

The Washington Connection

ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS
WASHINGTON DC CHAPTER

NOVEMBER 2004 ISSUE

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Would you like to receive email reminders of our monthly meetings and conferences? If so, please go to <http://www.agadc.org> to sign up for our mailing list in the Member Services section of the website.



November Guest Luncheon Speaker, Congresswoman Marsha Blackburn, US House of Representatives

Marsha Blackburn was sent to the U.S. House of Representatives at the start of the 108th Congress with her message of low taxes, responsible government, and a strong national defense. One of only a few newly-elected congresswomen selected to serve as an assistant whip on the majority whip team, Blackburn, within her first few months in Washington, was named a "freshman to watch" by *National Journal*, while *Roll Call*, the Capitol Hill newspaper, called her a "rising star." In 2004, a survey of senior Capitol Hill staff by *Washingtonian Magazine* declared Blackburn the Republican "top newcomer" in the House of Representatives.

Blackburn serves on the Judiciary, Education and the Workforce, and Government Reform Committees. She is the Vice-Chairman of the Government Reform Subcommittee on Government Efficiency and Financial Management where she has targeted waste, fraud, and abuse in Federal government operations. Blackburn also served as the Government Reform Committee's member designee to the Joint Committee on Taxation in 2003.

An advocate for reducing government spending, Blackburn has sponsored three bills to require across-the-board spending cuts in the Federal budget during the 108th Congress. In recognition of her conservative voting record, *National Journal* rated Blackburn a "top House conservative" in 2004.

Blackburn was born on June 6, 1952. Marsha and Chuck Blackburn have been married for 29 years. They have two children, Mary Morgan Ketchel, 26, and Chad Blackburn, 23.

November Luncheon

**Financial Management In Transition Luncheon Series
Marsha Blackburn
Service in US House of Representatives**

Thursday, November 18 - Luncheon - 11:30am - 1:30pm
Members: \$22.00, Non-Members: \$27.00
Register online at <https://secure.serve.com/AGADC/lform2.php>

George Washington University Marvin Center
800 21st Street, NW (corner of H Street)

(one block from the Foggy Bottom blue/orange line Metro)

President's Message

by Karen Alderman, President



Ms. Karen Alderman, President

Dear Chapter Members,

The months of October and November have been extremely busy for our membership. Significant numbers are fully engaged in meeting the goal of producing audited financial statements 45 days after the end of the fiscal year. This November 15 will mark the full transition to accelerated financial reporting—a major agenda item in achieving financial management excellence. We look forward to all of you coming up for air and

taking advantage of our chapter's activities to expand educational and developmental horizons, engage early career folks, and serve the community. Our theme—"Financial Management in Transition"—is lived out every day by our members.

On behalf of the DC Chapter, I would like to thank C. Morgan Kinghorn, President of the National Academy of Public Administration, for his outstanding October 9 presentation, "Management Reform in the Next Administration: the Role of Financial Leadership." His key points were that management reform continues to evolve. Management reform has its primary anchors in financial and data integrity and the President's Management Agenda brought more breadth and depth to management reform. His view is that future focus should be on use of financial information to serve program managers' needs; support performance metrics, and leverage program management. This argues for developing managerial cost accounting information and driving its use down into organizations. In addition, Morgan provided his assessment of management agendas of the competing Presidential candidates. His slides are available on the DC Chapter website.

The Congressional perspective is next on our agenda of educational offerings meetings. We are thrilled to be hosting Congresswoman Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.). Representative Blackburn was sent to the U.S. House of Representatives at the start of the 108th Congress with her message of low taxes, responsible government, and a strong national defense. In 2004, a survey of senior Capitol Hill staff by *Washingtonian Magazine* declared Blackburn the Republican "top newcomer" in the House of Representatives. Blackburn serves on the Judiciary, Education and the Workforce, and Government Reform Committees. She is the Vice-Chairman of the Government Reform Subcommittee on Government Efficiency and Financial Management and she also served as the Government Reform Committee's member designee to the Joint Committee on Taxation in 2003. Her views are important to all who work in the financial management arena. Also, the meeting will be on **November 18** at George Washington University, Marvin Center located at 800 21st Street NW, Washington, DC. This meeting is timed so that we can have maximum participation by all of you who have been working so

hard on financial statements. This is an important opportunity to gain insight into how Federal financial management is viewed on the Hill.

I would like to acknowledge and thank our 2004-2005 corporate sponsors of the meeting series including Savantage Solutions, Kearney & Company, Grant Thornton, and PriceWaterhouse Coopers for their generous support and invite other organizations that would like to contribute to some aspect of our chapter. Support from our corporate sponsors is enabling our chapter to present a robust program for our current members, to build human capital capacity for the future, and to support our community.

