



The Sounder

Volume 13-04 October 2013

November President's Message
By Newsletter Editor
Tim Dobler

We had a bit of a bump in the road regarding our chapter meetings and continuing education last month. The government shut down resulted in temporarily losing the location for our planned October training, and communication with members was somewhat spotty due to many who use office Email addresses which weren't available during the hiatus.

Now, however, we are once again on the road to a successful chapter year. Our scheduled October speaker, Mr. Brian Willet, Performance Analyst at the Washington State Auditor's Office, has graciously agreed to provide his insights at our November gathering at the GAO's training room on November 4th. The presentation will begin at 1:00 pm, and will continue for two and a half hours on the topic of Managing Data. This level of depth will provide us with a greater understanding of the topic than could be possibly be received in our usual 50 minute luncheon presentations.

Now that the Federal Government is re-funded, at least for the time being, and people are back to work, at least for the most part, since some of you are still subject to rolling furloughs, we can look to the other issues before us. The issue that looms largest to my admittedly parochial interest is adding new faces to the leadership of our local chapter. The Seattle AGA has been around for a long time. Several of your board members are second generation board members. The first generation made up of such notables as Marv Weiss, Paulette Nelson, and Frank Marshall left the organization in the good and capable hands of our second generation of leaders including Pat Bohan and Karyn Angulo. Some of these are now retiring, including Rick Osborn and myself. We are very fortunate in the volunteering of new third generation leaders to the Seattle Chapter, but more are needed to spread out the board's tasks, to insure continuity, and minimize burn out.

The AGA board is an excellent way to exercise leadership roles and see the results of personal innovation. I hope many more step forward. If you are interested, please contact any member of the board.

Sincerely, Tim Dobler

Image of Seattle courtesy of porbital / FreeDigitalPhotos.net

Upcoming Event

Please join us at the GAO Training Room, 28th Floor on Monday, November 4, 2013, for our 2.5 hour CPE event.

Reservation required.

Nov 1 NOTE: no new reservations accepted.

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Please join us at our November luncheon.

When/Where

GAO Training Room, 28th Floor on Monday, November 4, 2013, for our 2.5 hour CPE event, 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Monday, November 4, 2013 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

GAO Training Room, 28th Floor, Columbia Tower, 701 Fifth Ave.



AGA Seattle Chapter's Monthly Meeting Schedule for Program Year 2013-2014

Save the dates for our monthly education events for program year 2013-2014! Please join us at these luncheon and brown bag events and help us make this program year a success.

Monday, **September 16**, 2013 - Columbia Tower Club - Mr. Paul Aussendorf, Assistant Director, and Mr. Jonathan Carver, Senior, Analyst, U.S. Government Accountability Office, Seattle, *"Anticipating Client Needs: GAO Analysis of Airline Mergers"*

Monday, November 4, 2013 - GAO 28th Floor Training Room - Brian Willett, State Auditor's Office, "Managing with Data." This is a 2.5 hour CPE presentation.

Monday, **December 16**, 2013 - Columbia Tower Club.

Monday, **January 13**, 2014 - GAO 28th Floor Training Room - Tina Polf CPA, 2013 Tax Update

Wednesday, **February xx**, 2014 (TBD) - GAO 28th Floor Training Room, AGA Webinar or audio conference. Awaiting AGA schedule (August 2013).

Wednesday, **March xx**, 2014 (TBD) - GAO 28th Floor Training Room, AGA Webinar or audio conference. Awaiting AGA schedule (August 2013).

April 2014 - Government Auditing and Accounting Conference (GAAC), dates and locations TBD

Monday, **May 19**, 2014 - Columbia Tower Club (location confirmed), Emerald Award

The Seattle AGA Chapter updates its activities annually. This week we are highlighting our Membership Plan and Community / Public Service Plan.

Membership Plan Seattle AGA Chapter Program Year 2013

Chair: Mary Ann Hardy

1. Contact suspended members and encourage them to rejoin the Seattle AGA chapter.
2. Contact National members and encourage them to become affiliated with the Seattle AGA chapter.
3. Recognize all new members at a chapter function.
4. Provide a luncheon at no cost to each new member.
5. Highlight new members in the chapter newsletter and on the chapter webpage.
6. Include periodic articles in the chapter newsletter on the importance of encouraging colleagues to join AGA and the value members and their agencies receive for their participation.
7. Advertise AGA at the joint AGA/Washington Society of CPAs conference through board member participation and materials at the "welcome table" and a brief introduction at the beginning of conference sessions.
8. Promote the Seattle chapter at AGA events including national training sessions. Visit local federal, state, and private industry firms to discuss the value AGA membership brings to their organizations.
9. Visit local colleges and universities to discuss government careers and AGA with accounting students.

COMMUNITY/PUBLIC SERVICE PLAN
Seattle AGA Chapter Program Year 2013
Chair: Sam Lord

Chapter participation in Holiday and other periodic food drives
Chapter participation in the federal Christmas Toy Drive and Toys For Tots.
Members participate on the boards of directors for non-profit organizations.

Continuing Professional Education Plan
Chapter Program Year 2013-2014
Chair: Pat Bohan

Education is a key part of the Association of Government Accountants (AGA) mission. Each Chapter provides educational opportunities to their members. The Seattle Chapter provides the following educational events:

8 - Monthly Speaker Luncheons

September 2013 - May 2014 at Columbia Center—Columbia Tower Club Restaurant (Floor 75) or GAO Training Room (Floor 28)—located at 701 Fifth Avenue in downtown Seattle. Each presentation is designed to provide 1 Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credit (50 minutes) that will support the requirements of the Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) as well as other professional certifications. *(No luncheon in April due to conference as stated below.)*

2 - Day Government Accounting & Auditing Conference in partnership with Washington Society of CPAs

April 2014 (dates TBD) at a conference center located in the Seattle area - up to 16 hours of specific government CPEs.

November 4, 2013
AGA Seattle Chapter
2.5 CPE Event

Speaker Mr. Brian Willet, Performance Analyst
Washington State Auditor's Office

Topic *“Managing with Data”*
Presentation will cover how to use data and performance measures to drive improvement and innovation in an organization and include an interactive simulation that demonstrates how to manage and not manage with data. Participants will learn the 20 most common mistakes people make when managing with data.

Time 1:00 – 3:30 pm

Place GAO Training Facility, Columbia Center
701 – 5th Ave., Floor 28, GAO Training Facility
Seattle, WA 98104

CPE: 2.5 Hours

RSVP : Please RSVP by **Wednesday, 10/30/13** to bohanp@gao.gov .

Price: \$5 (cookies & coffee will be provided)

Financial Statements as of the end of October are not available due to the shut down. Next month's financials will be provided.



The Sounder

WE'RE ON THE WEB:

WWW.AGASEATTLE.ORG

AGA serves government accountability professionals by providing quality education, fostering professional development and certification, and supporting standards and research to advance government accountability.

The purpose of the Association and the Chapter is to be an international, professional organization dedicated to the advancement of government financial management. The Association shall serve its members by providing or sponsoring appropriate educational programs, encouraging professional development, influencing governmental financial management policies and practices, and serving as an advocate for the profession. The Association shall serve government officials and the public by sponsoring efforts to ensure full and fair accountability for all public monies, and by providing a variety of pro bono services throughout the United States and its territories that support that end.

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This newsletter was produced by board member Tim Dobler with the assistance of Karyn Angulo. Thanks also to board members who contributed articles and other items for this issue and to our webmaster, Issa Ndiaye (VA OIG), for maintaining our chapter website. This month's photo courtesy of porbital/ FreeDigitalPhotos.net