., where the Association was founded on Sept. 14, 1950. Members came from far and wide to help celebrate the ending of a remarkable year, filled with unforgettable moments.
• 1972–1973 Past National President Arthur Litke, has died.

OCTOBER 2000
• The first audit to determine compliance with the CGFM Program’s continuing professional education (CPE) requirement has been completed. CGFMs are required to earn 80 CPE hours every two years. AGA is pleased to report that the vast majority of those CGFMs audited have complied with the CPE requirement.
• 1980–1981 AGA Past National President Frederick Neuman, 87, has died.

• The National Science Foundation and the Social Security Administration are honored with AGA Certificates of Excellence in Accountability Reporting.
• AGA partners with the Institute of Internal Auditors to present the State and Local Government Leadership Conference, “Partnerships That Produce Results,” in Austin, TX.

JANUARY 2001
• William J. Anderson Jr., CGFM, past president of the Washington, D.C. Chapter, has been chosen by the National Nominating Committee as AGA’s National President-Elect Designate. Richard O. Bunce Jr., CGFM, past president of AGA’s Richmond Chapter, has been chosen as the National Treasurer-Elect Designate.
• AGA has entered into an official partnership with the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers (NASACT) to help advance the common interests of both Associations.

FEBRUARY 2001
• AGA’s Financial Management Standards Board expresses support of a revised audit and accounting guide to aid state and local governments in making financial reporting changes required by GASB.

MARCH 2001
• AGA welcomes the Central Indiana, Roanoke and Tallahassee Chapters.

APRIL 2001
• Eleanor M. Clark, CGFM, the first woman to serve as AGA National President, has died. A member of AGA’s Washington, D.C. Chapter, she was a member for more than 30 years and was the 1980–1981 National President.
MAY 2001
• AGA forging strategic partnership with the National Association of State Comptrollers (NASC), in which the state comptrollers endorse the CGFM as a professional designation for government financial managers working in the state comptroller community.

JULY 2001
• AGA's 50th Annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition, “Managing in the 21st Century,” brought together more than 1,200 professionals in historic Boston over the Fourth of July holiday. Darlene P. Richard, a member of AGA’s Baton Rouge Chapter, received the Robert W. King Memorial Award. Incoming National President Richard V. Norment, CGFM, CIA, received the gavel from outgoing National President WA “Bill” Broadus Jr., CGFM, CPA.

SEPTEMBER 2001
• Three members of AGA's Northern Virginia Chapter are among the casualties in the September 11 attack on the Pentagon: U.S. Department of Defense employee Patricia E. (Patty) Mickley, CGFM, 41, of Springfield, VA; U.S. Department of the Army employees Diana B. Padro, 55, of Woodbridge, VA; and Janice M. Scott, 46, of Springfield, VA.

OCTOBER 2001
• In partnership with the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers, AGA holds 10th Annual State and Local Government Leadership Conference, “Partnering Today for Results Tomorrow,” in Phoenix, AZ.

DECEMBER 2001
• AGA is pleased to introduce and welcome its new Corporate Partners. These prestigious companies have chosen to support AGA's continued growth by becoming Charter Corporate Partner members: Accenture, AMS, CACI, Influcate, LMI, Optimum Management Systems LLC and SAP.

JANUARY 2002
• The National Nominating Committee chooses Jullin Renthrope, CGFM, CPA, CFE, CGFO, as AGA’s National President-Elect Designate. Evelyn A. Brown, CGFM, a past president of AGA's Washington, D.C. Chapter, is the National Treasurer-Elect Designate.
• AGA honors five federal agencies with the prestigious Certificate of Excellence in Accountability Reporting: the National Science Foundation, Social Security Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Department of the Interior and the U.S. Department of Labor.

MARCH 2002
• President Bush’s Budget Director Mitch Daniels uses his speech at AGA’s 13th Annual Federal Leadership Conference to announce a major restructuring in the federal budget, which focuses on “how well” rather than “how much.”
• President Bush signs the National Defense Authorization Act, including a provision to permit government agencies to “use appropriated funds or funds otherwise available to the agency to pay for expenses for employees to obtain professional credentials, including expenses for...professional certification and examinations to obtain such credentials.”
• AGA’s National Executive Committee (NEC) approves a $3.2 million operating budget for the 2003 fiscal year (April 1, 2002 – March 31, 2003).

APRIL 2002
• AGA's NEC consolidates the State and Local Government Leadership Conference and the Federal Leadership Conference into one National Leadership Conference, to be held in February of each year in Washington, D.C.

MAY 2002
• AGA welcomes the Dover Capital Chapter.

