

Message From The President

I hope everyone has had an enjoyable summer. We have lot going on in the local AGA world these days. On Tuesday, August 14 we are pleased to have Ms. Stacie Pittsenbarger, Human Resources Specialist with the City of Springfield, join us to discuss "Interviewing Techniques". We look forward to her presentation.

On September 11, we are proud to have Dr. Kelly Still, a professor with Drury University, present a special two-hour ethics presentation. Please take note that this luncheon meeting will run from **11:30 am to 1:30 pm**. Please make your fellow colleagues aware of this meeting and that it will cover the two-hour ethics requirement for CPAs.

On Friday, August 17, an AGA Officer's lunch meeting will be held at Cooper Tennis Complex. We will be discussing plans for the upcoming Fall Seminar on October 25 at Cooper Tennis Complex.

Speaking of the Fall Seminar. Our regional vice president, Walt Darling will be in attendance that day and will be hosting a hospitality suite that evening. The purpose of the suite will be to invite members as well as non-members to the suite for a social hour of networking in a relaxed atmosphere. In regards to this, we need to discuss on Tuesday the following options:

- Keep the fall seminar as half day with an executive meeting that afternoon of just the officers and Walt. The officers and Walt would have lunch at Cooper and then go into executive session to discuss future plans, membership drives, ideas, ect.. and then break at 4 or 4:30 and move to the hospitality suite for drinks, some light food, snacks, ect.. This could be done at the University Plaza, out by the atrium. perhaps from 4:30 to 6:30 with dinner to follow for those that can attend.
- Keep the morning of the seminar as planned but have lunch at the facility and have an afternoon session of interactive activities of some sort with maybe a question and answer session with Bill Ingemi on diet and exercise, followed up by Cal LaMon or another speaker of that nature. This session would only need to run from 1 pm to 4 pm and then we would move to the hospitality suite. We would still be able to provide at least 7 hours of CPE if not 8.
- Keep the seminar as half day as is currently scheduled and just have the officers have lunch with Walt and then have the Hospitality suite open that night, as planned from 4:30 to 6:30.

Please let me know your thoughts. We need to decide very soon what direction everyone wants to take on this.

I look forward to seeing everyone on August 14.

Jerry

The Ozarks Chapter August Meeting Event

Meeting Location: The Tower Club

21st Floor

Tuesday, August 14, 2007

12:00 Noon

This month's Speaker:

**Stacie Pittsenbarger
Human Resources Specialist**

**from
City of Springfield**

Topic: Interviewing Techniques

Stacie Pittsenbarger has been with the City of Springfield for four years. Prior to working at the City, Stacie was employed with Fed Express for 2 yrs in Human Resources. Stacie graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Management with an emphasis in Human Resources. She also obtained her PHR (Professional in Human Resources) in May 2005. Stacie is currently pursuing a Masters in HR Management from Webster University and plans to graduate early next year.

RSVP:

Cindy Stein 868-4120
cstein@greencountymo.org
by Monday, Aug. 13, 3:00 PM

SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

AGA

Internal Control & Fraud Conference

The early registration deadline of August 17 is quickly approaching. Save \$100 by registering in advance. After August 17, fees will increase to \$550 for AGA members and \$650 for nonmembers.



Enhance your skills and gain a deeper understanding of fraud, ethics and internal controls by attending the Internal Control & Fraud Conference, to be held **September 10-11, 2007** at the Hyatt Regency Atlanta.

With the theme, "Combating Fraud & Minimizing Risk," this event focuses on management's responsibility for ensuring a good system of internal controls and the role of accountability professionals in minimizing the risk of fraud, waste and abuse.

Earn 14 CPE hours, discuss the latest discovery techniques, learn how different levels of government are cooperating.

Register online:

<https://members.agacgfm.org/source/security/member-logon.cfm?origin=meetings>

Register by mail:

http://www.agacgfm.org/fraud_2006/downloads/RegistrationForm.pdf

Registration Fees

By Aug. 17: AGA MEMBER - \$475
NONMEMBER - \$575

After Aug. 17: AGA MEMBER - \$550
NONMEMBER - \$650

Hyatt Regency Atlanta

265 Peachtree Street NE

Atlanta, Georgia USA

Reservations: 404.577.1234 or 800.233.1234

AGA Room Rate: \$115 (Plus Tax)

Reservation Deadline: September 1, 2006

September 20 Audio Conference features Making the Transition to Management

This audio conference, set for 2 – 3:50 p.m. EDT September 20 and worth 2 CPE hours, will explore what tools and techniques new leaders need to succeed. To discuss this important personal development challenge is an industry expert: **Robert A. Carnegie, MBA**, founder of R. Carnegie and Associates, Inc. Cost is \$249 per site (unlimited attendance) if you register on or before **Friday, September 14, 2007** and \$299 thereafter.

