

# The Washington Connection

ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS  
WASHINGTON DC CHAPTER

MAY 2006

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Would you like to receive e-mail reminders of our monthly meetings and conferences? If so, please log on to the AGA National website at <https://members.agacgfm.org> to verify that all of your contact information is up-to-date (you will need your AGA member id and password).

## May 18th AGA-DC Luncheon — Measuring Performance and Accountability: the CEAR Program and Mercatus Center

*by Scott Bell, AGA-DC President-Elect and Director of Programs*

The DC Chapter's final luncheon for the 2005-2006 season will feature two renowned, distinguished speakers, Hal Steinberg and Maurice McTigue, who will discuss the standards of excellence in federal accountability and performance reporting and assessment methods as developed by both the AGA's Certificate of Excellence in Accountability Reporting Program (CEAR) and the Mercatus Center's Annual Performance Report Scorecard. The luncheon will be held Thursday, May 18 at the Zola restaurant at 800 F Street, NW, adjacent to the International Spy Museum.

Hal Steinberg, CGFM, CPA, is a technical consultant under contract to AGA, and currently oversees the AGA's Certificate of Excellence in Accountability Reporting (CEAR) program. Through the program, AGA advises agencies on how to prepare integrated and user-friendly Performance and Accountability Reports that clearly show what an agency accomplished with taxpayer dollars and the challenges that remain. Agencies that participate in the program submit their Performance and Accountability Report to a five-member review team for an in-depth evaluation. These five individuals assess the report using the CEAR Reviewer Guidelines and then provide detailed recommendations for improving the effectiveness of the report. Agencies with reports that are considered excellent are awarded the Certificate of Excellence in Accountability Reporting.

*continued on page 8*

## May Luncheon

*Getting to Green, and Everything In Between! Luncheon Series*

**Hal Steinberg, CEAR Program  
Maurice McTigue, Mercatus Center**

Thursday, May 18th Luncheon: 11:30am – 1:30pm

Members: \$25.00, Non-Members: \$30.00

For more details, see <http://agadc.org/mlunch2.php>

Register online at <https://secure.serve.com/AGADC/lform2.php>

Zola restaurant • 800 F Street, NW (next to the International Spy Museum)  
(one block from the Gallery Place/Chinatown red/yellow/green line Metro)

**Do not forget to bring donations of used eyeglasses and cell phones.**

# President's Message

by Lisa Casias, President



Ms. Lisa Casias, President

Dear Chapter Members,

Over 130 AGA members and guests attended the Chapter's 47th Annual Awards Dinner on Wednesday, April 26, 2006, at the Pier 7 Restaurant. We were pleased to recognize leaders from the federal government and private sector for their significant contributions to improving federal financial

management. In addition, we also recognized those individuals that have made significant contributions to the AGA at both the Chapter and National levels. John Kasich, FOX News Channel Host and former Congressman delivered the Keynote Address. Mr. Kasich gave an enthusiastic presentation about the importance of making a difference and how we can do that through the choices we all make in our lives. He also inspired those in attendance to continue to make a difference in the financial management arena through increasing financial accountability.

The Board Members for the 2006 – 2007 program year are set in place and planning is underway for the upcoming year. There are many opportunities to become involved with the Chapter's activities during the course of the year. Please contact Scott Bell at [scott.bell@hhs.gov](mailto:scott.bell@hhs.gov) with suggestions for activities or to express an interest in working on one of the many committees.

**Professional Development:** Our last educational luncheon series of the 2005 – 2006 program year will be held on Thursday, May 18 and will feature Hal Steinberg and Maurice McTigue. Mr. Steinberg currently oversees the AGA's Certificate of Excellence in Accountability Reporting (CEAR) program while Mr. McTigue is the director of the Government Accountability Project at the Mercatus Center. This luncheon is a must for anyone that wants to raise the bar on government accountability. The location will be at Zola's restaurant located next to the International Spy museum. You can register for this educational event at [www.agadc.org](http://www.agadc.org). Monthly educational luncheons will start again in September.

**Early Careers:** A group of our early career members were provided the opportunity to dramatically increase their knowledge in federal financial management with a course geared to preparing them to obtain certification as a government financial manager. We would like to thank Grant Thornton for providing space for this educational event and to Ken Bresnahan, AGA-DC CGFM Coordinator, for coordinating the training. Please continue to reach out to those early career financial professionals within your organization to encourage them to strive for this important certification and promote their involvement with the AGA.

