

From the Ozarks



Park Central Square landscaping

# The Ozarks Ledger



Ozarks Chapter  
Volume V, Issue 6  
June 3, 2009

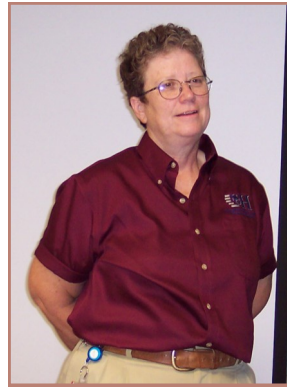
We're on the Web at  
[www.ozarksaga.org](http://www.ozarksaga.org)

## President's Message

My major concern when accepting this opportunity to be an officer of your chapter was that I *not do anything to hurt the organization. Little did I know how much help I was going to receive. More than anything I want to express to all of you that this past year has been a pleasure and an honor to get to work with so many fine individuals. I want to encourage you and offer you the opportunity to work with people of like minds striving to do good for our profession, our employers, our community and ourselves.*

This month brings summer and lots of activity. Our last meeting for the chapter's fiscal year will be at the Tower Club on June 9<sup>th</sup>. Our speaker will be Dr. Sandra Byrd from Missouri State. Dr. Byrd will be talking to us about **"Employment Issue Challenges in Governmental Accounting—past, present and future"**. I am seeking a couple of our members to sit in on a panel at the end of her presentation to initiate a discussion. I of course have lots to say about this topic and I am sure some of you do also, please contact me. In fact, be sure to contact me with your reservations for this meeting.

You will be hearing from Teresa Allen for the next year and I have seen her schedule for next year's meetings. It is full of interesting and pertinent topics continuing our efforts to bring you the best CPE for your limited training dollars. Teresa and those officers



Deb Gillenwaters, CGFM

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that attended the Sectional Leadership Meeting last month on our behalf came back all fired up and ready to tackle the challenges ahead. I know we will all benefit from their ideas.

I often wonder if the simple words "Thank You" are sufficient sometimes. I wish to convey that this year has been a team effort. Each meeting, seminar, and audio conference would not have happened or been successful without the work of each person you see listed in this newsletter as an officer or committee chair. Each and every time someone was asked to contribute, they did. And we all benefited, please remember to thank them in person if you get a chance. And you should have a nice warm fuzzy feeling also, because each time you attended a meeting you helped the chapter keep going. You helped us do good.

# CEC Retreat Minutes May 16, 2009

The Ozarks Chapter of AGA held the monthly CEC board meeting on Saturday, May 16, 2009 at the residence of Linda Charles.

The items discussed were:

- ◆ CEC reviewed and approved the 2009-10 Chapter budget
- ◆ Many attendees at the SLM were giving out their chapter's business cards. It would be a good idea for the officers of our chapter to have AGA business cards to promote our chapter.
- ◆ The Ozarks Chapter could cover the cost of the Tower Club if a two-hour CPE was offered. The cost would be approximately \$25 per person for two CPE.
- ◆ A proposal for a community service project for the coming year will be to encourage members to donate to a nationally recognized organization with the chapter matching the donation, and, in turn, the national office will match the total of the member contribution *and* the chapter match. That would turn an initial \$25 contribution into \$100.
- ◆ When awarding scholarships to college students, the criteria would be to write an essay on the importance of a governmental accountant.
- ◆ The scholarship process will take place in the last four months of the year. The process will begin in September by making the applications available on the Ozarks Chapter's website. The deadline for applications will be in October. The CEC will decide in November who will receive the scholarships, and the awards will be presented at the December meeting.
- ◆ Martha Mundt, City of Springfield, was appointed to serve as Scholarship chairperson and Tina McManis, from MSU was appointed as Treasurer Elect.
- ◆ Deb Gillenwaters made a motion to purchase tote bags as speaker gifts. Teresa Allen seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- ◆ The revised bylaws were passed after an addition was made to include membership for students. The motion was made by Deb Gillenwaters and seconded by Deb Fraley.
- ◆ Speakers scheduled or suggested to speak at monthly meetings of the Ozarks Chapter:

Dr. Sandra Byrd, MSU Professor will speak on the IRS Employment challenges on June 9, 2009 at the Tower Club.