JUNE-JULY 2002
• AGA’s Immediate Past National President Richard V. Norment, CGFM, CIA, sets a goal of $30,000 for the final weeks of the AGA Relief Effort to benefit the three AGA families affected by the September 11th Pentagon attack.
• AGA’s 51st Annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition in Atlanta, GA, gives more than 1,300 attendees the tools they need to continue “Transforming the Government Enterprise.” Past National President and Past National Treasurer Thomas J. Sadowski, CGFM, CPA, who survived a bout with brain cancer while serving as National President, was honored with the Robert W. King Memorial Award. Incoming National President William J. Anderson Jr., CGFM, received the gavel from outgoing National President Richard V. Norment, CGFM, CIA.

AUGUST–SEPTEMBER 2002
• Eight agencies, more than any other year since the program’s inception, are recognized with CEAR Awards from AGA.
• The NEC votes to cease the printed version of TOPICS after the March 2003 issue.
• AGA holds the 11th Annual State and Local Government Leadership Conference, “Government Leadership—Preparing the Way for Change,” in Richmond, VA.

OCTOBER 2002
• AGA’s Denver Chapter kicks off its 50th Anniversary year. The chapter was the first to be chartered by FGAA, the Federal Government Accountants Association, now AGA.

DECEMBER 2002
• Comptroller General of the United States David M. Walker and a host of other high-level state and federal officials plan to speak at AGA’s First National Leadership Conference.
JANUARY 2003
• The National Nominating Committee chooses Bobby A. Derrick, CGFM, to serve as the candidate for AGA's next National President-Elect Designate. Jeanne B. Erwin, CPA, is National Treasurer-Elect Designate.

FEBRUARY 2003
• AGA holds its First National Leadership Conference, “Accountability and Ethics,” in Washington, D.C.
• The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation approves AGA's funding to launch a Certificate of Excellence in Service Efforts and Accomplishments Reporting Program.

MARCH 2003
• AGA's Mid-Missouri Chapter leaders persuade the Missouri State Division of Personnel to recognize the CGFM as equal to a bachelor's degree and two years of professional experience.
• This month marks the last printed issue of AGA's Government Financial Management TOPICS newsletter.

MAY 2003
• Charles W. Culkin Jr., CGFM, AGA's longest-serving executive director, will retire on July 11. A search committee is formed to seek his replacement.

JUNE–JULY 2003
• AGA holds successful 52nd Annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition, “Managing Smarter for the Future,” in Chicago. Past National President WA “Bill” Broadus Jr., CGFM, CPA, was the recipient of the Robert W. King Memorial Award. Outgoing National President William J. Anderson Jr., CGFM, passed the gavel to incoming National President Jullin Renthrope, CGFM, CPA, CFE, CGFO.
• AGA announces the seven recipients of the 2003 Certificate of Excellence in Accountability Reporting.
• AGA welcomes the Albuquerque Chapter.

AUGUST–SEPTEMBER 2003
• AGA's National Executive Committee selects Remond P. Van Daniker, DBA, CPA, as its new executive director. Van Daniker, who has been the executive director of the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers since 1985, will relocate from Lexington, KY, and start his new job with AGA on Oct. 1.

OCTOBER 2003
• AGA mourns the passing of Charter Member and Past National President T. Jack Gary Jr., CGFM. Gary, who was 92, served from 1952–1953 as the third National President of what was then the Federal Government Accountants Association. “Let me say that this Association has been the most satisfying and rewarding part of my professional career,” Gary said in a 2000 interview.

JANUARY 2004
• AGA's National Nominating Committee chooses Sam M. McCall, CGFM, CPA, CIA, CGAP, to serve as the candidate for AGA's next National President-Elect Designate. Karen J. Holmcrans is National Treasurer-Elect Designate.

FEBRUARY 2004
• The 20 evaluations performed under AGA's Certificate of Excellence in Service Efforts and Accomplishments (SEA) Program are well under way. A program evaluation summary will be developed and available in late spring, 2004.
• Anna D. Gowans Miller, MBA, CPA, joins the AGA staff in the newly created technical manager position.
• Robert H. Attmore, CGFM, a member of AGA's New York Capital Chapter, has been appointed the next GASB chairman, succeeding Tom L. Allen, a member of AGA's Northern Utah Chapter.

MARCH 2004
• April is CGFM Month in Wisconsin: AGA's Southern Wisconsin Chapter has solicited support for the Association's CGFM certification from the top officials in state government—Governor James Doyle and Secretary of State Douglas LaFollette.
• AGA welcomes the Greater Columbus Chapter.

