## **LUNCHEON MEETING — THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 11:30 AM**

Past Presidents To Be Honored at this meeting Faculty Club—Cloyd Heck Marvin Center George Washington University 21st and H Streets, N.W.

# "Impact of the Commission on Government Procurement Report"

## Mr. William W. Thybony

Acting Director
Office of Procurement Management
Office of Federal Management Policy
General Services Administration

William W. Thybony, a retired Army Colonel, is also the Assistant Commissioner for National Supply Policies and Programs, Federal Supply Service, GSA. In the Office of Procurement Management he has responsibility for the procurement management functions transferred from the Office of Management and Budget and implementation of the recommendations of the Commission on Government Procurement.

He has had 27 years experience in government procurement, both in government and industry. He was the Director of Procurement for the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Logistics) and is a former Chairman of the Armed Services Procurement Regulation (ASPR) Committee in the Department of Defense.

Currently he is Chairman of the Interagency Scientific Products Evaluation Committee; and a member of the Joint Federal, State, and Local Government Advisory Panel on Procurement and Supply; the Interagency Advisory Committee to the Cost Accounting Standards Board; and the Surplus Manpower Committee.

Mr. Thybony has been lecturer, panelist, and speaker at many seminars and courses on government procurement sponsored by government agencies, industry associations, professional societies, and universities.



MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS BY 10 A.M. TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, TO ASSURE PLACEMENT
Open Meeting Non-Members Welcome
Reservations Call 755-6310/5313 or (IDS) 138-56310

Washington Chapter Meeting Dates: Dec. 13—Jan. 10—Feb. 14—Mar. 14—Apr. 11—May 9

Gerald Murphy
Treasury — Bureau of Accounts
Director, Government
Financial Operations
WO 4-5594 (184X5594)

## President's Message

Quality in lieu of Quantity — The Federal Government employs over 18,000 people in the GS-510 professional accounting series. The majority of them are employed as auditors and systems accountants. In recent years there has been a growing concern over the size of the Federal budget and agencies have been faced repeatedly with employment ceilings and tight expenditure limitations. Federal auditors have had to rely more and more on the work of others—public accountants and state auditors—to get the job done. With limited staff, only those areas with the greatest payoff receive much attention. Small activities may, through necessity, be on a "100 year" audit cycle. With manpower restrictions almost a way of life, audit managers must continually strive for optimum utilization of their professional staff.

A minority of those in the 510 series are employed as operating accountants, i.e., those responsible for maintaining the agency's administrative accounts and preparing financial reports for internal and external users. While it is difficult to generalize about the Federal Government, my own experience indicates that many agency accounting staffs are quite small and usually employ very few professional accountants supported by a number of accounting technicians. With the number of professional positions so limited in this area, opportunities for professional advancement are likewise limited. Many Federal accountants, therefore, have gone directly into auditing or systems work without any operational experience in Governmental accounting. Certainly such experience is not a prerequisite for holding other jobs, but it's unfortunate that many of the people developing accounting systems and reviewing the results have never had the opportunity to maintain an accounting system or use its results. There simply aren't that many positions available in accounting operations.

In some agencies, operating accountants claim that they are among the first to go when there is a staff reduction. When you're the first to go, management must be trying to tell you something. Some managers seem to regard their accounting staff as merely caretaker of the financial records and view it is "variable overhead". If performance in the past by operational staffs has not been fully responsive to management needs, one reason may be that they have been shortchanged on the number of professional positions. To meet the needs of management, a professional effort is essential. Accounting staffs aren't likely to grow in total size during the next few years but some reclassification of positions from technician to professional appears in order. Only by providing the full range of professional accounting services can we prove our worth to management in a joint effort to get the most for the taxpayer's dollar.

#### GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS FOR ACCOUNTING SERVICES

Senator Bentsen of Texas has introduced a bill (S. 2626) that provides for the selection of outside accountants by Federal agencies on a negotiated basis. At present, agencies have discretion to acquire accounting services by means of competitive bids or through negotiations. In introducing the bill Senator Bentsen pointed out that a majority of State boards of public accountancy and State societies of accountancy have rules of conduct which prohibit accountants from making competitive bids.

His bill would provide that, after review of the qualifications of several accounting firms, an agency would try to negotiate a contract with the highest qualified firm at compensation deemed to be fair and reasonable to the government. If this fails, the next highest qualified firm would then be considered, subject to similar negotiations. In effect, the bill would establish the same type of selection process for outside accountants that now exists for architects and engineers.

#### THINGS HAVE CHANGED SINCE FGAA BEGAN

	1950	1973	Increase
Budget Receipts	\$ 36.5B	\$ 232.2B	\$195.7
Budget Outlays	39.6B	246.6B	207.0
Budget Deficit	\$ 3.1B	\$ 14.4B	11.3
Federal Debt	\$257.4B	\$ 469.3B	\$211.9
GNP	\$284.8B	\$1,237.9B	\$953.1

The figures on budget results shown above are not comparable but emphasize the many changes that have taken place since 1950. The largest single change was the adoption of a unified budget in 1968 which incorporated trust fund transactions. Note that while the Federal debt increased by 82%, GNP increased by 335%.

### WASHINGTON CHAPTER **Executive Committee** 1973-1974

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### AREA CHAPTER MEETINGS

Montgomery-Prince Georges Chapt.

Date: December 5, 1973

Place: Sheraton Silver Spring Inn

Time: Social hour at 6:00 PM, Dinner

(\$5.25) is at 7:00 P.M.

Speaker: Mr. James Sexton Jr.; Deputy Director National Affairs, Office of Business Enterprise, Minority Dept. of Commerce will speak on "Amen for Accountants in Minority Business Enterprise."

Reservations: Call Mathew Groff at 557-2986

#### Northern Virginia Chapter

The Northern Virginia Chapter does not have a meeting scheduled for December. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be in January.

## From The Director, Programs JOSEPH J. DONLON, GAO



## "Impact of the Commission on Government Procurement Report'

The Commission on Government Procurement was created by Public Law 91-129 in November 1969 to study and recommend to Congress methods "to promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness" of procurement by the executive branch of the Federal Government. The need for a study of government procurement is well understood. Most of us would agree that the government procurement process is overly complex, in many cases not effective, is important economically and politically in both its methods and goals. The Procurement Commission estimated that in fiscal year 1972 the Government contracted to spend \$57.5 billion for goods and services. Savings of two percent on these contracts would have saved the American taxpayer more than \$1 billion.

The four volume Report of The Commission on Government Procurement was issued in December 1972. Recommendations resulting from two and one-half years

of intensive study are presented throughout the report.

At our December meeting, Mr. William Thybony, Acting Director of the Office of Procurement Management in the Office of Federal Management Policy, GSA, will speak on the "Impact of the Commission on Government Procurement Report."

Mr. Thybony will discuss the highlights of the conclusions of the Commission on Government Procurement, the development of executive branch positions and the implementation of the Commission's recommendations. He will also point out the impact of the report on financial management, the participation by the private sector, legislation introduced by the Congress and the problems being encountered in the implementation of the recommendations.

In accordance with our efforts to develop working relationships with other professional organizations, we have invited the past and current presidents of the National Contract Management Association (NCMA) and the President and members of the NCMA Washington Chapter to the December 13th meeting.

#### Past Presidents to be Honored

Also, at our December 14 meeting we will honor the past presidents of the Washington Chapter. Each of these individuals is deserving of the tribute and we hope you will come to demonstrate your appreciation for the service they have rendered to the Chapter to keep it in the forefront of FGAA.

