

ASSOCIATION of GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS

WASHINGTON CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

November 1989

About Our Speaker This Month



Constance Berry Newman was sworn-in as Director of the Office of Personnel Management on June 12, 1989. For more than 20 years she managed public and private organizations. Among her major management positions were: Assistant Secretary of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, Director of VISTA, and President of the Newman & Hermsman Company. In that 20-year period, she managed more than 5,000 people and total budgets in excess of \$160 million. She was also Commissioner and Vice-Chairman of the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

From 1987 to 1988, Ms. Newman worked for the Government of Lesotho as a Cooperative Housing Foundation consultant to a committee established for the purpose of advising the Ministry of Interior regarding the establishment of a housing corporation to receive World Bank funding.

During her public career which began in 1961, Ms. Newman worked in 12 Federal government agencies with three Presidential appointments, two of which were confirmed by the Senate. She began her career as a GS-3 clerk typist at the Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management. For six years, she worked in the Personnel Department of the Bureau dealing with such issues as classification, adverse action appeals, recruitment and placement, and training. She continued as a career civil servant until 1969 when she became a political appointee.

Ms. Newman was a Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow from 1977 to 1985 and a member of the Adjunct Faculty at the Kennedy School, Harvard University from 1979 to 1982. She has received an Honorary Doctor of Laws from her Alma Mater, Bates College and Amherst College. In addition to receiving an A.B. from Bates College, she received a Bachelor of Science in Law degree from the University of Minnesota Law School. In 1985, she received the Secretary of Defense Medal for Outstanding Public Service. She is a life member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and has served on numerous civic boards and committees.

**This Month's Luncheon Meeting Follows a
Miniseminar on Management Control Reviews.
See Page 4.**

November 2, 1989

WASHINGTON CHAPTER LUNCHEON MEETING TO FEATURE

**The Honorable
Constance Berry Newman**

*As the new Director of the
Office of Personnel Management,
the Honorable Constance Newman
will address human resources in
the Federal Government.*

TOUCHDOWN CLUB
2000 L St. N.W.
(Near Farragut West Metro Stop)

Social Period: 11:30 a.m. (Cash Bar)
Luncheon: 12:00 p.m.
Menu: Chicken Cordon Bleu
Cost: \$16.00 (Members)
\$18.00 (Non-members)

**Reservations Recommended
Call 376-2161 thru October 31
NON-MEMBERS WELCOME!**

(Uncancelled "No-Shows" will be billed)

Next Meeting: December 7

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Doris Chew

The National Commission on the Public Service, chaired by Paul Volcker, issued a report, *Leadership for America: Rebuilding the Public Service* in April 1989. The central message of this report called for a renewed sense of commitment by all Americans to the highest traditions of the public service. Three themes — leadership, talent and performance — were emphasized in this report. The Commission called upon the President and Congress to take several actions in all of these areas, including providing a framework within which those federal departments and agencies can exercise greater flexibility in managing programs and personnel; simplifying the hiring process; building a pay system that is both fair and competitive; setting higher goals for government performance and productivity; and providing more effective training and executive development.

The financial managers within the Federal government know that it is very difficult to recruit the best students graduating from our business schools and universities, that the incentives for retaining high quality employees are eroding, and that with less resources spent for providing financial personnel with continuing education and professional development we cannot offer the best solutions to modernizing our antiquated financial systems and processes. Although several initiatives have been started within the past several years by various central and program agencies, much more needs to be done. Hopefully, we will hear some of the proposed solutions from one central agency official at our November meeting.

We are honored to feature the Honorable **Constance Newman**, Director of the Office of Personnel Management, as our luncheon speaker this month. She will address some very important issues related to human resources within the Federal government. As you may know, she has recently initiated a task force to study Federal pay issues. Please call and register early for this meeting, which we anticipate will be standing room only.

In my last month's message, I mentioned that the Capital Region Vice President and chapter presidents are meeting to coordinate activities and discuss common interests. These officers are:

- Capital Region Vice President — *Kathryn Murphy*
- Montgomery-Prince Georges Chapter — *Richard Kaplan*
- Northern Virginia Chapter — *William Sharkey*.

The theme for the Capital Region is "AGA members making an IMPACT."