Early Careers. Attracting new talent and giving them the tools to manage in the future is imperative for the future. This month marks the second in our series of "brown bag" lunches targeted at early career members. On November 16, Leslie Casson Stevens will meet with the attendees to share her perspectives on Federal financial management careers. Her credentials include high-level experience in public sector where, among other experience, she served as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the Smithsonian, and the private sector, where she currently holds the position of Federal Industry Director for Public Services. The brown bag lunch will be held at JFMIP, 1990 K Street, NW, suite 430 ("brown bag" means that you bring your own lunch). These sessions provide the opportunity for our new members to learn more about Federally-oriented careers.

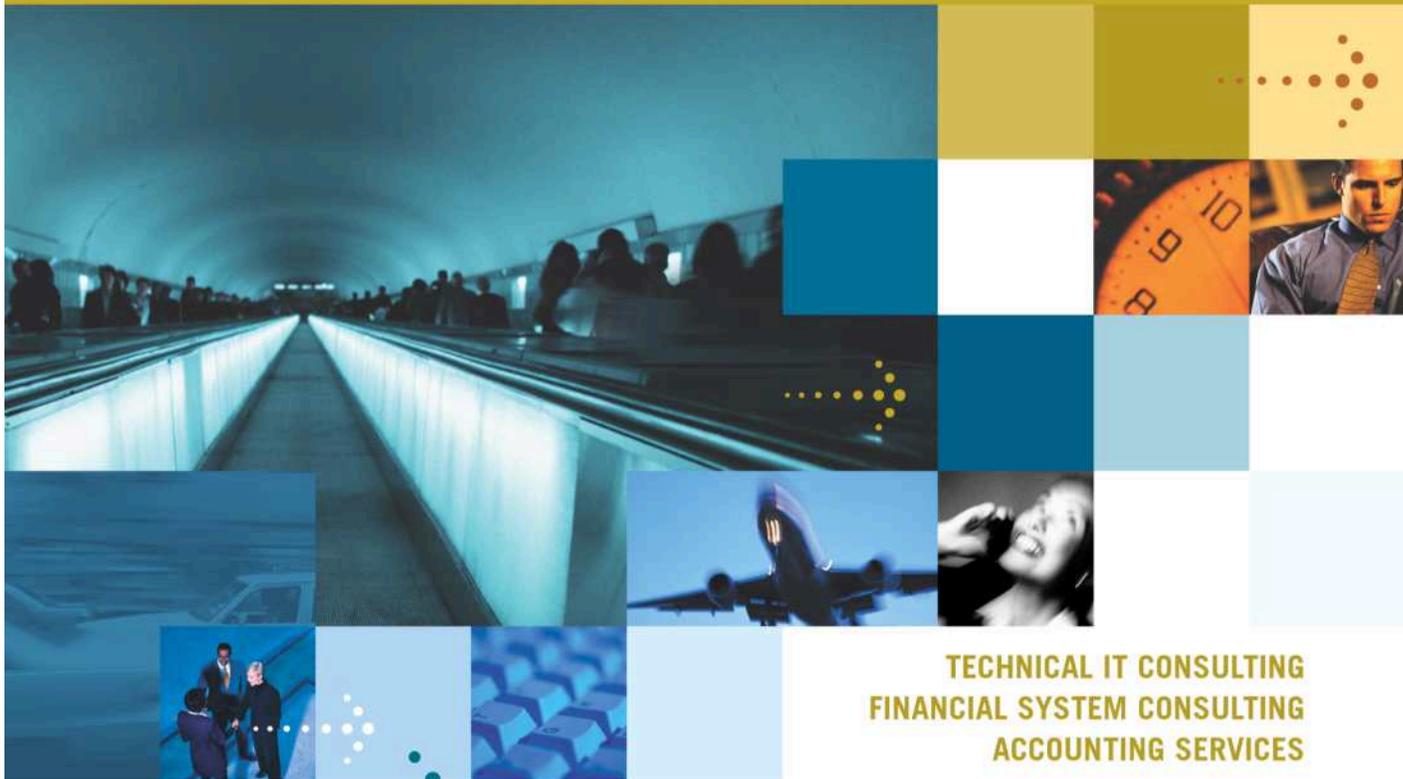
Early career members should also keep abreast of the efforts of Ken Bresnahan, former CFO of the Department of Labor and Chair of the DC Chapter's Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) initiative. He is making good progress in planning an educational opportunity for early career members that will enable them to prepare for the CGFM test. We anticipate this training will be made available in the March 2005 timeframe and will be posting information soon to enable early career folks to take advantage of this opportunity.

