

September Newsletter

NDIANAPOLIS CHAPTER



President's Message

The program year is now in full swing! With an exceptional program year last year, earning Platinum Status in points Nationally and receiving the AGA's 2012 Chapter CGFM Award for Group A for an outstanding job promoting the CGFM program to our members, other accountability professionals, and community, we have our work cut out for us this year. First, I would like to remind you what the AGA is all about.

If you didn't know, the tagline for the AGA is: AGA-The Thought Leader in Government Financial Management. AGA supports the careers and professional development of finance professionals working in federal, state and local governments.

A few statistics from a national level:

- (1) 16,000 members in 100 local chapters throughout the United States
- (2) One of the six principal organizations that governs the accounting profession in the United States
- (3) AGA offers more than 100,000 continuing professional education (CPE) hours annually

For our local chapter:

- (1) We are close to 300 members strong with DFAS representing about 80%
- (2) Diverse make-up of membership from early careerists to journeyman level to senior manager level as well as retirees
- (3) Sponsor multiple opportunities throughout the program year for CPEs
- (4) Over 20 committees in our local chapter so there is something for everyone if you would like to get involved

We started this program year off in the right direction, hosting the AGA Kick-Off Cookout on August 22. Thirty members and six non-members enjoyed a fun lunch filled with networking and testimonials from active AGA members.

AGA Indianapolis Articles

These articles were picked for the AGA Member Audience: Know any other good articles? Submit to the Newsletter Committee!

President's Message [Continued from Page 1]

I also shared our chapter's goals for this program year; (1) Focus on increasing CPE visibility (2) Create, deploy and sustain networking capability and, (3) Expand opportunities to engage chapter membership base in the AGA activities. The next luncheon is scheduled for Wednesday, October 3rd and will provide members the opportunity to hear from several DFAS leaders and gain valuable career advice.



Also, new this year is our <u>Facebook Page</u> at https://www.facebook.com/#!/

AGAIndianapolis. We encourage all members to check out, "AGA Indianapolis" and "like" the page. Our intent is to provide you the details about upcoming events, links to AGA resources and provide you another opportunity to network with fellow members on the page! It's also another way we can find out what YOU want...so from time to time you will see polls requesting your feedback on luncheon topics, CPE opportunities, and things of that nature.

The first audio conference will take place on October 3rd. The conference will discuss Auditing Performance Systems and is a free and easy way to earn a few CPEs.

In regards to the CGFM, the module 2 study group is half-way through and the module 1 & 3 group will start sometime in December. If you would like to study on your own you can always check out study material from Dan Neumann, 212-3120.

With so many events and opportunities, it can be easy to miss something. Make sure to check the website for event updates: http://www.againdy.com/Pages/default.aspx.

Also, continue encouraging your co-workers and peers to attend AGA events!

Michael Leist President



Questions about Sponsorship?

AGA Corporate Sponsors support the Chapter for an entire program year. The benefits and engagement opportunities run from January through December. Between October and January, we solicit Sponsors for the upcoming program year.

We currently have four sponsorship echelons ranging from Bronze to Platinum, each with increasing support levels and engagement opportunities. All Sponsors receive advertising space on our website and in our Chapter Newsletter which publishes six editions per year, with distribution to over 300 members.

Several other benefits are offered depending on your giving level, including complimentary access to our Holiday Party, Awards Banquet, & monthly luncheons for employees from your company. Speak with an AGA Corporate Sponsorship representative for more details.

Contact Andrew Tyler at andrew.tyler@dfas.mil www.againdy.com

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AGA Indianapolis Sponsor Spotlight Article



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AGA Indianapolis Announcements

Job Shadowing

The AGA Early Careers Committee would like to announce an exciting opportunity...job shadowing! The Early Careers Committee will be hosting an informative breakfast on Thursday, October 11, 2012, from 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. in Conference Room 229AA to discuss this opportunity. If you are an Early Career Member or are interested in joining AGA and would like information about job shadowing, come sign up and enjoy a delicious breakfast of bagels, donuts, and coffee on us!

If you have any questions prior to the breakfast, please contact Karli Hougland at 212-2966, karli.hougland@dfas.mil, Melanie Rapp at 212-2945, melanie.rapp@dfas.mil, Katie Sims at 212-3972, katherine.sims@dfas.mil, Audra Pera at 212-4784, audra.pera@dfas.mil, or Liz Van Renterghem at 212-3280, elizabeth.vanrenterghem@dfas.mil.