During the summer months we will join either the ASWA or IMA.

In September we will have a panel discussion. Suggested panel members were Mary Mannix Decker, City of Springfield Finance Director, someone from Greene County, and someone from City Utilities.

The fall seminar is scheduled to take place on October 15<sup>th</sup> at Cooper Tennis from 9-4. Suggested speakers were Peggy Ginn; a speaker on GASB 54-*Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*; Nichole Plowman on revolving informational technology, and Greg Burriss on improving the City of Springfield financial position.

The board members present were Deb Gillenwaters, Teresa Allen, Deb Fraley, Martha Mundt and Linda Charles. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by,

Linda Charles, Ozarks Chapter Secretary

## June Chapter Meeting Features Dr. Sandra Byrd



Dr. Sandra Byrd, CPA  
Professor of Accountancy  
Missouri State University

Our speaker for this month will be Dr. Sandra Byrd, Professor of Accounting at Missouri State University. Dr. Byrd is a licensed CPA and has taught accounting at the University of Arkansas, Eastern Illinois University and Missouri State.

Dr. Byrd has received awards and recognition from numerous institutions: Educator of the Year - MO Society of CPAs, AICPA Distinguished Achievement in Accounting Education Award, US Dept. of Treasury and IRS recognition for outstanding public service 2002-2008, and appointed as first MSU Public Affairs Professor.

Dr. Byrd has spoken at many national and regional conferences, and is actively involved in several

community organizations. She is the founding member and coordinator of "Across the Life Span-A Financial Literacy Network" formed in 2002 to assist low-income, elderly and ESL members of the community with financial literacy issues.

On Tuesday, June 9, Dr. Byrd will speak about **"Employment Issue Challenges in Governmental Accounting--past, present and future."**

We will be back at the Tower Club for this meeting. Please call or email your reservations to:

Deb Gillenwaters -  
[dgillenwaters@springfieldmo.gov](mailto:dgillenwaters@springfieldmo.gov)  
864-1896

Cost for lunch and 1 hour CPE - \$18

Date: June 9, 2009

Time: Noon to @ 1:30 pm

## Future Ozarks Chapter Educational Events

Month	Date	Description	Location
June	06/09/2009	Dr. Sandra Byrd Missouri State University <b>"Employment Issue Challenges in Governmental Accounting—past, present and future"</b> 1 hr cpe	The Tower Club Noon to @1:30 Lunch provided Cost: \$18
July	07/21/09	Laurie Adams-Treasury Management Partner-US Bank <b>"Managing Cash and Investments for Government"</b>	Midtown Library (top floor) Lunch provided Noon to @ 1:30 Cost: \$10
Aug	08/18/09	<b>IMA Joint Meeting</b>  <b>Speaker - TBD</b>	Twin Oaks Country Club Time - TBD
Sept	09/15/09	Panel discussion-The current economy and its effect on local government entities	Midtown Library 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM Cost: \$10

## Budget Committee Meeting Report - April 11, 2009

Deb Gillenwaters, Martha Mundt and Teresa Allen meet on Sat. April 11<sup>th</sup> to formulate a 2009-10 budget for the chapter. As far as we know the Ozarks chapter has not had a budget passed in previous years. Starting with 08-09 actuals, we had a few goals in establishing a budget.

**Goal one** is to breakeven on regular monthly meeting expenses and providing the most economical CPE possible. Due to rising costs at the Tower Club, we will need to find a new regular monthly meeting place in 2009-10; reserving the Tower Club for just two or three meetings per year.

**Goal two** is to provide post secondary educational scholarships, to both our members in the workforce and to full time college students. The fall seminar is designed to be the funding source for the scholarship fund for the year. A portion of the current check book balance reserve will be utilized for additional scholarships over the next year or two.

**Goal three** is will be to utilize the available National AGA matching funds for community service dollars raised. They will match dollar-for-dollar; doubling any contribution we can make to a nationally recognized organization.