Community Service. I would like to congratulate the AGA DC team, led by Andy Kilgore, who participated in the Walk to D'feet ALS on October 10. Tonya Allan Shaw and Lloyd Farmer are doing a wonderful job spearheading our chapter's community service initiatives. Remember to bring your nonperishable food items to the November 18 AGA DC meeting to support Project Harvest. Your generosity will help others to have a Happy Thanksgiving.

Recognition. Finally I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the DC Chapter Board members for all that they do. The activities of this professional organization are the result of volunteers from across the community who give of their time and talent to support our members. I would like to thank Jim Swartz for serving as meeting director and getting us set up for the year. We will miss his gracious support on the board.

Sincerely,
Karen Cleary Alderman
Chapter President

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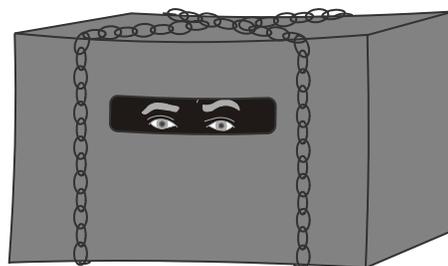


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Inside the Black Box

by Simcha Kuritzky, CGFM CPA



Correcting Entries

In designing an accounting system, most of the attention goes to setting up new general ledger accounts and postings, but once it goes into operation, more work actually goes into making changes and corrections. There are a number of approaches that one can use to make a correction, but they generally boil down to either backing out the transactions before correcting the posting model, or correcting the model before correcting the balances. Circumstances will dictate which is the most appropriate.

As an example, let us say that bills have been recorded for miscellaneous revenue (debit 1310 Accounts Receivable, credit 5900 Miscellaneous Revenue) for a month before someone realizes that this fund should be considered a custodial account, so the custodial postings (debit 5991 Accrued Collections for Others, credit 2980 Custodial Liability) should have been included. In the meantime, some of the bills have been closed by cash receipts that also left off the custodial posting (debit 5990 Collections for Others, credit 2980 Custodial Liability).

Backout and Redo

The way to keep the cleanest audit trail is back out all the erroneous transactions, correct the posting model, then put them back in. In this case, the clerks would have to cancel all the cash receipts in this fund, then cancel all the bills, change the accounting model, put the bills all back in and then the cash receipts. They would have to make certain that no one enters any new bills or cash receipts during the backout process, and that the collections are backed out and re-entered in the same month to avoid issues with cash reporting to Treasury (e.g., on the SF-224).

Divide and Conquer

The way to minimize the amount of work is to separate the correction from the original transactions. The accounting model would be changed immediately to prevent any new bills or collections from posting with the wrong model. Reports would be run to determine the total amount of erroneous transactions, and then a correcting entry would be made. How this entry is made would depend on the abilities of the system and the importance of the change to auditing and reporting. If the importance is low, the correcting entry could be posted at a fund level; if high, then an entry would be made for each erroneous transaction. In the example above, this method would avoid any cash issues since the cash posting is correct to begin with, and some of the postings would go to 5991 (for the open bills) while the rest would go to 5990 (for the bills that had been collected).

Hybrids

One is not limited to using only one of these approaches--a mixture of the two is also possible. For example, an agency may decide to correct the collection entries with a journal voucher, while backing out and re-entering only the open bills. This would give a better audit trail for the open bills, which are more likely to be audited, and also avoid any possible cash issues with collections being backed out but not re-entered in a timely manner.

Comments, suggestions, and critiques are welcome. Send them to Simcha.Kuritzky@cgi-ams.com, and not to the AGA.

Bring in Members - Win a Raffle Prize!

Building membership is an important way to keep AGA's DC Chapter strong. Why not bring colleagues, who are not AGA DC Chapter members, to an AGA luncheon and encourage them to join our Chapter! Show them our website. Tell those who have been working five years or less about our Early Career Brown Bag lunches scheduled for November 16, 2004, and February 15, 2005. For more details on Early Careers, visit our website at www.agadc.org.

Those colleagues bringing in new members will have a chance to win a raffle prize!

— *Marguerite Nealon, AGA-D.C. Membership Director*

In Search

Of...



*Send out news
item for next
AGA-DC
newsletter.*

To better inform our members and foster closer ties among our colleagues within the Federal financial community, we would like to add a few new columns to the *Washington Connection* newsletter.

