ASSOCIATION OF
GOVERNMENT
ACCOUNTANTS

AGANEWSLETTER

WASHINGTON CHAPTER

JANUARY 1986

THURSDAY JANUARY 9, 1986 LUNCHEON MEETING TO FEATURE



ROSCOE L. EGGER, JR. Commissioner of Internal Revenue Service

Speaking on
The Internal Revenue Service
at the

SAM RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING Room B-338, "C" and South Capitol Streets Near Capitol South Metro Station Social Period Luncheon 11:15 12:00 \$10.00 (w/Reservation) \$12.00 (w/o Reservation)

For Luncheon Reservations Call 695-7954
Telephone Reservations Accepted Thru January 7, 1986

NON MEMBERS WELCOME

All Reservations Guaranteed

Meeting Schedule: • Jan. 9 • Feb. 6 • Mar. 6 • Apr. 3 • May 1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



SUSAN LEE Financial Management Service

The Washington Chapter has undertaken or plans to undertake several efforts to enhance the stature of public-sector financial managers. To combat the deteriorating image of civil servants, the Chapter has joined the ranks of organizations such as the American Society for Public Administration, Federal Executive Institute, Federally Employed Women, Inc., National Association of Retired Federal Employees, and Senior Executives Association by becoming a member of the Public Employees Roundtable. The purpose of the Roundtable is to promote the public image of government employees by:

- informing the American citizenry of the quality of people in government and the value of the services they perform,
- developing a stronger esprit de corps among public employees, and
- encouraging interest in civil service careers.

Based on a recommendation by Gary Patterson, Chairperson, Cooperation with Professional Organizations, the Board elected to become a Roundtable member and support its activities, which include newspaper articles, public service announcements on radio and television, and work with schools to encourage student interest in public service careers. Herb McClure will be representing the Chapter on the Roundtable's Board of Directors.

One of the ways that AGA recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to financial management is through our annual awards program. This year nominations are due February 3, for the following awards:

Robert W. King Award: Made to a member of AGA for significant service that enhanced the Association's national prestige and stature.

Distinguished Leadership Award: Made to individuals in government service (Federal, State, and local) who have provided notable sustained outstanding leadership contributing to improvements in financial management over a period of years.

Achievement of the Year Award: Made to an individual for leadership or outstanding achievement in improving government financial management during the immediately preceding calendar year. Scholarship Award: For full-time college or university students, who are dependents of full members or deceased members of AGA, aspiring to an undergraduate degree in business administration with emphasis in the subjects of accounting, auditing, budgeting, or automated data processing.

Education and Training Award: Made to individuals who have made significant contributions to the education and training of government financial managers.

If you have any nominations or have questions concerning the criteria for nominating an individual, you can contact Doris Chew, Chairperson, Awards Committee, on 376-5415. This is an excellent opportunity for our own Chapter as well as National AGA to recognize deserving individuals who have contributed significantly to improving financial management.

Our education program under the able leadership of Joe Rothschild and Diane Bray has been very active. In November our successful Credit Management workshop netted almost \$2,000. Our first TGIF luncheon on GAO's Title 2 was also an overwhelming success, thanks to the hard work and coordination efforts of Joyce Charles, Barbara Jackson, and Jean Lewis. So much so, in fact, that we will be repeating the same topic at our second TGIF luncheon on January 10, at the Department of Health and Human Services for those who had to be waitlisted from the December TGIF. I would also like to thank the Department of Labor and their IG, J. Brian Hyland, for hosting December's luncheon. In January we will be having our second workshop, co-sponsored with the Joint Financial Management Improvement Program. Information on the workshop, "Microcomputer Applications in Financial Management-Now and the Next Decade" is provided on page 5. And finally, in February we will be co-sponsoring with the Montgomery/Prince Georges Chapter a workshop on the personal liability of financial managers.

These are just some of the initiatives AGA and our Chapter has undertaken to enhance your stature and your work as public servants in the financial management area.

