



# TOPEKA REGISTER

Association of Government Accountants  
P.O. Box 206, Topeka, KS 66601-0206



March 2011

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Vacant, CGFM Coordinator

Vacant, Membership

Vacant, Early Careers

Vacant, Newsletter

Vacant, Bylaws

## Next Local Continuing Education Event

When: April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Where: Jayhawk Tower, 7<sup>th</sup> and Jackson

CPE: Three Hours

Luncheon Speaker: Steve Anderson, Kansas Director of Budget – “Looking Forward to Fiscal Year 2012.”

Steve Anderson is the new Budget Director for the State of Kansas, having been recently appointed by the new Governor Sam Brownback. The State faces a half-billion dollar deficit and Mr. Anderson is rolling out his first budget. As we know, much of this budget is made up of "straw dogs" that will never come to pass. However, the deficit is real, and results even after a one-cent sales tax increase. Thus, in addition to presenting a budget plan, Mr. Anderson and the new administration is looking for ideas to help all of us get through this while also helping streamline the state so we aren't all back here again with the same problems next year.

**Audio Conference:** “Mortgage Fraud and Beyond? Looking Toward the Future”

AGA is pleased to announce a new and increasingly important topic to our audio conference schedule—mortgage fraud. Fraud against federal programs costs taxpayers billions of dollars each year. Mortgage fraud, in particular, has peaked this year as the housing market collapse continues to affect the overall economy and its recovery. The Department of Justice and various Offices of Inspectors General are handling thousands of cases that collectively involve billions of dollars in claims and recoveries in the housing and financial sector. This audio conference focuses on how this enormous challenge will continue and how another collapse could be prevented.

To share their expert knowledge and practical experience in mortgage fraud are Neil M. Barofsky, special inspector general for the Troubled Asset Relief Program, U.S. Department of the Treasury; Kenneth M. Donohue, former inspector general of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and currently a principal at the Reznick Group; Steve Linick, JD, inspector general, Federal Housing Finance Agency; and Michael P. Stephens, HUD acting inspector general.

Please RSVP for this event at:

[http://www.agaks.org/education\\_training/pls/index.shtml](http://www.agaks.org/education_training/pls/index.shtml)



## **President's Message.....**

AGA was founded in 1950 with a mission to advance governmental accountability. AGA supports government finance professionals by being a conduit that brings together finance professionals in all areas of government as well as the private sector. There are over 15,000 members across the country and AGA supports the careers of these members as well as nonmembers by offering over 100,000 of continuing professional education (CPE) hours annually. Fostering professional development is critical to AGA's mission.

AGA has developed numerous programs that support its mission of advancing governmental accountability including the Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) Program. The CGFM program was started in 1994 and is the first certification that covers the entire field of governmental management. The designation is recognized as a professional standard with more than 15,000 individuals receiving the certification. The CGFM certification can give you a competitive advantage and current research shows that those with the CGFM certification earn 34% more than those without the certification. AGA recognizes the accomplishments of the CGFM program by designating March as "CGFM Month". Learn more about this outstanding program by going to <http://www.agacgfm.org>.

Thanks for all your support!  
Marti Leisinger

### **SAVE THE DATE!**

### **Next Luncheon and Audio Conference**

**May, 11, 2011**

## **Other Educational Opportunities**

*Omaha Metro Area Chapter  
Annual 1/2 Spring Educational  
Seminar- UNO Mammel Hall  
May 3, 2011*

Register Online at:

<http://www.omahaaga.org>

*Federal Performance Conference  
Crystal City Gateway Marriott  
Arlington, VA  
May 3-4, 2011*

[http://www.agacgfm.org/fpc\\_2011/index.htm](http://www.agacgfm.org/fpc_2011/index.htm)

*National Professional  
Development Conference  
Atlanta Marriott Marquis  
Atlanta, GA  
July 10-13, 2011*

<http://www.agacgfm.org/pdc2011/>

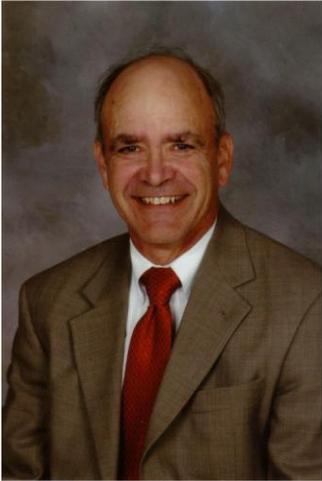
## **Visit AGA on the Web!**

National AGA  
[www.agacgfm.org](http://www.agacgfm.org)

