



OZARKS CHAPTER

Ozarks Ledger

Advancing Government Accountability



We're on the Web!
OzarksAGA.org

Volume VI, Issue 7

August, 2010

President's Message

Wow, what a summer! Time flies when you're having fun (and when you're crazy busy, right?). Other than spending a little leisure time at the lake this summer, I attended the National AGA Professional Development Conference in Orlando Florida in mid-July with a record breaking 2,200 other attendees. Our chapter received some very significant awards this year. First we received the Platinum Award for our chapter which I believe was the first time we ever received this award. This is based on chapter recognition points earned throughout the program year. We had a well rounded program year within education, communication, early career, community service and membership.



Teresa Allen, CGFM

Second, we received the top growth award for our chapter group; we are in group D which has between 50-99 members. Our chapter grew by 23%. I want to say a special thanks to Deb Gillenwaters and Deb Fraley for the nomination of the Chapter Service Award for group D. I was much honored to receive this award!

Well we're off and rolling, the 2010-2011 Chapter Executive Committee (CEC) has been meeting this summer to get ready for a great year. Check out the schedule within the newsletter, and as always, suggestions are welcome to make this a terrific year ahead.

Teresa Allen, CGFM



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Save the Date

August Member Meeting:

Join us at Noon on **Tuesday, August 17th** at the **Springfield-Greene County Health Department** for a National AGA Audio Conference on **“Using Performance Measures to Manage Government Services”**.

You will receive 2 hours of CPE for just \$10 for members AND non-members. Lunch will not be provided but please feel free to bring your lunch with you. Please RSVP to Justin Hill by Monday, August 16th at jrhill@greenecomo.org.



Want to Get Involved?

Involvement Opportunities:

New opportunity to get involved in Ozarks AGA! This year we will form a 3-4 person committee for the Membership Seminar. The seminar will be held in February 2011, this year we will be providing an “early bird” registration discount, so it’s not too early to start preparing. Can you help with getting the caterer, speaker gifts, or helping setup; maybe lining up a great topic or speaker? We could use **YOUR** help! The first committee meeting will be the end of September. Contact Teresa Allen at tallen@springfieldmo.gov or at 864-1337 for more information.

We still have 3 Chapter Executive Committee positions open for 2010-2011. Education Chair, Website and President-Elect. Half of the education program year is already in place, speakers are already lined up through November! Remember the President-Elect attends the National PDC for free. If your entity isn’t paying for travel, this is 24 CPE hours that you will not believe! I can’t say enough about it, it is a fantastic conference. 2011 will be in Atlanta, should be a lot of fun! If you want more information about the positions, contact Teresa Allen!

Chapter Executive Committee**Chapter President**

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President-Elect

Currently open

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FALL SEMINAR

SAVE THE DATE TO JOIN US WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20TH AT COOPER TENNIS COMPLEX FOR OUR FALL SCHOLARSHIP SEMINAR. THIS WILL BE A 4 HOUR MORNING SEMINAR THAT WILL BENEFIT OUR EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

DR. JANIS PRUITT WILL DISCUSS "EMPLOYMENT LAW AND CURRENT ISSUES" IT'S NOT JUST HR'S RESPONSIBILITY, IT'S EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.

JOHN CUMMINGS WITH DAVIS, LYNN AND MOOTS WILL PRESENT "ARRA-ONE YEAR REMOVED".

CATHERINE DEMES MAYDEW, CPA IS AGA'S MIDWEST REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT FOR 2010-2011 FROM OMAHA, NEBRASKA. HER TOPIC WILL BE "INTERNAL CONTROLS."

OUR FINAL SPEAKER IS IN THE WORKS AND WILL BE ANNOUNCED SHORTLY.

DON'T MISS THIS GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR CPE.





May 2010 Member Survey Results

The results of the first member survey have been turned in, collated and summarized. Twenty six members turned in a survey and over this and the next newsletter we will let you in on the results. It was good to see every respondent said they would recommend the Ozarks Chapter to a friend or colleague.

