



Advancing Government Accountability

THE AGA LEDGER

A Publication of the Association of Government Accountants
Ozarks Chapter, Springfield, Missouri
www.ozarksaga.org

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Message From The President

As we enter into the fall season I wish everyone well and look forward to great fall seminar on October 19. Although we still have some speakers to line up, tentatively we have the following speakers/presentations scheduled:

- Ms. Brenda Putnam from C.U. to speak on internal controls
- Our very own Dr. Penny Clayton to discuss the latest Statements on Auditing Standards
- Dr. Clayton's colleague, Dr. Muthu for a technology update
- The well known, Dr. Cal LaMon, for our lunch speaker
- I have asked Missouri State President, Dr. Michael Nietzel to speak, but it is not confirmed
- A 90 minute interactive ethics presentation via video tape will cover our two hours of ethics

We still have spots for two speakers on the agenda. Please let me know any good ideas or possible speakers that you recommend.

Linda Charles and Terry Moore will bring us a presentation on pivot tables next Tuesday, September 12. Please plan on attending this session.

Last year we asked members to bring some school supplies and non-perishable snacks for some of our needy school children in the community. I am asking everyone to do the same for next Tuesday's meeting.

What would really be special is if we could purchase some backpacks to fill up with the items we purchase. I will check into some affordable backpacks this week. I look forward to seeing everyone next Tuesday! Jerry

Ozarks Chapter August Meeting Event

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

12:00 Noon

At the

Tower Club

Cost of Luncheon \$18.00

Speakers: Terry Moore and Linda Charles

City of Springfield Finance Department

Topic: Pivot Tables

RSVP: Cindy Stein 829-6201

cstein@greencountymo.org

by Monday, Sep 11 at 3:00 PM

Seminars and Conferences

AGA

Fifteenth Annual AGA Fall Educational Seminar

October 19, 2006

The Ozarks Chapter is pleased to announce our Fall Educational Seminar at the Lamplighter Convention Center, 2820 N. Glenstone Ave., Springfield, MO. Eight hours of CPE will be offered, including the two hours ethics requirement. (Agenda and registration forms to follow in separate email)

First National Internal Control & Fraud Conference

September 25-26, 2006 at the Hyatt Regency Atlanta Hotel in Atlanta, GA

With a theme of "Fraud Prevention and Detection: The Newest Tools and Techniques," the conference will focus on management's responsibility for ensuring a good system of internal controls and the role of all accountability professionals in minimizing the risk of fraud, waste and abuse. Hear from leaders in government and private industry who will discuss the latest discovery techniques and lessons learned from various schemes, and how different levels of government are cooperating to improve services to citizens.

AGA has brought together the best in the business: Matthew A. Jadacki, CGFM, CPA, Special Inspector General for Gulf Coast Hurricane Recovery; Comptroller General of the United States, David M. Walker, CPA; Arthur A. Hayes, Jr., CGFM, CPA, MBA, JD, CFE, Director, Division of State Audit, Comptroller of the Treasury, State of Tennessee; Inspectors General from several federal agencies and more!

Earn 14 CPE hours at dynamic and information education sessions. Learn about the \$67 billion Iraq Oil-for-Food fraud; Medicare/Medicaid fraud; A-123 implementation; internal controls and fraud in not-for-profit organizations; school district fraud in the state of New York; and the use of fraud hotlines in the city of

Atlanta. View the complete agenda by clicking the links below.

Monday, September 25 **Tuesday, September 26**

New! [Print the Registration Brochure \(PDF\)](#)

[Online Conference Registration](#)

[Visit the Conference website](#)

Hotel Information:

Hyatt Regency, Atlanta
265 Peachtree Street NE
Atlanta, Georgia USA
Reservations: 404.577.1234 or 800.233.1234

[Hotel website](#)

National Performance Management Conference (PMC)

October 30 & 31, 2006

Join us in Schaumburg, IL, just north of the Chicago airport, for AGA's National Performance Management Conference – a one of a kind event focusing on state and local government performance reporting.

