

The Ozarks Ledger

Advancing Government Accountability



Ozarks Chapter Volume V, Issue 9 Sep 9, 2009

We're on the Web at www.ozarksaga.org

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As the mild summer of 2009 comes to a cool close, (and a dismal preseason for the Chiefs) it's time to gear up for an exciting fall with Ozarks AGA.

Please join us at the Midtown Carnegie Library Tuesday, September 15th beginning at 11:00 for 2 hours of CPE. We will hear from area government financial leaders as they discuss the economic recession and the impact on their budget, employees and the community. The cost is only \$10 for September's meeting and lunch will be provided.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for Tuesday, October 13th for the 4 hour Fall Scholarship Seminar at Cooper Tennis Complex. See the flyer and registration form in this newsletter for all the details!

At this year's fall seminar you will be given the opportunity to donate to a terrific cause. See the information in this month's newsletter for details about the Underprivileged School Children's Fund and watch your donations multiply as your Ozarks Chapter and National AGA match each dollar that's donated.

Don't miss the 2-hour panel discussion Tuesday, September 15th on the current economy's impact on local government entities.



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Teresa Allen, CGFM

Here is the list of panelists:

Dr. Penny Clayton, Professor, Drury University (Moderator) Steve Chodes, Springfield Public Schools, Chief Financial Officer Mike Finch, City Utilities, Director of Financial Reporting and Forecasting

Lori Helle, City of Branson, Finance Director Mary Mannix-Decker, City of Springfield, Finance Director Jeff Reinold, Greene County, Budget Officer

See you then!

Teresa Allen

***** AGA's Citizen-Centric Reporting Initiative ☆

Congratulations to the Springfield-Greene County Health De- $\stackrel{\sim}{
m \searrow}$ partment for providing their first to read, new report seeks to in-

crease readers' trust in the health department by explaining its programs and services that impact each Greene County resident every day. This format is encouraged by AGA to provide citizens information that is current, straightforward and a quick read. You can read their report at: , http://www.springfieldmo.gov/health/CH.html it's also available on the National AGA website at www.agacgfm.org. Way to go Deb Gillenwaters!

CEC Meeting Minutes-July 14, 2009

Order of Business:

May 16, 2009 CEC Minutes Approved

The Goals and Objectives of the Ozarks Chapter of AGA was completed and submitted to National.

Details for the July 21, 2009 Membership meeting were finalized.

Fall seminar is approved for October 13, 2009 and will be from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. The fall seminar fee will be \$60 for Members and \$80 for Non-members. Snack items and beverages will be included at the seminar. This fall seminar will focus on funding for scholarships.

There was discussion regarding the promotion of memberships at the fall seminar. It was determined the fall seminar's main focus is to gather scholarship funds. Anyone who chooses to join the AGA Ozarks Chapter at the fall seminar will be charged a fee of \$155, this includes the \$95 member fee and the \$60 seminar fee. There is no price break at this time and additional information is necessary to confirm the fee structure with National to determine possible incentives for new memberships that begin in the fall.

Sally Payne discussed her plan to begin contacting prospective members in order to bring awareness to the Ozarks Chapter. The initial contact will be an invitation to staff from other City Departments to the July 21st meeting, targeting those department employees who affect their department's budget. The next phase to gain recognition for the Ozarks Chapter of AGA is to contact high school and college professors who teach accounting and government and invite them to the fall seminar. In addition to contacting different entities, Sally plans to move forward and create an Early Career Mentor program.

The discussion on details for awarding Scholarships is deferred to the August CEC meeting on August 11, 2009.

The Community Service position is open. Those who are interested in volunteering need to contact Teresa Allen at 417-864-1337 or e-mail her at tallen@springfieldmo.gov. The position will be responsible for coordinating fundraisers for the Ozarks Chapter of AGA.

The CPA Day given consideration will not be sponsored by the Ozarks Chapter this year.

The 2009-2010 budget will be available for member viewing on the chapter's website.

Topics for discussion at the next CEC meeting on August 11, 2009 will include:

- The purchase of a banner for the Ozarks Chapter to be used at seminars and fundraisers.
- Continue to plan fundraisers such as Relay for Life, Toys for Tots, and food drives.
- Discuss the requirements for awarding Scholarships.

The CEC meeting was adjourned at 12:51pm.