**Member Services:** There are several more events planned in the upcoming months. On Sunday, May 28, we will meet at Wolf Trap to see the "President's Own" United States Marine band followed by fireworks. The date for our chapter's trip to the National's baseball game is set for June 10 against the Phillies; additional details will be posted to our website during the month of May. See page 11-12 for details about these events. In addition, planning is underway for our annual golf tournament, which is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, July 13.

**Community Service:** Our Chapter will be recognized at this year's AGA Professional Development Conference in San Diego, CA for its Community Service efforts. Thank you to all of the Chapter members who have donated and participated in the many activities this year. The opportunities to assist others in need would not have been possible without both Tonya Allen-Shaw and Lloyd Farmer leading our Chapter's efforts.

As usual, all of the upcoming year's activities can be found on our chapter's website, [www.agadc.org](http://www.agadc.org), in addition to the monthly newsletter, *The Washington Connection*. You can contact the Officers and Directors if you are interested in assisting with any of the chapter activities or to provide suggestions on enhancing the programs we offer. The 2005 – 2006 Officers and Directors' list can be found in this newsletter and on our website.

Sincerely,  
Lisa Casias

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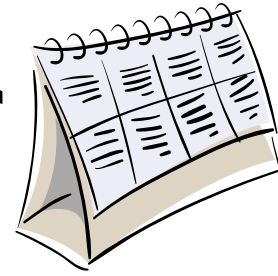
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# AGA-DC Events Calendar



## May 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

AGA-DC Events have a border.

### Schedule of Events

**May 3 – 4 – AGA-DC’s Annual Spring Conference**  
(see page 25 of April 2006 newsletter)

**May 8 – 12 – ICGFM International Conference on New Developments in Governmental Financial Management**  
(see page 30 of April 2006 newsletter)

**May 18 – Monthly Luncheon**  
(see front page)

**May 19 – Early Registration Deadline for the AGA PDC**  
(see page 20)

**May 24 – AABPA Spring 2006 Symposium – Budgeting For Disasters**  
(see page 31 of April 2006 newsletter)

**May 28 – Wolf Trap Event**  
(see page 11)

**May 29 – Memorial Day (Federal Holiday)**

## June 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

### Schedule of Events

**June 10 – Washington Nationals Baseball Game**  
(see page 12)

AGA-DC Events have a border.

## 2006 Schedule of Events

Mark these dates on your calendar so you do not miss any of these fabulous events! Check future newsletters or the AGA-DC website at [www.agadc.org](http://www.agadc.org) for more details.

Date	Type of Event	Activity
May 2	Chapter Meeting	Monthly meeting of the chapter officers and directors
May 3-4	Conference	Annual AGA-DC Conference (see page 25 of April 2006 newsletter)
May 18	Luncheon	Monthly Luncheon (see front page)
May 28	Member Services	Wolf Trap Event (see page 11)
May	Community Service	Lion's Club Eyeglass Recycling Program (see page 14)
June 10	Member Services	Washington Nationals Game (see page 12)
June	Community Service	Collect used cell phones for HopeLine (see page 14)
July 13	Member Services	ASMC/AGA Golf Tournament

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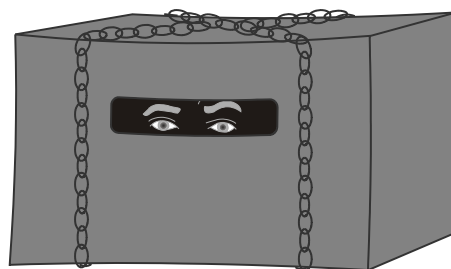
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# Inside the Black Box

by Simcha Kuritzky, CGFM CPA



## An Immodest Proposal III . . . (Appropriated Fixed Asset Life Cycle without Budgetary Accounts)

### Introduction

In my last column, I proposed federal accounting without budgetary accounts to see what could be gained and what was lost. I already covered the basic appropriated budget and spending cycle as well as reimbursements. This time I show how fixed assets purchases, depreciation, and disposals could be accounted for in an appropriated fund.

### Set up (net effect of entries A104, A116, B202 and B204 described in my March 2006 column)

Debit 1020 FBWT - Appropriations - new  
Credit 3130 Obligated Authority

Note: This combined entry shows the net postings for an appropriation, apportionment, and obligation. I forgot to mention in my previous columns that all cash accounts, including 1020 above and 1040 below, close to 1010 Fund Balance with Treasury - Beginning Balance.