New! [Print the Registration Brochure \(PDF\)](#)

[Register online](#)

[Visit the conference website](#)

Renaissance Schaumburg Hotel & Convention Center
1551 Thoreau Drive
Schaumburg, IL 60173

MINUTES



Ozarks Chapter of AGA

August 8, 2006 Planning Meeting

Present: Jerry Mitchell, Deb Fraley, Teresa Allen, Linda Charles and Vicki Franke

Jerry opened the meeting noting that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the fall seminar planning as well preparing for future lunch speakers. Linda Charles moved that we invite Dr. Mutu from Drury

University back for the fall seminar. In addition, it was agreed by everyone involved that we ask Dr. Penny Clayton back to speak 2 hours on ethics. Vicki Franke confirmed she would ask Brenda Putman to speak at the seminar on internal controls and fraud prevention. Jerry and Linda recommended we look into a speaker to discuss the latest SAS auditing standards to help attract local CPAs. Jerry agreed to ask past speaker, Jim Brown from BKD to speak at the seminar.

Jerry will also contact Roxanne in Health to possibly do a lunch presentation on stress and good health.

Some concern was expressed about using the Lamplighter as this year's fall seminar sight. Since we have not been there before, Jerry stated he will visit the facility and make a recommendation to either keep the seminar at this location or make a recommendation for a different site.

Discussion then moved to possible lunch speakers and it was noted by Vicki Franke she will contact one of her tech employees to possibly speak at a noon meeting. Jerry mentioned the possibility of having Lana Woolsey from law speak at the November meeting on the Sunshine Law. Teresa followed up by mentioning the possibility of record retention laws and the need to have a meeting on this. The group agreed that we could also ask Deb Gillenwaters to speak on grant compliance

Finally the group discussed future possible community service activities. It was the general consensus of the group to not have a nursing home group activity this year. Vicki mentioned the possibility of either working a day at the kitchen or to see if we can do some work projects for efforts such as March of Dimes. It was also discussed about doing the R-12's backpack program again this year. Jerry agreed to follow up on this possibility.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Bill Ford Resigns as Ford CEO

After a five-year struggle to steer the company, Ford is being replaced by Boeing's Alan Mulally.



Congratulations are in order for Jerry Mitchell. He recently passed the CGFM exam which he took while attending the Professional Development Conference in San Diego. Well done Jerry!!!!

What's the Best Way to Study for the CGFM Examinations?

The best way to study depends on your knowledge, experience, time and location constraints and individual preferences. Start by reviewing the contents of each examination in the [What do exams cover?](#) section of AGA website. Then review each of the choices below to determine which one is best for you. To help you prepare for the CGFM Examinations, you can:

- Attend the [instructor-led training courses](#) offered in conjunction with *Management Concepts*.
- Use the CGFM [study guides](#) to study on your own.
- Refer to the [reading resources](#) for information on specific topics.
- Call your local [AGA chapter](#)—to find out if there are any study groups or other support available to help you prepare for the CGFM Examinations.

If you have any questions, call the Office of Professional Certification at 800.AGA.7211, ext. 306.

U.S. Entities Lose Estimated \$652 Billion to Fraud

According to the *2006 Report to the Nation on Occupational Fraud and Abuse*, Certified Fraud Examiners (CFEs) estimate that the typical organization loses 5 percent of its annual revenues to fraud. When applied to

the estimated 2006 U.S. Gross Domestic Product, that translates to \$652 billion lost to fraud. Frauds in the study caused a median loss of \$159,000 and took 18 months to detect. Most of the frauds in the study involved either the accounting department (30 percent) or upper management (20 percent). The study also discussed the effectiveness of confidential fraud hotlines: "Occupational frauds are more likely to be detected by a tip than by other means such as internal audits, external audits or internal controls." — Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, [Download the 2006 Report to the Nation.](#)

NEWS RELEASE 08/02/04 [GASB Issues Statement That Addresses Employer Reporting of Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions](#)

Norwalk, CT, August 2, 2004—The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has issued Statement No. 45, *Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*, which addresses how state and local governments should account for and report their costs and obligations related to postemployment healthcare and other nonpension benefits. Collectively, these benefits are commonly referred to as *other postemployment benefits*, or *OPEB*.