[View the full audio conference schedule](#)

Third Annual National Performance Management Conference

If you are an AGA member who has a desire to implement performance reporting, AGA is offering 10 complimentary registrations to the Performance Management Conference in Phoenix, Arizona on Sept. 24-25, 2007. Registrations are available on a first-come, first-served basis. One per office/ government entity please. Offer is for registration only. Please indicate on your registration form that you are applying for the complimentary registration. [Register now!](#)

IMA

Institute of Management Accountants Seventh Annual Professional Education Seminar

Co-hosted by Missouri State University School of Accountancy

Location: University Plaza Hotel,
Springfield, MO

Date: September 12 - 14, 2007

CPE: Earn up to a total of 17 CPE hours (including the Kick-off).

Registration fees:

Before August 24, 2007: \$275.00

After August 24, 2007: \$325.00

Student Fee: \$40.00

A list of speakers can be found on the conference website:

<http://www.morriscenter.missouristate.edu/Heartlandcpe/conferences.htm>

Contact Terry Jones for more information:

terryj@custom-metalcraft.com

"Power Tips and Tricks for Microsoft Excel"

By Mr. Excel: Bill Jelen

A Professional Educational Seminar hosted by The GREATER OZARKS CHAPTER OF I.M.A.

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

OASIS HOTEL AND CONVENTION CENTER

Located at 2550 N. Glenstone, Springfield, Missouri

4 hours of CPE Credit Available

7:30 – 8:00 a.m.-Registration & Continental Breakfast

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – Excel Seminar

Full Package – 4 CPE Registration - \$90

Full package discount for companies with five or more attendees:

\$72 before Nov. 1

\$82 after Nov. 1

Full-time college student sponsorship - \$30 (limited number available)

For more info contact: terryj@custom-metalcraft.com

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CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES

July 10, 2007



Jerry Mitchell called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm. There were 14 members present with 2 guests from the City of Springfield, Information Systems department, Judy Stangl and Pam Cummings.

Jerry moved that the fall seminar be 4 hours of CPE on Thursday October 25th from 8:00 am to Noon at the Cooper Tennis Complex meeting room. The motion seconded by Deb Gillenwaters and approved by voice vote.

There was an officers meeting held Monday July 9th. The officers voted to continue with the monthly meetings format instead of bi-monthly or quarterly.

August will be a 2-hour ethics meeting.

Jerry congratulated Deb Fraley for her work on the newsletter and the recognition she has received from AGA national. Deb mentioned, she would accept suggestions on the newsletter.

Up coming events that were mentioned was the Heartland IMA conference and Mr. Excel training. Details can be found in the newsletter. Deb Fraley may email out CPE acceptable topics, or they can be found on the AGA website. If you have any suggestions for future speakers or topics contact Jerry Mitchell. Deb Gillenwaters and Teresa Allen will work on establishing a member survey to be approved by officers and sent to members. Suggestions are welcome.

Jerry Mitchell nominated Deb Gillenwaters as President Elect for 2007-2008, Cindy Stein seconded the motion. The motion was approved by voice vote.

National AGA has strongly suggested that we have a review of our June 30, 2007 financial statement by an independent CPA. Jerry took recommendations; Dr. Greer and Larry Brown were mentioned. We will need to know if they are paid members. Decision was tabled.

Cindy Stein moved the treasurer's report and minutes of the June 12th meeting be approved as published in the newsletter. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote.

Jerry mentioned there were still seats available at the community service event; trivia night for the Ozarks Literacy Council on Thursday July 12th. Jerry gave an update on the AGA Professional Development Conference he attended in June and encouraged members to attend future meetings on the AGA scholarships available. Next years conference is in Atlanta at the end July.

**GREATER OZARKS CHAPTER
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT
ACCOUNTANTS
Chapter Executive
Committee (CEC)**

**JULY 9, 2007
11:45 AM
HICKOK'S STEAKHOUSE**



Members present: Jerry Mitchell, Deb Gillenwaters, Teresa Allen, Deb Fraley, Linda Charles, Justin Hill and Cindy Stein.

