

2000 - 2010

The new millennium arrived with great fanfare and the big project for Dallas was to restore the 1920s rotating lighted Pegasus on top of the Magnolia Building. It had stopped turning years ago and they had it working again for a while. Jack Truskett, chapter president in 1970-71, died at the age of 82 on March 15, 2000. "Games Con Men Play" was a popular topic at our October 2000 meeting when Detective Charles Grady from the Dallas Police brought us up to date on new "cons". The next month we would learn about "Working in a Disaster Environment" - something a lot of us have faced at work. As regional vice-president, Jim Turkett revived the San Antonio Chapter.

On April 25, 2001, GAO was nice to invite us to their offices on Bryan Street for four hours of CPE in a "Fraud Awareness Seminar" spearheaded by Jason Arrington (AGA Dallas Program Director). In May 2001, the chapter co-sponsored with the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers an all-day teleconference on GASB 34 implementation. Jack Carrington who had opened the EPA regional IG's office in Dallas, and was president in 1988-89, passed away on July 19, 2001 at the age of 57. GAO hosted another four hours of CPE in their offices on October 25, 2001 on "A New Audit and Investigative Approach is Sweeping the Nation" and "Simply Being Your Best." The next month brought another four hours of CPE in Arlington cosponsored with Fort Worth.

In February of 2002, Elliot Smith, GAO regional director, spoke on "Increasing the Effectiveness of Minority Outreach and Hiring". Walton H. Sheley Jr. (President in 69-70) passed away on June 11, 2002 at age 75. Walton was quoted in the New York Times in 1981 from his testimony before the Congress about Defense matters. "The Fraud Arena" was covered by Steve Wilson of the Blair FSI Group in September 2002 and the next month we received two hours of CPE on "Homeland Security." Rick Griffith of the IRS returned with an always popular subject "Income Tax Changes" in January 2003. This was followed in April 2003 by sixteen hours of CPE in Irving at the Regional Professional Conference. James R. Martin died July 29, 2003 in Richardson at age 85. He was the second chapter president in 1957-58 and a WWII Army Air Corp veteran. Jim Trout, a CGFM, retired in October 2003 after 28 years of service with HHS. To start the year in September 2003, Irene Zucker advised us on "Enhancing Professionalism and Confidence in Oral Presentations". "Fighting Fraud in the 21st Century" was the theme of a one-day seminar on November 7, 2003 co-sponsored with Fort Worth.

Curt Carlson, a chapter member, was profiled in the AGA Topics Newsletter in February 2004 when he retired as Director of the Department of Energy's Dallas Regional Office and stated that his membership was a significant part of his career. On March 18, 2004, Dr. Nita Clyde presented two hours of CPEs on "Professional Ethics" for Texas CPA's, and Tony Aguilar, Senior Auditor with the Dallas City Auditor, presented on "Security and Wireless Networks." The Dallas and Fort Worth chapters jointly sponsored a two-day conference on April 21-22, 2004 at the LaQuinta Conference Center in Arlington with a theme of "Knowledge is Power." AGA National president Jullin Renthrope discussed SAS No. 99 on fraud standards at that meeting. In September 2004, Bob Willis was recognized as being a member of the AGA and the Dallas chapter for over 40 years.

Michelle Philpott recruited 8 new members in 2004-05. Courtenay Thompson Jr., a nationally renowned trainer and a long time Dallas resident gave the chapter his ever popular "Fraud Awareness for Financial Professionals" at the City Club on St. Patrick's Day in 2005. A loyal and popular member and former education director Cleofas "Cleo" Zapata passed away in 2005. In 2005, the National recognized Jim Burley, Dave Irwin, Pete Van Der Veen and Don Whitteaker as 25-year members (the records must be wrong for Pete since he was president in 1974-75 - over 31 years earlier).

In 2005-06, Malissa Livingston edited the best Group B newsletter, which was awarded by AGA National. In January 2006, the National President Sam McCall attended the Dallas-Ft Worth Professional Development Conference. Bob Hamsher (president in 1977-78) passed away in Laguna Beach, California on the 17th of March 2006. Bob was 82 when he died. One of our members, Randall Mahaffey, volunteered to help AGA National in working with the Habitat for Humanity in rebuilding houses in New Orleans in 2006.

The Chapter marked its 50th anniversary in 2006 with fanfare and the event embroidered on a light blue polo shirt sold to members. In the 2006-07 year, Michael Chambless of Ernst & Young became the first chapter president not employed by a government agency. That year, Alberto Garza and Malissa Livingston won an honorable mention award (from AGA National) for our web-site. "How to Create Balance in Your Life, Personally and Professionally" is a goal we all have and Bryan Dodge gave us some tips on how to achieve that in December 2006. Dr. Will Yancey provided us with four hours of CPE on March 19, 2007 on "Auditing Large Data Files." Dallas hosted a sectional leadership meeting in May of 2007. Jim Turkett, former chapter and regional vice-president, received a 2007 National President's Award for his outstanding leadership as chair of the AGA Early Careers Task Force to attract and retain new members.

When Jason Arrington started his term as president for the 2007-08 year in September, one of his goals for the year was to ensure that AGA Dallas members would find exceptional financial value in their membership. By April, Jason noted that (for fairly active members) membership had essentially paid for itself. Over the first eight months of the year, AGADallas provided the following for members: a practically free full-day training session (a \$200 value), three free meetings (a \$45 value), free socials (a \$40 value), a free holiday luncheon (a \$10 value), a free appreciation party for officers, \$300 in door prizes at our meetings/socials. Dallas members only paid \$5 in local chapter dues and to boot with a little effort got paid another \$25 for each new member recruited. In addition to being chapter President, Jason Arrington received a free membership (from AGA National) by recruiting 15 new members. Membership rose to 193 which was the highest since 1980 and attendance at monthly meetings was up 50%. The National recognized the 26% increase in membership as the highest in the nation in Group B.

During 2007-08, our Chapter raised over \$2,000 to benefit both the Stewpot (a downtown Dallas homeless shelter) and the National Brain Tumor Foundation, donated \$500 to the SpiritHorse (a center that provides therapeutic horseback riding service free to people with disabilities), served homeless individuals hot meals each month, participated in a downtown Dallas clean-up project, created gift baskets for women shelters, sent get well cards to soldiers, donated food / toys / cell phones to individuals in need, collected canned goods for the North Texas Food Bank, and donated our time to help with a golf tournament to benefit the Special Olympics program in Lewisville, TX.

Further, Adnan Amjad (a partner with Deloitte) updated us in February 2008 on "Compliance Enabled by Identity and Access Management." Corporate sponsors have been a great help in funding many chapter programs. 128 individuals registered for the Regional PDC "A Dynamic Government: Key Issues for Success" held on April 24-25, 2008 at the Doubletree Hotel in Dallas. Proventsure was the PDC's title sponsor. Other sponsors included Audimation Services, the Reznick Group and Ernst & Young. In 2008, Chapter member Noble Flenniken, CGFM, became a life-member. Noble became a member in 1968 and had paid his dues for 40 years. David Irvin, Peter Van Der Veen (see earlier note) and Donald Whitteaker became 28 year members.