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Message From The President

A special thanks to everyone who participated in this year's fall seminar ! It was one of our largest turnouts ever with over 30 people attending. As mentioned at the seminar, I would like for as many members as possible to help serve lunch at the kitchen on the second Tuesday in December in lieu of an official meeting. Details will follow.

In addition, I think it would be nice to have a social event in December during some evening. Here are some ideas:

- If someone wanted to showoff their house at Christmas we could have food catered to their house and those wishing to bring their favorite beverage could do so. I know a great Caterer, Sugar N Spice, who is reasonable. I am not pushing this option off on someone, only if someone really wants to do this. It would be a comfortable atmosphere. I would gladly offer up my house but it's in Nixa. (if we do this option we could do a white elephant gag gift exchange that is always fun).
- Rent a large passenger van and drive down to Branson Landing for Dinner and entertainment.
- Go to early dinner and then to the skinny improve downtown on a Friday or Saturday night.

Please suggest any ideas any of you might have.

Lana Woolsey, Assistant City Attorney, will be speaking on the Sunshine Law at our November 14 noon luncheon meeting. We need ideas for more speakers to complete the January to June lunch meetings. With the recent success of the fall seminar, I want us to begin thinking about whether or not we should consider having a spring seminar as well. It would have to be late April or May, after tax season. We need to discuss and possibly decide at our November meeting if we are going to stay at Hammons Tower or consider other options. I look forward to seeing everyone in November.

Thanks
 Jerry

OZARKS CHAPTER FALL SEMINAR A HUGE SUCCESS!!



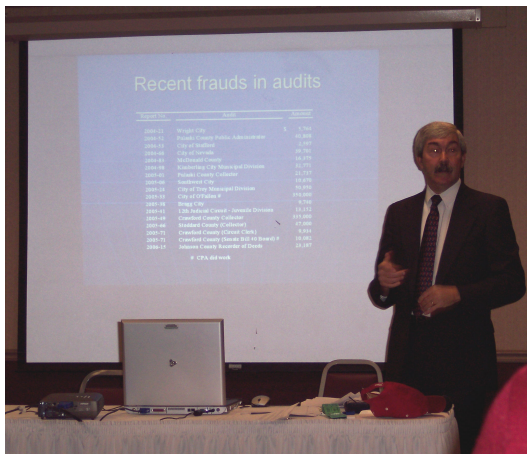
Congratulations to those energetic Ozarks AGA members who “rolled up their sleeves” and made the recent Fall Seminar such a great success!

Pictured here left to right are: Chapter President, Jerry Mitchell, CPA, CGFM (City of Springfield); Chapter Treasurer, Vicki Franke, CGFM (City Utilities of Springfield) and Chapter Membership Director, Justin Hill (Greene County Auditor’s Office)

(A full set of seminar photos to follow tomorrow as a pdf slide show)



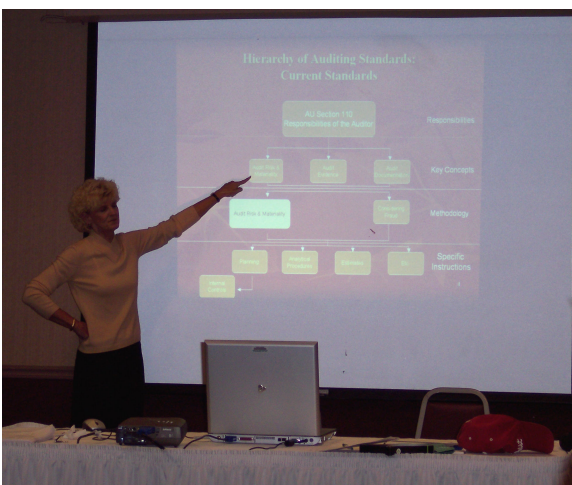
Dr. Michael Nietzel from MSU provided the opening address.



Tom Kremer, CPA, from the State Auditor’s Office talked about SAS 99 and The Auditor’s Responsibility to Detect Fraud.



Above: Dr. Clayton and student attendees from Drury University



Dr. Penny Clayton, CPA, CFE, from Dury University provided an update on the latest Audit Risk Standards.

Special recognition and thanks go to Grooms Office Supply, London Crest Interiors, and the Springfield/Greene County Park Board for their generous donation of prizes for the fall seminar.

Jerry sends special thanks to Cindy Stein, Teresa Allen & Justin Hill for their extra efforts in making the seminar a success.

SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

GFOA

It's Not Too Late!! You can still register for this Teleconference.