Spotlight will focus on noteworthy accomplishments by our members. Such accomplishments might include recognition from agencies, firms, or community organizations, honor awards, promotions into management positions, retirements, publications, or major speaking engagements—anything our members might do that would warrant praise from their peers. Digital photos are welcome. Please send us your accomplishments, and let us know if someone else in the Chapter deserves recognition for something he or she has done—but please make sure that individual doesn't mind us including the item in the newsletter!!!

Workplace Wire will highlight what's new, exciting, and different at the Federal, State, and local agencies and private sector firms where our members work. *Wire* items could include rollouts of new systems or programs, establishment of new offices or reorganizations, appointments of new senior leaders, such as CFOs, new contract awards, or employment opportunities. All we ask is that you obtain any necessary internal clearances before you send us information.

Endnotes will include interesting and perhaps even offbeat items that involve our members. This column could be used to share unique travel experiences or assignments. For example, years ago, when I edited *Frontline*, the Inspector General community newsletter, we featured a story about an auditor who participated in an expedition to climb Mount McKinley. Hopefully none of our members were caught up in the recent spate of hurricanes, but how to work under disaster conditions might be useful information. If we have members who are serving (or who have served) in Iraq or Afghanistan, perhaps they would be willing to share their experiences with us. Reviews of recently published books related to financial management would be interesting.

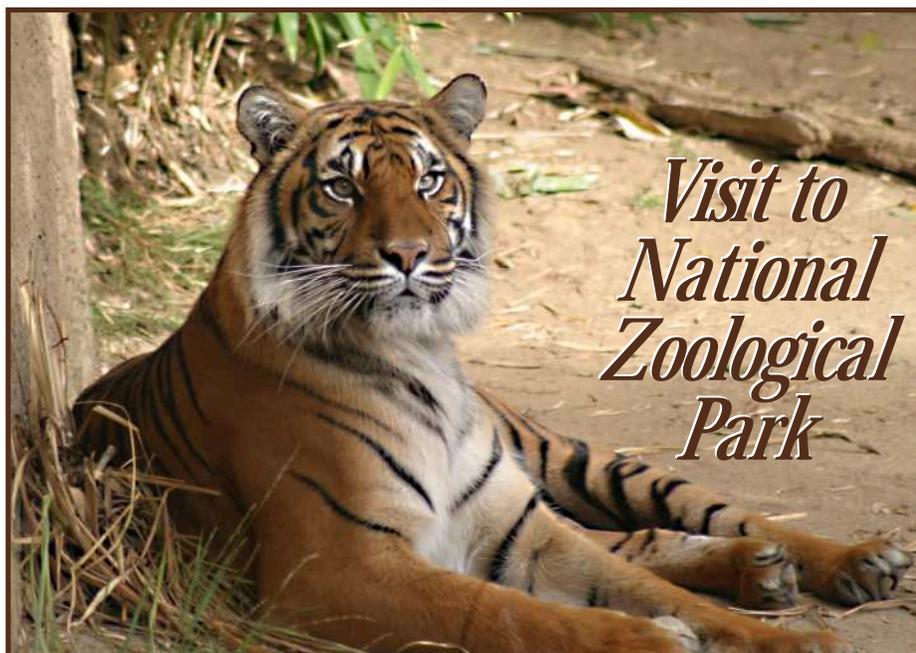
Obviously, we will need your help to gather this information—we can't print what we don't know! Please send your items to kshaffer@lmi.org. Feel free to call me on 301.802.2912 or 703.917.7174 if you have any questions or you would like to discuss a possible item or article. Thank you in advance for your participation!!!

Conference Announcement

The Association of Government Accountants Washington, DC Chapter and the Greater Washington Society of CPA's are co-hosting their 4th Annual Conference on May 3 and 4, 2005. The theme for this year's conference is "Financial Management in Transition." This 2-day conference will address emerging issues related to Federal financial management and systems. The conference will have two tracks during certain sessions, which allow attendees the flexibility to attend some accounting topics and some system topics.

Dates: Tuesday, May 3 and Wednesday, May 4, 2005
Time: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM
Location: George Washington University's Cafritz Conference Center

Continuing Education: 15 CPE
 For more information visit www.agadc.org.



In partnership with the Northern Virginia and Montgomery/Prince Georges Chapters, Member Services is sponsoring a "Tour of the Smithsonian's Zoological Park" on Sunday, November 7. We will meet at the visitor's center (Connecticut Avenue entrance) at 1:30 p.m. Animal buildings are open until 4:30 p.m. This will give us three hours to visit with the animals, and browse the gift and bookshop. AGA members can also enjoy a complimentary soft drink provided by our sponsor, Savantage Solutions.