Fall AGA/ASMC Joint PDC

AGA and ASMC will be hosting a Joint Professional Development Conference on Thursday, November 8, 2012, at the Garrison. Tickets will be \$100 for AGA/ASMC members and \$125 for all others. This year's event will offer 8 CPEs. Registration is due no later than Friday, October 19, 2012. Please refer to the flyer for more details!

Auditing
Ethics
Entrepreneurship/Innovation
Budgeting
Accounting
For More Information check:
http://www.againdy.com/Pages/

Topics to include:

Education.aspx

Questions or concerns should be directed to Jonathan Clark jonathan.clark@dfas.mil 212-2993

and/or

Melanie Rapp melanie.rapp@dfas.mil 212-2945



















AGA Indianapolis Announcements

October Luncheon

Come join the AGA, Wednesday, October 3, 2012, 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., as we gain an insight into the DFAS work experience and receive valuable guidance to progress throughout our professional career!!! Please refer to the Luncheons page: http://www.againdy.com/Pages/Luncheons.aspx

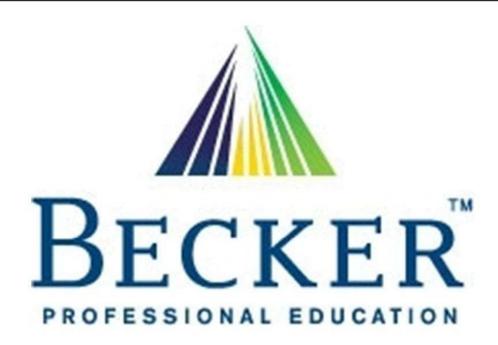
Fall AGA Audio Conference

AGA will host its next Audio Conference: "Strengthening Performance Management Systems: Management & Audit Perspectives" on October 3, 2:00 to 3:50 p.m., in conference room 222R-1. Two (2) NASBA Certified CPEs will be offered for the event. Free for members and \$25 participation fee for non-members.

To self-register, contact <u>Wendy Carter</u> (212-9497), <u>Natalie Mitchel</u> (212-5433), or <u>Melanie Rapp</u>(212-2945).

After Work Networking

On Thursday, August 23rd, the AGA Social Committee held the first of many "After Work Networking" events. Several members, along with two sponsors from the Financial Center Credit Union, gathered at Triton Brewery located minutes from DFAS. The group discussed enjoyed drinks and snacks and chatted about work, personal and AGA topics. More events like this to come soon!



Becker offers government employees unlimited CPE for \$100/year.

Contact Andi Shriner for details: ashriner@becker.com

MEMBERS PAGE!

This page is dedicated to our members. Any articles you would like to write and have published would be welcome.

Recent Member Accomplishments

Audra Pera MBA, Anderson University Camille Schultz MBA, Anderson University

CDFM Certification

Allison Warner MBA, Anderson University Charlene Weber MBA, Colorado State University

Green Belt Certification

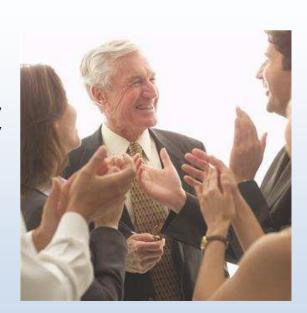
Kelly Foster MBA, Ferris State University

CDFM Certification

Debbie Haines MBA, Indiana Wesleyan University **Larry Haines** MBA, Indiana Wesleyan University

Cathy Van Hoesen MPA, Indiana University

BSBA, Indiana Tech John P. Campbell **CGFM Certification** Jayme Boruff Kyle Miller **CGFM Certification CGFM** Certification **Barry Waits** Daniel Farr **CGFM Certification** Katie Buck **CGFM Certification CGFM Certification** Ashley Ray Casey Jo Snyder **CGFM Certification** Jane Childs **CDFM Certification CGFM Certification** Reanetta Perkins Melanie Blunk **CDFM Certification** April Mack **CDFM Certification**



AGA's 61st Annual PDC "Training to Solve Today's Fiscal Challenges" - Sam Thapa

From June 29th – August 1st, I was very lucky to have been able to attend AGA's 61st Annual PDC, "Training to Solve Today's Fiscal Challenges," at the San Diego Convention Center. I say that because I actually won the yearly AGA Indianapolis Chapter drawing to attend and I am very grateful to our chapter for this awesome experience. I had only been to California once before and the weather was perfect the entire time I was there.