MAY 2004
• Zack E. Gaddy, CGFM, CPA, a member of AGA's Denver Chapter, is named the new director of the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS).

JUNE 2004
• AGA's 53rd Annual Professional Development Conference, “Technology: Powering the Accountability Age,” is held in Washington, D.C. Past National President Richard V. Norment, CGFM, CIA, received the Robert W. King Memorial Award. Outgoing National President Jullin Renthrope, CGFM, CPA, CFE, CGFO, passed the gavel to 2004–2005 National President Bobby A. Derrick, CGFM.
• The list of government agencies that formally recognize the specialized skills and knowledge earned by CGFMs is growing. Dennis Gallagher, elected city auditor of the City and County of Denver, has requested that “preferred skill status” be granted to all job applicants who have earned the CGFM designation.

JULY 2004
• The U.S. General Accounting Office has a new name: the U.S. Government Accountability Office.
• During the third quarter of fiscal 2004, federal agencies took the largest leap forward yet on the Bush administration's management reform scorecard, marking accomplishments in five areas of management reform.

SEPTEMBER 2004
• A focus group charged with exploring a possible name change for AGA has begun its work and is asking members for their input.
• Raymond Harris, CGFM, a member of AGA's New York Capital Chapter, joins the National Office staff as the director of education.

NOVEMBER 2004
• AGA is pleased to announce its new government organization group membership program called ADVANTAGE.
**FEBRUARY 2005**

**MARCH 2005**
- AGA’s Reach Extends to Northern Mariana Islands: Mike Sablan, public auditor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, arranges to bring AGA’s CGFM courses to this remote string of islands in the North Pacific.

**APRIL 2005**
- AGA awarded the first-ever Certificates of Excellence in Service Efforts and Accomplishments (SEA), after in-depth evaluation of performance reports submitted by more than 20 governments and government agencies.

**JUNE 2005**
- Ten federal agencies receive AGA’s prestigious CEAR Awards.

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**DECEMBER 2004**
- AGA’s National Nominating Committee chooses Jeffrey S. Hart, CGFM, CFE, a member of AGA’s Denver Chapter, Office of the Inspector General, EPA, as National President-Elect Designate. Thomas J. Sadowski, CGFM, CPA, a member of AGA’s Mid-Missouri Chapter, director of Accounting at the University of Missouri, is National Treasurer-Elect Designate.
- Association of Government Accountants is here to stay—for now anyway. The Name Change Focus Group, convened by National President Bobby A. Derrick, CGFM, recommends no change to AGA’s name, and the recommendation is accepted by the NEC.
THE 2000s:
AGA NATIONAL TREASURERS

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<th>Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>1999–2000</td>
<td>John D. Webster, CGFM, CPA</td>
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<td>2010–2011</td>
<td>Joseph L. Kull, CGFM, CPA</td>
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JULY 2005
• AGA hosted its largest-ever Professional Development Conference & Exposition in Orlando, FL, “Leadership > Preparing Tomorrow’s Accountability Professionals,” bringing together 1,500 professionals. Past National President William J. Anderson Jr., CGFM, received the Robert W. King Memorial Award. Incoming National President Sam M. McCall, CGFM, CPA, CIA, CGAP, accepted the gavel from outgoing National President Bobby A. Derrick, CGFM.
• The last of three CGFM study guides was published, giving candidates a new way to study on their own for the three rigorous examinations. The CGFM Program also conducted its first Intensive Review Course followed by a no-cost offering of the three examinations at the PDC.
• AGA completed a research study on “Financial Management Shared Services: A Guide for Federal Users,” sponsored by Corporate Partner IBM.

AUGUST 2005
• Louisiana’s Office of the Legislative Auditor is now providing educational leave and reimbursement to employees who earn AGA’s CGFM certification.
• Of 26 major agencies tracked by a presidential scorecard, the U.S. Department of Labor is the first to garner the highest rating, a green mark, in the five categories deemed priorities by President Bush.

SEPTEMBER 2005
• AGA launches relief effort to help Gulf Coast area members in the wake of the devastating Hurricane Katrina. More than $6,000 is raised in the first two weeks of the effort.

OCTOBER 2005
• AGA recognizes Past National President and Charter Member Raymond Einhorn, CGFM, who marks 55 years of membership this year.

NOVEMBER 2005
• AGA completed a research study on “Trends in Technology,” sponsored by Corporate Partner CSC.

DECEMBER 2005
• AGA’s Nominating Committee selects Richard L. Fair, CGFM, CPA, a member of the Trenton Chapter and state auditor of New Jersey, as National President-Elect Designate. David R. Bennett, CGFM, CPA, a member of the East Tennessee Chapter and assistant county mayor/finance director, Blount County Government, Blount County, TN, is National Treasurer-Elect Designate.