### B107 Purchase fixed asset and disburse funds

Debit 1750 Equipment  
8802 Purchases of Capitalized Assets – Appropriated  
Credit 1040 FBWT – Disbursements – new  
8801 Authority Used for Purchases

Note: Account 8802 closes into 3130, just as 6101 does for purchases of services or non-capitalized assets. Since expenditures are already treated as a kind of obligation (see line 8 of the Statement of Budgetary Resources), expending the order does not change the status of the authority, so I leave the balance obligated in 3130 until annual close. Account 8802 also takes the place of 5700 Expended Appropriations and 3107 Unexpended Appropriations – Used. Account 1040 takes the place of both 1010 and 4902 Delivered Orders - Obligations, Paid, and closes to 1010. Account 8801 closes to 3210 Appropriated Capital. So this transaction will effectively transfer balances from 3130 to 3210 during annual close.

I had considered creating an account 1751 Equipment Purchases Using Appropriated Funds, which would close into 1750, but then there was no account to close into 3130, and if I posted 3130 directly at purchase time, I would be treating capital purchase expenditures differently from non-capital ones.

I also do not like closing purchases to 3310 Cumulative Results of Operations (in the SGL, 3310 is credited when 5700 is closed). In the private sector, Cumulative Results of Operations is primarily the net of prior-year revenues and expenses. If an owner gives the company money to purchase equipment, it goes in the owner's equity account. So why would the purchase of an asset by a federal agency increase Cumulative Results of Operations? It makes more sense to store up the financing source in a separate equity account, just as if Congress owned a company. Account 3210 Funded Capital is liquidated when the asset is depreciated or disposed of.

*continued on page 7*

# An Immodest Proposal III . . . (Appropriated Fixed Asset Life Cycle without Budgetary Accounts)

(continued from page 6)

## D514 Depreciate Equipment - Appropriated

Debit 6710 Unfunded Depreciation, Amortization, and Depletion  
Credit 1759 Accumulated Depreciation on Equipment

Note: This entry is identical to the current SGL. Account 6710 closes to 3210. Since appropriations fund the purchase and not the use of an asset, there are no direct postings to equity.

## C310 Equipment Disposal - Depreciation

Debit 1759 Accumulated Depreciation on Equipment  
Credit 1750 Equipment

Note: This is the same as in the SGL, except that I split it out from all the other disposal activity. I believe that when debit credit pairs are presented without dollar amounts, they should always be for the same dollar amount.

## C311 Equipment Disposal - Collected

Debit 1040 FBWT - Disbursements - new  
Credit 1750 Equipment

Note: This entry is made in the appropriated fund if the amounts are immediately used for the purchase of a replacement (i.e., a trade in). If the trade in will be made at a later date, or if the agency is not allowed to use the proceeds, then the appropriated fund instead posts to 5730 Financing Sources Transferred Out Without Reimbursement. This entry is always made for the amount of cash collected, even if it exceeds the asset book value.

## C312 Equipment Disposal - Loss

Debit 7210 Losses on Disposition of Assets - Appropriated Capital  
Credit 1750 Equipment

Note: Any remaining book value (debit balances only) is written off. This entry is posted for the entire book value if the asset is donated to the public. Account 7210 closes to 3210.

## C313 Equipment Disposal - Gain

Debit 1750 Equipment  
Credit 7110 Gains on Disposition of Assets - Appropriated Capital

Note: If cash collected exceeds book value, then the asset now has a credit balance. To write off the remaining book value, debit the asset to bring the balance back to zero and the offset is the gain. Account 7110 closes to 3210.

## Conclusion

Since most fixed asset entries have no budget component, my model is close to that of the SGL, though I resurrected account 3210, formerly called Capital Investments, which the SGL Board eliminated in Treasury Financial Manual transmittal letter S2-97-01. Next time, I will go through this same life cycle for reimbursable funds.



