ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS

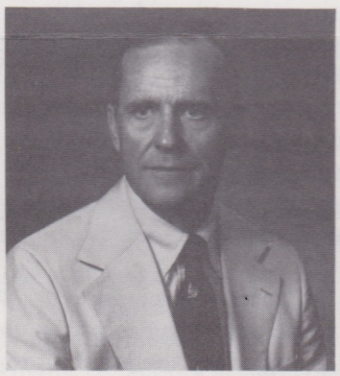
AGA NEWSLETTER

WASHINGTON CHAPTER

MARCH 1986

THURSDAY MARCH 6, 1986

LUNCHEON MEETING TO FEATURE



MR. ROBERT H. CONN
Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial Management)/Comptroller of the Navy

Speaking on
Navy Financial Management Initiatives Under the Gramm-Rudman Environment
at the

SAM RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
Room B-338, "C" and South Capitol Streets
Near Capitol South Metro Station

Social Period	11:15
Luncheon	12:00
Cost	$10.00 (w/Reservation)
	$12.00 (w/o Reservation)

For Luncheon Reservations Call 527-3225
Telephone Reservations Accepted Thru March 4, 1986

NON MEMBERS WELCOME

All Reservations Guaranteed

Meeting Schedule: • Mar. 6 • Apr. 3 • May 1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

SUSAN LEE
Financial Management Service

Like a carefully orchestrated symphony, every month a tremendous amount of planning and work must be coordinated to assure a successful and smooth-running luncheon meeting. It starts with the selection of a suitable guest speaker. This year thanks to our Director of Programs, **Dave Dukes,** our speakers have been exceptional, having the attributes of both knowledge about a topical financial management subject and the ability to capture and retain the attention of a discerning audience. As a result, attendance at our monthly meetings has been very good.

Our speakers have ranged from Dr. Stanley Silverberg, Director of Research and Strategic Planning, FDIC, who spoke about current banking trends, and the environment and factors contributing to the increased number of bank failures, to last month's speaker, Michael Barrett, Senior Staff Assistant to Congressman John Dingell, who spoke about legislative proposals affecting the accounting and auditing profession. They have included others prominent in the government financial management field: Carole Dineen, Associate Director for Management, OMB; John Martin, Inspector General, EPA; John Greer, Deputy Assistant, Inspector General for Audit, HUD; and Commissioner Roscoe Egger, IRS.

Continuing this standard, in March, our guest speaker will be Robert Conn, Assistant Secretary for the Navy, Financial Management, who I understand is a particularly good speaker. The meeting will be held jointly with the American Society of Military Comptrollers, and if our joint meeting in November with the Association of Federal Investigators is any indication, we should have a capacity crowd. Additionally, March is by tradition the month that we honor an elite group of individuals, our Past Chapter Presidents, so be sure to make your reservations early.

However, before you automatically dial the number to make reservations, take note that we have gone "private"—consistent with National AGA President June Brown's theme of working hand-in-hand with the private sector. In the past, Carolyn DeLong has graciously been taking our luncheon reservations; but as of March, she will be unable to do so. Consequently, we have contracted out this function and from here on in you should call our **new reservations number: 527-3225.**

Another step we will be taking to improve our meetings will be to color code the name tags of individuals who have made reservations in advance. That way, if more attendees show up at a meeting than we anticipate, as happened last month, those who have made reservations will be assured seating and those who have not will be asked to wait until additional tables can be set up.

This brings to mind another predicament, in which we find ourselves from time to time. Based on the number of reservations that are made, our Director of Meetings, **Judith Boyd,** estimates the number of attendees and conveys the information to the staff at the Rayburn House Office Building, who handles our meals. Twice this year we have found ourselves in the situation where the number of actual attendees was not as great as the number who had made reservations. For each person that makes a reservation and does not ultimately attend, the Chapter must absorb the cost of a lunch, $10. Therefore for those two meetings alone, where 35 individuals made reservations but did not attend, the Chapter had to pay $350. I and the Board are interested in receiving your thoughts and comments on this situation. Should the Chapter continue to absorb these costs, or should we bill either the full $10 or a part of the $10 to persons who make reservations but do not attend and do not cancel their reservations or send a substitute. If you have any thoughts on this issue you can give me a call on 535-9693 or bring it up to me at our next meeting. Based on your comments, the Board will decide which policy to pursue.

Believe it or not, even the release of our Newsletter is susceptible to the vicissitudes of the flu epidemic that is currently engulfing the Washington area. Apparently last month, much of the staff that prints our Newsletter fell prey to the flu, resulting in a Newsletter that was received after our monthly luncheon meeting by some members. Hopefully, this won't happen again. But to ensure that our members are kept informed about our luncheon meetings and other educational events we do have an agency liaison network. It is through this network that our Director for Publicity and Agency Liaison, **Mark Page** distributes flyers informing members of our activities. The flyers are intended to supplement the Newsletter, but on those occasions when the Newsletter may not be as timely as we might wish, the flyers serve as a substitute. If you would like to receive the flyers contact Mark (566-5038). That way you will be sure to hear about our meetings beforehand.