> Plan Now For The PDC June 23-25, 1986 Baltimore, MD

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Happy New Year

ABOUT OUR SPEAKER THIS MONTH

Roscoe L. Egger, Jr., was nominated for Commissioner of Internal Revenue by President Reagan in January 1981, and was confirmed by the U.S. Senate in March 1981. As Commissioner, he is responsible for planning and developing IRS policies carried out nationwide by seven regional and 60 district offices.

Before his appointment as head of the IRS, Egger was a partner in the accounting firm of Price Waterhouse and Co., where he was in charge of the firm's Office of Government Services in Washington, D.C.

Egger began his career as the tax specialist for a small accounting firm, which he joined after a brief period with the U.S. General Accounting Office. After graduation from George Washington University Law School with a law degree in 1950, he entered law practice in Washington, D.C. During his six years in the practice of law, his professional work was essentially that of a tax specialist.

After joining Price Waterhouse in 1956, Egger was partner-in-charge of the firm's tax department in Washington, D.C., until 1973, when he assumed responsibility for the firm's newly-organized Office of Government Services, also managing the firm's technical tax and tax policy services.

Egger served as one of seven private sector members appointed to the Commission of Administrative Review of the House of Representatives, which was charged with evaluating the House's administrative operations. After months of study and analysis, the Commission submitted to the House of Representatives 42 proposed changes dealing with such issues as accounting and management functions, committee reform, congressional travel, and member allowances and perquisites.

Born in Jackson, Michigan, in 1920, he received a bachelor's degree from Indiana University in 1942. From 1943-46, he served in the U.S. Army.

Egger was a member of the board of directors of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and was active in the Chamber's committees on federal taxation and government and regulatory affairs, on which he served as chairman. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and a member of its Federal Taxation Division. He is a former chairman of the AICPA's Federal Government Executive Committee. He also is a member of the American and D.C. Bar Associations and the District of Columbia Institute of CPAs.



NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE REPORT— DUE DATES FOR NEWSLETTER INPUT

Following are 1985-86 due dates for input to the AGA Washington Chapter Newsletter:

March—January 27 April—February 24 May—March 24

Articles or other input are encouraged and should be forwarded to Lee Beaty (275-9430) or Anna Wilson (535-9693).

STATE/FEDERAL EQUITY PROGRAM

By Katherine Payne Financial Management Service

What is the State/Federal Equity Program and what implication does it have in the financial management area?

The State/Federal Equity Program is a joint project established to provide an equitable, uniform and efficient system of financing Federal assistance programs in States (grants) through the intergovernmental transfer of funds. Its framework is contained in a Memorandum of Understanding, which among other cash management policies, outlines an agreement to pilot a new funding technique called Checks Issued-Interest Remitted. This technique allows States to drawdown funds in accordance with their immediate cash needs while complying with their statutory and constitutional requirements that monies be on deposit prior to the issuance of a check, warrant or other types of payment.

States would be required to pay interest to the Federal Government for the use of the money from the day of deposit to the day the checks clear the States' banks. The Federal Government, on the other hand, would be required to pay interest to the State for the time the State uses its own funds for program purposes. In other words, whoever has the use of the money pays for it because reciprocal interest compensates either the State or the Federal Government for the loss of investment opportunity.

How were the pilot tests constructed?

Four states, Virginia, California, Indiana, and Wisconsin each piloted, for six months, a variation of the new funding technique based on their individual accounting and processing systems.

The mechanics of the pilot tests included the development of individual check clearance patterns which are the dollar percentages of checks cleared each day of the total amount of checks issued. Each State had the latitude to track Federal funds within its operational limitations. In part, methodologies were based on actual check redemption dates, composites of specific drawdowns or statistical samples.

The interest calculation was also an integral part of the pilots although no actual monies were paid or credited during the test. A standard 10 percent annual interest rate was used by each State. There were three variations within the Checks Issued-Interest Remitted funding technique and each was slightly different in the manner Federal funds were tracked and interest was calculated. As in the development of check clearance patterns, each State tailored its methodology to compute interest within its existing capabilities.

Even though no monies actually changed hands during the pilots, were there any estimates of what the interest figures might have been?