*Comments and critiques, as well as specific questions or suggestions for future topics, are always welcome. Send them to [Simcha.Kuritzky@cgifederal.com](mailto:Simcha.Kuritzky@cgifederal.com), and not to the AGA.*

*This column is provided as part of a free exchange of ideas in federal accounting, and is not reviewed substantively before publication.*

## May 18th AGA-DC Luncheon — Measuring Performance and Accountability: the CEAR and Mercatus Center (continued from front page)

A retired partner from KPMG LLP, Mr. Steinberg headed the firm's practice with state and local governments for eight years. During that time, he was a co-author of the landmark Financial Accounting Standards Board research report titled "Reporting Service Efforts and Accomplishments." Shortly after, he was appointed to the Governmental Accounting Standards Board task force on reporting service efforts and accomplishments and serves as a member to this date. Mr. Steinberg was also the first Deputy Controller and Acting Controller of the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB's) Office of Federal Financial Management, established in 1991 to guide the implementation of the newly-enacted Chief Financial Officers Act. In that position, he had a major role guiding Federal agencies to establish and report performance measures, not only as required by the Government Performance and Results Act, but also to prepare annual Performance and Accountability Reports.

Maurice McTigue joined the Mercatus Center in 1997 as a Distinguished Visiting Scholar following an illustrious career as a New Zealand Member of Parliament, Cabinet Minister and Ambassador. Prior to his arrival in the United States, Mr. McTigue led an ambitious and extremely successful effort to restructure New Zealand's public sector and to revitalize its stagnant economy in the 1984-94 period, including serving as the National Party's Junior Whip, Spokesman for Works, Irrigation, Transport and Fisheries, and Minister of Employment and Associate Minister of Finance.

As director of the Government Accounting Project at Mercatus Center, Mr. McTigue is sharing the lessons of his practical experience with policymakers in the United States. He works with officials in the Administration, members of Congress, officials from over 23 federal agencies and state governments on applying the principles of transparency and accountability in the public sector. He has provided extensive strategic-level advice to the OMB on a wide range of management issues, including the development of a results-based program assessment tool. He frequently speaks at conferences on performance issues and testifies before congressional committees on issues of government reform. On April 18, the Mercatus Center released the "Annual Performance Report Scorecard," ranking the 24 largest federal agencies according to the quality of disclosure in their performance and accountability reports.

We hope that you can join us and our distinguished speakers for our final luncheon event of the season. Attendance is limited, so please register early.

### ***Request for Newsletter Submissions, Comments, or Suggestions***

Do you have any comments or suggestions regarding the newsletter? Do you have an article you would like to see in print? Have you developed a time-saving process or procedure on the job? Have you traveled to any interesting locations? *The Washington Connection* requests that you submit any and all items of interest to our federal, state, and local members including: reviews of recently published books related to financial management; unique travel experiences or assignments; lessons learned on rollouts of new systems; appointments or promotions; employment opportunities; and noteworthy accomplishments by our members. We also welcome digital photos that accompany your submission.

The deadline for submitting articles to appear in the June 2006 issue is May 12, 2006. Please send your comments and contributions to the newsletter editor, Julia Ranagan, at [ranaganj@fasab.gov](mailto:ranaganj@fasab.gov). Guidelines for submission of articles and letters to the editor are located at <http://www.agadc.org/documents/artsubguide.doc>.





## AGA-DC Profile of the Month

### Simcha Kuritzky, Publications



**Simcha Kuritzky**  
Publications

**Name:**

*Simcha Laib Kuritzky*

**Title/Firm:**

*Senior Consultant, CGI Federal*

**In what other position(s) have you worked?**

*I was an auditor and consultant with Deloitte Haskins + Sells (now Deloitte & Touche) in Baltimore for two years.*

**How long have you been a member of AGA?**

*Since 1993, so 13 years. The first year I was a member of the Montgomery/PG County Chapter, but they always held their meetings on the same evening as another organization, so I could never go. Then I switched to the DC Chapter.*

**What has been the biggest obstacle in getting where you are today?**

*About five years into my career at AMS (now CGI Federal), my manager expected me to move from consulting to project management. However, I liked the actual analysis and especially working through accounting issues, and I did not like managing people and tracking resources. My refusal to move into management stalled my career for two years, until I got a new manager.*

**How has AGA helped you with your career?**

*My new manager realized that I was more valuable to the firm as a subject matter expert on federal accounting than as a project manager. She suggested I join the AGA, and later take on a more active role to enhance my visibility within the federal accounting community. I regularly attend seminars by AGA and federal agencies to augment what I learn from my clients.*

**What has been your most rewarding achievement in your career?**

*I have assisted with a number of successful implementations of my company's accounting system, but I would say that the single achievement I have found most rewarding is getting a column in the AGA newsletter. I have been writing a column every month since 1998 for the DC Chapter, and in the national newsletter since 2002.*