Hope to see you at our meeting.

Susan

ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS WASHINGTON CHAPTER EXECUTIVE BOARD 1985-1986

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Charles McAndrew, Navy, 695-1070

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Small Business Education
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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE
Baltimore
June 23-25 1986
AGA

ABOUT OUR SPEAKER THIS MONTH
MR. ROBERT H. CONN

Robert H. Conn was born in Boonton, New Jersey. From 1943 to 1946 he attended the United States Navy Flight School, which led to his designation as a naval aviator. His operational assignments from 1946 to 1958 included tours in sea planes, land-based patrol bombers, carrier-based fighter and attack squadrons and as a flight instructor.

Between 1954-1956, Mr. Conn attended the University of Mississippi where he studied Business Administration. He continued his education from 1959 to 1962 when his Graduate Studies in Management were completed at the University of Rochester. He attended the United States Naval War College in 1963. Mr. Conn then attended Indiana University for Doctoral Studies in Management and Economics between 1963 and 1966.

He served as Assistant Director, Chief of Naval Operations Budget Office from 1967 to 1968. As Director, Fleet Resources Office for Naval Material Command, he received a Meritorious Service Medal. His participation in formulation, justification and execution of Navy and Marine Corps budget requirements continued as the Assistant Director, Budget and Reports in the Office of Navy Comptroller from 1969 to 1972, where he was awarded the Legion of Merit.

During his Navy career, Mr. Conn conducted seminars in defense budgeting at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, the Naval War College and the National War College. He also served as a member of the Management Curricular Advisory Committee to the Dean, Navy Postgraduate School, Monterey.

Mr. Conn retired from the U.S. Navy on January 1, 1972, with the rank of Captain.

Until his return to the Navy Secretariat, Mr. Conn was associated with Arthur Andersen and Company, an international firm of public accountants. As Manager of the Federal Liaison Division, he served as a financial consultant to numerous Executive Agencies and Congressional committees. Due to a special expertise in the area of federal election campaign law, he was assigned as manager in charge of reviewing the audit process for the Federal Election Commission. He has written two books which were published by Arthur Andersen and Company, *Financial Management Systems for Political Campaigns*, 1972, and *Financial Management Guide for Federal Elections*, 1979.

Mr. Conn returned to the Navy in May 1981 as the senior financial manager. As Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial Management), Comptroller of the Navy, and Senior ADP Policy Official for the Navy he is "triple-hatted".

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE REPORT— DUE DATES FOR NEWSLETTER INPUT

Following is the remaining 1985-86 due date for input to the AGA Washington Chapter Newsletter:

May—March 24

Articles or other input are encouraged and should be forwarded to Lee Beaty (275-9430) or Anna Wilson (535-9693).

THE UPS AND DOWNS OF MEMBERSHIP —AND A FEW OOP'S

By Daniel MacGrath
Director of Membership

At the halfway point, the state of the Chapter's membership campaign is good. Good in that it seems we are doing better than in recent years. Membership growth is slightly up and our retention rate is a little better than the national average.

On the downside, as of mid-January, a large percentage of members—172 to be exact—had not renewed their AGA affiliation (or, at least, so says the computer). In the latter regard at least several daily transmittals from National Office's lockbox were not received in central office. Central office staff is busily reconstructing the missing records from the bank's check microfilm copies and hopefully by the time you read this all the missing members will be back on the rolls. If you are concerned that you might be one of the lost folks, you need not worry if you are reading this newsletter and it has your correct AGA mailing label on it. The 172, or current residual of that number, are not presently on the mailing list. Therefore, if someone mentions they are not getting their newsletter (both Chapter and National), the journal, or other mailings and have paid up, ask them to call me. On the other hand if you are aware of anyone who has actually not sent in their payment, encourage them to do so.

To those of you who were timely in your payment and received "dunning letters", please accept the apologies of both National Office and your Chapter. Your patience and understanding are sincerely appreciated.

Looking ahead, please do not forget our current one-for-one recruitment campaign. If you have not recently extended an invitation to a non-member to join the Washington Chapter please do so as soon as possible. One thing being reaffirmed from our recruitment efforts this year is that face-to-face recruitment by individual members has the best payoff. Accordingly, not only is the one-for-one recruitment campaign more important than ever but our drive to establish Assistant Membership Chairpersons throughout the various agencies is equally important. The time commitment for these positions is minimal and presents an ideal opportunity for members who would like to be active but have not been able to devote the time to the Association's more involved endeavors to participate. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact me.