There should be ample parking in parking lot "A" for a \$5.00 fee. There is no charge for entrance to the Zoo. Wear comfortable clothes and walking shoes. If you are interested in this activity, please let us know. Send your electronic response or direct any questions to karl.boettcher@fms.treas.gov (202.874.6131). For more information, you also can contact the Zoo at 202.673.4800.

Early Careers Update

The Washington Chapter certainly has a focus on fostering opportunity and participation for the early career AGA members. These are AGA members that have five or less years of experience in the government Financial Management career workforce. Last September, the AGA Chapter president hosted an early career brown bag lunch at the JFMIP office in Washington DC. There will be another brown bag lunch on November 16. This is a good forum to meet new AGA members and collaborate about future career opportunities in the government financial management field. If you are interested in joining us, please call Donna Tebeau at 202.219.0526 or email her donna.tebeau@gsa.gov to register. Hope to see you there, and don't forget your lunch. See page 7 for details.

AGA Washington Chapter Membership Services Events 2004-2005

To provide our membership with a variety of social activities, Member Services is scheduling the following events for the coming membership year. We will again attempt to partner our activities with local AGA chapters and other professional organizations. Also, watch for our participation in additional partnership activities being planned by other regional AGA chapters and by our own Community Service and Early Careers.

2004	Event	Partnership
November 7	Visit National Zoo	NOVAGA/Montgomery/PG Chapters
December	U.S. Naval Observatory Tour	NOVAGA/Montgomery/PG Chapters
2005	Event	Partnership
January	Chinese New Year Dinner	Dept of Labor CFO - Sam Mok NOVAGA/Montgomery/PG Chapters
February	Skiing at Liberty in PA.	NOVAGA/Montgomery/PG Chapters Baltimore Chapter
March	Tour of National Cathedral	NOVAGA/Montgomery/PG Chapters
April	Mt. Vernon Tour	NOVAGA/Montgomery/PG Chapters
May	Wolf Trap Event	NOVAGA/Montgomery/PG Chapters
May/June	Attend Baltimore Orioles or Northern Virginia Cannons Baseball Game	Baltimore Chapter NOVAGA/Montgomery/PG Chapters
June	Play in Golf Tournament	ASMC/KPMG NOVAGA/Montgomery/PG Chapters

Additional event information will be provided as the activity draws near and more information becomes available. Some of the activities may be subject to change due to our partnership with the GWSCPA, ASMC, and the AGA NOVAGA, Montgomery/PG, and Baltimore chapters. Please check our newsletter, website, or agency liaison for the latest event update. Due to advance notification requirements and space limitations, most activities will have a response cut off date. If you are interested in an activity, please let us know as soon as possible. Send your responses or direct any questions to our chapter Member Services Director - Karl Boettcher - karl.boettcher@fms.treas.gov - 202.874.6131.

EARLY CAREERS

AGA Washington Chapter, Early Careers "Brown Bag" Lunch Series
JFMIP Board Room, 1990 K Street (20th and K)
Washington, DC

Cost: Free, bring your own lunch.

Time: 11:30-1:00

Dates: November 16, 2004/ February 15, 2005

The AGA Washington Chapter will host brown bag lunch sessions for Early Career Members to learn about career growth opportunities in government. Early Career Members are those chapter members with less than five years of experience in the government accounting/accountability field. Each session will feature a speaker that will present perspectives on careers in governmental accounting and accountability, as well as a time for questions and answers.

Please contact Donna Tebeau at donna.tebeau@gsa.gov or 202.219.0526 to register for these sessions.

2004-2005 Luncheon Speaker Series

The theme of this year's series is "Federal Financial Management in Transition," appropriate given the pending election and inevitable change in key leadership positions throughout the Federal government, regardless of the election's outcome. The series kicked off on September 9, when Andrew Maner, Chief Financial Officer of the Department of Homeland Security, discussed lessons learned and best practices used by the Department during its first full year of operation. Throughout the year, distinguished speakers from the public and private sectors, as well as Capitol Hill, will provide their insight on a variety of financial management issues.

The luncheons will be held between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at the Marvin Center at George Washington University, 21st St. and H Street (one block from the Foggy Bottom blue/orange line Metro).

Thursday, November 18, 2004	Thursday, March 17, 2005
Thursday, January 13, 2005	Thursday, May 12, 2005
Thursday, February 10, 2005	

Special events are planned for December, when we will have our informal holiday get-together, and April, when we will hold our awards dinner.

In addition, the chapter will hold education events and conferences.

Watch the [*Washington Connection*](#) for more details! We hope that you all plan to join us.