**What advice do you have for someone thinking about joining AGA?**

*Government is a service industry, and what you as an individual are selling, to your agency and to the public, is your expertise. While on-the-job training is fine to start your career, you need a broader perspective which can only come from contact with people in other agencies. AGA offers a number of opportunities to increase contacts and provide education.*

**What is the best thing about working with government clients?**

*The most rewarding work is with those who care about the quality of the work and the success of the project. That is why I have stayed with CGI Federal for over two decades. I also find this same attitude prevalent among civil servants. My first federal client with our accounting package was GAO (Government Accountability Office, formerly General Accounting Office) and they were very dedicated, both to completing the project and getting the processes and procedures right.*

**What is your favorite hobby or outside activity?**

*I collect coins and medals. I am the president of the Maryland State Numismatic Association and treasurer of the Montgomery County Coin Club. I regularly attend the annual National Money Show and place exhibits there in competition. I also judge exhibits and have given talks. My specialties are good luck pieces and coins that portray felines.*

**What is your favorite flavor of ice cream?**

*I like most fruit flavors, but if I have to pick one, it would be Ben & Jerry's Chunky Monkey (banana w/walnuts and chocolate chunks)*

## 2005-2006 CHAPTER RECOGNITION PROGRAM STATUS

by Patricia Clark-Duncan, AGA-DC Chair of Administration

The National Office encourages all chapters to achieve at least 10,000 points each year. As stated by the National Office, this total represents the level of activity of a well-rounded and "healthy" chapter. The Chapter far exceeded National's goal of 10,000 points and will receive the Platinum Chapter Designation that will be presented at AGA's 55th Annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition to be held in San Diego, CA, June 18 – 21, 2006.

<u>Section</u>	<u>1st Qtr</u>	<u>2nd Qtr</u>	<u>3rd Qtr</u>	<u>4th Qtr</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
I. Chapter Administration	1,325	1,225	250	475	3,275	3,000	109%
II. Educational Events	1,650	1,400	900	2,100	6,050	4,000	151%
III. Certification	2,250	1,300	1,025	8,475	13,050	4,000	326%
IV. Communication	1,302	1,698	2,275	2,625	7,900	3,000	263%
V. Membership	0	125	75	875	1,075	3,000	36%
VI. Community Service	200	500	1,300	0	2,000	2,000	100%
VII. Chapter Awards Program	0	300	0	1,300	1,600	1,000	160%
<b>Quarterly Total</b>	<b>6,727</b>	<b>6,548</b>	<b>5,825</b>	<b>15,850</b>	<b>34,950</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>175%</b>



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*Clear Vision, Powerful Results*



*An Evening at  
Wolf Trap  
May 28, 2006*

AGA-DC Member Services, in partnership with the Northern Virginia and Montgomery/PG chapters, is sponsoring an evening at Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts on Sunday, May 28, at 8 p.m. We will be entertained by the "President's Own" United States Marine band followed by fireworks at 9:45 p.m. There is no charge or tickets required for this activity. There is plenty of free parking. Gates will open at 7:00 p.m. for in-house and lawn seating. In order to ensure inside seating, we will meet at the entrance (box office area) by 6:30 p.m. Those wishing lawn seats should bring blankets and/or lawn chairs.

**AGA members will be able to enjoy a soft drink and a light snack compliments of our event sponsors Savantage Solutions and the Administrative Resource Center, Bureau of the Public Debt**

Wolf Trap is located just 4 miles west of Tysons corner. From 495, take Rt. 7 to Towlston Rd., left on Towlston Rd., and go 1 mile to the Wolf Trap parking area. If you are interested in attending this activity, please contact our Member Services Director, Karl Boettcher, at [karl.boettcher@fms.treas.gov](mailto:karl.boettcher@fms.treas.gov) or 202.874.6131. For additional information, you may also contact Wolf Trap at 703.255.1860 or visit [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

## Baseball Game, June 10, 2006



AGA-DC Member Services, in partnership with the Northern Virginia and Montgomery/PG chapters, is sponsoring a Washington Nationals Baseball game. The game will be played against the Philadelphia Phillies on Saturday, June 10, at 1:20 p.m. at RFK Stadium. Come join us in cheering on the home team. We will be in section 513 – rows 7-11, seats 1-16. The seats in our rows are already sold out, but AGA members can purchase tickets for other rows in section 513 or in adjacent sections 512 and 514 for \$16.00 at [www.nationals.com](http://www.nationals.com) or 888.632.6287. The closest entrance to section 513 is either gate A or the main gate. Gates will open at noon.