Yes. The four States drew over \$3 billion in Federal funds for the programs in the pilot over the six month test period. On the average, the pilot States had use of Federal funds for four days from deposit in their accounts to check clearance. This amounted to a total interest liability to the Federal Government of over \$3.3 million. The figure includes deductions by the States for late Federal payments, but does not take into account other adjustments made by two of the States.

I understand the pilot tests have been concluded. What are some of the main findings?

Certainly. From separate evaluation reports prepared by Treasury and an independent third party, First National Bank of Chicago, key conclusions are:

- Pilots demonstrated Checks Issued-Interest Remitted is a viable funding technique flexible enough to fit into States' existing accounting systems.
- Each State developed appropriate check clearance patterns and interest calculations. Although the methodologies varied, the overall premise was successful.
- Methods used by the States to determine and calculate interest were more complicated than necessary. There is no need to track every transaction.
- Pilots enabled States to focus on certain cash management practices and identify procedural and system problems.
- Funding technique would promote equity between State and Federal Governments through reciprocal interest.
- Many of the equity issues cited by the States during the pilot could be resolved through the "make whole" concept—whoever has use of the money pays for it.

What is the current status of the State/Federal Equity Program?

As a result of the pilot test, changes are being made to pertinent laws, regulations and procedures to make it possible for the new funding technique to be implemented.

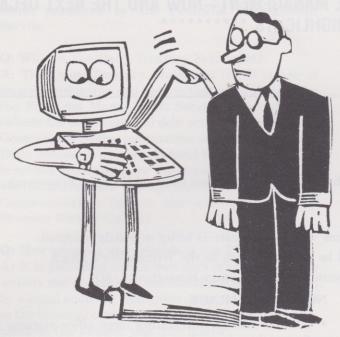
Mrs. Payne is Project Manager of the State/Federal Equity Program as well as Manager of the Treasury Programs Branch, Financial Management Service.

ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS, WASHINGTON CHAPTER AND THE

JOINT FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Presents a Workshop on

MICROCOMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT—NOW AND THE NEXT DECADE



Tap Into
the
Latest
Developments . . .

FOR?

Accountants-Auditors-Budget Staff-Computer, Financial and Management Analysts

WHEN?

Thursday, January 23, 1986; 12:00 noon - 4:30 p.m. Friday, January 24, 1986; 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

WHERE?

George Washington University Club Marvin Center, 800 21st Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. (Metro's Foggy Bottom Station)

WHY?

Demonstrate the latest in successful software application systems for government microcomputers and consider future office automation systems.

HOW?

- Speakers will describe the current advances in micro software for spreadsheet analysis, graphics, database management and word processing software systems and their integration in an office.
- GSA officials will contrast the government "micro" environment in 1985 with their perception of the automated office of the future.
- Speakers will talk about design and application of "expert" systems to perform risk analyses, etc.
- Vendors will demonstrate to small groups of attendees software applications discussed in the various sessions.

HOW MUCH?

Washington Chapter members	\$ 75
Other AGA Members	\$ 85
*Non-Members	\$100

*If Chapter membership application is attached with \$32.50 for AGA national dues, then the workshop fee will be \$92.50 with your annual Chapter dues of \$7.50 fully paid for FY 1986.

Registration will be accepted on a first-come basis. Walk-in registrations will be accepted if space is available. Authority for a Federal agency to sponsor participation in a program of this type is found in Section 9 of USC 5, Chapter 41, Government Employees Training Act. CPE credit: Upon Request.

• What's New in Data Management and Analysis?

Panelists will describe new "micro" software packages such as Paradox, Symphony (Revised Version), Framework, etc.

- Elements of Integrated Word Processing Systems
- The current best sellers will be described and the reasons why the software is being so widely accepted.
- Improvements in productivity for preparing reports will be presented such as the Writers Work Bench.

A panel will recount how GAO evaluates and selects software systems for usage throughout GAO.

AUDIT TRACK

- Discussion by CPA and Agency representatives of artificial intelligence and expert systems for auditors.
- Auditing controls over microcomputer application systems.
- "Risk buster", a financial audit system extended to operational auditing.