## WASHINGTON CHAPTER PAST PRESIDENTS

Robert W. King	(1950)	James L. Thompson, Jr.	(1962)
Walter F. Frese	(1951)	Marshall Crossman	(1963)
T. Jack Gary	(1952)	Ralph H. Keister	(1964)
Andrew Barr	(1953)	Jack Haney	(1965)
Harry J. Trainor	(1954)	Benjamin F. Robinson	(1966)
Karney A. Brasfield	(1955)	William J. Powell	(1967)
Delbert J. Harrill	(1956)	Edwin J. B. Lewis	(1968)
Raymond Einhorn	(1957)	Francis W. Lyle	(1969)
Clark L. Simpson	(1958)	Robert B. Lewis	(1970)
Gordon J. Crowder	(1959)	Maurice P. Pujol	(1971)
Alfred R. Golzel	(1960)	John W. Cooley	(1972)
Joseph R. Hock	(1961)		

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IV Financial Management

V Interfaces

VI Policy Roles

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## **NOVEMBER MEETING REPORT**



Our guest speaker, Mr. Dale R. McOmber, Assistant Director for Budget Review, OMB, discusses what accountants and others need to know about the budget.

The Budget May Not Always be What it Seems - Dale McOmber's talk at the D.C. Chapter's November meeting pointed out that a budget whose appendix is many times larger than the budget itself can't be as simple as it looks. According to McOmber, who is the Assistant Director for Budget Review, Office of Management and Budget, a major area of misunderstanding lies in the public's belief that the budget is more controllable than it actually is. Only about 27% of the budget of around \$290 billions in 1974 could effectively be controlled by the President; the other 73% was made up of interest payments on the national debt, social security payments, farm subsidies, public welfare payments, commitments on contracts, and other items that can only be altered by changes in the law. The public's expectation that the president can alter the budget significantly and the accompanying assumptions that the national budget affects the economy as a whole (i.e., budget surpluses hold back the economy; budget deficits stimulate the economy), places greater strain on that small portion of the budget that can be controlled.

Cuts That Turn Out to be Increases — Mr. McOmber illustrated the situation by pointing out that the administration had tried to reduce or stop some of the less effective programs in the 1974 budget. In spite of the cuts, the overall budget showed tremendous increases and spending for grants increased even though considerable criticism had been leveled at the president for cutting grant programs. One of the lessons learned was that it is much easier to add to the budget than it is to cut it.

The Executive Branch and the Congress Have Met at the River — Mr. McOmber believes the government has reached a crucial time in terms of budgetary control. Congress seems convinced it is necessary to control outlays more closely and is passing many bills which reflect a Congressional desire to maintain closer watch over budgetary action. These bills push for anti-impoundment procedures, for floors under federal funds, for mandatory spending measures, and for ways to require the executive

## The November Meeting Headtable Included:



(L to R) Joe Donlon, GAO; William Speck, Acting Chairman, Budget Officers Conference; Arthur Warner, Dean of the School of Business, AU; Frank LaCava, Treasury; Bert Rosen, JFMIP; Gerald Murphy, Treasury; Dale McOmber, OMB; Dick Miller,

to provide more information. The executive, on the other hand, wants increased budgetary flexibility with fewer statutory controls.

The speaker closed his discussion by appealing to accountants to help solve the budget problems facing government. Specifically; to help Congress feel it has a better grasp of budgetary matters, to help establish better systems for expenditure control, to help standardize budget and fiscal administration systems, and to help evaluate the effectiveness with which funds are used.

Responding to questions from the audience, Mr. McOmber stated

 the budget system cannot continue as is and must be improved. Congress must fit its internal actions into an overall total and must coordinate its committee actions so they fit together as a whole.

 many programs for which trust funds are thought to have been established have either had too little set aside (as in the Railroad Retirement fund) or are actually unfunded. Other programs which were intended to be "pay-as-you-go" (such as social security) are not self-supporting because of the upward pressure of benefits.

· budget inaccuracy is not acceptable to the general public.