There will be a stadium promotion/giveaway of the “Chad Cordero Bobblehead” for the first 15,000 fans. Also, watch for AGA-DC listed among groups on the scoreboard sometime toward the middle of the game.

**We would like to thank our corporate sponsors – Savantage Solutions, Delta Solutions, Grant Thornton, Kearney & Company, KPMG, PricewaterhouseCoopers and the Administrative Resource Center (ARC), Bureau of Public Debt \***

The suggested parking for those coming from Maryland is lot 7. Virginia and DC drivers are directed to parking lot 8. The parking cost is \$12.00. The Stadium is located across from the DC Armory. The Stadium is accessible from the metro (Blue-Orange Line to the Stadium-Armory station); driving directions are available at [www.nationals.com](http://www.nationals.com) in the dropdown menu for RFK Stadium. If you are interested in attending this activity, please inform our Member Services Director, Karl Boettcher, at [karl.boettcher@fms.treas.gov](mailto:karl.boettcher@fms.treas.gov) or 202.874.6131.

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## *AGA Mourns the Passing of Charter Member, Past National President Raymond Einhorn, CGFM*

*Raymond Einhorn, CGFM, 91, a member of the Washington, DC Chapter, died Sunday at his home in Washington. A charter member of the Federal Government Accountants Association—now AGA—Ray served as the Association’s 11th National President from 1960 to 1961.*

*Ray, along with his late friends Robert W. King; T. Jack Gary Jr., CGFM; and other prominent federal government accountants, gathered in September of 1950 to establish the Association.*

*Fifty-six years later, Ray remained an active and prominent AGA member, attending events such as the Certificate of Excellence in Accountability Reporting (CEAR) ceremony, Washington, DC Chapter luncheons and AGA’s 50th Anniversary gala in September of 2000. He attended the 2000 PDC in San Francisco, where upon receiving the Association’s highest award, named for his old friend Bob King, Ray said, “I am proud to be an AGA member.”*

*His pride in the Association and its many accomplishments was apparent in all his dealings with AGA members and staff. It was not uncommon for National Office staffers to receive a telephone call from Ray if he had an idea, a thought, or a story to share. He was also proud to be a Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM).*

*Before his retirement, Ray worked as an auditor at the U.S. General Accounting Office (now the Government Accountability Office) and as the first director of audits at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.*

*He was invited to join what was called the Cooper Committee, which tackled an array of financial management issues in an effort to assist the U.S. Department of Defense. The emphasis was on cost as the basis for accounting, and as a result, Ray made 50 or more speeches all over the country on cost-based accounting. He did not always get a friendly reception from the budgeting professionals who sometimes did not agree with the concept.*

*“The attitude was somewhere between adversarial or certainly unfriendly on the part of the budget side of the OMB (Office of Management and Budget), and I’m not sure whether it exists today,” he said in a 1999 interview.*

*He also spent a large chunk of time during his tenure as a senior executive with GAO developing an accounting manual called Title 2. His role at the GAO was to reconcile the strong—and sometimes bitter—differences between the audit and accounting systems divisions. Gradually, with the approval of accounting systems, the two sides melded.*

*Ray was also an associate professor emeritus, The American University.*

## Community Service News

### Eyeglasses and Cell Phones

We continue to collect used eye glasses for the Lion's Club Eyeglass Recycling Program and cell phones for Verizon Wireless Communications' HopeLine.

The Lions Club International is the world's largest service club organization with 1.4 million members in 46,000 clubs in 194 countries and geographical areas. Every year the Lions Club partners with organizations, like the AGA, to collect used eyeglasses for individuals in need. The used eyeglasses are cleaned, repaired and classified by prescription. The eyeglasses are then distributed to those in need by Lions Club volunteers and other organizations hosting optical missions in developing countries. You may drop off used eyeglasses at the May AGA-DC luncheon.

HopeLine collects wireless phones and accessories from any wireless service provider, and then refurbishes the phones or recycles them in an environmentally friendly way. Proceeds from the HopeLine program benefit victims of domestic violence and non-profit advocacy agencies. You may drop off used cell phones at the May AGA-DC luncheon. In addition, donations of phones and equipment can be made at any Verizon Wireless Communications Store or donations can be sent to Verizon Wireless HopeLine, c/o ReCellular Inc., 255 Bishop Circle W., Dexter, MI 48130. For more information about the HopeLine phone donation program, you may call 800.426.2790.