NON-AUDIT TRACK

- Lessons learned automating large office systems in a financial environment—includes issues managers must address after you acquire microcomputer systems.
- Panelists will discuss how to effectively use "micros" in accounting operations.
- Networking for budget applications and the use of integrated software packages for budget formulation.

Questions, please call: Brenda Montgomery 426-6493 Mail fees and completed form to:
Association of Government Accountants, Washington Chapter
P.O. Box 423 Washington, D.C. 20044
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Full refund, if notified in writing within 10 daysSubstitutes permitted
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ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS

by Larry Stout Treasury Financial Management Service

This column will provide information and answer questions about the Electronic Daily Treasury Statement, published by the Financial Management Service.

Q: What is the Daily Treasury Statement?

A: The Daily Treasury Statement (DTS) is one of several statements and reports that are published by the Financial Management Service. The statement reflects the daily cash and debt activity of the Federal Government. Major information sources include the Daily Balance Wires from Federal Resource banks and branches, reporting from the Bureau of Public Debt, electronic transfers through the Treasury Financial Communications System and wires from Internal Revenue Service Centers.

Q: How accurate and reliable is the DTS?

A: It is published within two days of the date of the activity and its accuracy and timeliness are relied upon by a broad audience, from government officials to those in the financial community who make investment decisions on the basis of this information.

Q: How does the timeliness and the detail of the DTS information used by the Financial Community benefit the Federal Government?

A: It allows the Financial Community to very quickly see the nature of the shifts in funds to and from the government and private sector which have an important impact on the short term cost of money. Also, it allows dealers in government securities to project Treasury's financial requirements. This data is regularly used and valued by Treasury's debt managers.

Q: Considering the fact, the DTS users rely on the timeliness of the information, is there anything being done in the area of modern business technology to deliver the DTS information more timely.

A: Yes, the DTS is now available on the Financial Management Data Base.

Q: How does one get access to the on-line system? **A:** The Financial Management Data Base is maintained by the Proprietary Computer System (PCS). To obtain information about access to the system, please call PCS at (202) 466-6240 for details.

Q: How much does it cost to use the system?
A: The cost will vary with each user. The longer you are on the system the more it will cost.

Q: What type of equipment is needed to access the system

A: Any type of equipment that has communication capabilities can be used.

Q: What are the benefits of the new on-line system? A: One of the primary benefits of the on-line system is that the DTS information will be available at approximately 4:00 p.m. each business day reflecting the activity of the previous workday, a gain of one workday over the current arrangement; thus eliminating the unnecessary delay caused by publishing and distributing the paper report. By accelerating the availability of the data, managers in the private and public sector can make more informed financial decisions. In addition to making the DTS available sooner through the time sharing service, it will also reduce the burden of Federal paperwork.

For more information, please contact Dave Black, Manager of the Funds Control Branch, on 566-2171.

This column is prepared by the Accounting Group, Federal Finance, which is a part of the Financial Management Service. The mission of the Service is to promote the financial integrity of the Government through sound money management on behalf of the public. Through this column we will provide information and answer questions about the Federal Government's policies, procedures, and practices relating to its financial, accounting, and reporting systems. Questions are welcomed and can be sent to Anthony Torrice on the form on page 7 or conveyed by telephone, (202) 566-5844.

ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS

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Treasury Annex No. 1; GAO: 3011

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Montgomery-Prince George's Chapter's speaker for its January 8 dinner meeting is Blair Ewing, director of the President's Productivity Improvement Program. Location is the Lanham Ramada. Call Frank Marshall, 755-4671, for reservations.

In conjunction with its January 17 monthly meeting at the National Press Club, the Institute of Internal Auditors, Washington Chapter, is hosting a seminar, presented by Mort Dittenhofer, on Behavioral Aspects of Auditing. Call Glen Langlois (535-6138) or Bob Ford (532-6539) for details or to register.

AGA Northern Virginia Chapter's January 21 meeting will feature Fred Newton, Acting Director of DCAA, speaking on New Directions in Contract Auditing. Meeting location is Springfield Imperial 400. Call Martin Starling, 756-2915 for reservations.