New recruits into the ranks of Assistant Chairpersons include:

Julia Carlson (SEC)
Irv Isan (DOE)
Barbara Jackson (DOL)
Bob Clark (AID)
Dave Holland (Interior)

To facilitate your individual recruitment efforts a copy of the membership application is reprinted on the next page. Please feel free to reproduce it if you so desire. Those wishing to make their pitch using the full application brochure may pick one or more up at any of the regular luncheon meetings or may obtain them by calling me on 566-3717.

NEW MEMBERS

Walter J. Stachnik	SEC
Carol L. Orrell	Touche Ross & Co.
Michelle R. Moten	HHS
Joseph A. Capuano (Sponsor: Joyce Shelton)	Transportation
Elizabeth Levitt (Sponsor: Jim Miller)	State
Andrew D. Chittenden	
Karol A. Forsberg (Sponsor: Dan McGrath)	Financial Mgt. Service
John A. Husovsky	Library of Congress
Edna V. Little	Army Audit Agency
Thomas D. Lynn	Agriculture
Michael W. O'Neill (Sponsor: David Dukes)	

PAST PRESIDENTS TO BE HONORED

Past Presidents of our Chapter will be guests at the March 6th luncheon meeting. Members of this special group are:

Robert W. King (1950)
Walt F. Frese (1951)
T. Jack Gary (1952)
Andrew Barr (1953)
Harry J. Trainor (1954)
Karney A. Brasfield (1955)
Delbert J. Harrill (1956)
Raymond Einhorn (1957)
Clark L. Simpson (1958)
Gordon J. Crowder (1959)
Alfred R. Golzel (1960)
Joseph R. Hock (1961)
James L. Thompson, Jr. (1962)
Marshall Crossman (1963)
Ralph H. Keister (1964)
Jack Haney (1965)
Benjamin F. Robinson (1966)
William J. Powell (1967)
Edwin J.B. Lewis (1968)
Francis W. Lyle (1969)
Robert B. Lewis (1970)
Maurice P. Pujol (1971)
John W. Cooley (1972)
Gerald Murphy (1973)
Frank LaCava (1974)
Joseph Donlon (1975)
Audrey Dysland (1976)
Susumu Uyeda (1977)
Thomas Mundell (1978)
Jean Kerr (1979)
James Hickey (1980)
John Reifsnyder (1981)
Robert Pewanick (1982)
Kenneth Winne (1983)
Virginia Robinson (1984)

Application for Membership — Association of Government Accountants

NAME OF APPLICANT: Mr. ____ Ms. ____ Mrs. ____ Miss ____
LAST NAME ____ FIRST NAME ____ MIDDLE NAME ____ JR, II, III, OTHER ____

MAIL ADDRESS: ____
STREET NUMBER ____ STREET NAME ____
CITY ____ STATE ____ ZIP ____

OFFICE TELEPHONE ____ AREA CODE ____ NUMBER ____ EXTENSION ____
HOME TELEPHONE ____ AREA CODE ____ NUMBER ____ EXTENSION ____

I wish to become a ____ Member of AGA.
TYPE

I wish to join the Washington, D.C. Chapter.

EMPLOYER ____
Government: Federal ☐ State ☐ Local ☐
Private Employer ☐ Academia ☐ Other ____

TITLE OF MY POSITION ____

TYPE OF WORK PERFORMED: Administration ☐ Accounting ☐ Auditing ☐ Budgeting ☐ ADP ☐ Other ____
DESCRIPTION

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

SCHOOL	LOCATION (STATE)	YEAR FROM	YEAR TO	MAJOR	DEGREE

ACCREDITATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS:

	STATE	CERTIFICATE NUMBER	YEAR
☐ CPA			
☐ CIA			
☐ CMA			
☐ Other ____ (DESCRIPTION)			

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE: (List most recent experience first)

EMPLOYER	LOCATION	TITLE	POSITION SERIES AND GRADE	MONTH/YEAR FROM	MONTH/YEAR TO

Date of application ____ Signature of applicant ____

Signature of sponsor (optional) ____
NAME

____
SPONSOR'S AGA MEMBERSHIP NUMBER

Send one year's national dues with this application to:
AGA, 727 South 23rd Street, Arlington, VA 22202.
Make check payable to AGA.

Remitted herewith is $____

*** CAREER OPPORTUNITY ***

Deloitte Haskins & Sells is looking for a mid-level auditor for their Federal Government Services Office in Washington, D.C. DCAA experience required. Call Mr. Starrett at (202) 862-3596.