- | | | |
|---------|------------|--------------|
| We are: | Involved | Accurate |
| | Motivated | Caring |
| | Productive | Team Players |

(continued on back page)

**AGA
WASHINGTON CHAPTER
Chapter Executive Council for 1989/1990**

OFFICERS

- President**
Doris Chew, JFMIP, 376-5415
- President-Elect**
Joyce Shelton, DOT, 366-1306
- Secretary**
Judi Fuerstenberg, JFMIP, 376-5415
- Treasurer**
Bob Rogers, Consultant, 765-3857
- Assistant Treasurer**
Judith Parson, OCC, 447-1721
- Past President**
Diane Bray, DOD, 697-8281

DIRECTORS

- Chapter Awards**
Larry Wilson, USDA, 447-8345
- Chapter Bylaws & Procedures**
Roger Feldman
- Student Awards**
Carol Lynch, Education, 732-5848
- Membership Services**
John Cherbini, C&L, 822-5640
- Programs**
Sam Mok, Treasury, 377-9322
- Publicity & Agency Liaison**
Joe Rothschild, HUD, 426-6493
- Small Business Education**
Lionel Henderson, CSC, 982-2133
- VITA**
Joyce Charles, Labor, 523-5906
- Education**
Mary Lee Mason, FMS, 535-9693
- Newsletter**
Anna Wilson, OPM, 632-7450

CHAIRPERSONS

- Chapter Recognition**
Jean Bowles, State, 875-6923
- Coop. with Prof. Institutions**
Peggy Smith, Consultant, 469-7920
- Small Business Education**
German Guajardo, Education, 732-5634
- Coop with Educational Institutions**
Wallace Keene, NASA, 453-1775
Chuck Zlamal, GAO, 275-9505
- Research**
Larry Eisenhart, HHS, 245-6176
Ron Young, GAO, 275-9578
- Meetings**
Warren Cottingham, FMS, 566-3717
- History**
Bob Pewanick, GAO, 275-9508
- Budget & Finance**
Mike Wenk, OMB, 395-3993
- Newsletter**
John Wenstrup, House Info. Sys., 226-6177
Christy Poindexter, HHS, 245-6041
- Student Awards**
Donald Richardson, PMM, 467-3000
- Programs**
Evelyn Brown, Commerce, 377-2679
- Employment Referral**
Bob Loring, OPM, 632-7450
Susan Lee, NARA, 724-2722
- Legislative Tracking**
Thomas Gilliland, FMS, 287-0669
- Liaison with Interagency Groups**
Samuel Adams, OMB, 395-6823

Schedule of Upcoming Events

Date	Activity	Date	Activity
November 1	Sixth session of the Wash. Chapter/SBA course; topic — payroll taxes/income taxes; time — 6:30-9:00 p.m., location — 400 Md. Ave., SW, Room 1134.	February 1	Washington Chapter Luncheon Meeting. Menu — salmon steak; cost — \$17.
November 2	Washington Chapter Miniseminar and Luncheon Meeting. (See front page.)	February 15	Joint Washington Chapter/Am. Assoc. of Budget & Program Analysis Educational event.
November 8	Seventh session of the Wash. Chapter/SBA course; topic — marketing/office automation; time and location — see November 1.	March 1	Washington Chapter Luncheon Meeting. Menu — london broil; cost — \$16.
November 15	Eighth session of the Wash. Chapter/SBA course; topic — banking/course review; time and location — see November 1.	April 5	Washington Chapter miniseminar immediately preceding luncheon meeting —
December 7	Washington Chapter Luncheon Meeting. Menu — 6 oz. filet mignon; cost — \$17.	April 5	Washington Chapter Luncheon Meeting. Menu — broiled chicken; cost — \$16.
January 11-12	AGA's First Annual Leadership Conference. See page 7.	May 3	Last Washington Chapter Luncheon Meeting for the 1989/90 season. Menu — pot roast of beef; cost — \$16.
January 18	Washington Chapter Luncheon Meeting.	June 4-6	Professional Development Conference on "Pride, Progress and Professionalism." Location — Stouffer's Hotel, Nashville, Tenn.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chapter Executive Committee