COOPERATION BETWEEN TWO PROFESSIONS (AUDITORS AND INVESTIGATORS) CAN IT WORK?

(Editor's Note: John C. Martin, Inspector General, Environmental Protection Agency, and John H. Greer, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audit, Department of Housing and Urban Development, were guest speakers at the Chapter's November 14, 1985 luncheon meeting. Following is a synopsis of their remarks developed and submitted by David Dukes, Chapter Program Director.)

Mr. Martin opened his remarks by stating that passage of the Inspector General Act caused a "marriage" of auditors and investigators by decree. It was not one of consent . . . rather it was a case of the gum shoe versus the bean counter.

He described the circumstances that inhibit a good working relationship—natural rivalry for the IG's attention, differing objectives, auditors advance planning their work versus investigators who must remain highly flexible, and differences in openness of communications about their work.

On the other hand, Martin said the two professions have many things in common—most importantly, they work for one boss. And they have one objective—to work together in preventing and detecting fraud, waste, and abuse. Also, both groups are professionals which use information networks to coordinate their efforts and avoid duplication.

So why hasn't it worked as well as it could? Martin suggested there has been a lack of professional respect, general misunderstandings, and a gap in communication.

But, he ventured, both professions can benefit if they work together. They can share knowledge and greatly shorten the learning curve. As a result, the quality of audits and investigations should improve. Also, each has expertise which can be mutually beneficial.

To achieve cooperation, Martin said the tone must be set from the top. Management must take a lead and make a conscious effort to communicate. But cooperation, he said, must also be bottom-up. For example, auditors and investigators must keep each other informed—auditors making prompt referrals and investigators promptly alerting auditors about new investigations.

Martin summed up by saying that, while the "arranged" marriage has had its rough times, he is enthusiastic about its success.

Mr. Greer followed Mr. Martin. He pointed to the growing trend of investigators and auditors performing their separate disciplines together in a joint cooperative manner. The key, he said, is "separate" but "together."

He cautioned, however, against any attempt to turn an auditor into an investigator, or so called "auditgator." He believed that few could succeed in carrying out such a concept.

Instead, Greer said, the auditor and investigator should work together and, in so doing, they will produce a more timely and effective product. Avoid, he said, the audit referral trap. When the need arises, calling upon each other immediately is a critical step.

Greer citied several HUD-OIG experiences involving cooperative efforts. Audit time spent on assisting in investigations, where no audit reports were issued, has grown from 13 staff years in 1983 to 24 staff years in 1985. And, he said many of the auditors are enjoying their work in assisting investigators with criminal cases and earning performance awards, too. He cited eight cities where cooperative efforts either have occurred or are going on in one HUD program alone—single family insured mortgages.

One case in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, was particularly instructive. There, the auditors found an abundance of fraud indicators. The investigators were quickly called in; a comprehensive joint effort was planned; and the U.S. Attorney's office promised "no interference from the grand jury process." Greer said that when the grand jury gets involved you lose control of your resources and you run a high risk of not being able to issue a much-needed administrative audit report. The FBI provided agents and, in an unusual phenomenon, the auditors trained the agents on how to interview mortgagors. Only after the data-gathering was completed and the audit reports were written did the U.S. Attorney begin the grand jury process.

Greer summarized by saying that we should no longer ask the question: Can it work? Rather let's start showing each other how well it works!

THE TREASURY GENERAL ACCOUNT CASH CONCENTRATION SYSTEM

By Carl F. Dolinka Financial Management Service

What is the Treasury General Account Cash Concentration System (TGA CCS)?

The TGA CCS is a sophisticated financial system that concentrates public monies via wire transfer and Automated Clearing House (ACH) debits in Treasury's account at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York (FRBNY). It is the Government's second largest collection system collecting \$110 billion annually from over 3000 agency field locations. The funds are deposited daily by agency representatives at about 450 authorized TGA depositaries located throughout the United States. At the close of each business day TGA depositaries communicate a deposit report by telephone or terminal to a Data Service Facility (DSF). That night the DSF transmits a data file to the Georgia ACH so that debits can be processed the next morning against those TGA depositaries that completed deposit reports. Due to the cut-off time by which transactions must be received at the ACH, Treasury has authorized some TGA depositaries to use wire transfer to move their deposits to Treasury. The DSF maintains files of all TGA depositaries which, among other things, dilineates the method of transfer for each bank.