We will again provide the spring membership seminar; this event will be near breakeven due to the majority of the funding going to National AGA. We will also have a recruitment meeting (supported by National AGA) as well as the stipend for any executive committee members to attend the national Professional Development Conference.

The budget was presented to the CEC at the May 16<sup>th</sup> planning meeting and was approved as is to move forward to a vote of the members at the July meeting. We will need members to help on the scholarship committee as well as the next community service project. Please contact Teresa Allen if interested.

## GPS Faces Satellite Crisis In Near Future

There is the possibility that the US will see the GPS system collapse within a year or less. This is thus far a pretty alarmist position, but it seems that the US Air Force has been having trouble getting replacement satellites in orbit and if the problem is not fixed, the system will lack the capacity to function properly. The prospect of millions of people

*The prospect of millions of people wandering aimlessly for days and weeks will likely galvanize some action....*

wandering aimlessly for days and weeks will likely galvanize some action but not necessarily. The implications are both serious and not. The US Air Traffic Control system is trying to move to a GPS-based system, but if there are doubts about satellite reliability this may not be such a great idea. Then there are the people that use the GPS to find their car keys. The system is fascinating but thus far I

have struggled on with a map or two and the kindness of strangers.

**Analysis:** The real problem with a GPS-dominated world is the missed opportunity to get those creative directions from gas station attendants and passersby. My all time favorite was prompted by asking a very courtly older lady for directions to a restaurant. The conversation lasted over 30 minutes as I was given an incredible amount of local history along with the directions – such as “turn right at the house with the blue shutters, that’s Marge and Jacob’s place. She never cared for the blue shutters but that was the paint that Jacob had in the garage and he refused to buy anything for something as silly as shutters. She got even over the years as she proceeded to watch all those design shows and painted her walls in all these oranges and maroons. Drove him crazy” I found the restaurant and by that time I felt like I knew the owners intimately. No GPS system will do that for you!

Chris Kuehl, Armada Corporate Intelligence

# Report on the Sectional Leadership Meeting

For the first time, the Ozarks Chapter was “fully” represented at the SLM. National AGA will pay the entire way for up to four officers per chapter to attend the Sectional Leadership Meeting. Even if you’ve never thought about serving as an officer, this is a great opportunity to learn how to lead and to get to know AGA.



The following (L to R) attended this event on May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>: Martha Mundt attended as Director of Education, Teresa Allen, as President-Elect, Julie Vaughan attended as Director of Early Careers, and Sally Payne as Director of Membership.

Friday morning we met with other officers of the Midwestern Region that were from: Lincoln and Omaha NE, Des Moines IA, Topeka KS, St. Louis, Mid-

Missouri, and Kansas City MO. This year there were over 160 in attendance since they combined AGA “Sections” II and III. Sections II and III include Indianapolis to New Orleans and California to Alaska and everyone in between, and a few representatives from the island of Guam.

The meetings are fast paced and energizing. We met several staff members from the National office as well as the incoming National President. We each attended different breakout sessions to learn more about our new positions within the Ozarks Chapter. The group meetings review the resources and support that we have at the National level, best practices by other chapters as well the challenges we all face.

If you would like to learn more about the SLM or chapter leadership, please contact me at any time. We need to send four people next year! The opportunity, support, and resources, are waiting for you.

Teresa Allen, CGFM  
President-Elect



# Plans Under Way for September Fraud Conference

Join AGA at its Fourth Annual Internal Control & Fraud Conference, set for Sept. 16-17 at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, D.C. Worth 14 CPE hours, the conference will focus on management's responsibility for ensuring a good system of internal controls and the role of all accountability professionals in minimizing the risk of fraud, waste and abuse. Hear from leaders in government, academia and private industry discuss latest discovery techniques and lessons learned from various schemes; how poor internal controls can lead to fraud, waste and abuse; and how different levels of government are cooperating to improve services to citizens. The conference will also cover various aspects of the Recovery Act from an internal control and fraud perspective.