Officer vacancy: Deb Gillenwaters has agreed to fulfill the president-elect position on the condition that Teresa Allen will commit to the following year.

Fall Seminar: We have until two weeks before the event to withdraw from our contract with Lamplighter North. Half day seminars can be more profitable with a donated location and the club catering or providing food/snacks. Drury University will be on a three day break on October 18th. It was suggested that we consider October 11th or October 25th as alternate dates in order to accommodate potential attendance by Drury students. Ethics will not be a part of the half day seminar. We will provide the Ethics requirement as one of our two-hour luncheon seminars. Teresa Allen will check the availability of Jordan Valley Ice Park as well as Cooper Tennis Complex. The following people will be responsible for finding one speaker and topic for the half day seminar: Deb G., Teresa, Justin and Cindy. Deb F. will arrange for the food/snacks.

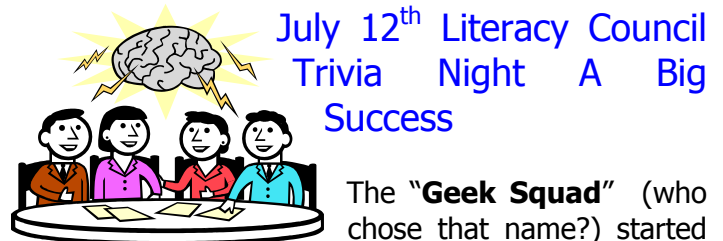
We will continue monthly meeting through the end of the year at the Tower Club.

National has suggested that we have a review of our June 30, 2007 financial statement. Jerry will check with Dr. Greer to see if he would be interested in providing this service to us. It would be a nice student project that he could oversee. Another alternative would be to have one of our members provide this service to one of the other clubs like IMA, in return they could do ours.

Deb G and Teresa will work on a member survey to include questions like frequency and location of meetings. E-mail any suggested survey questions to Teresa Allen (tallen@springfield.mo.us) and they will put together a draft for the executive committee's review.

Monthly Speaker Assignments:

August - Jerry
September - Jerry
October - Fall Seminar (Deb G, Teresa, Justin & Cindy)
November - Jerry - Angela Morelock if she is not available for the fall seminar
December - Cindy
January - Justin
February - Teresa
March - Linda
April - Spring Seminar
May - Deb G - Tentative-Tour of SpringNet (Springfield Underground)
June - Linda



The "Geek Squad" (who chose that name?) started out with a bang at the Literacy Council's Annual Trivia Night. We were in first place at the end of round one! Members of the "Squad" in attendance were: Our Prez, Jerry Mitchell, our Secretary, Teresa Allen, our Webmaster, Linda Charles, Marilyn Day from the City's Law Department and her husband Ken Murray (we were glad they were there!), "Gil" Gillenwaters (Gil filled in for Deb G who was otherwise occupied – you missed a good time, Deb), and your Newsletter Editor, Deb Fraley accompanied by hubby Dr. Dave Fraley (we were very glad he was there!).

It appeared to be quite a gala event for the Literacy Council. Many of the attendees were dressed in costumes. Their tables were decorated according to the names of their groups. (We didn't have any pocket protectors or taped-together eye glasses handy to decorate our table). There was food and drink and drawings for prizes, one of which our table won!

We should think about making Trivia Night an annual event. It is a good way to raise funds for a worthy cause and have a fun evening with friends, family and co-workers.

Chapter Challenge—Promote Government Accountability to the People *It's Our Responsibility—Earn Bonus Chapter Recognition Credits*

AGA needs your help encouraging governments to produce and publish four-page Citizen Centric reports! The Citizen-Centric Reporting Initiative has become one of AGA's hallmark programs. The reports, designed to be visually appealing, provide understandable information to citizens about the performance and financial condition of the government as well as demographics and future challenges, and answers the question, "Are we better off today than we were last year?"

"We are answering to the responsibility we have as financial managers to leave this world better than we found it. If we do not do this, no one will. We are calling on all governments to be accountable to the citizens they serve," said Relmond Van Daniker, AGA's Executive Director.

So far, AGA has assisted Virginia Beach, VA; Portland, OR; the state of Oregon; Saco, ME; and Maricopa County, AZ, with pilot reports. In addition, the District of Columbia has completed a report using tools provided by AGA for guidance. And, there is strong interest from other governments. [View completed reports.](#)

Tools Make It Easy. AGA has developed a [Content Guidelines Template](#) outlining what information should be included on each page as well as a [Design Guidelines Template](#) outlining the physical layout of the report.