On the day after the day of deposit, all corresponding ACH credits and wire transfers move to five concentrator banks located strategically throughout the country. That same day, all five concentrator banks send these monies to the FRBNY via the Treasury Financial Communications System (TFCS). The DSF also transmits a detailed accounting file and daily balance wire to Treasury's Financial Management Service on the same day the funds are concentrated at FRBNY. At this point, the cycle is complete.

What makes the TGA CCS special and unique?

First, the TGA CCS treats accounting-related information with the same high priority as it does funds transfers. It's the old saying, "Money doesn't do you much good if you don't know you have it." The System is balanced daily by comparing TFCS transfers from the five concentrator banks to the accounting file for that day. If they do not balance, adjustments are effected prior to the close of business to correct the difference(s). If the difference(s) cannot be corrected by the close of business, the accounting file is rejected and the submission of a correct file becomes the number one priority. After two years of operation Treasury's management as well as private sector peers still find it impressive that collections from over 3000 end points can be deposited at over 450 financial institutions, deposit reports telecommunicated to a contracted service-provider, funds and related accounting data electronically moved to Treasury and the FRB, and the

System balanced-all on a daily basis.

Second, the entire System is administered by a private sector contractor and managed by the Finanical Management Service's Funds Flow Division. In September 1983, a contract was awarded to the Citizens and Southern National Bank of Atlanta, Georgia (C&S) Bank), as a result of a nationwide competition. Treasury's Request for Proposal required all bidders to include a consortium of financial institutions with telecommunications capabilities in their proposals. The consortium approach was used to ease the burden of contract administration. Instead of Treasury having to manage five concentrator banks, all management efforts are carried out through a single focal point—the lead concentrator bank, C&S Bank.

What are the benefits to the Government?

By making the System electronic, all paper is truncated at the TG depositaries eliminating the redundancy, reliability on paper documents, associated timing difficulties, and minimizing funds transfer delays, all of which were characteristics of the TGA CCS predecessor. Having more reliable data in a timely manner allows Treasury to make more intelligent decisions on existing as well as proposed banking arrangements through consolidation of account activity on a regional basis and elimination of non/cost beneficial arrangements. The CCS employs state-of-the-art cash management and telecommunications concepts enhancing the Financial Management Service's image as a leader and innovator in financial management.

What are the future plans for the TGA CSS?

The Financial Management Service is currently developing a standard account analysis module due to be implemented in March 1986. This module represents a unique enhancement that will automate as well as standardize a TGA depositary's account analysis and provide Treasury a monitoring capability that was heretofore non-existent. The module will use the daily deposit information collected in the CCS along with some additional monthly information telecommunicated by each TGA depositary to provide a Monthly Account Analysis of TGA activity. The benefits to the Government will be to: 1) ensure accurate compensation for depositary services is provided for and 2) provide Treasury an efficient means of monitoring TGA performance by financial institutions.

Who can I contact to obtain more information about the TGA CCS?

Carl Dolinka, Senior Advisor, Funds Flow Division, Financial Management Service, (202) 634-5757.

MEMBER PROFILE—LEONARD NAHME

Leonard Nahme attended George Washington University on the G.I. Bill. After graduating with a degree in accounting in 1950, he worked for a local public accounting firm for 12 years, during which time he also became a Certified Public Accountant in the District of Columbia. He joined the Department of Agriculture in 1962 as an assistant accountant in the Agricultural Marketing Service. He later moved on to become chief financial officer for the Foreign Agricultural Service where he designed and installed a new accounting system for its 60 worldwide posts.