Attendees: Teresa Allen, President

Deb Gillenwaters, Past President Linda Charles, Webmaster Deb Fraley, Newsletter Editor Justin Hill, Director of Chapter Recognition Martha Mundt, Director of Education Sally Payne, Director of Membership Julie Vaughn, Secretary Bob Wells, Treasurer

Subscribing to the Learn Excel Podcast in i-Tunes

Bill Jelen produces a short two-minute video tip about Excel every weekday. You can download and watch these tips for free. Follow these instructions to subscribe:

1) If you do not have iTunes installed, browse to <u>www.apple.com/itunes/download</u> and install the latest version of iTunes.

2) In the left navigation panel of iTunes, choose Store.

3) There are several boxes on the home page of the iTunes store. In the top left box, choose the sixth item called Podcasts.

4) In the extreme top right of the iTunes window, there is a box to Search iTunes Store. Type "Learn Excel" in this box and press Enter.

5) In the top left of the iTunes store, you will see the Learn Excel from MrExcel Video Podcast. Click the Subscribe button. The latest episode will immediately download and a new episode will download each weekday.

Some tips for watching the podcast:

- Use the left navigation panel to select Podcasts from your Library (This is usually 4th from the top of the left navigation).
- To the left of the Learn Excel from MrExcel line is a right-facing triangle. Touch this triangle with your mouse to see all download episodes of the podcast.
- If you play the podcast on your computer, it will fill the iTunes window. To pause the video, hover the mouse above the video to access on-screen controls. To close the video, type Escape.
- If you don't watch the podcast for 10 consecutive episodes, iTunes will stop downloading the podcast each day. Click the exclamation point to the left of the podcast title to resume downloading again.

The last 30 episodes are available for download from iTunes. To find older episodes, search for Learn Excel at You-Tube, or at: <u>http://www.mrexcel.com/podcast/learnexcelpodcast.html</u>

Community Service Director

The Community Service Director position with the Ozarks Chapter is currently open. This is a great op-



portunity to get involved, stretch your leadership legs and work with a great bunch of people. This position will lead the organization in an easy fall fundraiser for a good cause, as well as an activity in the spring, and lead the scholarship committee in awarding student and member schol-

arships. If you want to do a good thing for the community and get involved in AGA, then contact me at: <u>tallen@springfieldmo.gov</u>

Soak Up Springfield at Drury

Drury University is hosting "Soak Up Springfield," which is a brand new event for this fall semester. The event, which we hope to do on an annual basis, will introduce over 350 incoming first year students to various businesses and non-profits in the Springfield area and will be held outside of the Findlay Student Center around the FSC Circle. Drury has a student body of over 1,500 students, and the Ozarks Chapter of AGA will have at booth at this event so we can let Drury students & faculty know that our organization offers scholarships and student memberships. We need a few volunteers to spend 30 minutes to an hour at the booth. Call Teresa Allen if you can give some of your time. **864-1337 The Date**

Wednesday, September 16th, 2009 10:30 am – 2:00 pm Findlay Student Center Circle (Rain date is September 23rd)

Ozarks Chapter September Educational Event



For reservations: Call Teresa Allen at 417-864-1337 Email: tallen@springfieldmo.gov PANEL DISCUSSION September 15, 2009 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM Carnegie Branch Library Jefferson & Central Moderator: Dr. Penny Clayton 2 Hours CPE Lunch from Ott's Pasta

The following are sample questions that will be asked of the panelists. Bring your own questions and learn how other organizations are faring during the recession.

Briefly explain your organization's revenue sources and the impact (percentage and/or dollars) that the economy has had over the last year.

What are the short-term changes that your organization made to adjust (within the current budget year)?

What will be the impact over the next budget year?

How do you communicate changes to employees and to the community you serve?

Have you received ARRA stimulus grants? What has been the impact?

What does the average citizen need to know about the effect the economy has had on your organization?

What is the biggest misconception in the community about the economy and your organization?

What is the best piece of advice you would have for other government organizations?

Has there been a bright side? Any innovative improvements, cost savings, new revenue sources, job seekers, etc.

Month	Date	Description	Location
Sept	09/15/09	Panel discussion-The current economy and it effect on local government entities. Dr. Penny Clayton, moderator For reservations contact: tallen@springfieldmo.gov	s Midtown Library Lunch provided 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM - 2 CPE Cost: \$10
Oct	10/13/09	Ozarks Chapter Fall Scholarship Seminar Featured guests will speak on topics that include IRS Tax Payer Advocacy, GASB Update-(GASB 54) Change in Funds, Effects of the Recovery Act on Single Audits, and a technology update	Cooper Tennis Complex 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM - 4 CPE Cost: TBD
Nov			
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Dec			
		ТВА	

Ozarks Chapter Community Service Plan 2009-2010

Outreach to the SW MO area through a variety of efforts and to promote Ozarks AGA through community service projects.