NEW COLLECTIONS LEGISLATION

By Susan Bartell
Financial Management Service

On October 1, 1985, the portion of the Deficit Reduction Act (Section 2652), known as the Collection and Deposit Legislation, became effective. This legislation gives Treasury new authority in the field of Cash Management, by allowing Treasury to mandate how agencies will collect their money and the timeframe within which these funds must be deposited. Agencies not complying with the regulations may be charged an amount equal to the interest lost to the General Fund for such noncompliance.

One of the provisions of the new regulation is that agencies will begin to conduct their own cash management reviews. Agencies will be responsible for identifying new cash management opportunities and for making all internal improvements not requiring the use of a Treasury-assisted mechanism. Where Treasury's assistance is required, implementation dates and milestones will be established in consultation with the agency. The guidelines necessary for agencies to perform reviews and internal evaluations are contained in the recently published Cash Management Review Guide.

A training seminar for all agencies was held on November 8, 1985, in the Treasury Department Auditorium, to brief them on the new procedures required by the legislation. The keynote address was given by Carole J. Dineen, Associate Director for Management, OMB (formerly Treasury's Fiscal Assistant Secretary). Representatives from Treasury's lockbox banks were present to discuss the various cash management mechanisms available for agency use and to answer questions about specific agency applications. There are three additional training sessions scheduled for Calendar Year 1986. The first of these sessions was conducted the last week of January, for those agencies whose cash management reviews are due by April 30. The session to be held in April will be for those agencies whose reviews are due July 30, and the last session will be in June for agencies whose reviews are due September 30. For additional information on the legislation or the seminars, please contact Rita Howard (634-5783).

BECAUSE IT CONCERNS ME . . .

By Gary Palmquist

As the realities of Gramm/Rudman/Hollings become more obvious, we need to consider what we can do to better manage the funding cutbacks. My message this month is to the auditors in the Federal Government. Of course I'm prejudiced, but I think auditors are a wonderfully talented group. And I think now is the time for each Inspector General or Audit Unit head to forcefully offer that talent to their agencies. It is time we set aside our waste, fraud, and abuse audits, our routine audits, and our program audits and concentrate on cost reduction reviews. In some cases, cost reduction/cost savings audits look about the same as waste audits or program audits; but generally, they should be quicker and have less depth.

I've been through major cost cutbacks, furloughs, and RIFs and I can tell you nothing much gets done by the agency during those times. So why bother with normal auditing when you can help direct the cutback towards where it will do the most good and the least harm? My point is that the Balanced Budget Act is not going to allow most agencies to do business as usual. So why should the auditors do business as usual? Auditors have the skill, the knowledge, the insight, and the ability to help their agencies direct their cutbacks to the most harmless areas. I think auditors should step forward now and help. As you meet with success in finding ways to save money, we at AGA will be happy to pass along your stories which may benefit others, Write to AGA, Washington Chapter, P.O. Box 423, Washington, D.C. 20044.

TAX ASSISTANCE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

By Joe Perricone, Public Service Coordinator

The Volunteers in Tax Assistance Program (VITA) needs more volunteers. As AGA members and concerned citizens, we can demonstrate our commitment to our community by contributing a small amount of time and talent to this worthwhile program. The need for assistance in preparing simple tax returns for the elderly and minority persons in the Washington, D.C. area is great. Those of us who have had prior tax assistance training or experience, and especially our CPA members have the necessary qualifications and can make a difference in responding to this need. Just a few hours in the evening or on weekends at a VITA tax preparation center is a true public service and an opportunity for personal growth. Don't overlook the professional benefits from honing your tax preparation skills either.

Please call me and I'll be happy to assist you in finding convenient placement. Many of the centers are located right in your own community! Won't you take a moment now and consider participating as a VITA volunteer? I can be reached on 245-6236.

THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE: COMING OUT OF THE WOODS

(Editor's Note: Roscoe L. Egger, Jr., Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service, was guest speaker at the Chapter's January 9, 1986, luncheon meeting. Following is a summary of his remarks developed and submitted by David Dukes, Chapter Program Director.)

Mr. Egger began his talk on a humorous note. He suggested that perhaps he ought to attend AGA's workshop on integrating large scale data processing systems (which clearly was in reference to IRS's computer problems last year). Since he believed he had heard enough about IRS's 1985 problems, Mr. Egger said he would focus much of his remarks on the 1986 filing season.

Mr. Egger expressed confidence that although not all of the problems are solved, 1986 would be a better year by far than 1985. He stated that he feels comfortable about all aspects of IRS's operations but one—and that's the people problem which backs up into budget and resources. He suggested that Gramm-Rudman could take its toll, even though IRS can produce an 8 to 1 return on every dollar spent.

Clearly, he said, without automation today, tax administration would be a disaster. Over the years, IRS has been known for its productivity improvement . . . until last year. To rectify last year's computer processing problems, IRS has debugged its software and has greatly accelerated the installation of additional hardware to give the agency about 50 percent greater capacity this year over last year.