Topeka Chapter  
[www.agaks.org](http://www.agaks.org)

## **Have you moved or changed jobs?**

*Please be sure to update your contact information with the National Office through the "Member's Only Section" of the National Website and send an email to Walt Darling at [walt\\_darling@hotmail.com](mailto:walt_darling@hotmail.com) to ensure you continue to receive local chapter communications.*



## WHAT LEADERSHIP CAN MEAN FOR YOU

*William D. Miller*

*Senior Vice President for Regional Services*

*Section II*

AGA is about leadership, opportunity, and career growth. Ascending to leadership roles in outside organizations gives you unbelievable affirmation of your skills and growth in decision making you may not receive in your current job. If you desire to progress in your career you will need leadership skills and training. The Chapter Executive Committee positions, especially, President and President Elect give you a chance to show what you can do in managing a program, accomplishing it, and enjoying the results. What you learn from this experience translates to your work environment where the real rewards come in; confidence in decision-making, ability to question, ability to manage a budget, and ability to be creative. These skills stand out when you are being considered for promotions or special assignments dear to the Director's heart. And you know what? You gain this experience without having to worry about performance evaluations, what others think, and with no pressure.

I attribute a lot of my success to the many opportunities I took advantage of through AGA—holding positions in the local chapter, region and national committees. Not only did I get needed training but I also got exposure to others whom I would never have met through the jobs I had. Consequently, I have colleagues in Federal, state and local environments whom have become close friends and have served me well in collaborations and as references for opportunities I sought and luckily achieved. Many of the superstars in our field have used the AGA experience to help them become superstars. Many have served as National Presidents and National leaders.

Career progression is not only a product of your individual hard work, it is a competition. Especially, the higher up the ladder you go. Your hard work will have already been recognized by your agency, but does anyone else know of your capabilities, and do you have the confidence to find out? When competing for jobs do you have the resume full? Compare this to corporate America. The executives are expected to have all the necessary skills to do the job. However, they are also expected to have a broad based understanding of the universe within which they live. That is why they are required to be on Boards and Commissions of Community Service Agencies or charities.

AGA leadership positions give you the safe harbor to develop skills that may put you ahead of the next candidate for the position you aspire to. It also gives you fulfillment and satisfaction that you are contributing and giving something back to your profession.

AGA Chapters are always recruiting for executive committee positions and I encourage you to step up and volunteer for them. You won't be left in the dark; other committee members will be there to assist as needed. It's fun, it's rewarding, and you will develop a link to others in your profession that you would never have any other way.

Again, thanks to all who have accepted the challenge to lead this chapter and thanks to those who will volunteer. After all, our chapter has been here since 1951—57 years!! It didn't have the staying power it has without great assistance from chapter members who took advantage of the leadership responsibilities available. Give yourself a chance.

***Please contact Marti Leisinger or any other board member if you'd like to discuss serving on the Topeka Chapter's Chapter Executive Council for the 2011-2012 program year.***



# CGFM Corner...



March has been designated as CGFM Month by the National Office. Below is a step by step guide on how to become a Certified Government Financial Manager. The Topeka Chapter has a lending library of study guides available for your use. Please let the Chapter know if you are currently working on your certification or if you would be interested in joining a study group.

**Step 1: Applying for the CGFM Program:** Submit a CGFM Program application form with the \$85 application fee and required degree documentation.

See: [Where do I start?](#) for more information...

**Step 2: Eligibility Letter:** Once your application, payment and degree documentation are received and processed by the Office of Professional Certification, AGA will mail you an eligibility letter with instructions on how to purchase your CGFM examinations. The letter is usually sent out within 2-3 weeks of receipt of your CGFM application and proof of bachelor's degree.

Your eligibility for taking the CGFM examinations will expire in three years from the date of processing your CGFM application.

**Step 3: Work Verification:** Submit a Work Verification Form as soon as you have at least two years of professional-level experience in the government financial management field (you do not have to submit this form before taking the examinations, but it must be submitted before the designation can be granted).

See: [Professional Experience Requirement](#) for more information...

**Step 4: Studying for Examinations:** Prepare for the examinations by attending a classroom course, purchasing a study guide or studying on your own.

See: [What Do Exams Cover?](#) and [How Do I Prepare?](#) for more information...

**Step 5: Exam Purchase:** Following the instructions on your eligibility letter, register with Pearson VUE, pay for CGFM

Examination(s) and schedule your testing appointments.