National FGAA President — As an added feature of the November meeting Harry Levine, the National FGAA President, commented on some of his recent activities. Continuing education for government accountants is a major theme of this year's FGAA administration, and this was recently discussed with the Civil Service Commission. Chairman Hampton pledged to do everything possible to improve the professional education of government accountants and asked for FGAA's assistance in identifying the kinds of training necessary. Other projects include updating the accountants equivalency exam and redefining the role of the FGAA National Education and Training Committee and its relationship with local chapters.



Harry Levine, National President, FGAA, comments on continuing education for Government accountants.



Labor; Harry Levine, National President, FGAA; Audrey Dysland, Treasury; Maurice Pujol, Senate Appropriations Committee; Edwin J. B. Lewis, GWU

#### Certification of Contract Managers

By Donald M. Fisher, Chairman, Contract Management Committee

Background Gerald Murphy, President of the Washington Chapter, FGAA, formed the Contract Management Committee to provide liaison with procurement organizations and to aid them in research. The immediate past President of the National Contract Management Association (NCMA), Mr. Walter O'Neil, was appointed Special Advisor on Contract Management to the Washington Chapter. Fred Dietrick, Director of Certification for NCMA and Jack Livingston, NCMA Education are also serving on our Committee. Mr. Gilbert Simonetti, Jr., Vice President Government Relations, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, is advising us on the State legislative procedures followed by the Institute. The University of Virginia. School of Continuing Education requirements.

Goal As we currently see it, our goal is to establish and maintain a viable certification program for contracting officials in both the public and private sectors and through this means increase the professionalism of personnel involved in contracting operations.

By a Certified Contract Manager we mean to include Contracting Officers, Purchasing Agents, Contract Managers, Procurement Managers, Contract Administrators and other similar titles that may be used in the profession.

Also see that work toward this goal must be phased through the various stages of Planning, Fact finding and analysis, Selling, Implementation and Maintenance.

Elements of the Plan As the result of discussions and analysis, the program planning has been broken down in what is believed to be manageable elements, each of which can be assigned to a working group and each of which can be developed with relative independence of each other element. These elements are:

- Requirements for Certification This is a validation of the goal and objectives and an analysis of the requirements for certification within the government and industry contracting with the government as well as within the purely commercial sector. The requirements analysis cannot be limited to the Federal Government but must address state and local governments as well.
- 2. Education and Experience This involves examination of the applicable body of knowledge, and a continuing determination of formal education requirements. Along with these go review of the problem of accrediting courses and the review of curricula and colleges. Questions must be answered on experience requirements and such matters as Grandfather considerations.
- 3. Examinations What should be required for initial certification. Should they be written or oral?

What if any types of examinations should be required to determine proficiency?

- 4. Conduct and Ethics Is more than just the Association ethics and standards required? If so, then what should be proposed?
- 5. Certification Management and Administration Should this be done by national organization or by state?

How should it be financed?

 Implementation Programming Methods of obtaining recognition of the program should be developed for federal, state and local levels, industry dealing with government and with commercial industry.

## **NEWS BITS...**

#### By BOB MEYER, GAO

Editor, News Bulletin

#### Federal, State and Local Auditors Form New Intergovernmental Forum

Officials of Federal, State and local government agencies recently met to establish a new National Intergovernmental Audit Forum where common problems of auditing can be mutually resolved. The charter for the new Forum was signed November 5 at the offices of the U.S. General Accounting Office, which took the initiative for establishing the new organization under the leadership of Elmer B. Staats, Comptroller General of the United States. Other groups which participated in organizing the Forum included the Council of State Governments and the Municipal Finance Officers Association.

Membership in the Forum will include audit executives of 16 major Federal agencies which are responsible for making or maintaining surveillance over large grants of funds to state and local governments, 6 heads of state audit organizations and 6 heads of local government audit organizations.

Members of the Forum's executive committee include Donald Scantlebury of GAO (chairman), John G. Lordan of GSA, and Edward W. Stepnick of HEW.