JANUARY 2006
• Thanks to the generosity of members, AGA received $18,615 in contributions to the ongoing Hurricane Relief Effort.

FEBRUARY 2006
• AGA presents the first two 2005 SEA Certificates of Achievement in Service Efforts and Accomplishments (SEA) Reporting Program to Maricopa County, AZ, and Bellevue, WA.
• The Intensive Review Course was again a big hit! Offered now for the second time at the National Leadership Conference (NLC) in Washington D.C. on February 1–2, it was once again sold out at 50 participants. As a result, 23 of the participants passed all three (or finished up their remaining) CGFM Examinations.

MARCH 2006
• The initiative to declare March “CGFM Month” is growing every year. To date, at least 12 states have declared March 2006 “CGFM Month.” This year local governments also joined in recognizing the CGFM.

APRIL 2006
• The NEC changes the Lifetime Membership requirement from 50 years of membership to 40 years. Ninety-seven members were granted lifetime AGA membership.
• AGA Charter Member Raymond Einhorn, CGFM, and the Association’s 11th National President (1960–1961), has died.
AGA completed a research study on “The Federal Purchase Card: Use, Policy and Practice,” sponsored by AGA Corporate Partner Visa.

JUNE 2006
• AGA kicks off its 55th Annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition, “Navigating the Way to Citizen Centered Government,” in San Diego. Nearly 1,800 attendees were treated to a stirring remembrance of AGA Charter Member and Past National President Raymond Einhorn, CGFM, who died in April. Past National Treasurer and former Executive Director Charles W. Culkin Jr., CGFM, CPA, CIA, CGAP, received the Robert W. King Memorial Award. Outgoing National President Sam M. McCall, Ph.D., CGFM, CPA, CIA, CGAP, passed the gavel to incoming National President Jeffrey S. Hart, CGFM, CIA.
• AGA completed a research study on “Challenges in Performance Auditing: How a State Auditor with Intriguing New Performance Authority is Meeting Them,” sponsored by Corporate Partner Accenture.
• AGA completed a research study on “PAR—The Report We Hate to Love,” sponsored by Corporate Partner Price-waterhouseCoopers LLP.

JULY 2006
• AGA welcomes the Mid-Willamette Valley Chapter.

AUGUST 2006
• AGA’s Academy for Government Accountability awards first Mortimer A. Dittenhofer Dissertation Research Awards.

SEPTEMBER 2006
• More than 400 government accountability professionals gathered in Atlanta on September 25–26 for AGA’s First Internal Control and Fraud Conference.

OCTOBER 2006
• AGA’s Second Performance Management Conference is held in Schaumburg, IL, October 30–31.
• Lisa Thatcher, MPA, is the first former AGA staffer to become a CGFM.

MacRay “Mac” Curtis retired in 2009 after 31 years at the Utah State Auditor’s Office, but didn’t even last a year before going back to work. Not surprising for someone who considered it a “fun challenge” to revitalize the struggling Northern Utah Chapter in 2000 when it was close to disbanding. The Northern Utah Chapter has since become one of the strongest in the region, and Curtis is now director of local government audits at Wisan, Smith, Racker & Prescott. He attended the chapter’s spring professional development conference this year and has resumed attending monthly AGA meetings. “I found that I’m not the retiring type,” Curtis said.

Curtis took the same can-do approach to his AGA volunteerism. In fact, he was recruited to serve as president-elect of the chapter during his very first year of membership in 2000. Members had just voted to keep the chapter alive, and he was called in to help give it life support. He helped recruit a strong board of directors, and together the group kept the chapter not only alive but growing. “I have a huge commitment to government and governmental training,” Curtis recalled. “It sounded like an interesting challenge. It felt like it would be something good to do and fun to do.”

“He really was a good leader for our chapter and really without him and a few others, there would be no Northern Utah Chapter,” said Robert Bond, CGFM, AGA’s senior Vice President for the region, and Curtis is now director of local government audits at Wisan, Smith, Racker & Prescott. He attended the chapter’s spring professional development conference this year and has resumed attending monthly AGA meetings. “I found that I’m not the retiring type,” Curtis said.

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“He really was a good leader for our chapter and really without him and a few others, there would be no Northern Utah Chapter,” said Robert Bond, CGFM, AGA’s Senior Vice President for Section III. The few people who were doing everything for the chapter in 2000 were about to give up until a new board of directors was installed and new members recruited, he said.