I arrived in San Diego on June 29th, just in time for the first training session: 'Innovating with Electronic Invoicing: Saving Money and Gaining Visibility,' which is a topic directly applicable to the mission area I work in and our goal of raising electronic commerce rates for our customers through the deployment of electronic invoicing and obligations. It was interesting to see that many federal agencies are just starting to embrace the idea of this 'eSolution' and it reflected how at DFAS we are innovatively ahead of the game with eCommerce.

The rest of the conference was a very enriching and positive experience for me. I learned a lot in all the training sessions I attended, the guest speakers were interesting, and I had a lot of fun networking as well. It was great to meet DFAS leaders, colleagues, and to hang out with my own mission area superiors. In addition, I had the opportunity to meet many professionals from all different branches of the federal government, including the Department of Homeland Security, NASA, and the Missile Defense Agency. A highlight for me was the opportunity to meet the Incoming AGA President, Ms. Evelyn Brown, at the 'Young Professionals Roundtable & Speed Networking session.' It was very kind of her to set aside time from her busy schedule to give me wise career advice during this session.

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MEMBERS PAGE!

This page is dedicated to our members. Any articles you would like to write and have published would be welcome.

AGA's 61st Annual PDC "Training to Solve Today's Fiscal Challenges" CONTINUED

It was nice to get a special 'heads-up' on the training session dedicated to the upcoming DoD Financial Management Certification Program, which was hosted by our own Mr. Bobby Derrick, Former National AGA President. At this insightful session, it was emphasized how we (in DoD) need to consider ourselves a community, not just a component activity. In addition, this new certification program was mentioned at the 'Financing the Fight' session, in which the Honorable Mr. McCord, Principal Deputy, Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) mentioned, "This FM certification is about making a good FM workforce better, adding more credibility to what we do." Hearing Mr. McCord's briefing on the Defense Budget, DoD's streamlined approach, and current challenges such as the 'Fiscal Cliff' was another PDC highlight for me. Other interesting sessions were 'Making Legacy Systems & New Systems Work,' 'Cyberthreats and Intrustions: Protections you can't Afford to Pass Up,' 'Communication Skills for the Workplace,' and 'Generational Diversity.'

The Exhibitor Events were excellent. It was nice to have the opportunity of promoting our chapter to potential corporate sponsors with DFAS-Indy & DFAS-Rome Leaders in Motion Program Manager, Mr. Daniel Neumann (I must admit, he did most of the work:) It was great to see Dan accept the '2012 Chapter CGFM Award for Group A' as well! The food was delicious - I have never had nor had even heard of 'Fried Chocolate Cheese' before, and, despite the food combo/name, it was surprisingly delicious!

I feel very lucky to have been able to attend this year's AGA PDC and I took a lot of photos while I was in San Diego. It was fun seeing Downtown San Diego and I also managed to go to both the San Diego Zoo and Sea World because I took a few days of vacation while I was there. Of course, I am very grateful to our AGA Chapter and I am very proud to be a member. I will never forget the time I had in San Diego. I made a lot of new friends and when I look at all the photos I took it always brings back great memories!!

AGA Horseback Riding Sally Thelen

On September 8th, Mike Leist, Sally Thelen, Mike Northcutt, Katie Buck, Vince Buck, Deirdre Valentine, Pam Leeper, Leann Johnson, Joel Johnson, Hannah Johnson and Debbie Parrish went horseback riding at Fort Benjamin Harrison State Park.

The instructors led the riders through 2.5 miles of beautiful trails located inside the park. The horses, with names ranging from Gizmo to Festivus, were very friendly and cooperative. What a great experience on an early fall day in the middle of the city!





Newsletter Articles

The deadline for submitting articles and updates for the next newsletter is the end of each quarter. Please email submissions to:

Heather Crews
Carlton Carley

heather.crews@dfas.mil carlton.carley@dfas.mil

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President-Elect Wayne Ingle

Treasurer Martha Welch

Secretary Camille Schultz

Previous President Laura Jankovich

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3 Year Board Member Shane Douglas

3 Year Board Member Martha Welch

3 Year Board Member Maranda Summers

3 Year Board Member Nate Pierce

3 Year Board Member Melissa Jacobs

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Meeting Arrangements: Deirdre Valentine

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Wellness: Tom Spahr

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