Nominations Submitted The Washington Chapter has submitted nominations to the National Office for President-elect, and Capital Region Vice President-elect. The nominees are:

#### FROM THE EMPLOYMENT CLEARING HOUSE . . .

The following letter is being sent to Federal executives to acquaint them with the employment referral services that are available from the Washington Chapter of FGAA:

TO: THE HEADS OF ALL EXECUTIVE, LEGISLATIVE, AND JUDICIAL DEPARTMENTS AND ESTABLISHEMENTS

The Washington Chapter of the Federal Government Accountants Association has formed a referral committee to assist in locating qualified people to fill vacant financial management positions in the Federal Government. The professional fields to be considered are accounting, auditing, budgeting, and other financial management specialties.

The functions of the committee are to (1) receive requests from agencies seeking professionals in the financial management fields, and (2) publish announcements of vacant positions monthly in the FGAA Washington Chapter News Bulletin.

We urge you to advise the financial managers in your agency that this service is available to assist them with their recruiting and placement. If the committee can be of any assistance to you, please write or call as follows:

Meir S. Gabbay, Chairman

FGAA Employment Clearing House Committee, Room 5321

U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. 20230, Telephone Number: (202) 967-4407.

Agency requests should include the following information on vacant positions:

- (1) Name of Agency
- (2) Position Title
- (3) Grade
- (4) Location
- (5) Name and Telephone Number of Person to be Contacted

#### POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Agency	Position Title	Grade	Location of Agency	Name	Telephone No.
Civil Service Commission	Auditors	7-13	Wash., D. C.	Richard Arnold	632-4670
U. S. Courts	Systems Accountant	12	Wash., D. C.	Michael Kostishak	393-1640 X452, X453
Bur, of Retirement & Occup. Health	Internal Auditors	12/13	Wash., D. C.	Harold Myklebust	632-4670
U. S. Customs Service	Auditors	7-13	Wash., D. C.	Roger Von Birgelen	964-5315
Bur. of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms	Budget Analyst	11/12	Wash., D. C.	Mrs. Audrey Dysland	961-7720
General Accounting Office National Foundation on the Arts	Systems Accountants	11-13	Wash., D. C.	Jack Arnold	386-5552
and Humanities	Auditor-Accountant	13	Wash., D. C.	Mrs. Hurst	382-6017
National Resources, Inc.	Systems Accountant	up to \$24,000 plus bonus	Falls Church, Va.	Bob Leuthy	532-4411
Department of Commerce	Budget Analysts	12-13	Wash., D. C.	Leonard Sweeney	967-4891

Three financial management positions were filled by the committee during the past month.

## TABLE OF THE MONTH — NOVEMBER MEETING SELECTIONS:

EACH MEMBER OR GUEST SEATED AT TABLES WHERE PHOTOS WERE TAKEN WILL RECEIVE A FREE COPY OF THE PHOTO AT THE NEXT MEETING



(L to R) Meir Gabbay, Commerce; Virginia Robinson, Commerce; Sonia Maged, Commerce; Allen Warshaw, NSF; Alice Tucker, National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities; Catherine Olshevski, National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities; Helene Friedman, Justice; Comer Harvill, Commerce



(L to R) Stanley Nowak, AID; Malcolm Honadle, AID; Bruce Birnberg, AID; Francis McElroy, AID; Bill Peratino, Interior (Retired); Jane Leer, AID; A. Meeks, AID, Al Nemecek, AID

#### Special Interest Courses Offered by U. VA

The University of Virginia School of Continuing Education is offering four undergraduate credit courses this spring that are of special interest to accountants; all are three semester hour courses. The are:

GSCM 45: Procurement and Contracting

GSCM 47: Contract Administration

GSCM 51: Grants: Federal, State and Local

GSCM 57: Application for and Management of Grants

Classes meet once a week from 7-9:50 P.M. for 15 weeks at Hammond High School, Seminary Road Alexandria, and other convenient locations.

Tuition and Fees: \$63 for each course, plus a \$5 registration fee.