Examination fees: \$109 for each of the three examinations. See: [How Do I Purchase Exams?](#) for more information...

**Step 6: Taking the Exam:** Take the CGFM Examinations at a Pearson Professional Center.

**Step 7: Score Reporting:** After you complete a CGFM examination at a testing center, you will immediately receive a pass/fail score on your computer.

If you did not pass your exam, there is a 30-day waiting period before you can retake the examination; if you failed this exam more than once, the waiting period is 90 days.

See [Exam procedures](#) for more information.

**Step 8: Award Letter:** Once you pass all three CGFM examinations, and your Work Verification Form has been submitted and accepted by the Office of Professional Certification, AGA will send you an official award letter announcing your new CGFM designation. The letter is usually sent out within 2-3 weeks. Note: the candidates may not use the "CGFM" after their name until after they receive an official award letter from AGA.

**Step 9: CGFM Certificate:** Within 6-10 weeks of receiving the award letter, you can expect to receive your CGFM certificate in the mail.

If you have any questions about the process or if you have not heard from us within the estimated time frame, please contact the Office of Professional Certification of AGA at 1.800.AGA.7211, ext. 341 or via email at [agacgfm@agacgfm.org](mailto:agacgfm@agacgfm.org).

# Member Spotlight

**Boyd Jantzen is currently serving as President Elect for the 2010-2011 Program year.**



Boyd is a native Kansan. He graduated from Sublette High School and from Saint Mary's of the Plains College in Dodge City with a degree in Business Administration. Boyd has worked in State Government for 28 years in a variety of positions. In the past he has done contract compliance for State Agencies. He has also been budget manager, where he helped make sure the agency fulfilled its obligations of working within the budget and reporting of the budget. Boyd is currently the Risk Manager of Kansas Health Policy Authority where he has responsibilities for coordination and follow-up of external and internal audits.

Boyd is married to Wendy Wells, Topeka Market President, US Bank. They have 4 children, Michelle 23, Stephanie 20, Neil 17 and Conner 17. His hobbies have been coaching club sports and going to the kid's activities. Now that they are almost out of high school and in college, he looks forward to having time to go fishing.

## Membership Renewal Time

Don't forget to renew your AGA membership for the upcoming year. Payment is due by March 31<sup>st</sup>. The membership categories are:

### **Full Government Member**

This class of membership requires three or more years of government experience, involving the professional performance of financial management activities in an operational, administrative and/or supervisory capacity. This class is also available to individuals with similar experience outside the government who are engaged in educational activities having the same objectives as the Association, or who have made a contribution toward the improvement of government financial management. \$90/year

### **Private Sector Member**

This class of membership is available to individuals working for commercial activities/ventures that are actively engaged in and support AGA's purpose and objectives. \$150/year

### **Early Career Member**

This class of membership is available to government employees with less than three years experience. \$45/year

### **Student Member**

This class of membership is available to college/university students. \$30/year

### **Retired**

Call the AGA Customer Satisfaction Center at 800.AGA.7211 to find out about our retired membership category.

## Community Service Corner *Upcoming Events*

Arthritis Walk  
May 7, 2011  
Lake Shawnee

American Heart Walk  
September 17, 2011

Race Against Breast Cancer  
October 1, 2011  
Washburn University

Ronald McDonald House  
Year Round  
Metal Tab Collection

Please watch your email for more information about these events or contact Nickie Roberts.



**AGA Topeka Chapter  
Balance Sheet  
As of January 31, 2011**

**ASSETS**

**Current Assets**

**Checking/Savings**

Cash on Hand/Petty Cash	50.00
CoreFirst Bank and Trust	620.19
CoreFirst Savings Acct	9,562.83
CoreFirst CD	6,051.55

**Total Checking/Savings** 16,284.57

**Accounts Receivable**

Accounts Receivable 5.00

**Total Accounts Receivable** 5.00

**Total Current Assets** 16,289.57

**Other Assets**

Prepd URL Leases (com,net,org) 268.20

**Total Other Assets** 268.20

**TOTAL ASSETS** 16,557.77

**LIABILITIES & EQUITY**

**Liabilities**

**Current Liabilities**

Accounts Payable  
Accounts Payable 981.75

**Total Accounts Payable** 981.75

**Total Current Liabilities** 981.75

**Total Liabilities** 981.75

**Equity**

Unrestricted Net Assets 16,749.98

Net Income (1,173.96)

**Total Equity** 15,576.02

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY** 16,557.77