

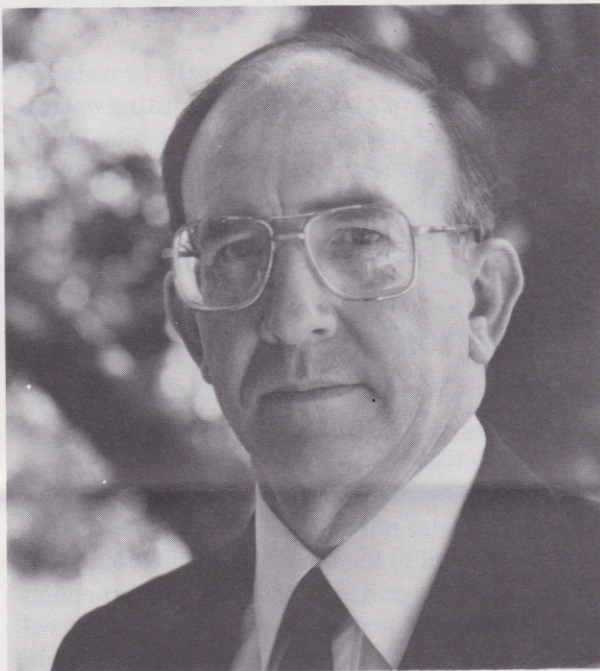
ASSOCIATION OF  
GOVERNMENT  
ACCOUNTANTS

# AGA NEWSLETTER

WASHINGTON CHAPTER

SEPTEMBER 1984

## THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 6, 1984 LUNCHEON MEETING TO FEATURE



**DR. RALPH C. BLEDSOE**  
Special Assistant to the President

speaking on

**"REFORM 88—THE VIEW FROM  
THE WHITE HOUSE"**

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
Open Bar	\$3.00

**For Luncheon Reservations Call 695-7954**  
**Telephone Reservations Accepted Until September 4, 1984**  
**NON MEMBERS WELCOME**

*All Reservations Guaranteed*

**Meeting Schedule: Oct. 4 • Nov. 1 • Dec. 6 • Jan. 3 • Feb. 7 • Mar. 7 • Apr. 4 • May 2**



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**VIRGINIA ROBINSON**  
**United States General**  
**Accounting Office**

It is a great pleasure and privilege for me to serve as your president this year. As I assume my new responsibilities it seems appropriate to share some of my ideas about AGA in general, and about our Chapter in particular, so that you might in turn, be encouraged to share with the board and me, your own expectations for the Chapter.

As I reflect on President Stugart's theme for AGA in 1985—Seeking Professional Excellence Through Education—I'm reminded of the many ways in which we can make significant contributions to our own development as well as that of our organization and the profession by striving towards that goal. We already have a head start for the year.

While some of us were enjoying summer vacations, our education committee and others who will be mentioned later were working diligently planning superb educational events so we can come even closer to attaining professional excellence. First, they developed, in conjunction with the Washington Chapter of the Institute of Internal Auditors, a seminar on Accounting Principles and Standards, and they plan to follow that with equally important topics. As you can see from their article which appears elsewhere in this Newsletter, they have already done their share to see that we have the makings for an outstanding educational year.

I am pleased that our first educational event for this fiscal year was one that is of particular interest to most of our members, and is especially beneficial for our members who are operating accountants. That appropriately follows the trend started at the 1984 AGA Professional Development Conference where we had our first workshop in a long time devoted to operational accounting. I've heard many comments about the merits of AGA placing a considerable amount of emphasis in this area at this particular time.

When you stop to think about it, many of the major initiatives in financial management that have been announced recently by our leaders in government require a fair amount of work by the real unsung heroes in our profession—the operating accountants. As new

requirements and goals are levied in many aspects of financial management, their workload increases exponentially. When you stop to reflect on the number of operating accountants at our meetings and conferences you'll notice they are few in number. Many are so busy collecting debts, making payments (promptly, we hope) closing the books, and preparing internal and external reports that they seldom take time to attend AGA meetings, conferences and the like. Not only are they missing beneficial information exchanges, those of us who are auditors, staff accountants, systems accountants, budget analysts, computer specialists, and others who should work closely with them are also missing a lot. Let's strive to alter this situation by extending an extra hand to get them involved with AGA.

Among the other goals I hope we'll be able to achieve this year are:

- Increased participation in educational events
- Increased chapter membership
- Increased attendance at meetings
- Increased member participation in chapter committee work and other activities, especially our volunteer professional service programs which are rewarding for us as individuals, as an organization, and the profession.