2006 Annual Governmental GAAP Update

Thursday, November 9

Springfield, MO location:

Springfield/Greene County Health Department Conference Room

Time: 12:00 noon to 4:00 PM CST

- **Agenda**
- **Register online**
- **Download a registration form**



AGA

Procurement Cards Focus of New AGA Audio Conference on Dec. 6

2 CPE Hours

1:00 to 2:50 CST

AGA, in conjunction with NASACT and ALGA, is sponsoring an audio conference, worth 2 CPE hours, addressing the "Successes and Challenges" and evolution of government procurement cards. **\$249 per phone line and attendance is unlimited!**

[Register online.](#) [Visit the AGA website for the audio conference schedule](#)

National Leadership Conference
Forging New Paths to Improved Accountability.

Feb 12-13, 2007

Ronald Reagan Bldg., Washington, DC

The conference website is up and running.
[Visit the site for program and registration information.](#)

Chapter Meeting Event for November

Tuesday, November 14, 2006

12:00 Noon

At the

Tower Club

Cost of Luncheon \$18.00

Speaker: Lana Woolsey, JD
Asst. City Attorney

City Attorney's Office
City of Springfield

Topic: Missouri Sunshine Law

RSVP: Cindy Stein 829-6201

cstein@greencountymo.org

by Monday, Nov 13 at 3:00 PM

IRS Announces 2007 Standard Mileage Rates

IR-2006-168, Nov. 1, 2006

WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service today issued the 2007 optional standard mileage rates used to calculate the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business, charitable, medical or moving purposes.

Beginning Jan. 1, 2007, the standard mileage rates for the use of a car (including vans, pickups or panel trucks) will be:

- 48.5 cents per mile for business miles driven;
- 20 cents per mile driven for medical or moving purposes; and
- 14 cents per mile driven in service to a charitable organization.

The new rate for business miles compares to a rate of 44.5 cents per mile for 2006. The new rate for medical and moving purposes compares to 18 cents in 2006. The primary reasons for the higher rates were higher prices for vehicles and fuel during

the year ending in October.

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

Beginning Balance July 1, 2006 \$ 2,973.92

Income:

Chapter Dues	\$ -
Meetings	702.00
Merchandise Sales	0.00
Seminar (additional seminar transactions pending at 10/31/06)	<u>2,820.00</u>

Total Income \$ 3,522.00

Expenses:

Board Meetings	0.00
Check Printing	0.00
Gifts	799.76
Meetings	692.94
Membership Drive	0.00
Newsletter	0.00
Scholarship Awards	1,500.00
Seminar (room \$906.88, movie \$28.77, Dr. Lemon \$200, misc \$27.15)	1,162.80
Website	<u>0.00</u>

Total Expenses \$ 4,155.50

Ending Balance AUG 31, 2006 \$ 2,340.42 **

SUMMARY:

Beginning Balance	\$ 2,973.92
Ending Balance	<u>2,340.42</u>
Net Increase (Decrease)	\$ (633.50)

SEMINAR:

Receipts	\$ 2,820.00 *
Disbursements	<u>1,162.80</u>
Net Income	\$ 1,657.20

MEETINGS:

Receipts	\$ 702.00
Disbursements	<u>692.94</u>
Net Income (Loss)	\$ 9.06

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

Earning a Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) designation - a step-by-step guide.

Interested in the CGFM designation? Want to know where to start or what happens next?

Here is a step-by-step guide on how you can earn the CGFM designation:

Step 1 - Applying for the CGFM Program. Submit an application form for the CGFM Program via internet, fax or mail, including the application fee of \$85. Fax or mail a copy of your transcript from an accredited college or university. The transcript must show that a degree (bachelor's or higher) was awarded and must list at least 24 credit hours of courses in financial management or related topics. Your name and the name of the college or university must appear on all transcripts.

Step 2 - Eligibility Letter. Once your application, payment and degree documentation are received and processed, the Office of Professional Certification will mail you an Eligibility Letter with instructions on how to purchase your CGFM Examinations. Your eligibility for taking the CGFM Examinations expires in three years from the date your CGFM application was processed.

Step 3 - Work Verification. Submit a Verification of Government Financial Management Work Experience form as soon as you have at least two years of professional-level experience in the government financial management field. You do not have to submit this form before taking the examinations, but the experience requirement must be met before the designation can be granted.

Step 4 - Studying for Examinations. You have several options, including classroom courses, study guides and a reading resources list. You may also want to contact a local AGA chapter to find out if there are any study groups or other support available to help you prepare for the examinations.