Speakers include:

- **Earl E. Devaney**, *Chairman, Recovery Act Transparency and Accountability Board*
- **Neil Barofsky**, *Special Inspector General, Troubled Asset Relief Program, U.S. Department of the Treasury*
- **U.S. Sen. Claire McCaskill** (*Invited*)
- **Phyllis K. Fong**, *Inspector General, U.S. Department of Agriculture*
- **Arthur A. Hayes**, **CGFM, CPA**, *Director of State Audit, Office of the Comptroller of the Treasury, State of Tennessee*
- **Thomas M. Davis III**, *Former U.S. Congressman* (*Invited*)

To register:

[http://www.agacgfm.org/fraud\\_2009\\_ph/download\\_s/Fraud09RegForm\\_102.pdf](http://www.agacgfm.org/fraud_2009_ph/download_s/Fraud09RegForm_102.pdf)

# Join Us to Say Thanks to Deb G. at the June Meeting

Happiness!  
Happiness!



Well, this *wasn't*  
the last year of  
the Ozarks  
Chapter after all.

There are two reasons you won't want to miss the June meeting next Tuesday. We will present Dr. Sandra Byrd from Missouri State University as our speaker. And, we will gather to say "Thanks for a job well done" to our outgoing President, Deb Gillenwaters. Deb has done a wonderful job of guiding the Chapter through the last twelve months. Deb has enabled the Chapter to accomplish several goals. She has truly "made things happen" for the Ozarks Chapter. She will be telling you about all those things next Tuesday. I encourage all of you to be there and see what we have in store for Deb!!

Don't worry Deb; we won't do anything too silly. We *are* accountants, you know!!



## July Chapter Meeting At Midtown Library



Laurie L. Adams  
Treasury Management Partner  
US Bank

The July meeting will be the **third Tuesday** instead of our usual second Tuesday. We will meet at the Midtown Library third floor conference room. Lunch will be catered and the charge will be only \$10 for lunch and one hour CPE. That's a bargain! Our speaker will be Laurie Adams from US Bank.

Laurie Adams is the Treasury Management Partner for the Springfield/Branson Region. She has 13 years of banking experience with U.S. Bank, including Branch Management. She has specialized in Treas-

ury Management products and services for the past three years.

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Treasury Management Partner – 2006 to Present  
Branch Manager – 2002 to 2006  
Retail operations including Teller Supervisor – 1997 to 2002

### EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Bachelor of Science – University of Missouri, St. Louis

### GOVERNMENT BANKING CLIENTS INCLUDE:

City of Republic, Missouri  
City of Springfield, Missouri  
Battlefield Fire Protection District  
City of Branson West, Missouri

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE:

Implementation and ongoing assistance including: On-Site Electronic Deposit, Positive Pay, ACH, Account Reconciliation, Lockbox Services, SinglePoint (online banking solution)

Retail Operations including: depository functions, account analysis, statement services, customer service

Payment Solutions including: Merchant Services, Purchasing Card Services, Payroll Card Services

# Your 2008-2009 Ozarks Chapter of AGA Officers

President	Deb Gillenwaters, CGFM	Ph: 417-864-1896 Fx: 417-864-2065	dgillenwaters@springfieldmo.gov
President-Elect	Teresa Allen, CGFM	Ph: 417-864-1337 Fx: 417-837-5811	tallen@springfieldmo.gov
Secretary	Linda Charles	Ph: 417-864-1864 Fx: 417-864-1880	lcharles@springfieldmo.gov
Treasurer	Martha Mundt, CGFM	Ph: 417-864-1631	mmundt@springfieldmo.gov
Past President	Jerry Mitchell, CGFM, CPA	Ph: 417-864-1325 Fx: 417-837-5811	jmittchell@springfieldmo.gov

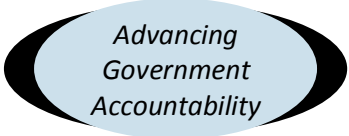
## Board Members

Dir. of Education	Martha Mundt, CGFM	Ph: 417-864-1631 Fx: 417-864-1880	mmundt@springfieldmo.gov
Dir. of Membership & Chapter Recognition	Justin Hill	Ph: 417-829-6202	jrhill@greencountymo.org
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Ozarks Chapter of AGA

ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS,  
OZARKS CHAPTER



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

We're on the Web at:  
OzarksAGA.org

*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  
June*