All of us will need to work diligently in order to achieve these objectives, not only in recruiting operating accountants, but in extending an invitation for all of our fellow professionals to seek professional excellence through education, and most importantly, to enjoy doing it together in AGA.

## AGA LUNCHEON SPECIAL

by Carol Lynch, Meetings Committee Chairperson

Again this year the Washington Chapter of AGA is offering its members the opportunity to attend an exciting program of nine monthly luncheon meetings at a discount. We are offering you the opportunity to purchase an annual luncheon ticket for just \$80. Not only do you save the cost equivalent of one luncheon meeting, but also the necessity of making a reservation each month. Your annual ticket guarantees your reservation for the remainder of the 1984-85 program year.

To arrange for your annual ticket, just call our regular reservation number, 695-7954, to make your reservation for our September 6 luncheon and indicate that you will be purchasing an annual ticket. Then, on September 6th, get in the annual ticket sales line and your worries are over.

Don't miss this opportunity to participate in a program that offers the opportunity for good fellowship along with a stimulating and informative series of speakers at a substantial savings.



# WASHINGTON CHAPTER Executive Committee 1984-1985

## Officers

### President

Virginia Robinson, GAO, 275-9512

### President-Elect

Susan Lee, Treasury, 634-5717

### Secretary

Diane Bray, Treasury, 634-5720

### Treasurer

Joe Rothschild, HUD, 426-5454

### Past President

Kenneth Winne, JFMIP, 376-5415

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### Chapter Evaluator

Jim Smith, Navy, 695-1070

### Cooperation with Educational Institutions

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### Cooperation with Professional Organizations

Tony Gabriel, USDA, 447-7431

### Education

Ron Lynch, Arthur Andersen, 862-3324

Loretta Shogren, Justice, 633-3291

### Employment Referral

George Englert, JFMIP, 376-5415

### Membership

Marcus Page, Treasury, 376-0900

### Programs

David Dukes, HHS, 245-7084

### Publicity and Agency Liaison

Judith Boyd, Treasury, 634-2084

### Relations with National Office

Terry Conway, DOD, 697-3192

### Research

Gail Young, Energy, 252-4171

## Committee Chairperson

### Chapter Competition

Diana McDermott O'Neill, Treasury,  
695-7955

### Financial Management Assistance

Ken George, ACTION, 634-9163

### Meetings

Carol Lynch, Education, 472-2395

### Newsletter

Lee Beaty, GAO, 275-9430

### Professional Notes

John McArthur, Treasury, 376-0820

### Small Business Education

Charles McAndrew, GAO, 523-8706

### Public Service Coordinator

Joseph L. Dillon, EPA, 382-5113

## About Our Speaker This Month

Ralph C. Bledsoe is a Special Assistant to the President, and Executive Secretary to the Council on Management and Administration. He is also Assistant Director for Management and Administration of the Office of Policy Development and Executive Director of the Federal Property Review Board.

Dr. Bledsoe has over twenty-six years of professional experience as a corporate executive and manager, university program director, professor at the Federal Executive Institute, manager in the Federal government's Senior Executive Service, and as associate director of the White House Office of Planning and Evaluation.

Dr. Bledsoe established and was the first Director of the University of Southern California School of Public Administration Sacramento Program, between September, 1971 and August, 1973. During that period, he was appointed by Governor Reagan to the Board of Directors of the California Crime Technological Research Foundation.

From August, 1973 to September, 1980, Dr. Bledsoe was a senior faculty member and professor of public management at the Federal Executive Institute in Charlottesville, Virginia. He was appointed director of the Emergency Management Institute at Emmitsburg, Maryland in September, 1980.

He received a Bachelor of Business Administration degree (BBA) from Texas A & M College in 1955, a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree from the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) in 1962, and Master and Doctor of Public Administration degrees from the University of Southern California in 1968 and 1971, respectively.

From 1955 to 1958, Dr. Bledsoe served in the United States Air Force.

He was born and raised in Waco, Texas, and is married to the former RoseMarie Frechette of Manchester, Connecticut. They currently reside in Great Falls, Virginia. Dr. and Mrs. Bledsoe have four daughters.

He is a member of the American Society for Public Administration and regularly writes and lectures in the field of public administration and management.