Step 5 - Examination Purchase. Following the instructions on your Eligibility Letter, purchase CGFM Examination(s) through the AGA website and print the Test Authorization Letter. Examination fees are \$109 for each of the three examinations.

Step 6 - Taking the Examinations. Follow the instructions on the Test Authorization Letter to schedule a testing appointment at a Prometric Test Center near you. Show up at the testing center on your appointment date (be sure to read and follow the testing procedures described on the Test Authorization Letter).

Step 7 - Score Reporting and Retakes. After you complete an examination at a Prometric Test Center, you will immediately receive a pass/fail score on the computer. Numerical scores are not provided. If you did not pass your exam, there is a 30-day waiting period before you can repurchase and retake that examination. If you fail the same exam more than once, the waiting period is 90 days.

Step 8 - Award Letter. Once you pass all three CGFM Examinations, and your Verification of Government Financial Management Work Experience form has been submitted and accepted, the Office of Professional Certification will send you an award letter announcing your new CGFM designation. You can start using the "CGFM" after your name only after you receive the official award letter from AGA.

Step 9 - CGFM Certificate. A CGFM certificate will be mailed within a few weeks of issuing the award letter.

An excellent source of additional information on the CGFM Program is the AGA website (www.agacgfm.org, select "CGFM Certification" on the navigational bar). If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Office of Professional Certification at 1.800.AGA.7211, ext. 306 or 305.

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AICPA and Ad Council Launch New Campaign Urging 25 - 34 Year-Olds to "Feed The Pig"



The AICPA and the Ad Council have launched a nationwide public service announcement campaign to encourage Americans aged 25 - 34 to "feed the pig" as a key step toward building a solid financial future. Featuring Benjamin Bankes, a smartly dressed, adult-sized pig who evokes memories of the piggy bank, the Feed the Pig campaign delivers a strong message about the importance and benefits of saving. A dedicated website, www.FeedthePig.org, provides free financial information and tools to help young "career builders" take control of their finances and build long-term financial security. This

campaign extends the reach of the award-winning 360 Degrees of Financial Literacy (www.360financialliteracy.org), the CPA profession's national campaign that helps educate Americans on how financial issues affect them at the different stages of their lives, from childhood to retirement. U.S. Comptroller General David Walker, a long-time supporter of the profession's financial literacy efforts, is praising the effort. "As a CPA, I'm pleased that the AICPA and the Ad Council have teamed up to promote saving in America. All Americans need to do a better job of planning, saving, and investing for retirement. The younger you are when you start, the better off you'll be. I hope the 'Feed the Pig' campaign encourages all Americans, especially young people, to take control of their own finances."

The campaign shares this message through a variety of media including TV, radio, print, online and outdoor advertising. Free financial information and tools to help career builders make positive changes can be found at a new Web site, www.FeedthePig.org

Exercise Your Most Important Civic Duty And Vote Your Values!

For the sake of our children and grandchildren, **please exercise your privilege and responsibility to vote on Tuesday, November 7.**



Member-Get-A-Member Recruitment Challenge *Reach for the Stars* is in Full Swing



James J. Kennedy, CGFM, a member of AGA's Central Ohio Chapter, recruited his 21st new member recently, sending him into the Top Recruiter position! Next in line is **Janet M. Brooks, CGFM**, a member of AGA's Northern Virginia Chapter, with 13 recruits. The challenge is on to see who will land on top as Recruiter of the Year!

EVERY AGA member is challenged to recruit at least one new member into AGA before the close of the membership year, April 30, 2007. ***Are you up to the challenge?***

We have made it so easy to participate!

- Click here to download a membership application.
- Print your name on the "Sponsor's Name" line on the application to receive sponsor credit when your recruits join.
- Follow up with those individuals that you asked to join.

View all of the details, including prize information. The 2006-07 Recruitment Campaign runs through April 30, 2007. ***Now is the time to swing into action!*** And be sure to reach out to those early career members!

Membership Frequently Asked Question

Q: I've lost touch with an AGA member, how can I find their contact information?

A: One of the greatest benefits of AGA membership is networking with colleagues. With today's busy lifestyle it's easy to lose touch with someone you may have met at a conference, chapter event or other networking opportunity. You can easily locate an AGA member by logging in to the Members Only section of our website and selecting Member Directory at the top of the page. To do a simple name search, enter their last and first name separated by a comma and no spaces and then click the search button. This will bring up a list of everyone with that name. If you have any questions please contact **[Rica Muhammad](#)**.

[campaign details](#)



*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***