For Further Info: Call the center at 532-5800, or call Don Fisher at 692-7517

#### Baltimore Chapter FGAA Cost Accounting Standards Workshop

The Baltimore Chapter FGAA will sponsor a cost accounting standards workshop on January 16, 1974 from 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Items to be discussed are;

- · Disclosure statement preparation
- · Price adjustments
- · Current standards
- · Update on future standards

Cost: \$20 per person, which includes lunch and all materials Location: Martin's West, Exit 17, Baltimore Beltway Information: Call (301) 730-3700, ext. 285 Reservations:

Mail to:

C.A.S. Workshop FGAA Baltimore Chapter 11712 Terry Town Dr. Reisterstown, Md. 21136

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## President's Commission on Personnel Interchange

The President's Commission on Personnel Interchange is now accepting nominations for candidacy in the 1974/75 President's Executive Interchange Program. The Commission, established under Executive Order in 1969, provides executives from Federal departments and agencies and the private sector with the opportunity to share talents and experience, while working in challenging and responsible positions in the opposite sector for a one-year period.

The Federal Government participants in the program must first be nominated by the head of their department or agency. The Commission then makes the selection based on an evaluation of leadership and management ability, a history of professional accomplishments and the potential to become a senior executive in the sponsoring governmental organization.

After being selected, Federal executives are matched with positions in business and industry which utilize specific skills and experience and provide opportunities for better understanding.

In addition to the work experience, executives participate in an education program which parallels their assignment. Federal executives are included in special activities in their host cities designed to illustrate the operations of a private sector organization, and the impact of government and government policies on business and the community.

In the past, Federal executives have been placed primarily in the major U. S. cities, with concentrations in New York, Detroit, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

For more information, contact: Executive Director, President's Commission on Personnel Interchange, 1900 E. Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20415; phone (202) 632-6834.

## Audit Proceedings Sales Hit 1000 Mark

Since publication on October 10, 1973 over a thousand copies of "Sophisticated Audit Techniques" have been distributed nationwide in the United States, Canada, Mexico and several foreign countries. Single and multiple orders have been received and processed from Federal, State and Local government and private industry audit organizations, State Legislatures and State and Local Government Officials, Libraries and Universities. Over 200 copies have been distributed to Canadian Government Officials and Audit Groups.

A number of bulk orders have been received from State and Federal Audit agencies for distribution to their auditors as a supplement to internal training activities. Three universities are presently, considering the use of this publication as supplementary audit course material. The publication is expected to go into its second printing very shortly in view of orders and inquiries presently in hand. The Washington Chapter therefore has another successful Educational project to its credit.

## Report of The Membership Committee

Ron Young of the ICC sponsored five new members last month in the membership competition to tie Clarence Forbes of the GAO who has also sponsored five new members so far this fiscal year. J. Donlon and H. Prestipino are close behind in new member sponsorship.

New members who join now pay only for half-year's dues which are:

Full membership	1.25
Affiliate membership\$1	1.25
Associate membership	5.75
Special associate, first year membership	3.65

This should be an added inducement for your financial management friends to accept your invitation to associate with the FGAA!!

Sam Pines Membership Committee

Bring in One Member More in '74

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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Byroin S. Galloway	
Hershel Minsky	Navv
Carol B. Moore	Booz. Allen & Hamilton
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Robert E. Pounds	
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Leonardo A. Rodrigues	ICC
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Lynn Scott Decker	ICC
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Peter M. Nessen	

## **CHANGING YOUR ADDRESS?**

Washington Chapter members are advised that the easiest and surest way of changing your mailing address for all Chapter and National Office mailings is to mail a change of address notice with an FGAA mailing label with the old address on it to:

> FGAA National Office 727 - South 23rd Street, Suite 120 Arlington, Virginia 22202

All change of address notices should be mailed as soon as possible. When using Post Office forms paste the old mailing label on the form under the caption "old address."

The Federal Government Accountants Association WASHINGTON CHAPTER



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