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**Plan Now For  
The PDC  
June 24-26, 1985  
San Diego, CA**



## Army, Treasury to Test Paying Soldiers With Automated Tellers Using Handprint Identification



The government took automated teller machines (ATMs) a technological step forward July 31 when selected soldiers at Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Indiana, had their hands "read" to access ATMs which then dispensed their pay. The 5-month project, which marks the first time handprints have been used to access ATMs, is being co-sponsored by the U.S. Army Finance and Accounting Center and Government Financial Operations (GFO), the Department of the Treasury's financial management bureau.

The test, involving 3,000 Army trainees at the post's Soldier Support Center, will gauge the feasibility of this high-tech way to pay trainees whose short stay at a base typically discourages them from opening a bank account. Unlike commercial banks' ATMs that require identification numbers for customer access, the government's machines will compare previously recorded hand characteristic data with actual hand readings whenever a trainee wishes to withdraw cash.

"This pilot project is another indication of GFO's commitment to applying state-of-the-art technology to governmentwide payments and collections systems," stated GFO Commissioner William E. Douglas. "In addition to possible applications for the Army, GFO will examine how such equipment can be used for other government payees who don't have bank accounts."

Douglas added that, although the ATM project is one of several payment mechanisms being evaluated for possible use by various agencies, the preferred alternative remains the direct deposit program (called SURE-PAY in the Army) where salaries are deposited automatically into checking or savings accounts through electronic funds transfer. This method, which was used by 38 percent of eligible recipients in 1983, has proven safe, convenient, and cost-effective, saving the government \$48 million in operational costs in fiscal year 1983.

Captain John R. Herko, project officer for the Army, sees numerous benefits for paying "unbanked" soldiers through ATMs. "Instead of having to cash

their entire paychecks on payday, soldiers can withdraw their pay throughout the month. In addition, soldiers require time off from training to cash their paychecks and convert the cash into more secure forms, such as money orders and travelers checks. An Army Audit Agency study has estimated that trainees pay about \$1.5 million annually for cash substitutes. Providing security and round-the-clock accessibility of funds through ATMs, reducing the time for non-training activities, and saving trainees money means we've taken a step forward in serving the financial needs of trainees without loss of valuable training time."

The pilot will be carefully evaluated before possible adoption for use by the Army or other government agencies. The Army emphasizes that ATMs with hand readers are not intended to replace either existing on-post services or direct deposit (SURE-PAY). In fact, the Army prefers and encourages soldiers to establish banking accounts for recipients of pay through SURE-PAY.

While hand geometry devices have been used in numerous security applications, the Army-Treasury pilot marks the first time they have been used in conjunction with ATMs. The machines use a type of biometric recognition device which, like voice recognition and retinal eye scans, bases security on unique physical characteristics. The hand readers use photo-detectors under identified finger slots on a plate to measure finger length and skin translucency between fingers.

The hand geometry devices being used in this project were developed by Stellar Systems, and are being used in conjunction with the NCR Corporation's 5070 ATMs. The program is being conducted under a contract awarded to The Orkand Corporation of Silver Spring, Maryland. The electronic transfer of funds between government accounts is being handled by the Indianapolis Office of the Chicago Federal Reserve Bank and Merchants National Bank of Indianapolis.