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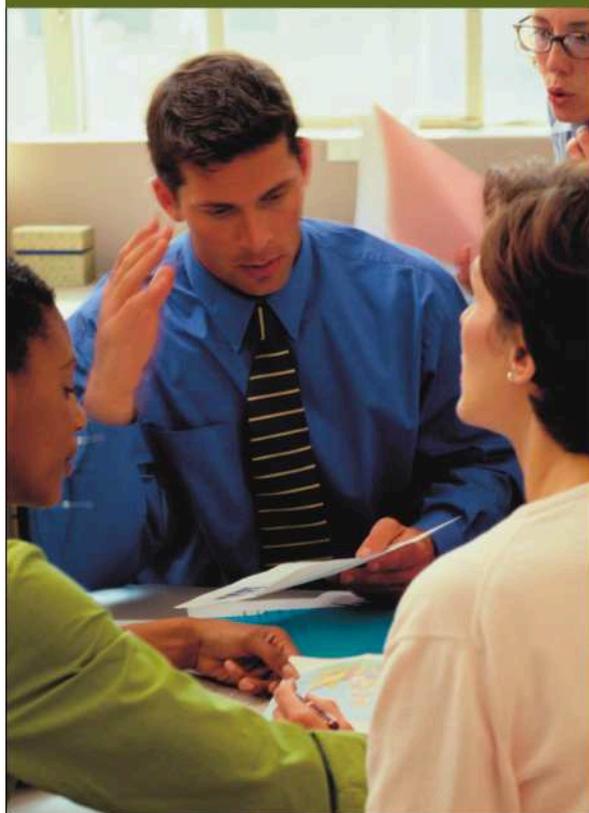
Community Service Plan 2004-2005 Washington DC Chapter

November	Project Harvest — Collect nonperishable food items at luncheon meeting (November 18, 2004)
December	Toys-for-Tots
January	Baby shower and luncheon to benefit St. Ann's Infant and Maternity Home. Website: http://www.saint-anns.com
February	Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)
March	Dress for Success Suit Drive
April	Christmas In April
May	Used Eyeglass Collection for Lions Club ***
June	Used Cell Phone collection for HopeLine sponsored by Verizon Wireless ***
	*** Ongoing Community Service Projects to conclude in May and June.

Email Reminders?

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2004-2005 Meeting Schedule of the DC Chapter's Directors and Officers

Meetings will be held at noon at JFMIP, 1990 K St., 4th floor, on the following Tuesdays:

Tuesday, November 2, 2004	Tuesday, March 8, 2005
Tuesday, December 7, 2004	Tuesday, April 5, 2005
Tuesday, January 11, 2005	Tuesday, May 10, 2005
Tuesday, February 8, 2005	

All members are invited to participate. For October Meeting Minutes see this issue, page 11.

Newsletter Comments or Suggestions?

Do you have any comments or suggestions regarding the newsletter? Do you have an article you'd like to see in print? The deadline for submitting articles to appear in the December 2004 issue is November 20, 2004. Please send your comments and contributions to the newsletter editor, Karen Shaffer, at kshaffer@lmi.org.



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AGA - Washington Chapter, Executive Board Minutes - October 5, 2004

Seventeen Members of the board participated. The following topics of general interest to the membership were discussed:

- **Programs (Scott Bell)**
 - a. The November luncheon speaker is Representative Marsha Blackburn (R-TN).
 - b. Don Hammond, Fiscal Assistant Secretary, Department of the Treasury, is scheduled for the January 2005 luncheon.
- **Early Careers – (Laura Glass)**
 - a. Training event for Early Careers, to be underwritten by the chapter, with a maximum projected budget figure of \$15,000. Schedule includes an event during March 2005; Virginia Robinson will be the instructor. The 6-day session will cover all components and prepare people to take the exam.
 - b. The next Early Career Brown Bag lunch at the JFMIP conference room will be on Tuesday, November 16, 2004.
- **Member Services Social Events (Karl Boettcher)**
 - a. The planned November event is a tour of the National Zoo
- **Community Service (Tonya Allen-Shaw)**
 - a. Future events include Project Harvest in November, Toys For Tots in December, Baby Shower for Saint Ann's in January, VITA in February, Dress For Success Clothing Drive in March, and continuing the glasses and cell phone collection throughout the year.

The next Director's Meeting will be held at JFMIP on November 2, 2004.

If you would like more information concerning items discussed at the Board meeting, please contact Dan Christovich at dchristovich@comdt.uscg.mil or 202.267.0443.



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Two Big Events at NOVAGA November 18th

VIRGINIA CPA ETHICS TRAINING

3:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Mandatory VA ethics training provided by the Virginia Society of CPAs for \$30 by November 4 and \$50 after.

