

THE WASHINGTON CONNECTION



WASHINGTON, DC
CHAPTER

Washington DC Chapter • P.O. Box 423 • Washington, D.C. 20044-0423 • 703.758.4080 • May 2001

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Upcoming Events:

May 22-23, 2001: "Financial Systems in Transition" at the Holiday Inn on the Hill (see insert).

June 30, 2001: National Executive Committee Meeting, Boston, Mass.

July 2-6, 2001: AGA's 50th Annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition, Boston, Mass.

Chapter Officers Leadership Training Workshop

All current officers and officers-elect are cordially invited to attend the annual Chapter Officers Leadership Training Workshop, which will take place on Friday evening, May 18 and Saturday, May 19 at the Crystal City Hyatt. Details will be furnished in the next issue of the newsletter. If you are interested in attending, please let Mike Noble know as soon as possible, so the workshop committee can make adequate plans. If you have any questions, please call Stu Sklamm, Capital Region Vice President-Elect at 301.443.5260 or by fax at 301.443.5462. Stu's e-mail address is ssklamm@hrs.gov

May Luncheon Speaker

To close out our program year, the May luncheon will feature remarks by Wendy M. Comes, CPA, the Executive Director of the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB).

Ms. Comes has been with FASAB since its inception and has been directly involved in many of the standards promulgated. She currently chairs the Accounting and Auditing Policy Committee of the FASAB.

Prior to joining the FASAB staff in 1991, Ms. Comes worked in the utilities field. Her experience includes consumer advocacy and corporate financial planning. She served as an auditor and expert witness for the Public Staff of the North Carolina Utilities Commission. She represented the Navy's interests in utility rate cases around the country while employed by the Naval Facilities Engineering Command. With Potomac Electric Power Company, Ms. Comes was responsible for long term financial forecasting, cash planning and bond rating agency presentations.

Ms. Comes graduated with honors from the University of Virginia receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in Commerce. She is a member of the AICPA and AGA. She currently Chairs the AGA Professional Certification Board and is a member of the AGA Certificate of Excellence Board.

Monthly Luncheon Thursday, May 10, 2001

Grand Hyatt Hotel
1000 H Street, NW (At Metro Center - 11th Street Exit)

11:30 to 12:00 Social
12:00 to 1:10 pm Luncheon Meeting (1 CPE):
Announcements
Lunch
Luncheon Speaker

Luncheon:	Costs:	Members	\$19.00
		Non-members	\$30.00

For reservations, please call the AGA Washington DC Chapter voice mail line at 703.758.4080 and select option 1. If you prefer, you can register by email to nderu@ukw.com or you can register at our homepage: www.agadc.org. Please forward your name, agency/company, and telephone number.

President's Message

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Mike Noble, CGFM, Chapter
President

Public Service Recognition Week, celebrated the first Monday through Sunday in May, honors those of you who serve America as federal, state, and local government employees. AGA is made up of people, from both the public and private sector, who serve the public. Throughout the nation and around the world, public employees educate citizens about the many ways in which government serves the people and how government services make life better for all of us. AGA's primary mission is to educate members and the public on government financial management. It is therefore fitting that AGA celebrate Public Service Recognition Week and vice versa.

When I think of public servants who, in my mind, richly deserve recognition (and the list changes frequently), one person always on my "Top 10" list is the late Barbara Jordan, former Congresswoman from Texas. Barbara Jordan practiced the art of public service and preached on the value of being a public servant. She left us many memorable quotes and speeches, including her keynote address at the 1976 Democratic National Convention (a classic). Following is the text of a speech she delivered in April 1988 to a group of IRS employees at the Austin (Texas) Compliance Center. Over the years, it has given me a lot of inspiration and I want to share it with you.

The Importance of Public Service

"The work that you do as public servants is important work and you are servants

of the public. I don't know whether you feel that the public appreciates the job that you do, but do you know, if you didn't do your job the republic would collapse? Think about that. If you think your work is not important, think of what it would be like in the United States of America if people who owe taxes didn't pay them. Think of what it would be like if this government had no money for defense, or any other purpose. Think of what it would be like, this great experiment of ours that we know as the United States of America—a democratic republic."