Pilot Funding Available. The Sloan Foundation also believes in this initiative and has awarded a grant to AGA to help fund additional government entities to produce Citizen-Centric reports. Please contact [Susan Fritzen](#) for more information about the possibility of becoming a pilot.

Last but Not Least—Bonus Credits! Earn Chapter Recognition bonus credits for the 2007–2008 Year under Section V, Membership:

- Make contact with a government, encourage them to produce and publish a four-page Citizen Centric Report—100 credits per contact made (please forward information to [Susan Fritzen](#))
- Government that you contacted produces and publishes a four-page Citizen Centric Report—500 credits per published report (please forward a PDF of the published report to [Susan Fritzen](#))

The League of Women Voters has endorsed this project and is calling on its local chapters to promote it in their areas. AGA is asking its chapters to do the same. Look around for opportunities to sell the concept of citizen-centric reporting to officials in your area. Working together, we can make our governments more accountable to the people they serve! Ten reports today, 50 reports tomorrow and just think of 500 to 1,000 reports in two years. We must act to facilitate change!



**National Headquarters to Offer CGFM
Application Fee Rebate This Fall**

AGA National Headquarters is going to offer again this year the "\$20 rebate" promotion for the CGFM \$85 application fee during September 1, 07 through November 30, 2007. Chapters also get "50 chapter points" for each application during this period, and if a chapter has the most applications during this period the chapter also gets a \$20 award for each application.

**OZARKS CHAPTER OF AGA
CASH REPORT
AUGUST, 2007**

Beginning Balance July 31, 2006 \$ 2,973.92

Income:

Chapter Dues	\$ 200.00
Meetings	3,747.00
Merchandise Sales	0.00
Seminar (fall \$3105 spring \$1675)	<u>4,780.00</u>

Total Income \$ 8,727.00

Expenses:

Board Meetings	79.63
Check Printing	0.00
Gifts	799.76
Meetings	3,270.16
Membership Drive	0.00
Newsletter	0.00
Scholarship Awards	3,000.00
Spring Seminar (\$150.00 food, \$16.38 misc supplies)	166.38
Seminar (ROOM 906.88, MOVIE 28.77, CAL LEMON 200, MISC 27.15)	1,162.80
Website	<u>0.00</u>

Total Expenses \$ 8,478.73

Ending Balance June 30, 2007 \$ 3,222.19 **

SUMMARY:

Beginning Balance	\$ 2,973.92
Ending Balance	<u>3,222.19</u>
Net Increase (Decrease)	<u>\$ 248.27</u>

SEMINAR:

Receipts	\$ 4,780.00
Disbursements	<u>1,162.80</u>
Net Income	<u>\$ 3,617.20</u>

MEETINGS:

Receipts	\$ 3,747.00
Disbursements	<u>3,270.16</u>
Net Income (Loss)	<u>\$ 476.84</u>

** This balance does not reflect the \$25.00 in our savings.

Notes and reminders:

- AGA Mourns the Passing of Past National President Susumu Uyeda, CGFM. He was President in 1983-1984.
- Chapter CGFM Plans Due August 30.
- First quarter chapter recognition credits due August 14.
- Second Annual National Internal Control & Fraud Conference early registration deadline is August 17.

Technology Tip of the Month



There is an Excel utility program that I have found quite useful lately. It is a free download from ASAP Utilities. If you use it commercially, buying a license is recommended, but you can download it free of charge.

ASAP Utilities is a powerful Excel add-in that fills the gaps in Excel, and automates frequently used tasks. Since 1999 it has grown to become probably one of the world's most popular add-ins for Excel. Since its first release in 1999, ASAP Utilities has been improved and extended with many new features and a friendly interface. It is under constant development, so [new features and improvements are being added all the time](#).

On the website there are listed some [reviews from independent magazines and websites](#) about ASAP Utilities.

The web address for downloading is: <http://www.asap-utilities.com/download-asap-utilities.php>

The "Mr. Excel" website features a message board on which you can post your Excel questions. Be sure and check out the website, registration is free: www.mrexcel.com



Happy Birthday to all who are celebrating in August!!



Advancing Government Accountability
Ozarks Chapter of The Association of Government Accountants
Deb Fraley, CPA, Editor
Deadline for articles: Friday-eleven days prior to meeting date
Send articles to: dfraley@ci.springfield.mo.us