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Career Fair Reception
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GOVERNMENT CAREER FAIR

Joint Meeting with AGA's
Montgomery/PG County Chapter
5:15 pm to 7:00 pm
Includes Food Buffet
Students Free/All Others \$15

**** PRESENTATIONS ****

GAO, AAA, Naval Audit Service, DoDIG, ED/OIG, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Clifton Gunderson, Grant Thornton, Cotton & Company, and Accenture
(see page 13 for details)

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Spotlight on Employers Featured at the NOVAGA November 18th Meeting

Government Accountability Office

Since 1921, the **Government Accountability Office** has served as the nation's chief accountability agency. Under the direction of the Comptroller General, GAO sets professional standards for government auditing.

They also serve as the investigative arm of Congress. GAO's headquarters in Washington DC, along with 11 field offices throughout the country, employ almost 3,300 analysts, evaluators, investigators, and auditors. Diane Guensberg will provide information about GAO.

Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense

The **Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense** was established by Congress as an independent and objective unit to conduct and supervise audits and investigations relating to the programs and operations of the DOD. As the principal advisor to the Secretary of Defense in all IG matters, the IG serves as an extension of "the eyes, ears, and conscience" of the Secretary. DODIG's vision is one professional team of auditors, inspectors, and investigators, inspiring by paradigm a culture of integrity, accountability, and "intelligent risk-taking" throughout the Department of Defense. Core Values are Accountability, Integrity & Efficiency. DODIG's presentation will be given by Tim Wimette, Special Assistant to the Deputy Inspector General for Auditing.

United States Army Audit Agency

The **United States Army Audit Agency** serves America's Army by providing objective and independent audit services. These services help the Army make informed decisions, resolve issues, use resources effectively, and satisfy statutory and fiduciary responsibilities. With 15 functional audit teams, located at 21 offices in the continental United States and at 3 overseas locations (Germany, Hawaii, and South Korea), the Agency provides accounting students with an interesting and challenging opportunity for a career as a civilian employee of the Department of the Army. Audit Manager Alice S. Arielly, CPA CFE CGFM, will give an Agency overview.

Naval Audit Service

Winner of the Senate Productivity Award, the **Naval Audit Service** is responsible for internal audit of the \$83 billion program of the Department of the Navy. From cradle to grave, from program inception in the Pentagon, through program performance, to completion, our auditors are there. The Naval Audit Service is entrusted by the Secretary of the Navy to provide independent, professional internal audit services that assist Naval leadership in improving efficiency, accountability, and program effectiveness. The Naval Audit Service accomplishes this mission by performing internal audits of Department of the Navy organizations, programs, activities, systems, functions, and funds. Greg Armstrong will discuss Naval Audit Service.

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) at the U.S. Department of Education (ED)

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) at the U.S. Department of Education (ED) conducts independent and objective audits, investigations, and inspections of education programs and operations. Their mission is to promote the efficiency, effectiveness, and integrity of the Department's programs and operations.

Accenture

Accenture is a global management consulting, technology services and outsourcing company. Committed to delivering innovation, Accenture collaborates with its clients to help them become high-performance businesses and governments. John R. Laney CGFM will discuss **Accenture**.

Clifton Gunderson LLP

Clifton Gunderson LLP specializes in providing audit, accounting and information technology services, to federal clients. We are the 12th largest CPA and consulting firm in the country, and have offices in 14 states and Washington, DC. Former NOVAGA President Mia Leswing CPA CGFM CISA will discuss Clifton Gunderson.

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The business of government is our specialty. We have more than just experience...We have earned a national reputation for the outstanding quality of our assurance and advisory services. Loren Schwartz will discuss **Cotton & Company**.

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Founded in 1924, **Grant Thornton** serves tens of thousands of middlemarket clients — both public and private — through offices in the United States and in 110 countries worldwide. Chris Gayle CPA CGFM will discuss Grant Thornton.

PricewaterhouseCoopers

PricewaterhouseCoopers (www.pwc.com) provides industryfocused assurance, tax and advisory services for public and private clients. PricewaterhouseCooper's Washington Federal Practice (www.pwc.com/wfp), based in DC, serves the federal government through the seamless delivery of Advisory and Assurance services by skilled professionals credentialed in the following areas: Financial Management, Governance, Risk and Compliance, Program Management, Operational Effectiveness, Security and Data Management, Healthcare and XBRL. Ed Machir, Managing Partner of PwC's Washington Federal Assurance Practice, will discuss PwC.

The Northern Virginia and the
Maryland/Prince Georges Chapters of AGA and KPMG LLP are pleased to extend
a special opportunity for Continuing Education.