Chapter Luncheons

Not every question was answered by everyone and there were a few surprises in the bunch. Most of the respondents attended more than three meetings a year with almost half attending five or more meetings. Almost all liked a monthly format while a handful preferring a bi-monthly format. And surprisingly the majority voted for Thursday meetings with Tuesday a close second and Wednesday was the third choice. Very few preferred Monday or Friday.

It is no surprise the majority of respondents go to meetings for the continuing professional education hours. Almost as many members are as influenced by the program topic as come to meetings for CPEs. The majority also prefer meetings with a speaker versus a presentation format. Finally over 80% of the membership preferred the Mid-Town Library location for monthly luncheons.

Chapter Seminars

Over half the respondents attend both seminars and as with the luncheons the big draw is the continuing professional education with the program topic being the next favorite. Again Thursday is the top choice for a day of the week to have a seminar. A few preferred Tuesday or Wednesday.

Next month we will print the list of suggested luncheon and/or seminar topics. In addition we will report how members rated them.

Thank you for your input!



Ozark's Chapter CEC Meeting June 1, 2010

Attendees:

Teresa Allen, President	Deb Gillenwaters, Past President
Linda Charles, Webmaster	Deb Fraley, Newsletter Editor
Justin Hill, Membership Chair	Craig Woycheese, Incoming Early Careers Chair
Julie Vaughan, Secretary	Caitlyn Greene, Incoming Newsletter Editor

Order of Business

Teresa Allen reviewed the 2009-10 successes of the Ozark Chapter of AGA. The Chapter received the award of Platinum from AGA National, which is the highest award a chapter is eligible to receive. The Chapter awarded two scholarships this year and attended their first early career event at Drury University. Members were presented this year with an annual survey.

Goals to serve our members were established for the 2010-11 year. These goals included the completion of the Policies and Procedures Manual for the Chapter, with a financial review to be completed this year. A Membership Seminar Committee is to be developed before August 31, 2010 and remaining CEC positions to be filled with a succession plan to be established.

Binders were presented to each of the Chairs that included the requirements of their position. The binders contain directions for each Chair to prepare and submit their specific plans allowing the Chapter to gain points at a national level. Plans are to be completed by July 15, 2010.

The seminar speaker gifts were discussed. In addition to the black AGA bags, recommendations to purchase a 4-port USB hub, a gadget charger or a USB travel light was suggested. The plans for the gifts will be finalized at the July 2010 CEC meeting.

Community service efforts will begin at the beginning of the 2010-11 year. The fund drive for Relay for Life will continue throughout the year with donations and various events to be planned. The CEC agreed to participate in a fund drive for Toys for Tots, the details will be confirmed in time for the annual drive. An Early Careers event will be organized this year by Craig Woycheese to encourage additional membership participation.

Justin Hill recommended adding CEC member cell phones to the contact list. CEC members need to forward your cell phone numbers to Justin in order for him to update the list.

A new goal to submit the newsletter to the AGA members two weeks before the Membership meeting has been established. CEC members are encouraged to prepare articles for the newsletter that showcase current trends and events in their areas. Deb Gillenwaters has offered to write articles that cover the results of the member survey. The newsletter will spotlight members.

The July 2010 CEC meeting will be the first meeting with officers in their new positions.

Meeting adjourned 12:45pm



Ozark's Chapter CEC Meeting July 6, 2010

Attendees:

Teresa Allen, President	Deb Gillenwaters, Past President
Linda Charles, CGFM Chair	Deb Fraley, Newsletter Editor
Justin Hill, Membership Chair	Julie Vaughan, Secretary

Order of Business

Approved April and May CEC Minutes.

There will be no July newsletter.

Justin Hill motioned to purchase the USB travel lights for this year's speaker gift. The motion passed.

CEC Chair plans need to be submitted to Teresa Allen before July 15, 2010. She will submit the plans to National before she travels to the PDC.

A fall seminar to be held at Cooper Tennis Complex is scheduled for October. The four hour seminar will be from 8:00am to 12:00pm and will provide a continental breakfast. Details regarding registration, speakers, and topics will follow.

