

AGA[®] September Newsletter NDIANAPOLIS CHAPTER

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President's Message

Thank you to last year's President Mike Leist, chapter leaders, Chapter Executive Council, and our members in making 2012-2013 another outstanding year. The Indianapolis Chapter continued our Platinum status and achieved this significant accomplishment by the 3rd quarter! Thank you for your leadership and dedication throughout the year.

While I have been a member of the AGA since 1999, I have not been in a leadership position with a local chapter. I am honored to continue in the legacy of our past leaders and look to continue our tremendous success as Indiana's most successful chapter. My goals for this program year are to:

- Provide increased opportunities for cost effective CPEs in order to help offset the effects of budget reductions in DFAS.
- Increase new membership by 10% over 2012/13 levels by targeting organizations with low participation rates.
- Increase engagement of chapter membership and corporate sponsors in AGA activities.

While we have already and will continue to face economic challenges throughout the year such as the furlough and reduced budgets, I am confident that we can still meet our chapter goals and maintain our Platinum status. Once again, we have a tremendous leadership team who has already been planning training, networking, and community service opportunities for our current members and prospective new members. Here are just a few of the many exciting opportunities we have planned over the next quarter:

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AGA Indianapolis Articles

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

Presidents Message Continued

- We will be hosting "Speed Networking" on November 6th. This will give our members the opportunity to spend a few minutes with several of our DFAS leaders...including a special guest. More to come on this very soon!
- We will be hosting at least six several AGA Audio/Web conferences. This is a great way to learn about current topics in government accounting while getting very cost effective CPEs.
- We will continue to host luncheons throughout the year. Our goal is to provide the opportunity to network with other AGA members as well as provide great speakers.

-The Annual Kickoff Cookout will be held September 25 in the courtvard -Our chapter will host a CPE Luncheon on October 17th at the Garrison -We will host luncheon in December jointly with ASMC at the Garrison

- Our chapter will continue to provide community service opportunities throughout the year. We already have sponsored collections for Hoosier Veterans Assistance Foundation and held a school supply drive which had a tremendous response. We collected approximately 10 boxes (over 600 items!) of pens, pencils, markers, crayons, paint, glue, notebooks, folders, etc. that will enable the children of IPS #105 to have a successful school year. Thank you to everyone who participated! We will be working with Cards for Heroes, Our 'Lil Bit of Heaven and and Angel Tree over the next few months.
- We will also host several social events throughout the year including Horseback Riding at Ft Ben on September 14th, Triton Brewery After Work Networking in early October, Headless Horseman at Connor Prairie in late October and Christmas at the Zoo in December.

Please continue to check our website (www.againdy.com) for more specifics on upcoming events and opportunities. Also, don't forget to share the experience and invite a coworker to join AGA. I look forward to meeting each of you during our events throughout the year!

Steve Borushko President AGA, Indianapolis Chapter





5 Cartoons to make you a **Better Manager**

By Jim Garamone **American Forces Press Service**

Just because you don't watch "Schoolhouse Rock!" anymore doesn't mean cartoons have nothing left to teach you. Some pioneering groups, both ASAP Science and RSA Animate, have put together some very cool animations/time-lapse drawings that speak to the building blocks of managing people and, most importantly, ourselves.

Click on the bubbles in the infographic below to learn about:

- Why words matter
- The science behind productiv-• ity
- The truth about what moti-• vates us
- Different types of thinking • And the origin of innovation (aka where good ideas come

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from)



http://www.defense.gov/ news/newsarticle.aspx? id=67817



To recognize the diversity and ongoing changes in the government financial management profession, AGA's Professional Certification Board has updated the eligibility requirement to take the CGFM examinations. Read more <u>http://</u> <u>click.aga-agacgfm.org/?</u> <u>qs=adc4f0b4e56cd2c14d044ee246</u> <u>21b4ff89f388430061866b484e1afd</u> <u>ea521ea9</u> contact him directly if you would like to sign up. INNOVATION SUCCESS EVALUATION VEVELOPMENT GROWTH SOLUTION PROGRESS MARKETING

Member Spotlight



NAME and Job: Meg Hart Resource Manager, Business Management Office, Enterprise Solutions and Standards

HOW WOULD SOMEONE DE-SCRIBE YOU? Motivated, but also enjoys having a good time

WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU AREN'T WORKING? Spending time with my family,

photography, and reading

HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED WITH AGA?

Melissa Jacobs *forced* me to get involved, but I have really enjoyed all of the opportunities and events AGA offers.

WHAT IS SOMETHING THAT WOULD SURPRISE US TO KNOW ABOUT YOU?

I am a really big nerd and history buff.

MEMBERS PAGE!

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

March 2012 AGA Luncheon - Alternative Dispute Resolution Article by Mr. Jim Naff

Last Wednesday, our Chapter's luncheon was one of the best that I have attended in some time. The subject was presented by Mr. John Krauss, Director, Indiana University Public Policy Institute. He is well known in academia for his work in human relations and management. Earlier in his career, he was on the staff of the Ft Harrison Commanding General.

His subject? ADR (Alternative Dispute Resolution). Lots of us might dismiss its importance but in fact, the presentation showed how easily employee-management disagreements can be resolved. Probably more importantly in the DFAS employee environment, it is an informal mediation of coming to agreement on various matters, disagreements, and concerns so that everyone can be made whole and get on with the mission. Unlike in the past where there might have been a series of management actions and suspense dates and if anyone missed a date, the process started all over. Meanwhile, the workplace problem continued to fester and employee morale plummeted along with supervisor frustrations about not meeting quotas or other goals and achievements. This to say nothing about the affect upon others in the team or work area who, although not directly affected by the situation, are ill-at-ease.

Mr. Krauss provided an excellent example from a case he was mediating in another agency. It seems the employee was experiencing great difficulty with her "old-time" supervisor. The case was taken to the secondlevel supervisor. Although she could not unilaterally resolve the situation, she listened to the employee. During a side-bar conversation, the second-level supervisor realized that she knew someone who could resolve the issue. The parties concluded that the supervisor would "pave" the way for the employee to seek relief. The end, of course, is that the employee took the suggestion, went to the outside party, and got a job transfer. At last report, everyone was happy.

The event was held at the Sterrett Center, formerly the home of the US Army Band on Ft Harrison. It is an old historic building within walking distance of DFAS.

Lunch was catered by Chef Suzanne. This was her first catering of an AGA event. I heard no complaints or suggestions so we can thank the Meeting Arrangement and Program Committees for the unique lunch. Me? I would have liked a choice of another vegetable or so, but I can overlook that. For goodies, those sugar cookies were excellent! See you all at our next event.

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Financial Center serves consumers who live, work, worship, attend school, or volunteer in Marion County and the greater Indianapolis area. Over 42,000 members take advantage of favorable project deposit and loan rates as well as reduced fees by banking with this Indianapolis credit union.



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

Heather Crews Carlton Carley heather.crews@dfas.mil carlton.carley@dfas.mil



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