Service Efforts and Accomplishments (SEA) and Performance Reporting Efforts

December 14, 2004 1:00 to 5:00 P.M.
KPMG LLP 2001 M Street, Washington, DC

Featured Speakers:

Jay Fountain, CGFM
Former Assistant Director of Research
Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB)

Wilson Campbell, CGFM
Project Director, SEA Program
Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB)

This course describes AGA's Program to encourage regular issuance of high-quality service efforts and accomplishments (SEA) reports and help state and local governments effectively communicate performance to the public

Topics include:

- Conceptual basis for use and reporting of performance measures "Managing for results" – what is it?
- Characteristics of successful performance measures.
- Reporting performance information: suggested criteria for effective communication
- What is the GASB doing and where it is going with performance measures?

The Program includes an overview of AGA's new SEA Program designed to help state and local governments produce and improve performance reports, and includes:

- Draft Review Guidelines
- Charter participating governments
- Opportunities to serve as a program reviewer

A not-to-be-missed opportunity for the nation's top state and local government financial accounting and reporting experts to provide CPE. Four hours of CPE Credit will be offered.

Copies of GASB's Special Report on Suggested Criteria for Reporting Performance Information and the special report summary will be made available at no charge.

Reservations: There is no charge for this event; however, space is limited. Please reply by December 10, 2004 to KPMG, 2001 M Street NW, Washington, DC 20036 Attention: Latisha Marshall (202) 533-5666 or ljones@kpmg.com

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Directions: KPMG's office is conveniently located on 20th Street, NW between M and N: two blocks from the DuPont Circle Metro stop on the Red Line, and four blocks from the Farragut West Metro stop on the Orange Line. Please register at the Guard's Desk and proceed to the 6th floor conference room.

The GASB visits are underwritten by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. If you would like more information about The National Center for Civic Innovation's Sloan Foundation funded grants designed to encourage state and local governments to apply the GASB's suggested performance reporting, visit gpr@nationalcenterforcivicinnovation.org

Make plans now to join AGA for the
Third Annual National Leadership Conference

Improving Government Performance: Financial Managers Take Center Stage

February 7 - 8, 2005, in Washington, DC

Sound financial management is more important than ever. Governments are grappling with a growing list of homeland security issues - how to keep our cities and our nation safe, and how to pay for it. In this environment, financial managers will take center stage, confronting these challenges and the difficulties of balancing the many competing demands on taxpayers' money. At the same time, governments are focusing more intently on performance to ensure that every dollar is spent wisely, and can be accounted for later. These developments are bringing financial managers into the spotlight.

The National Leadership Conference will bring together the top leaders in federal, state and local government financial management, all of whom are struggling to make ends meet while providing an unprecedented level of services to the citizens they serve. This conference is a must for top government leaders-chief financial officers, inspectors general, state auditors, state comptrollers, state treasurers, city auditors, city finance directors and those who work with these top leaders to keep our governments fiscally sound.

Don't miss this chance to network with your peers and share solutions to common challenges. We look forward to seeing you.

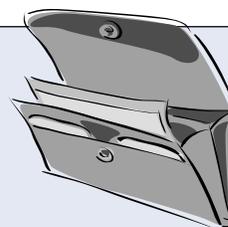
Conference Registration Fees

Your conference registration includes entrance to all education sessions and the Exhibit Hall, 2 continental breakfasts, 4 refreshment breaks, 2 luncheons, a registration tote bag and the ability to earn up to 14 CPE hours.

AGA Member	Fax/Mail	Online
Early Rate (By 01/14/05)	\$500	\$475
Standard Rate (After 01/14/05)	\$600	\$575
Non-Member	Fax/Mail	Online
Early Rate (By 01/14/05)	\$675	\$650
Standard Rate (After 01/14/05)	\$775	\$750

Register online with a credit card, (<https://members.agacgfm.org/source/security/member-logon.cfm?origin=meetings>) or download a printable registration form (http://www.agacgfm.org/conferences/downloads/nlc05_reg.pdf) and send a fax to 703.548.9367, or mail to: AGA Conference Registration, 2208 Mt. Vernon Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22301.

Career Opportunities



Federal - Office of Inspector General

<http://www.ignet.gov/jobs1.html>

Office of Personnel Management - Financial Management

http://jobsearch.usajobs.opm.gov/jobsearch.asp?jbf522=05&salmin=&salmax=&paygrademin=&paygrademax=&FedEmp=N&sort=rv&vw=d&ss=0&brd=3876&FedPub=Y&caller=%2Fseries_search.asp&SUBMIT1.x=0&SUBMIT1.y=0

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