In 1971, Mr. Nahme joined the Department of Commerce's Patent and Trademark Office as its Director, Office of Finance, where he installed a new GAOapproved accounting system. He received Commerce's Bronze Medal Award in 1980 for achieving advances in financial management that allowed the Patent and Trademark Office to improve its service to the public. and received the Silver Medal Award in 1983 for superior performance in financial management. During this time he directed the creation of an accounting system structured to permit collection of fees for Patent and Trademark Office services, in consonance with the administration's emphasis on instituting user charges for government services. The new accounting system was one element in a change that produces \$107 million in new revenue for the government each year. Mr. Nahme also received our Washington Chapter Outstanding Achievement Award in 1983. More recently he has been involved in training Commerce managers in how to design and assess internal controls in connection with OMB Circular A-123.

ABOUT CHAPTER MEMBERS

Long-time Chapter member **Kenneth W. Leland** retired from GAO in early December following almost 32 years of federal service. Ken, who is also an Army combat veteran of the Second World War, will be greatly missed by his many friends in GAO, as well as those on Capitol Hill and at HHS where he was detailed for extended periods. Ken and wife Virginia will remain at their Baltimore home, from which we hope and trust that he will remember us from time to time in AGA.

James P. Wesberry has left GAO to accept a position with Price Waterhouse & Co. as director of International Operation, American Region. Good luck in the new job, Jim.

In the Financial Management Service, **Sheryl Morrow** transferred from the cash management initiatives area to a promotion in FMS's Planning Office. As a member of the planning staff, Sheryl will assist in FMS's strategic and tactical planning. Congrats to you, Sheryl!

Please call us with your news items about Chapter members (Lee Beaty, 275-9430, or Anna Wilson, 535-9693).

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT

By Ken George, Chapter Secretary

The Washington Chapter Executive Committee met at noon on Thursday November 21st for the fourth regularly scheduled meeting of the 1985/86 year.

The minutes of the October 31st board meeting were approved.

A copy of the October 1985 financial report was submitted by Peter Bell, Assistant Treasurer.

The Secretary reported on the ordering of Federal Tax Handbooks for chapter members. 132 requests for books were received. The order has been turned into National.

Cooperation with other Professional Organizations—Susan Lee related that the committee is in contact with the American Society of Military Comptrollers on the idea of a joint luncheon meeting—hopefully in March 86.

Programs Chairman, Dave Dukes, discussed the highly successful November joint luncheon (with joint speakers) with the Association of Federal Investigators. Dave also discussed possible upcoming luncheon speakers.

Professional Notes Chairman, Chuck McAndrew, requested submission of articles, especially from agencies other than the Central Financial Agencies.

The Education Committee Co-Chairman, Joe Rothschild, gave a report on the 11/20/85 workshop on credit management—49 attendees with an estimated net income of \$1,956.00.

Joe also discussed the upcoming series of "TGIF" lunchshops to be held at various agencies. The first one was held at the Department of Labor on 12/4/85 on the subject "Working with Title 2—Some Practical Perspectives".

Susan Lee reported that the Montgomery/Prince George's Chapter wants to have a workshop on Personal Liability—to be held in D.C. The Board agreed to the D.C. site only if we were co-sponsors.

Public Service Coordination Chairman Joe Perricone discussed the Committeee's creation of a Speakers Bureau and the idea being assimulated by AGA nationally. Joe handed out a draft of a speakers' profile and asked for suggestions to improve it.

Joe issued a handout on the VITA program (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) showing the date and place for volunteer training.

Joe also handed out a letter to the AGA National Committee on chapter recognition points concerning public service activities.

Budgets (revised) are due in to the President-Elect by the January meeting.

There will be no Executive Board meeting in December. The next meeting will be Thursday, January 30, 1986.

Meeting adjourned 1:30 p.m.

COME AND JOIN OUR BUFFET AND TAKE PART IN AN INTERESTING DISCUSSION

AGA WASHINGTON CHAPTER IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE SECOND IN ITS NEW SERIES OF EDUCATIONAL EVENTS— THE "TGIF" LUNCHSHOP



WHAT IS IT?