Minutes of Monthly Meeting, September 28, 1989

- **Call to Order:** President Doris Chew called the meeting to order at 12 noon.
- **Secretary's Report:** Ms. Chew asked for any changes and/or approval of the minutes of the last meeting, August 3, 1989. Joyce Shelton made a motion to approve the minutes as written, Joyce Charles seconded the motion, and the committee voted its approval.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Mr. Rogers presented the revenue and expense statement for the period July 1 to September 28, 1989, and the statement of financial position as of September 28. Ms. Chew asked for a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Wally Keene made the motion, German Guajardo seconded it, and the committee voted acceptance.
- **National Activities:** The National Office would like our chapter to contribute to the National Office building fund. In a brief discussion, committee members expressed a consensus that there should be no discussion of such a contribution until the National Office financial situation was resolved. The Committee approved a motion that Ms. Chew communicate to the NEC that it was the consensus of the Washington Chapter that before we consider a contribution, the NEC should clear up the National Office financial situation.
- **Committee Reports on Activities**
- **Meetings:** After discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and approved to 1) insert the billing and cancellation policy below the reservation line in the monthly luncheon notice and 2) add a statement on the reservation answering machine that they will be billed if we do not receive a cancellation by a specific date.
- **Programs:** The January luncheon meeting is scheduled for the 18th due to the National's Leadership Conference being held January 11-12. The luncheon speaker is to be the HUD General Counsel on the topic "What is HUD doing to improve internal controls?"
- **Education:** Ms. Chew noted that the D.C. Institute of CPAs and the chapter are still planning on a joint event in late spring.
- **Small Business:** Fifty-six registrants are confirmed for the semi-annual small business evening course. Other local chapters area being contacted to consider co-sponsoring the course in Maryland and Virginia suburbs. Additional member facilitators will be needed.
- **Newsletter:** Anna Wilson presented copies of the October newsletter. She stated that, barring unforeseen circumstances, the newsletter will be mailed out 7-8 days before the monthly meeting so that members would have more timely notice.
- **Membership:** In Mr. Cherbini's absence, Ms. Chew requested ideas for recognizing new members. An assistant chair from a government agency is also needed to help him out. Potential individuals should be referred to Ms. Chew.
- **Student Awards:** Carol Lynch stated that the letter announcing the chapter's annual scholarship was sent to local universities and colleges. The closing date for responses is January 31.
- **Cooperation with Educational Institutions:** Wally Keene and Chuck Zlamal sent out a letter to the business school deans of 14 educational institutions requesting the name of a professor or teacher who is designated as the business school liaison.
- **Chapter Recognition:** Jean Bowles requested that all committee members inform her of activities and attendance. She provided a handout of the chapter recognition point and date sheet and volunteered to write an article for the newsletter.
- **Nominations Committee:** A National Office Memo requests nomination responses by November 15, 1989 for the National President Elect and Washington Regional Vice President positions.
- **Adjournment:** Ms. Chew adjourned the meeting at 1:00 p.m.
- **Next CEC Meeting:** October 26, 1989, 12 noon at 666 11th St., N.W., Suite 705.

Membership Report

By John R. Cherbini, Director, Membership Services

The time has come to renew your membership. Renewal notices have been mailed. If you have not received yours, please notify the National Office as soon as possible.

Membership in our Chapter is strong and growing. The latest statistics show that we have grown by 5%. Our recruiting efforts have been very effective thanks to you and our past Membership Director, Dan McGrath. I have some big shoes to fill as I take over from Dan and I will continue to need your help. Doris Chew and I are developing plans for an effective recruiting program and we will soon be naming an assistant Membership Director. However, I want to encourage each of you to help by actively recruiting new members. Please contact me if you need recruiting material or membership applications. I would also like to continue Dan's Agency Liaison network. If you would like to become an Agency Liaison, and become a Deputy Membership Director, please let me know.