The statement generally requires that state and local governmental employers account for and report the annual cost of OPEB and the outstanding obligations and commitments related to OPEB in essentially the same manner as they currently do for pensions. Annual OPEB cost for most employers will be based on actuarially determined amounts that, if paid on an ongoing basis, generally would provide sufficient resources to pay benefits as they come due. The provisions of Statement 45 may be applied prospectively and do not require governments to fund their OPEB plans. An employer may establish its OPEB liability at zero as of the beginning of the

initial year of implementation; however, the unfunded actuarial liability is required to be amortized over future periods.

Statement 45 also establishes disclosure requirements for information about the plans in which an employer participates, the funding policy followed, the actuarial valuation process and assumptions, and, for certain employers, the extent to which the plan has been funded over time.

According to project manager Karl Johnson, "When implemented, Statement 45 will provide those who use government financial reports with improved information about the cost of providing postemployment benefits, the commitments that governments have made related to those benefits, and the extent to which those commitments have been funded."

Statement 45 is effective in three phases based on a government's total annual revenues. The largest employers would be required to implement the requirements of Statement 45 for periods beginning after December 15, 2006. Medium-sized employers have one additional year to implement the standards, and the smallest employers have two additional years. Earlier implementation is encouraged.

The Statement (product code GS45) can be ordered through the GASB's Order Department at (800) 748-0659 or [online](#) via its website at www.gasb.org.

"Crocodile Hunter" killed by Stingray



Australian environmentalist Steve Irwin, 44, was stabbed through the heart on Monday while snorkeling with a stingray during filming

of a new TV program on Australia's Great Barrier Reef. Experts have said the stingray, a normally placid creature, may have felt trapped between the cameraman and the TV star. Irwin, the popular host of

"Crocodile Hunter," rose to fame by getting dangerously close to crocodiles, snakes and other beasts.

**OZARKS CHAPTER OF AGA
CASH REPORT
AUGUST, 2006**

Beginning Balance AUG 1, 2006 \$ 2,973.92

Income:

Chapter Dues	\$ -
Meetings	540.00
Merchandise Sales	0.00
Seminar	0.00
	0.00

Total Income \$ 540.00

Expenses:

Board Meetings	0.00
Check Printing	0.00
Gifts	60.00
Meetings	511.46
Membership Drive	0.00
Newsletter	0.00
Scholarship Awards	1,500.00
Seminar	0.00
Website	0.00
	0.00

Total Expenses \$ 2,071.46

Ending Balance AUG 31, 2006 \$ 1,442.46 **

SUMMARY:

Beginning Balance	\$ 2,973.92
Ending Balance	1,442.46
Net Increase (Decrease)	<u>\$(1,531.46)</u>

SEMINAR:

Receipts	\$ - *
Disbursements	0.00
Net Income	<u>\$ -</u>

MEETINGS:

Receipts	\$ 540.00
Disbursements	511.46
Net Income (Loss)	<u>\$ 28.54</u>

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



2007 Budget Approved
August 31, 2006

The Board of Public Utilities not only adopted an annual budget today, but also authorized expenditures for the entire Southwest Power Station Unit 2 construction project. The 2007 budget calls for spending of \$490 million, and the new electric generating unit will cost in the neighborhood of \$641 million, resulting in expenditure authority granted of over one billion dollars.

The three largest capital projects in 2007 will be the raw water pipeline between Fellows Lake and Blackman Water Treatment plant; the natural gas peak shaving plant; and emission control equipment at both power stations.

The Board today also approved and sent to City Council a multi-year phased in water rate adjustment that starts in October 2007. It will mean a residential water bill would increase by \$1.65 a month by 2010.

Water storage in the two City Utilities' reservoirs stood at 65.6 percent today. The ten year average is 78.7 percent. Rainfall last weekend had little if any impact on storage levels. Currently 21 million gallons a day are being pumped to Springfield from Stockton Lake. Customer usage is running around 40 million gallons a day.

Bus ridership continues to increase. July ridership was 154,000, up 15 percent from July of last year.

Groundbreaking is expected in September for the new natural gas Peak Shaving Project. It is scheduled for operation next summer in time for use in the winter of 2008. Investment in the unit was chosen over purchase of additional pipeline capacity because of the cost benefit.



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Deb Fraley, CPA, Editor

Deadline for articles: Friday-eleven days prior to meeting date
Send articles to: dfraley@ci.springfield.mo.us