A Spring Seminar Committee is being formed. Any member interested in working on the committee, supplying a topic or recommending a speaker is encouraged to do so. Membership registration to National will be streamlined this year for ease and accuracy. Suggested topics for the seminar include two hours of ethics, a GASB update, a SAS update and a review of the fundamentals of the CGFM.

The current schedule for member meetings is as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| August Meeting: | 08/17/10 Audio Conference: Using Performance Measures to Manage Government Services. Meeting from 12:00pm to 2:00pm, Greene County Health Dept |
| September Meeting: | 09/14/10 Nancy Yendes, Springfield Assistant City Attorney, Topic: The Hancock Amendment, Meeting from 12:00pm to 1:00pm, Midtown Carnegie Branch Library |
| October Seminar: | 10/20/10 (Wednesday), Four-hour scholarship seminar from 8:00am to 12:00pm at Cooper Tennis Complex. |
| November Meeting: | 11/09/10, MoDOT 60/65 project, Meeting from 12:00pm to 1:00pm, Midtown Carnegie Branch Library |
| December Meeting: | Holiday Luncheon, there will be a white elephant gift exchange and fundraiser for Toys for Tots. No Speaker |

August 2010 CEC meeting will review the National Website, chapter recognition program data entry and resources.

Meeting adjourned 12:55pm



Meet the Member

Hello Everyone!

I am your new Newsletter editor. I am starting a Meet the Member segment. I think it is only fair that I go first, but get ready, YOU may be next!



Name: Caitlyn Greene

Where do you work? Springfield-Greene County Health Department

Job Title: Accounting Technician

Where are you from? Springfield, Missouri

What was your first job? Waitress at a retirement home

What did you want to be when you grew up? Anything but what my dad did...accounting. Look where it got me.

What are you most proud of? My activism

What is your favorite restaurant? Ocean Zen

What do you do in your free time? Travel!

What has been your most interesting work experience? Keeping my paranoid hypochondriac tendencies at bay when hearing about outbreaks and symptoms

What is your favorite part about being an AGA member? Meeting new people!

What might people not know about you? My eyes change colors with my mood. Watch out for bright green.

Advancing Government Accountability

Take it Easy

Everyone deals with stress in a different way. This is a new segment providing different ways to deal with the stress we all face.

***Set aside relaxation time.** Include rest and relaxation in your daily schedule. Don't allow other obligations to encroach. This is your time to take a break from all responsibilities and recharge your batteries.

http://helpguide.org/mental/stress_management_relief_coping.htm

Future Ozarks Chapter Professional Development

Date	Topic	Speaker	Location
8/17/2010	Using Performance Measures to Manage Government Services	2-Hour Audio Conference	Health Department
9/14/2010	Hancock Amendment	Nancy Yendes, Assistant City Attorney	Carnegie Library
10/20/2010	Fall Seminar	See Page 3	See Page 3
11/19/2010	60/65 MoDOT Project	Kirk Juranas, District Engineer	Carnegie Library
December	Fun Luncheon and Charity Benefit		TBA

CHAPTER RECOGNITION POINTS

Our current standing as of **July 31, 2010**, is as follows:

<u>Area</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Chapter Leadership Participation	1,750	3,000	58%
Education and Professional Development	0	4,000	0%
Certification	0	4,000	0%
Communications	250	3,000	8%
Membership	0	3,000	0%
Early Careers and Student Members	250	2,000	13%
Community Service	0	2,000	0%
Chapter Awards Program	0	1,000	0%
TOTALS	2,250	22,000	10%

Employment Opportunities

Current Assignment:

Top Midwest ENR general contractor is looking for a Director of Government Accounting. This high-profile position requires a Bachelors degree in Accounting, Finance or Business plus a minimum of 10 years of work experience in Government finance/accounting or internal/external audit commensurate with position responsibilities. Candidate must possess in-depth knowledge of FAR cost principles, CAS and financial system adequacy criteria.