Other problems are being addressed as well—catching mistakes early and trying to correct them; communicating better within the organization and with the public, too; training the staff better; and emphasizing quality.

Despite the problems of 1985, Mr. Egger pointed to some achievements. The Automated Collection System, which was designed two years ago, is now operational at 21 sites around the country. In the first six months of FY 1985, collections were increased about 40 percent over prior years. The cost of closing a case dropped from $47 to $13, and savings were more than $25 million for the six-month period.

Mr. Egger said that IRS is now developing and piloting an automated examination system. IRS will soon acquire 15,000 lap-top computers which revenue agents will carry on the job with them to the taxpayers' sites. The system is expected to be in place by the end of this decade for both field and office audits, with expected productivity savings of about 20 percent.

To address "management in the 90's," Mr. Egger said that IRS has joined forces with nine private sector organizations in a research project sponsored by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The project will study how technological change affects organizations and the people in those organizations.

Mr. Egger reminded his audience of the need for the accounting profession to improve the public's confidence in its work. He suggested that the AGA ought to play an active role in the debate now going on regarding how public accountants should improve their accountability.

Turning attention to the two-year test of the refund offset program authorized in the Tax Reform Act of 1984, Mr. Egger said that IRS is cooperating with five agencies to collect overdue debt. They are SBA, VA, Education, Agriculture, and HUD. He expressed concern that the offset program might adversely affect the filing habits of affected taxpayers; so, it is important that this be looked at carefully. Mr. Egger said that the program pieces are falling into place. The certified debtor tapes have now been provided by the five agencies to IRS for processing. He mentioned that the refund offset program begun in 1982 for delinquent payments for child and spousal support has been successful. The 1985 figures show that about 490,000 refunds were tapped or a total of about $239 million—a considerable step up of collections over 1984.

In closing, Mr. Egger said that 1985 was a teeter-totter year for badly needed tax reform. As the Senate now moves forward with its deliberations, with lobbyists inundatng Capitol Hill, Mr. Egger suggested that we have two choices to achieve tax reform. Either we can battle it out each in our own little bailiwick, or preferably we can share our experiences and work together.

Yes, but will our refunds be on time this year? AGAers intensely absorbed in IRS Commissioner Egger's speech at January luncheon.

THIRD PARTY PAYMENT SYSTEM —THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE PERSPECTIVE

By Marge Clark, Department of Justice

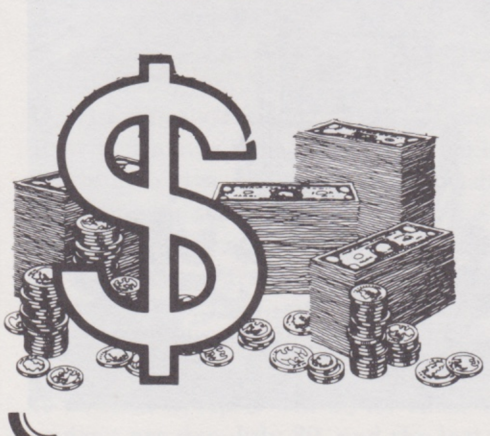
The Department of Justice (DOJ) participated in a pilot test of the third party draft system conducted by the Treasury Department's Financial Management Service. This is a system whereby cashiers issue third party drafts, instead of cash, to pay for small purchases, travel advances, and any other items for which they are authorized to pay. Specifically, this payment process works as follows: First, the payee negotiates the draft through his/her bank; then the draft flows through the banking system to the contractor who subsequently advises DOJ, the payor, that the draft was presented for payment; and lastly, DOJ makes payment to the contractor.

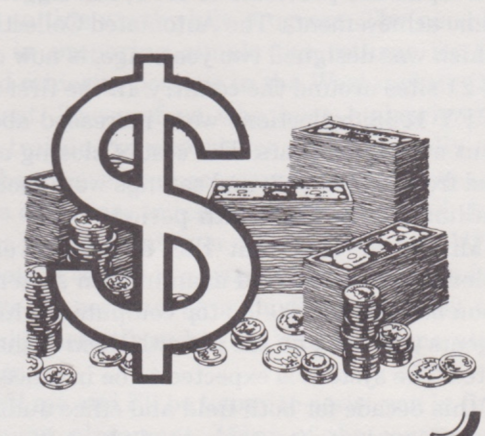
The availability of the draft system offers agencies a new mechanism for making payments. Prior to the draft, payments, generally could be made in one of two ways: either through the issuance of checks or electronic payments ordered by each agency and prepared by one of the appointed check issuing agents, (for civil agencies this is generally the U.S. Treasury Department); or with small payments, in cash by persons entrusted with cash for this purpose, (designated as imprest fund cashiers).