“He’s one of those guys who did anything you asked him to do,” Bond said. “That’s the reason that I nominated him.” Curtis is a Member Who Made a Difference for the last decade. He won a first-place newsletter award in that role.

As director of local government audits at the Utah State Auditor’s Office, Curtis was well versed in Yellow Book issues and a range of other governmental auditing topics, so he has made presentations at chapter and regional training events. He has organized the chapter’s spring professional development conference and fall symposium, and enjoyed his interactions with the mostly state and local government membership as well as the chapter leaders.

“I really enjoyed rubbing shoulders with them and planning the monthly training,” Curtis said. “I just found that our volunteers on our executive committee were more than willing to make many sacrifices to help others.”

Curtis has given a lot to AGA, but has AGA given back to him? “I’ve always been a firm believer that being part of a profession, you owe something to the profession,” he said. “So my motivation was just to give to the profession. But yet, I feel I gained a lot of experience in leadership.”

Bond says the chapter is now 150 members strong with a full board of directors, a president-elect and a president-elect designate lined up. Monthly meetings are attended by about 50 people and up to 150 participate in the chapter’s PDC. “We’re doing very well, and if it wasn’t for people like Mac in the early 2000s, we’d be nothing,” Bond said. “We really wouldn’t be there.”

—Christina M. Camara

Members Who Made a Difference
MACRAY CURTIS, CPA

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AGA: What is the secret to your success as a recruiter?

Paschel: The secret to my success as a recruiter is a host of very strong and supportive board members. I have two early career co-chairs and one retention co-chair who assists me in recruiting new members to AGA. As a group, we are able to focus on our core potential members, who are usually early career, telling them about the advantages of membership and encourage them to become members of AGA.

Lowi-Teng: I set goals for recruiting. Persistence is the key.

AGA: What do you think makes the difference in recruiting new AGA members?

Paschel: Our membership consists of mostly DFAS employees. AGA Cleveland has been very fortunate over the last 2-3 years due to an increase of new employees being hired at DFAS. When the new employees attend orientation, we include brochures and contact information in their orientation packets. We also hold two or three membership drives per program year to recruit new members.

Lowi-Teng: You have to be excited about AGA. When people see your enthusiasm about AGA, it makes a difference. They want the same thing you have because they usually ask: “What’s in it for me?”

AGA: What words or phrases do you use to describe AGA and what your membership has meant to your career?

Paschel: The words or phrases I would use to describe AGA are: excellent networking opportunities and leader in improving government performance and accountability.

Lowi-Teng: Because of AGA, I was able to build my self-esteem, improve my communication skills, go places, meet people and have fun doing it.

AGA: Do you have a special story or two about recruiting a new member?

Paschel: I tell them that my experience as a member of AGA has been very rewarding. I have had the opportunity to meet and network with numerous people from different agencies within the government as well as the private sector. I have attended a number of AGA PDCs and local luncheons over the last few years and have met and learned a lot from the various speakers and a wide range of subject matter that has impacted my life professionally and personally and many levels. And I cannot forget about the educational, professional and certification opportunities AGA provides.

Lowi-Teng: I tried recruiting my brother before, and he kept procrastinating, but when he saw that I was going places and having fun he decided to jump in.

AGA: Have any of your members gone on to leadership roles at the chapter, regional, or national level? How does that make you feel as the person who introduced them to AGA?

Paschel: We have had several people move up to leadership roles at the chapter and regional levels, including myself. One of our past presidents was the chapter president for years as well as the Ohio-Michigan Region RVP. I have been the Ohio-Michigan Region Co-Membership Chairperson for the past five years as well as a member of the AGA National Ethics Committee.

Lowi-Teng: Yes. Joe Chang, who happens to be my brother, has gone on to be the Regional Coordinator of Membership for the Sacramento Chapter effective July 1, 2010. Also, Steve Purser, a co-worker, is on the board of directors and is the chairperson for membership. I feel good about introducing two outstanding members to AGA. We traveled to the SLM (Sectional Leadership Meeting) in Kansas City, MO, in May and we got a lot of new information plus we had fun. I am looking forward the PDC in Orlando.

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AGA: Have any of your members gone on to leadership roles at the chapter, regional, or national level? How does that make you feel as the person who introduced them to AGA?

Paschel: We have had several people move up to leadership roles at the chapter and regional levels, including myself. One of our past presidents was the chapter president for years as well as the Ohio-Michigan Region RVP. I have been the Ohio-Michigan Region Co-Membership Chairperson for the past five years as well as a member of the AGA National Ethics Committee.