Excellent salary and benefits, please contact:

Rich Laibson
Associate
General Construction Division
KIMMEL & ASSOCIATES

Phone: (828)251-9900, Ext.193

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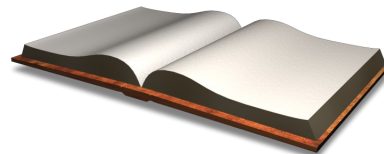
rlaibson@kimmel.com

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OPEN Accounting Teaching Position at Missouri State

The School of Accountancy at Missouri State University anticipates an August 15, 2010 opening for a non-tenure track instructor to teach undergraduate accounting courses. Required qualifications include a Master's degree with an accounting concentration from an AACSB accredited institution and recent professional experience. College teaching experience preferred. Review of applications will begin immediately. See

www.missouristate.edu/academicopenings for a full description of the position. Direct further inquiries to Dick Williams, Accountancy@MissouriState.edu, 417-836-5414. AA/EO.



National News



Outgoing OMB chief: Public has a point about government waste

By Norah Swanson nswanson@govexec.com July 28, 2010

In his farewell address on Wednesday, the director of the Office of Management and Budget said the public is onto something when it criticizes the federal bureaucracy.

OMB chief Peter R. Orszag, whose last day is Friday, told an audience at the Brookings Institution that citizens often are correct when they say federal agencies are inefficient and wasteful in managing programs. He noted two-thirds of respondents to an [April Pew Center poll](#) shared that belief.

Government inefficiency can be attributed largely to agencies' failure to adopt technology quickly and to use practices that make the private sector successful, Orszag said. The Obama administration's efforts to remedy outdated and unsuccessful government programs are expected to yield \$20 billion in savings in fiscal 2011, he said.

For example, taxpayers will benefit from the replacement of expensive naval ship navigation systems with cost-efficient Global Positioning Systems, according to Orszag. The administration also is [identifying excess government property](#) and making plans to dispose of it, which is expected to result in savings of \$8 billion by fiscal 2012, he said. And for fiscal 2012 budget submissions, agencies will be [required to point out](#) their most inefficient and unsuccessful programs. Addressing improper government payments is another priority, the departing OMB chief said, noting [President Obama signed](#) the Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Act into law last week. Orszag said during the past three years the government paid out \$180 million to dead Americans. "I wish I was kidding," he said.

On a more optimistic note, he said there have been some success stories. The Agriculture Department's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (or food stamps) program, for instance, has identified \$330 million in payment errors.

Bringing the federal government up to speed on technology also is high on the administration's agenda, Orszag said. In addition to making government more efficient, information technology helps make agency actions more transparent for the American people, he noted, saying new dashboards and websites have led to greater levels of openness than ever before. The administration has cut more than \$10 million in redundant IT projects, he added.

Orszag also addressed some policy victories, including passage of health care reform and the 2009 Recovery and Reinvestment Act. He added it would have been nearly impossible secure any more than \$787 billion for the economic stimulus.

He said he will leave office "confident in the president and his team." President Obama has [nominated Jacob Lew](#), deputy secretary of State for management and resources and former OMB director during the Clinton administration, to take over for Orszag.

Regional Training Opportunities



Mid-Missouri Chapter
 35th Annual Mid-Western
 PDC
 Aug 24 & 25, 2010
 Capital Plaza,
 Jefferson City, MO
 Ph: 573-526-3608

To register, please go to
 their website:

[http://
 www.midmoaga.org/](http://www.midmoaga.org/)



Other Great CPE Opportunities:

10th Annual IMA Education Conference will be September 16-17 at the University Plaza Hotel. This 16 hours of CPE will include many national speakers such as Mr. Excel, Bill Jelen; Motivational Speakers, John O'Leary and Rich Armstrong. See attached brochure for more details. This has always been a terrific conference right here in Springfield, don't miss out!

**AGA - Your Best
 Connection for
 Quality, Afford-
 able Continuing
 Education**



Get excited for
 next month's
 newsletter!

The Ozarks Ledger is a publication of the Ozarks Chapter of The Association of Government Accountants

Caitlyn Greene, Editor

Deadline for articles: Two weeks prior to meeting date.

Send articles to: cgreene@springfieldmo.gov

CEC Meetings are the first Tuesday of the month.