New Members

April	Employer	Sponsor
Kenneth E. Carfine	Treasury FMS	Dan McGrath
Garland W. Heare	DHHS	
Charles F. Koeneman	Dept. of State	
May		
Jane E. Altenhofen	International Trade Com.	
Joseph P. Ananka	IRS	
Gary L. Barnett	DOD-DCAA	
Patricia A. Green	SEC IG	
Sharon J. Harrison	OPM	
Victor T. Ly	Bureau of Engraving	
Santa Ottens	Small Business Admin.	Judith Parsons
Donald F. Richardson	Peat Marwick	Doris Chew
Jorge L. Rivera	Small Business Admin.	Judith Parsons
Jack D. Rogers	Dept. of Transportation	Dennis Scott
John H. Ulrich	Treasury Secret Service	
Dorn B. Wheatly	Dept. of Labor	Joyce Charles
James E. Williams	Dept. of Justice	Dan McGrath
Sherman L. Young	Small Business Admin.	Judith Parsons
June		
Marjorie L. Adams	GAO	
Thomas L. Cole	Exec. Office of Pres.	
Gerald T. Hall	Dept. of Interior	
William E. Logan Jr.	Fed. Election Commission	
Ronald J. Majewicz	Fed. Home Loan Mtg. Corp.	
Benjamin J. Mandell		
Theresa L. Morin	Coopers & Lybrand	John Cherbini
Michelle R. Moten		
Peter R. Raymond	Dep. of Navy CNO	
Rosie L. Roberson	Dept. of Transportation	Joyce Shelton
Agnes I. Spruill	GAO	
July		
Steven E. Baird	Treasury	
Barbara E. Bland	Treasury	
Robin Gaither	GSA	
Holden A. Hogue	Treasury	Dan McGrath
Mary A. Irwin	Treasury	
Robert S. Jones Jr.	Andersen Consulting	Ronald Lynch
Catherine S. Lauer	Dept. of Agriculture	
Prakash M. Mehta	PSI International	
Samuel J. Raines	Naval Audit Service	
Anne C. Riley	American University	Raymond Einhorn
Sanjay Srikanth	Radan Systems, Inc.	
William L. Taylor	Inter American Devel. Bank	
August		
Diana K. Dedrick	Treasury	
Veron S. Gill	D.C. OIG	Barbara Jackson
Arthur T. Henshaw	Treasury*OIG	
Christopher Lewis	Chesterfield County	
Daniel E. Roehrich	Dept. of State	
Brian F. Shaboski	Treasury	Dan McGrath
Pallie J. Wallace	Public Health Service OIG	
Michael D. Wolf	OPM OIG	

Welcome to each of you! I have received some of your membership certificates and will have them in the mail to you soon.

Miniseminar Follow-up Session Precedes Luncheon Meeting

Date and Time: November 2, 1989; 10:00 AM - 11:15 AM

Subject: Combining Management Control Reviews — An Agency Perspective

One review does it all!

The Department of Agriculture (USDA) has developed a consolidated review program to review OMB Circulars A-123, A-127 and A-130.

Speaker: Jody Firmani, Consolidation Review Coordinator, USDA

Location: Touchdown Club

Cost: Free for Miniseminar!

Participants wishing to stay for lunch will pay the regular fee of \$16 for members and \$18 for nonmembers.

This follow-up is being sponsored by AGA as part of our continuing education program to bring the Federal financial community timely information on subjects vital to effective financial management.

Please call the AGA reservation number and indicate if you are staying for lunch.

For additional information, you may contact Mary Lee Mason, Director of Education, on 535-9693.

Publicity and Agency Liaison Committee Report

By Joe Rothschild, Committee Director

Looking to learn more about your Chapter and Association while meeting other AGA members from your Agency or organization? Become an Agency/Organization liaison and join others like Chris Kent of the Department of Transportation Finance organization and Jim Ebbitt of the Office of Inspector General at Department of Agriculture.

What you have to do, according to Chairman Joe Rothschild, is serve as the contact to assist others in learning about late breaking news of programs or educational events. You may be asked to telephone other agency or organization members to let them know about a change in time or place of a meeting. You may also be asked to distribute in the interoffice mail or post announcements on a bulletin board about a Chapter event. In other words, you will be the DC Chapter focal point for Chapter news which cannot wait until the next monthly newsletter.

If you have an interest, call me at 426-6493. I will gladly discuss the objectives and responsibilities further and invite you to join other liaisons at the November monthly luncheon meeting for a complimentary beverage of your choice.

THIS AND THAT

Member Profile

Our Washington Chapter member profile this month is of **Joyce Shelton**, a recipient of the 1989 Meritorious Presidential Rank Award, which was announced September 4, 1989. Joyce is currently the Director of Financial Management for the U.S. Department of Transportation and is responsible for formulating financial policy and ensuring the effective implementation of that policy throughout the Department. She has been in this position since July, 1985. From June 1980 to June 1984, she was the Regional Accounting Director with the Department of Housing and Urban Development in Kansas City, Missouri. Joyce formerly served as the Director of Central Accounting Operations, Department of Treasury, in Washington, D.C., from 1969 to 1980. Prior to 1969, Joyce served in a variety of positions, including those of accountant, auditor, and manager of trust fund investments. Her Federal Government career spans more than 27 years in top level management positions.