*(Submitted by Marcus Page, Treasury)*

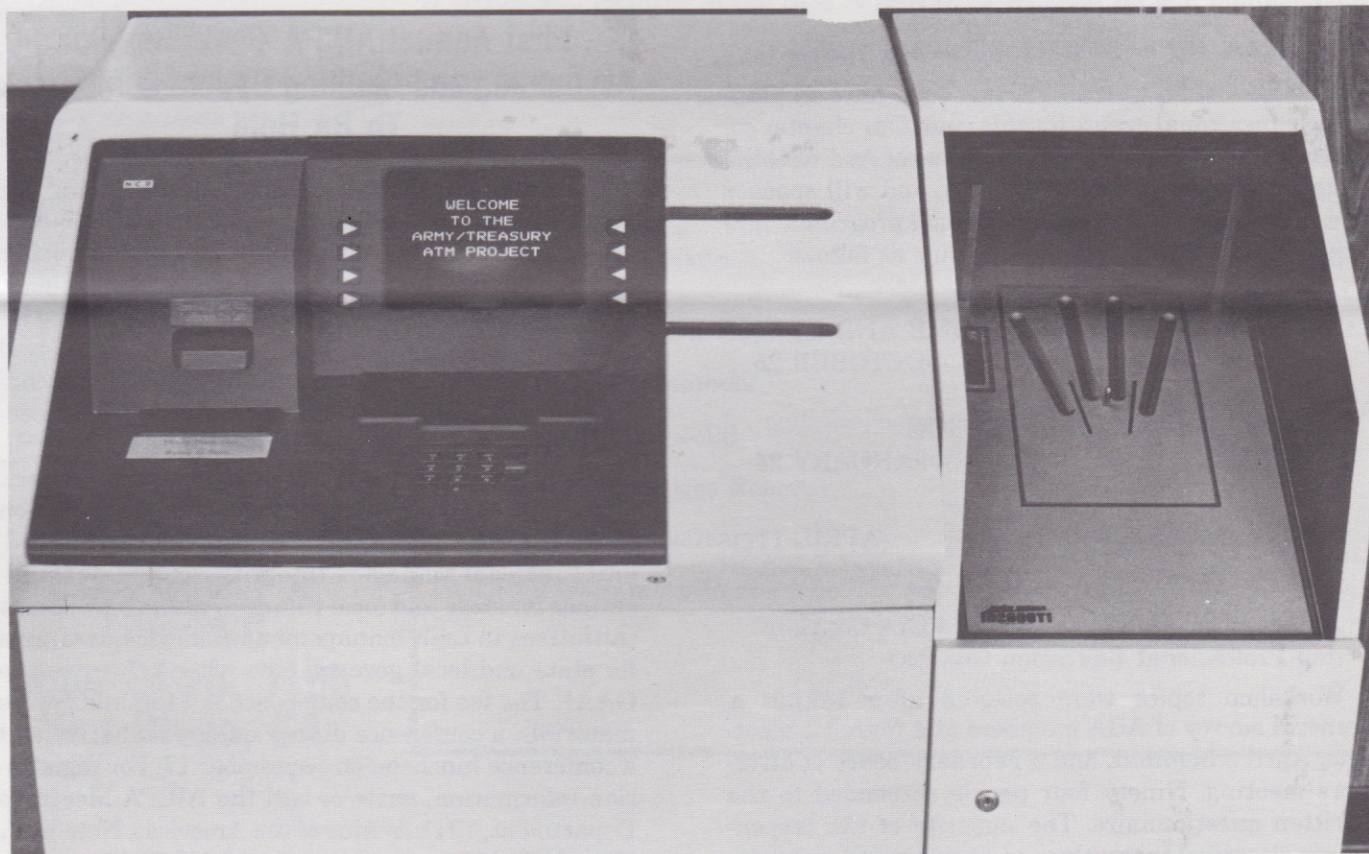




**Left:** Close-up of hand reader.



**Bottom:** NCR's 5070 ATM linked with Stellar Systems' hand accessing device.





## ABOUT CHAPTER MEMBERS

The Washington Chapter continued its record of outstanding success during the 1983-84 program year. We won the Chapter Competition Award and the award for the best newsletter. This is the result of the work and contributions of many people. However, central to these successes were the efforts of Diana McDermott O'Neill, Chapter Competition Chairperson, and George Englert, Newsletter Editor. Congratulations to Diana also for winning the National Chapter Service Award, presented at the July Professional Development Conference.

Bobbie Huber has returned to Treasury's Bureau of Government Financial Operations Systems Staff following her detail to the JFMIP. Diane Bray was selected to replace Bobbie as Treasury's representative to the JFMIP staff.

Please! Please! Please! Let us have your news items on chapter members, e.g., retirements, promotions, new jobs, awards, new CPA's, degrees earned—what have you. Send to or call: Lee Beaty, Room 6015, GAO Building, 441 G Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20548; Telephone: 275-9430.

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## EDUCATION COMMITTEE STATUS REPORT

by Bobbie Huber, Member, Education Committee

The Education Committee has been hard at planning educational events for this year. Our chapter co-sponsored (with the Institute of Internal Auditors) the August 22 GAO Title 2 Workshop, and will sponsor three additional half-day educational programs. Tentative topics and program dates are as follows:

AGENCY REPORTING TO OMB AND  
TREASURY —OCTOBER 25

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION  
SYSTEMS —JANUARY 24

CASH MANAGEMENT —APRIL 11

(All courses qualify for CPA and CIA Continuing Professional Education Credits.)

Workshop topics were selected after taking a general survey of AGA members at a March 1 meeting, April 3 Seminar, and a February board of directors meeting. Ninety four people responded to the written questionnaire. The majority of the respondents classified themselves as accountants, auditors,

and financial managers. They are civilian government employees in the GS-11 to 15 range.