Lowi-Teng: Yes. Joe Chang, who happens to be my brother, has gone on to be the Regional Coordinator of Membership for the Sacramento Chapter effective July 1, 2010. Also, Steve Purser, a co-worker, is on the board of directors and is the chairperson for membership. I feel good about introducing two outstanding members to AGA. We traveled to the SLM (Sectional Leadership Meeting) in Kansas City, MO, in May and we got a lot of new information plus we had fun. I am looking forward the PDC in Orlando.

The words or phrases I would use to describe AGA are: excellent networking opportunities and leader in improving government performance and accountability.

Lowi-Teng: I set goals for recruiting. Persistence is the key.

AGA: What do you think makes the difference in recruiting new AGA members?

Paschel: Our membership consists of mostly DFAS employees. AGA Cleveland has been very fortunate over the last 2-3 years due to an increase of new employees being hired at DFAS. When the new employees attend orientation, we include brochures and contact information in their orientation packets. We also hold two or three membership drives per program year to recruit new members.

Lowi-Teng: You have to be excited about AGA. When people see your enthusiasm about AGA, it makes a difference. They want the same thing you have because they usually ask: “What’s in it for me?”

AGA: What words or phrases do you use to describe AGA and what your membership has meant to your career?

Paschel: The words or phrases I would use to describe AGA are: excellent networking opportunities and leader in improving government performance and accountability.

Lowi-Teng: Because of AGA, I was able to build my self-esteem, improve my communication skills, go places, meet people and have fun doing it.

AGA: Do you have a special story or two about recruiting a new member?

Paschel: I tell them that my experience as a member of AGA has been very rewarding. I have had the opportunity to meet and network with numerous people from different agencies within the government as well as the private sector. I have attended a number of AGA PDCs and local luncheons over the last few years and have met and learned a lot from the various speakers and a wide range of subject matter that has impacted my life professionally and personally and many levels. And I cannot forget about the educational, professional and certification opportunities AGA provides.

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JULY 2007
• The League of Women Voters includes AGA’s Citizen-Centric Reporting Initiative in its publication titled, Observing Your Government in Action: Protecting Your Right to Know.
• AGA’s 68 Corporate Partners include public accounting firms, major system integrators, IT companies, management consulting firms, financial services organizations and education & training companies.
• AGA members raised more than $39,000 in three days during the PDC in Nashville. The money will be divided among several charities.

AUGUST 2007
• The Academy for Government Accountability has established the Raymond D. Einhorn Research Award.

SEPTEMBER 2007
• AGA’s Second Annual Internal Control & Fraud Conference in Atlanta attracted more than 400 attendees.
• Maricopa County, AZ, joins a growing list of governments that have produced four page “state of the government” Citizen-Centric Reports.

OCTOBER 2007
• AGA’s First Government Financial Case Challenge starts on Oct. 15 with 13 universities from across the U.S. participating.
• The U.S. Coast Guard, the Denali Commission and the U.S. Department of Defense are the first federal agencies to commit to producing Citizen-Centric Reports.
• AGA launches a project to Improve Intergovernmental Cooperation and welcomes Helena Sims to the National Office staff as the director of Intergovernmental Relations.

NOVEMBER 2007
• AGA’s Financial Management Standards Board sends a comment letter to the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) on its Exposure Draft, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Derivative Instruments.

DECEMBER 2007
• The University of Nebraska at Omaha and the University of Texas at Dallas are the finalists in the first Government Finance Case Challenge.

JANUARY 2008
• AGA completes a research study on “21st Century Financial Managers—A New Mix of Skills and Educational Levels?” sponsored by Corporate Partner Management Concepts.
• AGA’s Nominating Committee selects William A. Morehead, Ph.D., CGFM, CPA, a member of AGA’s Jackson Chapter, as National President-Elect Designate. Mary E. Lechner, CGFM, CPA, a member of AGA’s Virginia Peninsula Chapter, is National Treasurer-Elect Designate.

FEBRUARY 2008
• The State of Nevada becomes the first state to unveil its four-page Citizen-Centric Report.
• AGA’s Sixth Annual National Leadership Conference, Feb. 21–22, in Washington, D.C., had a record-breaking attendance of more than 700. Admiral Thad W. Allen, the 23rd commandant of the U.S Coast Guard, spoke about leadership and vision on the last day of the conference.
• AGA welcomes the Mid-Ohio Valley and Charleston Chapters.

MARCH 2008
• To recognize the CGFM Program and its accomplishments, AGA declares each March “CGFM Month.”
• The University of Texas at Dallas is AGA’s first Government Finance Case Challenge Champion.