Joyce received her B.S. with a major in accounting from the University of Maryland. In addition, she has completed numerous courses and special career development experiences. Joyce is a frequent speaker on accounting and financial management policy and procedures. She led an interagency group in the development of the U.S. Government Standard General Ledger, a major financial management initiative of Reform 88.

Joyce is a Certified Public Accountant and a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Maryland Association of Certified Public Accountants, and the Association of Government Accountants, Washington Chapter, where she has been a Board member and Employment Referral Chairman since 1985 and is President-Elect. Joyce is also active in the Federal Executive Institute Alumni Association where she is Cochair of Luncheons and a member of the Policy Issues Committee. She is also an active member of Executive Women in Government and the Senior Executive Association.

Joyce and her husband, Vernon, live in Annandale, Virginia. They enjoy boating and fishing on the lower Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay.

About Chapter Members

I am pleased to report that members of the Washington Chapter were recognized at a recent JFMIP awards ceremony. **Doris Chew**, Chapter President, was presented with an Outstanding Performance Award. **Judi Fuerstenberg** and **Ken Winne** were presented with Special Achievement Awards. Judi Fuerstenberg is Secretary of the Washington Chapter. Congratulations to all!

I am of mixed emotions about reporting the second retirement of **Shirley Evans**, Director of HUD's Office of Finance and Accounting. While Shirley originally retired in 1986, there was such a demand for her expertise that the agency was forced to bring her back. Her second retirement is scheduled for December 1989. While I would like to see a person enjoy their retire-

ment, I wonder if HUD and the Federal Government can fill the void. Good luck Shirley and, this time get an unlisted phone number.

We have only one staff change to report this month. **Joel Dorfman**, last year's Chapter Treasurer, has left the accounting and consulting firm of Arthur Young in order to work for Booz Allen. Good luck Joel.

Don't forget to call us with your news about Chapter Members!
John James Wenstrup, 226-6177

Other Chapters' Meetings

- **Northern Virginia Chapter:**
 - Date and Time: 5:30 P.M. (social) November 21
6:30 P.M. (dinner)
 - Location: Sheraton National Hotel, Columbia Pike & Washington Blvd., Arlington
 - Speaker: Virginia Robinson, AGA National President
 - Topic: Pride, Professionalism & Progress
 - Cost: \$14 (members with copy of newsletter); \$18 (non-members)
 - Reservations: Andrea Walker, 245-3066
- **Montgomery/Prince George's Chapter:**
 - Date and Time: November 8, 1989. 5:30 P.M. (social);
6:45 P.M. (dinner)
 - Location: College Park Holiday Inn, 1100 Baltimore Boulevard
 - Speaker: James Sullivan of ProSel Corporation
 - Topic: Positive Attitude
 - Cost: \$15 (members); \$5 (students)
 - Reservations: Gary Fishbein, 366-6074

TECHNICAL TOPICS

Did You Know . . .

By Ron Young, Research Chair (275-9578)

This month's article is featuring American Management Systems, Inc. (AMS).

AMS is a management consulting and computer services firm. Although AMS may be best known to readers of this newsletter as the provider of the Federal Financial System, an accounting software package for Federal agencies, the company also provides the government with extensive professional services unrelated to financial management and has a large non-government practice. In fact, only about one third of AMS's \$250 million per year business is with the Federal Government.

AMS's Federal Financial System (FFS) is one of the products on the GSA schedule for software that meets JFMIP's "core financial system requirements" for Federal agencies. In addition to meeting the JFMIP requirements, the system complies with all applicable requirements of Title 2 including the Standard General Ledger. The FFS package includes a Budget Execution module that accounts for appropriations, warrants, and funds distribution within an agency; a payables module; an accounts receivable and collections module; the general ledger; a document tracking facility; and an automated closing process. The latest release of the system generates the SF-220 series of reports (SF-220, SF-221, etc.) plus the SF-133 and TFS-2108. Optional subsystems include Purchasing, Travel Accounting, Job Cost Accounting, Cost Allocation, Fixed Assets and Inventory Management.