Month	Chapter Event	Community Service Activity
October 2009	Fall Scholarship Seminar	Proceeds from 4 hours fall seminar funds spring scholarship awards. Fundraiser for Underprivileged School Children's Fund
November 2009	Chapter Meeting	Collect items for Toys for Tots
February 2010	Spring Seminar	Announce scholarship applications available to college students
April 2010	Chapter Meeting	Food drive collection
May 2010	Chapter Meeting	Award student scholarships
May 2010	Donation	Participate in Relay for Life event, fundraiser for American Cancer Society

Underprivileged School Children's Fund (UPSCF)

A UNITED WAY OF THE OZARKS AFFILIATE AGENCY OPERATING UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agency Mission:

Operating under the auspices of the Springfield Board of Education, the UPSCF provides for needy, at-risk children Springfield Public school district with medical services, clothing and shoes. Nursery services are provided along w parenting classes for teen students enrolled in the Bailey Alternative High School Program. We believe that all students should have an opportunity to become productive citizens. Paramount to that productivity is the health status of the child. Healthy children are better learners. Underprivileged School Children's Fund helps fill that ne

Brief History

The Fund had its beginning in 1952 when the Springfield Public School's Board of Education created it to oversee lunch, milk, and clothing and shoe needs of children. With the advent of the federal lunch and milk program, the operation of the Fund has evolved to include the provision of needed medical services and infant clothes. The Fu also operates a nursery for the children of teen parents who attend Bailey Alternative High School.

Program Services

<u>PTA Clothing Bank</u> Opened each Wednesday (not 1st Wed.) 9:00-3:30, at 501 W. Central, ph. 523-2771 The clothing bank provides clothes to students enrolled in Springfield Public Schools pre-school-12th grades that are o free/reduced lunch program. The PTA Council operates the clothing bank with volunteers, financial support, and clothing donations from schools and individuals. Families request a voucher from their school and may come fou different times a year.

The clothing bank is closed in December and closes for the season the last Wednesday in April

Shoe Bank Opened each Wednesday (not 1st Wed.) 9:00 – 11:00 & 1:00- 3:30, at 501 W. Central, ph. 523-2771

The shoe bank provides new tennis shoes to students enrolled in Springfield Public Schools pre-school-12th grades that are on free/reduced lunch program. The Ozark Empire Kiwanis Club operates the shoe bank with volunteers financial support. Families request a voucher from their school and may come once a school year. The clothing b is closed in December and closes for the season the last Wednesday in April.

Bailey Nursery The nursery meets the needs of at-risk parenting teens and their babies, by providing nursery/childcare for those teens that would not be able to stay in school without childcare being provided. Stud are enrolled in the Bailey Alternative High School parenting program, while completing their high school graduation requirements.

Medical Services The Health Services Department of the Springfield Public Schools meets the medical needs of students, pre-school-12th grades, by providing financial assistance and referrals for dental care, physician care, medication, vision exams and glasses, and head lice medication. Student who meet program criteria for medical services are referred by the school nurse for assistance.

School Supplies School supplies are available to schools/students on an as needed basis. Several schools/stude receive supplies from Crosslines, Salvation Army, Victory Mission, Partners in Education, or other community organizations. When supplies are depleted in the school, they can contact their Attendance Advisor to receive misupplies as inventory allows.

Ozarks Chapter Receives Proclamation From Greene County

Congratulations to the Ozarks Chapter of AGA for giving to the Community, especially for their efforts in assisting Weller Elementary School and its students. Several Chapter members donated their time and "muscle" in organizing a benefit golf tournament and at least two landscaping projects for Weller School. Among those directly involved were: Jerry Mitchell & Teresa Allen, Springfield/Greene County Park Board, Justin Hill, Greene County Auditor's Office, Deb Gillenwaters, Springfield/Greene County Health Dept., and, of course, the students of Weller School.



Your 2009-2010 Ozarks Chapter of AGA Officers

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ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS, **OZARKS CHAPTER**

Ozarks Chapter of The Association of Government Accountants Deb Fraley, CPA, Editor **Deadline** for articles: Monday-eight days prior to meeting date Send articles to: dfraley@springfieldmo.gov



Happy Birthday to all those celebrating in September



c/o Greene County Auditor 940 Boonville Ave., Rm 210 Springfield, MO 65802

> We're on the Web at: OzarksAGA.org