APRIL 2008
• AGA and the government accountability community mourn a great leader, William R. Snodgrass, comptroller emeritus, state of Tennessee. He was a strong supporter of AGA’s Nashville Chapter, one of the Association’s most dynamic chapters.
• Thanks to the initiative and dedication of AGA regional and chapter leaders, at least 45 state and local governments have declared March 2008 “CGFM Month.”

MAY 2008
• AGA forms partnership with Norwich University, giving AGA members the opportunity to earn 12 graduate credits and prepare for the CGFM Examinations at the same time.
• AGA recognizes the outstanding Fiscal Year 2007 performance and accountability reporting efforts of 17 federal agencies, which received the Certificate of Excellence in Accountability Reporting (CEAR).

JUNE 2008
• The state of South Carolina adopts Citizen-Centric approach to financial reporting.

JULY 2008
• AGA hosts the 57th Annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition in Atlanta, GA, “Building on the Dream: Shaping a Culture of Accountability,” with more than 2,000 professionals in attendance. Past National President Sam M. McCall, Ph.D., CGFM, CPA, CIA, CGAP, received the Robert W. King Memorial Award. Outgoing National President Richard L. Fair, CGFM, CPA, passed the gavel to incoming National President Samuel T. Mok, CGFM, CIA.
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- AGA’s Nashville Chapter celebrates 30 years. The chapter has been one of AGA’s strongest and most active.
- AGA completed a research study on “SAS 70 Reports: Are they Useful and Can They Be Improved?” sponsored by Corporate Partner Ernst & Young.
- AGA welcomes the El Paso Chapter.

**AUGUST 2008**
- AGA Executive Director Relmond Van Daniker, DBA, CPA, is featured in American City & County, a magazine covering state and local government issues, in an article he authored titled, “Making Sense.”
- The CGFM Program completes a comprehensive update of all three CGFM Examinations, including a job analysis study of the role of the Certified Government Financial Manager. The new CGFM Examinations go live on Aug. 15.

**SEPTEMBER 2008**
- AGA’s Third Annual Internal Control & Fraud Conference is held in Phoenix, AZ, Sept. 22–23.

**OCTOBER 2008**
- The Fourth Annual Performance Management Conference is held Oct. 27–28, 2008, in Seattle, WA.

**NOVEMBER 2008**
- AGA completed a research study on “Characteristics of Effective Audit Committees in Federal, State and Local Governments,” sponsored by Corporate Partner KPMG LLP.

**DECEMBER 2008**
- AGA begins a series of radio shows focusing on the importance of government transparency and accountability. “Your Money, Your Government” is hosted by AGA Executive Director Relmond Van Daniker, DBA, CPA.
When the Cumberland River crested in early May, flooding much of Nashville, Davidson County and middle Tennessee, Tammy Fruscione, CGFM, did what she always does—she rolled up her sleeves and went to work to help those in need. Her tireless efforts on behalf of the needy in her local area spurred the Nashville Chapter to nominate her as a Member Who Made a Difference in the last decade.

“It was terrible,” she said of the flooding, which struck close to her Mount Juliet home, but spared her house. “I’d hate for anyone to have to go through that.”

With her hometown under water, Fruscione tried to track down a boat so she could go out and help people. However, she said laughing, people who knew better told her to stay home.

It’s that spirit of pitching in that has made Fruscione an active member of the Community Service Committee since she joined the chapter 10 years ago—one month after she began work in the Comptroller of the Treasury’s Division of State Audit. Today she is a Legislative Auditor III, TennCare/Medicaid, still within the Division of State Audit.

As is the AGA way in Nashville, her colleagues wasted no time in recruiting her into the chapter, and she has enjoyed serving in a number of community service roles ever since. This program year, she takes another turn as co-chair of the committee.

One of her most important endeavors has been the Project Pencil initiative, which began when she noticed a need for sponsorship when her son, who is now 15, began kindergarten at Alex Green Elementary School in Nashville. It wasn’t until her son transferred to another school with active sponsors that she realized how great the need was at Alex Green, so she convinced the chapter to sponsor the school.

As sponsors, chapter members go into school to read to students and act as math tutors, among other roles. With 95 percent of the school’s population receiving food assistance, the chapter also fills a critical need by buying massive quantities of school supplies to ensure all students start the year properly equipped with what they need.

One year, the chapter raised enough money to donate televisions to a number of classrooms, and last year they purchased a computer for a math tutor. “Whenever they need us, we’re there,” Fruscione said.

That same “get it done” spirit is what’s going to bring Nashville back from the brink of catastrophe, Fruscione said. “We’re okay,” she said just over a week after the flood. “We’re taking care of it. We’re doing what we do. It’s amazing what people are doing for each other.”