USDA's Interest Penalties

By Larry Wilson, Chief Financial Officer, U.S. Department of Agriculture

During Fiscal Year 1988, the Department of Agriculture (USDA) incurred \$8.8 million in interest penalties. This represented nearly 43 percent of the total for the Federal Government. USDA's FY 1988 interest penalty occurrence rate was about 7 percent, compared to a Governmentwide rate of 1.3 percent. Interest penalties paid by USDA went from \$.5 million in FY 1986 to \$8.8 million in FY 1988.

The purpose of this article is to explain how USDA found itself the largest payer of interest penalties in the Federal Government. Also discussed are the affects of the new Prompt Payment Act (PPA) requirements on USDA as well as plans to reduce interest penalties.

Several events lead to USDA paying large interest penalties. The main cause was the delay in Congressional action on USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation's (CCC) supplemental appropriations during 1987. This forced CCC to suspend disbursements for 71 days. The suspension of disbursements eventually resulted in CCC being permanently subject to the PPA by the Amendments of 1988. Coverage includes CCC's entitlement payments. Coverage becomes effective in crop year 1989.

CCC's inclusion under the PPA represents the culmination of repeated statutory and policy changes relating to the payment of interest penalties. The changes effectively gave CCC four sets of rules regarding interest penalty payments over four years.

Another major impact on USDA will be the elimination of the grace period. The grace period elimination alone may increase USDA's Central Accounting System's (CAS) interest penalties from 30 to 50 percent. USDA payments paid during the grace period were 10.21 percent in Fiscal Year FY 1987 and 7.89 percent in FY 1988. Under the new PPA requirements such payments generate interest penalty payments.

USDA is aggressively attempting to improve its payment processes and procedures. As Chief Financial Officer, I created an Interest Penalty Task Group. The group is to come up with new, innovative approaches to reduce interest penalties. The group will develop an educational program for USDA personnel on PPA requirements and procedures.

A PPA Desk Guide is under development by the Office of Finance and Management's (OFM) National Finance Center (NFC). It will combine PPA requirements and procedures in one easy-to-reference publication. It will also provide administrative payment processing milestones.

NFC Bulletins provide customer education. They notify field locations of requirements and explain procedures. The bulletins provide a readily available reference source. Three NFC Bulletins issued during FY 1989 relay PPA information. The first included a listing of existing system-generated reports and memoranda provided to agencies. It gave a brief explanation on how to use each report or memorandum to monitor payment processing. The second NFC bulletin gave highlights of the changes to the PPA. The third gave procedures for telefaxing payment documents to avoid or reduce interest penalties.

USDA encourages the use of electronic remote personal computer entry of purchase order obligations and receipts. These programs allow users to enter, edit, and send obligation documents and receiving reports. Users enter data off-line and connect to the NFC host computer to transmit data for batch processing. This reduces mail time, lost documents, and keying errors.

(continued on back page)

1st ANNUAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Begin a tradition! On January 11 and 12, 1990, the Association of Government Accountants will sponsor its First Annual Leadership Conference. Carrying the theme, "The 1990's: Age of Accountability," this two day event is targeted to financial managers at all levels of government and those in the private sector with an interest in maintaining the quality of financial management in the government. Throughout the conference, participants will learn how to manage emerging issues facing financial managers in the next decade.

On the evening on January 12, AGA will introduce a series of new awards to honor outstanding leaders who have made significant contributions to the financial management field.

Debates and panels addressing issues in ethics, integrity, and quality financial management practices are planned. Topics include:

- Procurement Reform: Are there structural deficiencies in the system or merely magnified minor flaws?
- Legislated Assistant Secretaries for Administration/Management: Will it work?
- Financial Management Systems: Who has the lead and what are the changes?
- State and Local Perspective: The outlook for financial management in the face of massive federal deficits.
- Information Systems: Do they provide what federal financial managers really need?
- The Great Debate: Defining the relationship between budgeting and accounting
- Budgeting Out of the Deficit: A Look at the 1990's
- Contractor Self Governance and Voluntary Disclosure: Do they work outside of DoD procurement?