"We have celebrated the Constitution [since 1787]. What are we celebrating? This unique experiment. Abraham Lincoln gave us a trilogy we use as a definition of democracy. But my problem with Abraham Lincoln's trilogy is that we put emphasis on the wrong words. The trilogy is: *of, by, for* the people. When we recite the trilogy we say OF the people, BY the people, FOR the people. You know how you should recite that? You should say of the PEOPLE, by the PEOPLE, for the PEOPLE. This is a government which has as its base, people. This is a republic which says, "here the people will govern." If the people fail to govern, there is no government. Without the consent of the people, the government fails. In order for the government then to be sustained and remain viable, the people have to support it. And you as public servants collect the revenues which help the people to support the government. **We cannot afford to do less than our best effort to see that this government remain strong and free and accountable and responsible and responsive to people. And you as government servants, you as public servants, you are those who have that responsibility.**" [highlights are mine]

"I hope that you wear the badge of public service well, because you are called upon to be the most selfless people in the world. You are called upon to act on behalf of the public interest—not your

(Continued on next page)



Financial Systems in Transition

Improving the Chances for Success

DC Chapter

Agenda

Tuesday, May 22, 2001

- 7:30 – 8:00 Registration/Breakfast
- 8:00 – 8:15 Welcome
- 8:15 – 9:00 Keynote Speaker
- 9:00 – 10:30 Removing Strategic Barriers
- 10:30 – 10:45 Break
- 10:45 – 11:45 Resourcing the New System
- 11:45 – 1:00 Lunch
- 1:00 – 1:45 Challenges in Addressing the Government Paperwork Elimination Act
- 1:45 – 2:30 Electronic Grants
- 2:30 – 2:45 Break
- 2:45 – 3:30 JFMIP Initiatives
- 3:30 – 4:30 Changing Central Systems
- 4:30 – 5:00 Pre-Reception Event
- 5:00 – 6:00 Reception and Raffle

To Register

Online: <http://www.agadc.org/conferences.html>
 Fax: (703) 947-2200, Attn: AGA DC Chapter Events

Please register by May 11, 2001 to ensure your space. Walk-ins are welcome provided space is available. This conference, however, usually sells out in advance. Reservations made and not honored will be billed unless cancelled by May 11, 2001.

Confirmation of registration will not be provided.

Registration

Name _____

Agency _____

Billing Address _____

E-mail Address: _____

Phone # () _____ - _____

Fax # () _____ - _____

- AGA Chapter
- Washington DC
 - Northern Virginia
 - Maryland
 - Other _____

Registration Questions?
 Contact Karen Holmcrans, AGA Director of Education
 E-mail: karen.j.holmcrans@accenture.com
 Phone: (703) 947-1847

Wednesday, May 23, 2001

- 7:30 – 8:00 Registration/Breakfast
- 8:00 – 9:00 Keynote Speaker
- 9:00 – 10:00 Data Conversion Best Practices
- 10:00 – 10:30 Break with Exhibitors
- 10:30 – 11:15 Security in an Integrated World
- 11:15 – 12:00 HR Systems Implementation Issues
- 12:00 – 1:15 Lunch
- 1:15 – 2:00 CFO Council Financial Systems Committee Initiatives
- 2:00 – 2:30 Break with Exhibitors
- 2:30 – 3:15 Evaluating Compliance
- 3:15 – 4:30 Lessons Learned from Financial Management Systems Implementations

Check the Appropriate Box

- Member \$240
- Non Member \$270
- Student (with valid photo id) \$150

Method of Payment

Government Voucher _____
 Please bring a copy of the SF 182 on day of conference
 Information for the SF 182: Vendor: AGA Washington DC Chapter
 Address: PO Box 423
 Washington, D.C. 20044-0423

Visa/MasterCard _____ / _____
 (Circle One) (Card Number) (Exp Date)

Check Please make checks payable to AGA – Washington DC Chapter. If paying by check, bring the check on day of conference.

Location

Holiday Inn on the Hill
 415 New Jersey Ave. NW
 Washington, D.C. 20001
 Metro: Union Station (Red Line)
 202-638-1616

This year's conference is co-sponsored by:



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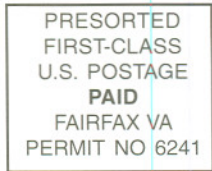
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