The timing for this test was auspicious. We were in the process of establishing a number of additional cashiers at various locations across the country and the third party draft system gave us a feasible alternative to maintaining cash on hand at these offices. Freeing cash for other uses proved advantageous for us in numerous ways. Besides, the more obvious savings associated with improved cash management, this payment technique allowed us to realize other management savings, such as the ability to capture payment data more quickly and the availability of additional audit trails over payment activity. Also, cash need no longer by physically secured while in the cashier's safekeeping, and there is no time period required to replenish the cash supply after a period of unusual drawdown. In addition, the draft system also provided a means for making immediate payments thereby avoiding the loss of a time discount or the incurrence of a prompt payment penalty.

When establishing our use of the system in the test, we were able to work with Treasury and the contractor to design the draft to meet our purposes. In using it, we found wide acceptance of the draft; as a matter of fact, we know of only one instance where it was not accepted in the same manner as a Treasury check. We now issue about 2,000 drafts each month from 21 locations and have developed an automated system to control the issuance of the blank stock to each of the cashiers, to collect the related accounting and payment data, and to pay the contractor for the drafts cleared.

Treasury has determined that third party drafts are a viable alternative for imprest fund operations, and is currently developing procedures and guidelines for agencies interested in using the optional third party draft system. The cost of obtaining and using the system will be an agency responsibility. From our experience, we believe the advantages of the system warrant investigation and evaluation by all agencies. We are not in the business of selling the program, but it did work well for us. We would be happy to discuss our use of the system with any interested agency. You are welcome to call Marge Clark of the Justice Department's Financial Operations Section at 633-3185.





NEWS FROM NATIONAL

FOUR MAJOR TASK FORCES TO REPORT Four task forces, one a hold-over from last year and three created by current National President June Brown, are scheduled to deliver final reports and recommendations at the third regular meeting of AGA's National Executive Committee (NEC) in February. Their recommendations, and subsequent action by the NEC, could bring significant changes to the Association. The task forces are:

1. The Certification Task Force, chaired by Jack Moore, which has examined the need and desirability of a certification program in government accounting, and AGA's possible role in such a program.
2. The Task Force on Nominations and Elections, chaired by James B. Thomas.
3. The Task Force on AGA Organizational Structure, chaired by Past National President Frederick A. Heim, Jr.
4. The Task Force on Sponsorship of AGA Activities, chaired by Past National President John Cooley.

FINAL ON TAX HANDBOOKS At mid-January, your AGA National Office was still receiving daily calls from chapters and individuals wanting additional copies of the Prentice-Hall tax handbook. Unfortunately, the purchasing arrangement with the publisher closed on December 16, the date of the last shipments from the P-H warehouse, and the National Office was unable to respond to these requests. Invoices for the shipments went out to chapters about January 8, and this year's program is thus about completed. See you next year!

THE NEW OLYMPIA CHAPTER—FINALLY! Two months back, NEWS FROM NATIONAL announced the installation of the new Olympia, Washington, Chapter on November 26. This was the plan, at least, at the time the copy was prepared. However, a severe early winter storm hit that area at about that time, and chapter officials prudently put the installation ceremonies on hold. The new installation date was set for February 13.

MAIN PDC PUBLICITY FLYER OUT IN MARCH Your January issue of TOPICS newsletter carried a four-page spread on this year's Professional Development Conference (PDC) coming up in June in Baltimore. More complete details, including specific topics and speakers, will be carried in the main PDC publicity flyer to be mailed to each individual AGA member in March. Watch for it, and start planning *now* for your attendance in Baltimore on June 23-25!

MEMBER PROFILE— DEATRICE RUSSELL

Deatrice Russell graduated magna cum laude from Southeastern University in 1977 with a B.S. degree in accounting. After graduation she went to work for the Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service where she audited state records and implemented new systems in the state offices. In 1980 she began working in the Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Services, where she was involved in their debt and cash management programs. She worked closely with the Office of Management and Budget and the various HHS administrations to improve debt collection practices throughout the agency.

Deatrice began working at her present job in the Department of the Treasury in May 1985, and has been deeply involved in Treasury's efforts to assess and improve its fiscal systems in connection with the Federal Manager's Financial Integrity Act. She also coordinated the 1985 FMFIA report for Secretary Baker's signature.

Deatrice has been a member of AGA since 1978, and has worked for several years with the AGA's VITA program. She presently serves as AGA representative to the National Council of Associations for Policy Sciences (NCAPS). The organization sponsors symposiums on major policy issues, workshops on improvements in administration and organization, leadership seminars, and consolidates member organization calendars. Deatrice sees her AGA membership as an important component in her continued professional growth.

CHANGING YOUR ADDRESS

The easiest and surest 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
727 South 23rd Street, Suite 120
Arlington, Virginia 22201

ABOUT CHAPTER MEMBERS

Charles McAndrew, our prolific Did You Know columnist, has left GAO for a position with the Navy Accounting and Finance Center in Crystal City (with a promotion yet). Good luck, Chuck. GAO will miss you.