In nominating Fruscione for as a Member Who Made a Difference, Nashville Chapter President Karen B. Hale, CGFM, MAOM, singled out Fruscione’s efforts on Project Pencil, but noted that her contributions to the chapter go far beyond community service.

“Tammy is one of those members who are willing to go the extra mile,” Hale wrote. “She has worked the registration table at monthly meetings, she has spent hours working on the chapter’s community service projects and has never stepped back when called upon. Tammy has served on the Meetings and Attendance Committee, setting up the location for monthly meetings, and she has assisted in the annual spring socials held by the chapter. Tammy has been an asset, and continues to serve the chapter and exude the spirit of AGA.”

When asked how she felt about being nominated as a Member Who Made a Difference, Fruscione said, “I was very shocked and very honored. It’s humbling. What I do I don’t do for that type of recognition, but I really appreciate it.”

—Marie S. Force
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OCTOBER 2009

NOVEMBER 2009
- The Fifth Annual Performance Management Conference is held Nov. 5–6, 2009, in Seattle, WA.
- North Carolina State University and the University of Wisconsin-Platteville are selected as the finalist teams in AGA’s Third Governance Finance Case Challenge.
- AGA completes a research study on “State and Local Governments’ Use of Performance Measures to Improve Service Delivery,” sponsored by Corporate Partner Crowe Horwath.

DECEMBER 2009
- AGA’s Nominating Committee selects Past National Treasurer Richard O. Bunce, Jr., CGFM, a member of the Richmond Chapter, as National President-Elect Designate. Bunce is chair of the Professional Certification Board. Amelia Leswing, CGFM, CPA, CISA, a member of the Northern Virginia Chapter, is National Treasurer-Elect Designate.
- Nevada State Controller Kim Wallin releases a two-page, easy-to-understand Citizen-Centric Stimulus Report, summarizing how Nevada distributed its initial infusion of stimulus funds received through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Nevada is the first state to issue the Citizen-Centric Stimulus Report under AGA’s pilot program.
- AGA’s Nashville Chapter secured “preferred” status for CGFM applicants. Job seekers with the CGFM will have an advantage over uncertified competitors if they apply for certain positions in Tennessee’s Office of the Comptroller of the Treasury.

AGA expanded its online community to include these four networking opportunities:
- Become a Fan of AGA on Facebook: www.facebook.com/pages/Alexandria-VA/Association-of-Government-Accountants/59915723319
- Create a LinkedIn Profile: www.linkedin.com/groups?home=&gid=1049477&trk=anet_ug_hm
- Follow AGA on Twitter: http://twitter.com/AGA_AdvanceGov
- Visit AGA on GovLoop: www.govloop.com/group/aga

JANUARY 2010
- AGA chapters organize efforts to collect donations to assist the victims of the Jan. 12 Haiti earthquake.

FEBRUARY 2010
- After epic snowstorms cripple the nation’s capital the week before, nearly 700 people attend AGA’s Eighth Annual National Leadership Conference, Feb. 18–19, in Washington, D.C.
- At its February meeting, AGA’s NEC approved a $6.9 million operating budget for the 2011 fiscal year (April 1, 2010 – March 31, 2011).
- AGA welcomes the Gulf Coast and Missouri River Chapters.

MARCH 2010
- AGA Past National President Douglas K. Haywood, CGFM, CPA, passes away suddenly on March 1 in Phoenix, AZ. A member of AGA’s Phoenix Chapter, Doug had retired recently after a long career in Arizona state government.
- The University of Wisconsin – Platteville wins the AGA Government Finance Case Challenge.

APRIL 2010
- AGA holds the first Federal Performance Conference on April 27–28, 2010 in Washington, D.C., focusing on the latest mandates and leading practices within federal agencies.

MAY 2010
- AGA recognizes a record 19 federal agencies with the prestigious Certificate of Excellence in Accountability Reporting (CEAR) Award for outstanding Performance and Accountability Reports and Annual Financial Reports.
- AGA completes a research study on “Creating an Interactive Single Audit Database,” sponsored by Corporate Partner PricewaterhouseCoopers.

JULY 2010

AGA welcomes more than 2,200 accountability professionals to Orlando for the 59th Annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition, “2010 & Beyond: Dream, Learn, Achieve.” Past National President Douglas K. Haywood, CGFM, CPA, received the Robert W. King Memorial Award posthumously. Outgoing National President William A. Morehead, Ph.D., CGFM, CPA, passed the gavel to incoming National President Lisa Casias, CPA.

SEPTEMBER 14, 2010
- AGA celebrates 60 years of advancing government accountability.

Read the complete 60-year AGA Timeline at www.agacgfm.org/about/history.aspx.