The subject matter of the sessions listed above (and the Title 2 Workshop) was the top 4 scorers in a list of 14 possible choices available to the respondents.

For more details about the Washington Chapter educational programs, contact committee co-chairpersons Ron Lynch or Loretta Shogren on 862-2324 or 633-3048 respectively.

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## U.S. ARMY AUDIT AGENCY'S 38TH ANNIVERSARY

Plans are being made to celebrate the U.S. Army Audit Agency's 38th anniversary on Saturday, 17 November 1984 at Fort McNair. All current and former Agency employees are cordially invited to share in this gala celebration. If you're interested in attending, contact Steve Keefer 756-2959 or Dan Pawlak 756-2941.

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## First Annual AICPA Governmental Accounting and Auditing Update Conference To Be Held

The American Institute of CPAs is sponsoring the first Governmental Accounting and Auditing Update Conference. The conference will be held on September 16-17, 1984, at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C. Featured speakers at the one-day conference include Joseph R. Wright, Deputy Director of OMB and Philip B. Chenok, President of the AICPA. The conference will feature an update of recent pronouncements from the AICPA, GASB, GAO and OMB of importance to government accountants and auditors. Other topics of the conference include implementation issues of the single audit, the requirements of the Federal Financial Managers Integrity Act and its implications for state and local financial managers, recent initiatives in cash management, and considerations for state and local governments when converting to GAAP. The fee for the conference is \$150 and covers materials, a conference dinner on September 16 and a conference luncheon on September 17. For registration information, write or call the AICPA Meetings Department, 1211 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036-8775, telephone: 1-800-242-7269.



# 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 \_\_\_\_\_ HOME TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
AREA CODE NUMBER EXTENSION AREA CODE NUMBER EXTENSION

I wish to become a \_\_\_\_\_ Member of AGA. I wish to join the \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter.  
TYPE SEE LIST OF LOCATIONS

EMPLOYER \_\_\_\_\_ Government: Federal ☐ State ☐ Local ☐  
Private Employer ☐ Academia ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE OF MY POSITION \_\_\_\_\_  
TYPE OF WORK PERFORMED: Administration ☐ Accounting ☐ Auditing ☐ Budgeting ☐ ADP ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: DESCRIPTION

SCHOOL	LOCATION (STATE)	YEAR FROM TO	MAJOR	DEGREE
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

ACCREDITATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS:

	STATE	CERTIFICATE NUMBER	YEAR
<input type="checkbox"/> CPA	_____	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> CIA	_____	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> CMA	_____	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	_____	_____	_____

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE: (List most recent experience first)

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

Date of application \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of applicant \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of sponsor (optional) \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME

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

SPONSOR'S AGA MEMBERSHIP NUMBER Remitted herewith is \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**See page 8 for membership information!**



# AGA Membership Information

## Membership Qualifications

• **Full Member**—an individual who has a minimum of 6 years experience in accounting, auditing, budgeting, or other financial management fields. A graduate of an accredited college or university with a major in the financial management or allied fields may substitute education for experience. A four-year degree counts as 3 years of experience. Holders of CPA, CMA and CIA certificates are qualified for full membership without further experience requirements.

• **Associate Member**—a colleague that has less than the experience requirement for full membership. Except for holding an elected national office, all other services and privileges of membership are provided. It is anticipated that associate members will become full members through additional experience.

• **Special Associate Member**—only for junior associates in their first year of employment and full-time students.

## How to Apply for Membership in AGA

Complete the "application for membership." Please type or print all information requested. You may send

the completed application, with a check for the first year's national dues to the national office or, if practicable, to the chapter president or membership chairperson in the locality in which you reside or work.

Your application will be acknowledged promptly and processed within 60 days from the date of receipt in the national office.

## Annual Dues

<i>National Dues</i>	<i>Washington Chapter Dues</i>	<i>\$7.50</i>
Full Member		\$32.50
Associate Member		\$22.50
Special Associate		\$ 8.75

Your check should be made payable to the Association of Government Accountants in the total amount of the national dues. Chapter dues will be billed to you later by the chapter.

AGA has been granted an Internal Revenue Service exemption from income taxes under 501(c)(3) of the code. If you detail your income deductions for tax purposes, the amount paid for AGA dues is tax deductible.

## NEWSLETTER

PUBLISHED BY THE WASHINGTON CHAPTER  
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS  
7008 MAPLE TREE LANE  
SPRINGFIELD, VIRGINIA 22152  
SEPTEMBER 1983



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