



# CAPITOL TOPICS

## JANUARY 2016

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**President**

Bhakti Patel  
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**President-Elect**

Ben Lyons, Chair  
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**Secretary**

Vacant

**Treasurer**

Lorna Schwimmer  
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**Research Chair**

Debi Weyer  
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**Education/Programs Committee**

John Barnes, Chair  
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Paul Morris, Co-Chair  
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**Communications Committee**

Piotr Bartkow  
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**Community Service Committee**

Priscilla Suggs  
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**Membership Committee**

Vacant

**CPE Events Committee**

Patty Aguilera, Co-Chair  
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**Chapter Historian**

Sharita Jefferson  
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**Webmaster**

Eddie Chan  
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**Regional VP**

Helene Baker  
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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Happy New Year! I hope you all had a great holiday and a safe and happy new year! I also hope each of you were able to take a little time off over the holidays to enjoy some time with friends and family and rejuvenate for the new year. While I was unable to make the December luncheon due to prior work commitments, the feedback was great and it looks like everyone enjoyed Kathryn Tesa's presentation.

The Chapter Executive Committee met on December 17 and discussed a number of initiatives. The Education and Programs Committee confirmed that Catherine Melvin, Chief Auditor at the Texas Department of Public Safety, will present at the January luncheon. She will discuss the fine balance of working with external and internal auditors.

We would also like to thank each of you for completing the surveys after each monthly CPE event. Feedback is important and the Chapter Executive Committee is eager to hear from the members. So keep those surveys and feedback coming!

Lastly, we still have several Chapter Executive Committee positions open for anyone who may be interested in joining. You can help steer the efforts of the Austin Chapter and work with a dynamic team. Please reach out to me or one of the Board Members if you are interested and would like more information on the roles and responsibilities.

Thank you for your continued support of the chapter. The Chapter Executive Committee would like to wish you all a Happy New Year! See you all on January 14<sup>th</sup>!

Bhakti Patel  
President, AGA Austin Chapter

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### It's About the Process!

Considering the impact and importance of adequate, effective, and efficient processes is critical to financial and business managers. In our January 14, 2016 luncheon meeting, Catherine Melvin, the Chief Auditor, and Susan Oballe, the Audit Manager from the Texas Department of Public Safety will share their ideas on how a process-based approach will assist you in both improving overall internal controls and in working with external and internal auditors.

**Date/Time:** Thursday, January 14, 2016 - 11:30 am-1:00 pm  
**Location:** Pappadeaux Seafood at 6319 N I-35, Austin, TX 78752  
**CPE Credit:** 1 Hour  
**Registration:** <http://www.agaaustin.org/aga-austin-reg.html>



## Highlights

### Guest Speaker Biography

**Catherine Melvin** serves as the Chief Auditor for the Texas Department of Public Safety. She has extensive experience in governmental internal auditing at various state agencies, including over 20 years service as chief audit executive. Prior to DPS, she served as the responsible Chief Audit Executive for the Texas Lottery Commission, the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (formerly known as the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services), and the Office of the Governor under Governor George W. Bush. A leader in both state government and in the internal audit community, Catherine has served on and led numerous interagency and professional committees and task forces.

Catherine is also a graduate of the Governor's Executive Development Program and of the Texas Fiscal Officers' Academy. She holds the designations of Certified Public Accountant, Certified Internal Auditor, and Certified Law Enforcement Auditor.



**Susan Oballe** is an Audit Manager for the Department of Public Safety's Chief Auditor's Office. She has over 15 years of internal audit experience at various state agencies, where she has managed and conducted performance audits and facilitated process improvement workshops.

Prior to auditing, Susan spent 6 years in the manufacturing industry, where she worked for Motorola. During this time, she was trained in and applied Six Sigma methodologies.

Susan received a BLS in Finance from St. Edward's University and is a Certified Internal Auditor and Certified Government Auditing Professional.

### Luncheon Gift Card Drawings!



Congratulations to **Scott Erwin** and **Patricia Robinson** for winning the \$20 Amazon gift cards during the December 10th luncheon! As promised we had two raffles for

attendees in December for forgetting to raffle a gift card in November.

AGA will continue to have a raffle for attendees during every luncheon event this year! The raffle winner will receive a \$20 gift card (i.e. Starbucks, Target, etc.) by drawing the winner from the list of names in attendance (excludes Executive Committee Members).

### Minutes

On December 17, 2015, the Austin Chapter held its monthly executive meeting. The key points from the meeting follow.

- January and February luncheons locations and presenters' biographies
- Newsletter submission reminders
- Planning of a networking event
- Filling in the Secretary and Membership Chair vacant committee positions
- Refunding registered individuals who haven't attended the luncheon
- Miscellaneous items

### Membership January Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following members who have reached their anniversary milestone in the month of January 2016.

#### 15 YEARS:

Luz Brunilda Bundick, CGFM

#### 30 Years:

Alice M. Garrett

## Treasurer's Report

**For the period ending 11/30/2015**

**Beginning Bank Balance 10/31/2015** **\$6,418.74**

*Revenue:*

11/17/2015	ACH Square Luncheon	\$53.48
11/16/2015	Luncheon Check Deposit	\$25.00
11/13/2013	ACH Square Luncheon	\$204.20
11/13/2015	ACH - DFPS 9/2015	\$145.00
11/12/2015	ACH Square Luncheon	\$189.62
11/10/2015	ACH Square Luncheon	\$29.17
11/9/2015	ACH Square Luncheon	\$48.62
11/1/2015	Dividend through 10/31/2015	\$0.56
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>\$695.65</b>

**Funds Available** **\$7,114.39**

*Expenditures:*

<i>Date</i>	<i>Check No./Credit Card.</i>	
11/13/2015	Debit card Pappadeaux - Luncheon	\$526.68
<b>Total Expenditures</b>		<b>\$526.68</b>

**Ending Bank Balance 11/30/2015** **\$6,587.71**

**Check Register Reconciliation:**  
**Ending Bank Balance 11/30/2015** **\$6,587.71**

<i>Outstanding Checks:</i>	<i>Outstanding Checks:</i>	
<i>Date</i>	<i>Check No.</i>	<i>Description</i>

**Total Outstanding Checks** **\$0.00**

*Outstanding Deposits:*

<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>
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**Total Outstanding Deposits** **\$0.00**

**Adjusted Ending Bank Balance 11/30/2015** **\$6,587.71**

**Total Chapter Cash Available Per Check Register 11/30/2015** **\$6,587.71**

*Cash On Hand:*

CU Min Savings Balance	\$5.00
Luncheon Bank	\$40.00





## What's on the Horizon for State Employee Benefits CPE Event -December 10, 2015-



A special thank you to  
Lorna Schwimmer  
for the photos!



### Little Known Fact:

On average, 12 newborns will be given to the wrong parents daily.