Washington, DC
January 11-12, 1990

Registrants can
attend two days or
evening gala

CPE Credit
Available

Mail completed form,
along with check
made out to "The
Association of
Government
Accountants," to:

Association of
Government
Accountants
601 Wythe Street
Suite 204
Alexandria, VA 22314

Name _____ Title _____

(AS YOU WANT IT ON YOUR BADGE)

Employer _____

Address _____

City _____

Telephone _____

Home Address _____

City _____

Telephone _____

Preferred Mailing Address: Business Home

Are you a member of AGA Yes Which Chapter? _____

AGA Membership Number _____

No Please send membership information

Will your spouse be attending? Yes No Check here if you are disabled and require special services

Attach a written description of needs.

IF YOU WANT TO	AND IF YOU	AND	THEN
Register for the LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE	Are an AGA Member	Your PREPAID registration is received by NOVEMBER 17 After November 17	Enter \$325 Enter \$375 \$ _____
	Are a Nonmember	Your PREPAID registration is received by NOVEMBER 17 After November 17	Enter \$385 Enter \$430 \$ _____
		One additional Evening Gala Ticket--available only with 2 day registration Evening Gala Tickets	Enter \$50 Enter \$75 \$ _____

President's Message . . .

(continued from page 2)

If you would like to become more active and make an IMPACT, please call me or anyone on the Chapter Executive Committee. Several Chapter Committee Directors and Chairs need assistance. **Warren Cottingham**, Meetings Chair, needs volunteers for registering and greeting members at our luncheon meetings. With the departure of **Allan Chaney** to San Francisco, **Mary Lee Mason**, Education Director, would greatly appreciate some assistance on planning, coordinating and conducting educational events. With revised National By-laws approved at the National Board of Directors' meeting last June, we must revise our by-laws to conform with National. **Roger Feldman** requested volunteers for this committee. **John Cherbini**, Membership Services Director, and **Joe Rothschild**, Publicity and Agency Liaison Director, can always use additional people on their committees to increase our membership and promote AGA activities. There are many ways to assist and volunteer some of your spare time. Please give us a call today!

**Changing Your Address?
Contact National Office Directly!**

The easiest and fastest way of changing your mailing address for all Chapter and National Office mailings is to mail a notice with the new address and an AGA mailing label with the old address on it to:

AGA National Office
601 Wythe Street, Suite 204
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

USDA's Interest Penalties . . .

(continued from page 6)

USDA is developing a process for users to access potential late payments in the Purchase Order system data base. This will allow users to identify large dollar payments awaiting receiving reports.

USDA is in the process of modernizing its administrative payment processing systems. The new approach will combine all administrative processes or functions under a single data base. The system will provide for updating data in a real-time environment. It will operate under the principle of value-added processing. All processes share information.

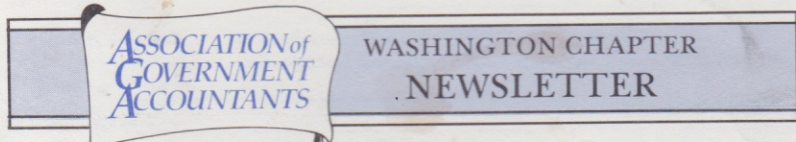
USDA encourages the use of a dedicated telefax machine installed at NFC to handle late documents that require priority and immediate processing.

USDA encourages the use of the Automated Clearinghouse (ACH) Vendor Express system which electronically pays vendors' bank accounts. Seven out of the eight administrative payment systems now offer Vendor Express. Implementation of the eighth system is dependent on the modernization of the purchase orders module and enhancements to the vendor files.

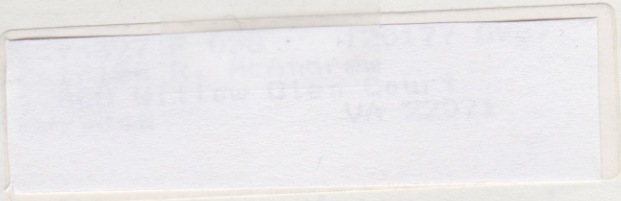
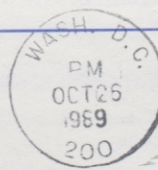
USDA encourages procurement officers to negotiate realistic payment terms.

As the Chief Financial Officer, I have made the commitment to quality customer service. This means making payments on time. Interest penalties are a waste of program and administrative funds.

In summary, USDA is educating employees, encouraging electronic transmission of payment documents, and institutionalizing good internal payment procedures. USDA's primary goal is to pay customers on time, not early or late.



P.O. Box 423
Washington, D.C. 20044
November 1989



**FIRST CLASS MAIL—
PLEASE EXPEDITE**