The "TGIF" Lunchshop Program is designed for financial managers, accountants, budget analysts and auditors to informally get together to exchange views about a current topic of interest affecting their day-to-day jobs. Representatives from GAO, Department of Labor Financial Policy, The Project Director for the Title 2 Interagency Task Force, and an HHS Office of Finance official will lead our discussion. The second Lunchshop is entitled:

"WORKING WITH TITLE 2—SOME PRACTICAL PERSPECTIVES CONTINUED"

WHERE?

Department of Health and Human Services Penthouse Room 800 Hubert Humphrey Building, 200 Independent Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C.

WHEN?

Friday, January 10, 1986, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

LUNCH?

Bring your own lunch or share our: Cold Cut Buffet Sandwiches Cole Slaw Potato Salad and Beverages Buffet Cost is \$5 per person

RESERVATIONS?

Yes, by Wednesday, January 8, 1986 contact:

Jean Lewis at 695-7955 or Joyce Charles at 523-8401

Reservations required—No admittance otherwise.

CAN NON-MEMBERS ATTEND?

Non-members are encouraged to join us. Members bringing a non-member will pay \$3.

IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND?

Call us if you would like to hold a future Lunchshop in your agency for this topic or one of your own topics. WE WANT TO BRING AGA WASHINGTON CHAPTER TO YOUR WORK PLACE.



DID YOU KNOW . . .

By Charles McAndrew

—This month we are featuring some of the financial divisions or groups at the Department of Treasury, particularly the Financial Management Service (FMS).

—The FMS is the Federal Government's Financial Manager responsible for collections, payments, Governmentwide accounting studies, and cash management initiatives. FMS states that through these financial management initiatives they have saved the taxpayers \$1.4 billion in FY 1984—more than six times their operating budget of \$239 million. For FY 1984, Treasury collected \$930 billion and made 865 million payments equaling over \$1 trillion. More than one-quarter of these payments were made via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT).

-FMS is moving toward greater automation. For example, FMS is aggressively modernizing the Government's cash management systems, shifting from paper to EFT systems like the Treasury Financial Communications System (TFCS) and the Automated Clearing House (ACH) system. These systems establish electronic or automated links to the federal reserve and the banking community, enabling a faster and more efficient flow of funds and information. Treasury is moving to convert many of the more than 600 million checks it writes every year into the more convenient electronic impulses. Also during FY 1986, Treasury will begin to issue paper checks to replace the now familiar green punch card checks. These new checks should deter counterfeiting. Disbursements exceeding \$140 billion in annual grants to states, cities, universities, and others through Letters of Credit are now being converted to TFCS at considerable savings to the taxpayer. To accelerate the inflows of cash, the use of TFCS for collections has been expanding significantly.

—The Systems Development Group, consisting of programmers, analysts, and accountants, has as its objec-

tive, the development of new or enhanced systems through which the Federal Government makes payment, receives collections and does financial accounting and reporting. One of the Treasury's most widely known projects, conversion to paper checks is being implemented under this group. A major element in the changeover to paper checks is the equipment to print the checks. There will be 20 systems installed in the seven financial centers in FY 1986. Also, this group is involved in the development of the redesigned Check Payment and Reconciliation System. This effort was initiated to replace and enhance outmoded systems and procedures to ensure that issue and payment data are accurate and timely, and to improve the accountability and effectiveness of the reconciliation process at Treasury.

—FMS, in conjunction with Treasury's Fiscal Assistant Secretary's Office, is sponsoring its second annual Awards for Distinction in Cash Management. Working with a total pool of \$100,000, cash awards not to exceed \$10,000 and/or certificates for tangible or intangible savings to the government will be given to individuals from executive branch agencies (excluding Treasury) to encourage and recognize excellence in endeavors. FMS received nominations from the agencies through November 26. Winners will be selected by a seven-person committee consisting of senior executives from Treasury, FMS and OMB. The presentation of the awards is scheduled for January 28, 1986.

—Due to lack of space, I'll have to complete our description of FMS units in a further issue. Any questions on Treasury's activities, please call Andy Montgomery on 566-6576.

—Don't forget to call me on 275-9476 with your financial management, systems development projects, or similar items of interest.

NEWSLETTER

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