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## Membership and Liaison News

by Marguerite Nealon, AGA-DC Membership Director, and LeAnn Corcoran, AGA-DC Membership Assistant

Have you recruited a new member to AGA this year? If not, now is the perfect time to do so. Ask your colleagues if they too could benefit from all the great offerings of AGA. Joining now guarantees discounted rates to the annual PDC this June. Not only that, a membership to AGA is the perfect way to show your dedication and support to the government financial management community. You will be hooked in to the hottest speakers, pertinent audio conferences, community service activities, social events and other networking opportunities in the government financial management arena.

Several professional development events are on the horizon—make plans now to participate in these events and earn valuable CPEs:

- **May 3 – 4** — AGA-DC's Spring Conference, "Mission Possible: Getting to Green," Washington, DC. The conference site is the International Spy Museum where we hold our monthly luncheons. 15 CPEs.
- **June 18 – 21** — AGA's Annual Professional Development Conference in San Diego, CA. This year's theme is "Navigating the Way to Citizen-Centered Government." (25 CPEs)

If you have not taken full advantage of all of AGA-DC's offerings, we encourage you to get involved today. Your participation and support make these events so successful.

*continued on page 16*

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## Membership and Liaison News (continued from page 15)

### Interested in a Free Lunch?

If your colleague is not yet a member of AGA-DC, encourage him or her to join today. New members and their sponsors are taking advantage of the monthly luncheons – FOR FREE! We challenge you to sign a new member up today and you both can enjoy your next monthly luncheon for FREE! Please contact either Marguerite Nealon at [Marguerite.Nealon@fms.treas.gov](mailto:Marguerite.Nealon@fms.treas.gov) or LeAnn Corcoran at [LCorcoran@savantage.net](mailto:LCorcoran@savantage.net) to let us know if you have earned a free lunch.

### Welcome, New Members!

Please welcome the following members who recently joined AGA-DC:

Daanish Ahmed  
Jayant Ahuja  
Adam Almond  
Raymond J. Alwine  
Abimbola Awolaja  
Steven E. Baird  
Miguel A. Castillo  
Shandra A. Cobb  
William Cooke  
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Laurie Hazel  
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## Take the CGFM Examinations at the PDC

*Submitted by Katya Silver, AGA National*

For the second year in a row, AGA is offering a great opportunity to take the CGFM Examinations and earn the CGFM credential at the annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition (PDC) in San Diego. Whether you have been thinking about earning your CGFM or have enrolled but found it difficult to find time to complete the three exams, this is your chance to get it done!

To help you reach that goal, we are offering a two-day Intensive Review Course on Thursday, June 15 and Friday, June 16 and an opportunity to take the CGFM Examinations on June 17-19, 2006. The cost of the course is only \$225 for qualified participants, and it offers 18 CPE hours. Special Bonus: the CGFM Examinations taken during this event are free of charge!

This course is designed as a supplement to previous preparation for the CGFM Examinations, so this event is perfect for those individuals who have already attended CGFM training courses or have been studying by using the CGFM study guides. Space is still available, but enrollment is limited and participants must first apply and be accepted into the CGFM Program, so do not delay.

More information and a registration form for this event are available on AGA website at [http://www.agacgfm.org/pdc2006/cgfm\\_exam.htm](http://www.agacgfm.org/pdc2006/cgfm_exam.htm). If you have any questions, contact Katya Silver at 703.684.6931, ext. 305 or [ksilver@agacgfm.org](mailto:ksilver@agacgfm.org).

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## Congratulations New CGFMs

Congratulations to the following seven AGA-DC members who recently earned their CGFM designation:

Christina R. Beck      Constance Cathleen Hall      Alice H.B. Nguyen  
 Lei Deng              Andrew Lowe              David Talley  
 Michael J. Dorsett

The CGFM is a mark of distinction, demonstrating a commitment to excellence in government financial management. Its education, experience and ethics requirements have served to elevate the most seasoned financial professionals. To find out more about how you can become a CGFM, visit [www.agacgfm.org/cgfm](http://www.agacgfm.org/cgfm).

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AGA serves government accountability professionals by providing quality education, fostering professional development and certification, and supporting standards and research to advance government accountability.

Click on the link below to view a short AGA video:  
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Applicants selected for our Washington Federal Practice will be subject to a government security investigation and must meet eligibility requirements for access to classified information.