Dennis Duquette has been appointed Associate Director in GAO's Accounting and Financial Management Division. Dennis is in charge of GAO's financial statement audits of government corporations and similar business-type activities.

On a sad note, long time AGAers will be sorry to learn of the death of **R. Michael Ring** in St. Petersburg, Florida in late January. Mr. Ring was a key member of the group which banded together in the early fifties to establish what is now the Association of Government Accountants. The Washington Chapter joins AGAers everywhere in extending our heartfelt condolences to Mr. Ring's family, and expressing our deep appreciation of his pioneering leadership in our organization.

Gerald Murphy has recently been appointed Treasury's Fiscal Assistant Secretary. A long-time asset to Treasury, most notably as Acting Fiscal Assistant Secretary, Jerry Murphy has also been quite active and a strong supporter of AGA for some time. He served as the Washington Chapter President in 1973, and is also a past National President, as well as a recipient of AGA's Robert W. King Memorial Award. Many congratulations and best wishes are extended to you, Jerry!

Call us with your news about chapter members (Lee Beaty, 275-9430, or Anna Wilson, 535-9693).

PARTNERSHIPS WITH EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

By Joyce D. Shelton
Director, Cooperation with Educational Institutions

The Washington Chapter is currently contacting area colleges and universities to obtain the names of outstanding accounting students. One student from each institution and his/her faculty sponsor will be honored at our April 3 Chapter Meeting. The student will also receive a certificate and a one-year's subscription to the *Government Accountants Journal.*

The Committee is also evaluating expanding our existing scholarship program to other local colleges and universities and providing employment opportunities as interns or co-ops for students interested in the accounting/financial fields. Efforts are also continuing to establish a chapter partnership with an accounting club of a local institution.

The Chapter's effort to maintain a strong liaison with local colleges and universities is an important one, and we are continually searching for ways to broaden and strengthen our relationships. Joyce Shelton, who chairs the Committee on Relationships with Educational Institutions, welcomes any suggestions or ideas you may have in this regard (426-3504).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

If you hurry you can still register for the National Academy of Public Administration's March 5 workshop at the Washington Hilton on "Streamlining Internal Control Review Systems: Greater Management Control at Lower Cost". Speakers include Comptroller General Charles Bowsher and OMB's Joseph Wright. For info or registration call Ms. Gari Thompson at NAPA (347-3190).

Joel R. Feidelman, Partner, Fried, Frank, Harris, Scheiver & Jacobson, will be guest speaker at Montgomery-Prince George's Chapter's March 12 dinner meeting. The speaker's topic will be on "Fraud, Waste, & Abuse: A Solution in Search of a Problem." Social begins at 6 p.m.; cost is $14. Location is the Lanham Ramada. Call Frank Marshall, 755-4671, for reservations. Prior to the meeting, a one-half day workshop on Fraud, Waste, & Abuse in Government Contracting will be presented. Contact Joe Modafferi (588-0521) or Dick Pelletier (245-0621) for information.

The Northern Virginia Chapter's next dinner meeting will be held on March 18 at the Springfield Imperial 400. OMB Management Analyst Steve Mertens will speak on "Perceived" Effectiveness of the IG Community." Social hour begins at 6 p.m.; cost is $13. Call Martin Starling, 756-2915, for reservations. The meeting will be preceded by an all day conference on "Fraud in the Procurement Process". Fee is $73 (which covers the dinner meeting also).

Keep March 18 open on your calendar for the Joint Financial Management Improvement Program's 15th Financial Management Conference. The conference will highlight sessions on how financial managers can tackle the challenge associated with our changing financial environment where congressional proposals for budget reductions are being considered. The cost of the one-day conference is $75. Nomination forms will be accepted until March 4. For information on registration procedures, contact Tom Uttley, Tom Gate, Ed Murphy, or Bob French on (202) 632-5600. For information other than registration procedures, contact Bob Loring at JFMIP on 376-5415.

Plan Now For
The PDC
June 23-25, 1986
Baltimore, MD

DID YOU KNOW . . .

By Charles McAndrew

—This month we are continuing a previous article featuring some of the financial divisions or groups at the Department of the Treasury.

—The Computer Services Division provides data processing and telecommunications services in support of the Treasury headquarters operations. This division has installed a second computer, upgraded its operating systems and implemented a multisystem networking facility to allow any eligible terminal user to access any application on any computer in the system. Acquisition of the IBM 3081 will provide more sophisticated financial analytical tools and techniques. Eventually, the central facility's system will be connected directly into the Federal Reserve Bank System network.