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## AGA's 55th Annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition

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Go to [www.agacgm.org/pdc](http://www.agacgm.org/pdc) for registration and program information.



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# AGA's 55th Annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition

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June 18 – 21, 2006

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Source 102



On Sunday, April 2, 2006, DC Chapter Members and guests enjoy a sunny afternoon tour of Mt. Vernon.

## *Join the AGA-DC Mailing List*

To sign up on the AGA-DC mailing list and receive periodic updates, go to <http://agadc.org/mlistsubscribe.php>, enter your email address and click "Subscribe."

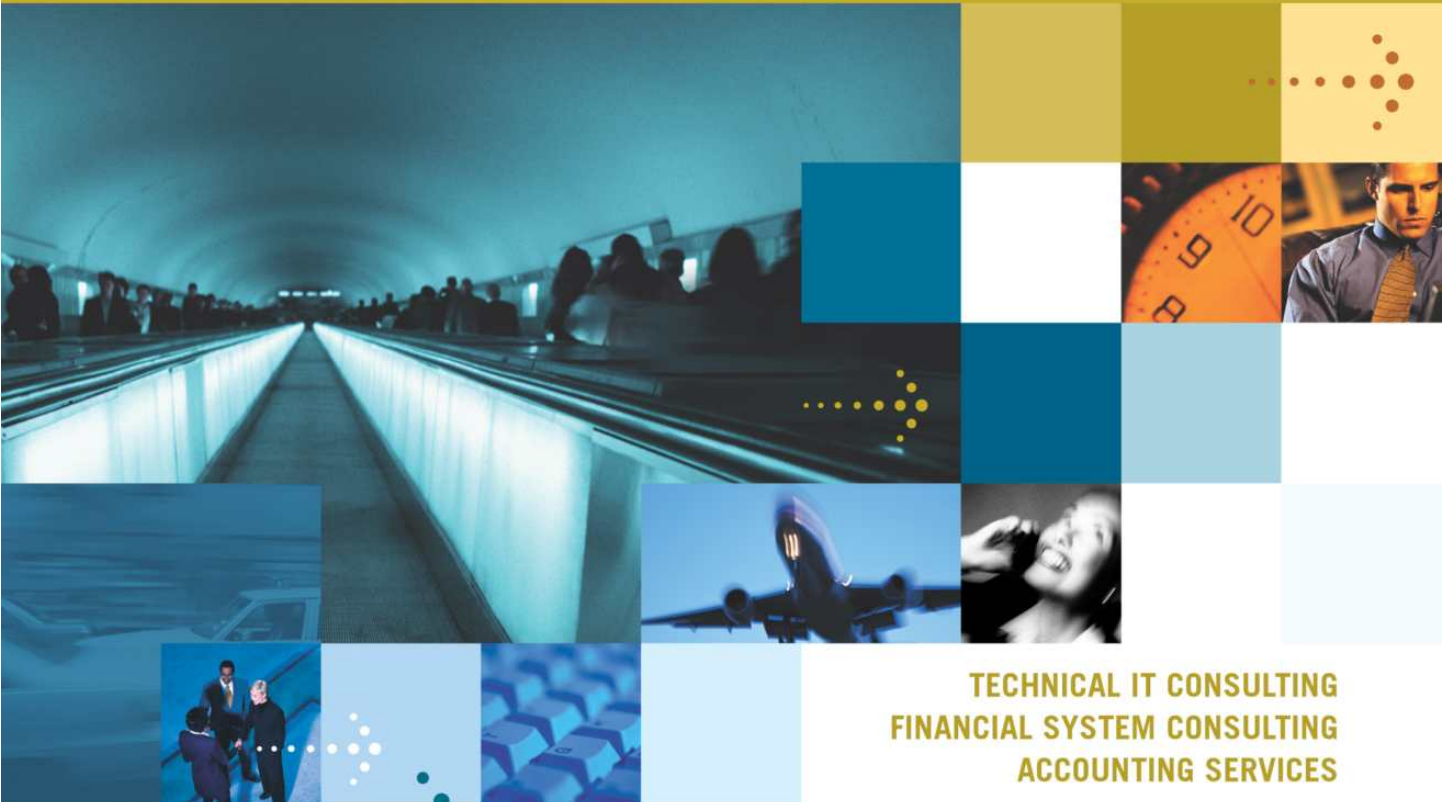
## *To find out what's happening at other AGA chapters in the area:*

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