—The Consulting Services Division provides technical assistance to users to define their system needs in carrying out operational procedures and financial management policy. The division is staffed with accountants and analysts who respond to requirements received from a variety of sources such as legislation, policy determinations, technological advancements, and cost reduction initiatives. One major project underway is the Government On-Line accounting Link System (GOALS) for which this division has component marketing responsibility. This project, which is a joint effort with the FMS will help agencies to improve their internal operations by establishing telecommunications facilities, which can be accessed by all Government agencies, reducing the Treasury's and agency's dependence on labor intensive, paper-based processes, and implementing and/or improving current automated processes directly related to their payment, collection, accounting and reporting functions.

—The Technology and Information Group plans for and acquires the computer and communication resources necessary to support FMS's mission. The staff has a highly technical data processing orientation.

The primary thrust of this new group is to enable the Service to utilize the ever changing advances in computer and telecommunications technologies. The intent is to upgrade FMS's capabilities by searching the public and private sectors for advanced practices in the technological areas. The study of such technology is integral to planning and implementation processes and Treasury efforts to improve productivity. Likewise, professional guidance may be more readily provided to system developers and users. This group will be working at Prince George's Plaza and will have a Local Area Network (LAN) due to the early efforts of the Group. The project team is handling the implementation of this automatic high-speed method of connecting communicating devices (computer terminals and personal computers) to share files and information.

T.I.G. has been instrumental in the acquisition of the new IBM 3081 Computer. The ability to accomplish the group's developmental objectives will be enhanced by the new system. The computer will provide a capability to develop the systems necessary to support FMS's programs. The outlook is favorable that the IBM 3081 will be installed at P.G. Plaza and become an integral part of Treasury's data processing operations.

—Any questions on Treasury's activities, please call Andy Montgomery on 566-6576.

—Don't forget to call me on 695-1070 with your financial management news, systems development projects, or similar items of interest.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT

By Ken George, Chapter Secretary

The Washington Chapter Executive Committee met at noon on Thursday January 30 for the fifth regularly scheduled meeting of the 1985/1986 year.

The minutes of the November 21st board meeting were approved.

The Treasurer's Report was submitted by Carol Lynch who noted that income was down, primarily due to the drop in attendance for our Education events. Because it was projected that proposed legislation will further decrease the chapter's income, ways were discussed to decrease various expenses projected in our budget. It was noted that the underwriter of our liability insurance has changed.

The President, Susan Lee, reported that two National Office memorandums, 86-04 and 86-06, had been received. 86-04 dealt with how other chapters could establish Speaker's Bureaus similar to ours and 86-06 reported that Don Kirkendahl had been nominated as National President elect.

The President-Elect, Gary Palmquist, reported on mid-year chapter revisions. The following expense items were increased:

The Committee on Cooperation with Professional Organizations increased their expenses by $300 for membership in the Roundtable and $30 in NCAPS, the officers increased their expense by $40 for distinguished visitor lunches and the Newsletter increased their expenses by $3,300 to a total of $12,300. This increase was due primarily to the publication expenses associated with the increase in the number of pages in the newsletter.

It was agreed that the Treasurer and President-Elect would meet separately to finalize the budget and report packages.

The Education Committee reported that the TGIF luncheons "broke even."

The Research Chairman, Gail Young, stated that we had achieved the maximum points (900) given in her category for the Chapter Competition. Out of the 16 proposals for research that the National Office received, the Washington Chapter had submitted four. A brief description of the proposals was given. (Please note that these proposals were explained at the February 6 luncheon meeting.)

The Chapter Competition chairman, Jean Bowles, reviewed the areas where the Washington Chapter could still score points.

The Meetings Chairman, Judith Boyd, noted that our former reservation person had resigned and that we would need a new reservations number for our monthly meetings. Gail Young mentioned that FEIAA had contracted the service out and it was agreed to explore using the same service. The chairman also noted a problem with reservation "no-shows." It was agreed to study options to resolve this problem.

The Membership Chairman, Dan McGrath, noted that there is computer lag at the National Office and that our membership figures are incorrect. The committee is doing very well at attracting new members. He also reported the offer made by Mr. Sokol to have a free AGA membership drive booth at the annual Government Cash Managers' Conference.

Under the general discussion agenda item, the Executive Committee discussed the possibility of again permitting advertising in the Chapter newsletter. This would help offset the costs of publishing it. A committee was formed to develop a policy on ads and to report back on this policy to the Executive Committee.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, February 27, 1986.

Meeting adjourned 1:30 p.m.

LONG TIME—NO SEE

Long time AGA member Philip Field came from Tucson, Arizona to join us at our October luncheon meeting. He was a CPA in California and Hawaii having earned the scond highest grade in the United States on the examination. He ended his professional career in the Foreign Service, State Department, as controller of Foreign Aid.

NEWSLETTER

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