



Topeka Register

Association of Government Accountants
PO Box 206, Topeka, KS 66601-0206

April 2012



2011-2012 OFFICERS

President

Boyd Jantzen
b_jantzen@hotmail.com
Department of Health and Environment

Immediate Past-President

Marti Leisinger, CPA
catsintopeka@aol.com
Board of Regents

President Elect

Paula Hinman, CPA
Paula.Hinman@srs.ks.gov
Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services

President Elect-Designate

Russell Shipley, CPA, CFE
rshipley@btandcocpa.com
Berberich Trahan & Co., P.A.

Treasurer

Russell Shipley, CPA, CFE
rshipley@btandcocpa.com
Berberich Trahan & Co., P.A.

Secretary

Melinda Richter
Melinda.Richter@kbi.state.ks.us
Kansas Bureau of Investigation

2011-2012 DIRECTORS

Community Service

Nickie Roberts
nrrobe10262@aol.com
Federal Home Loan Bank

Web Site

Walt Darling
walt_darling@hotmail.com
Retired

Education

Paula Hinman, CPA
Paula.Hinman@srs.ks.gov
Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services

Chapter Recognition

Marti Leisinger, CPA
catsintopeka@aol.com
Board of Regents

Accountability

Kathy Bonhoff
Kbohnhof@ksinsurance.org
Kansas Insurance Department

CGFM Coordinator

Kathy Bonhoff
Kbohnhof@ksinsurance.org
Kansas Insurance Department

Membership/Early Careers

Linda Farlow
lfarlow2@cox.net
Kansas State Historical Society and Museum
Retired

Newsletter

Russell Shipley, CPA, CFE
rshipley@btandcocpa.com
Berberich Trahan & Co., P.A.

Bylaws—Vacant

President's Message

From the Topeka Chapter President, Boyd Jantzen

I wanted to publicly say thanks to Paula Hinman for making the all-day professional education seminar in Lawrence a success. As we are looking forward to the next professional education seminar May 23rd in Topeka, we wanted to alert you to keep it on your calendars.

I am happy to announce that we have a small group that has started meeting on Thursday to start studying for the Certified Government Financial Management program. Professional development is the skill and knowledge that help you advance your career. Professional development can come from many different areas, including college degrees, conferences, seminars or webinars, or continuing education courses. Though it will often involve students or recent college graduates, even people with established careers can partake in professional development. This can be particularly useful in the ever evolving world of nonprofits. Our organizations' host development activities to help train their members monthly in new skills. We will start another month of our programs and activities, and we invite you to join us in the efforts of advancing accountability to accounting and finance professionals.

In closing, we need volunteers to help make the chapter successful. Please consider making an investment in your career by lending your talents to AGA in serving your fellow members. Please consider being a board member or just become an active participant. By becoming an active member you can build a network, share knowledge, and

New Member Welcome!!

Welcome to the newest members of the Topeka Chapter of AGA:

Marie Winter-Zima with the Kansas Department of Administration

Leah Stewart and Kiosha Craft with the Kansas Department of Insurance

Training Calendar

May 23, 2012—All-day Professional Development Seminar in Topeka, Kansas

June 13, 2012 – Professional lecture series TBD at Jayhawk Tower.

July 11, 2012 – Professional lecture series TBD at Jayhawk Tower.

August 8, 2012 – Professional lecture series TBD at Jayhawk Tower.

September 12, 2012 – Professional lecture series TBD at Jayhawk Tower.

October 10, 2012 – Professional lecture series TBD at Jayhawk Tower.

November 14, 2012 – Professional lecture series TBD at Jayhawk Tower.

December 12, 2012 – Professional lecture series TBD at Jayhawk Tower.

The lecture held on February 8, 2012 is still planning on being rescheduled due to events beyond our control. As soon as we know the date, we will let you know.

News of Note

On March 6th, Nickie Roberts was re-elected to a 3 year term on the Fox Ridge Cooperative Board of Directors.

If you know of any accomplishments or acknowledgements that you would like to share, please email me at rshiple@btandcocpa.com to get them into the next newsletter.

Government Finance Case Challenge 2012

The best graduate accounting/business/financial management/public administration students in the country are invited to compete in the second Government Finance Case Challenge, sponsored by AGA. The registration deadline is May 4, 2012. See http://www2.agacgfm.org/challenge_grad/index.htm for more details.

Five Reasons for Hope and Optimism

Posted By [Mark Funkhouser](#) | April 16, 2012

In college, I was a political-science major caught up in the turmoil of the Sixties, deeply interested in civil rights, the women's movement and the Vietnam war. After graduation, I worked in a youth prison, then as a social worker, then as a government auditor, and finally, before becoming director of the Governing Institute, I was a big-city mayor. Always my focus has been on what was wrong and what we needed to do to make things better.

Another plane landing safely is not something to think about. My work has always focused on the political and social equivalent of plane crashes — and how to avoid them. So you might think that I'm an angry scold. Actually, I'm a happy, misty-eyed Pollyanna, and what follows is a list of five things that fill me with hope and optimism.

1. The deliberative democracy movement. Across America, under the radar, this movement is changing the way ordinary citizens relate to their government in positive ways that give the lie to the idea that citizens are apathetic. When government officials work with citizens in an atmosphere of mutual respect and use technology and face-to-face meetings to include a large and representative slice of the population in genuine dialogue, good things happen. This movement is described in "[The Next Form of Democracy: How Expert Rule is Giving Way to Shared Governance](#)" by Matt Leighninger and in the monthly newsletter of [the Deliberative Democracy Consortium](#). I've also seen it in action at events put on by [AmericaSpeaks](#), a nonprofit that has used innovative deliberative tools to connect with more than 160,000 people across the country and around the world, giving citizens an opportunity to have a strong voice in public decision-making.

2. The rising acceptance of interracial marriage and the increasing pressure to sanction same-sex marriage. My daughter is going to marry a black man. He's a decent fellow, so I'm happy about this, but I thought it was uncommon. Then I saw the recent story in the Washington Post with the headline "[Intermarriage rates soar as stereotypes fall.](#)" This is good. Frequent contact between people of different races reduces racism, so marriages that bring families of different races together will help remove one of the historically uglier aspects of American life.

Mountains of pain also have also been created by the suppression of homosexuality. Marriage and family are the fundamental building blocks of social order. Allowing same-sex couples to openly declare themselves as partners in relationships to which they are so committed that they want their unions to receive the approval of government in the form of a marriage license brings more stability and happiness to our communities.

3. Americans' rising and shifting health consciousness. Health care costs are on an unsustainable path in this country. But more and more of us are aware of facts like those laid out in [a recent Atlantic Cities piece](#) about diabetes, obesity and the value of purposeful walking. Much of our built environment militates against purposeful walking. Smart public officials, such as Oklahoma City Mayor Mick Cornett, [who put his city "on a diet,"](#) and New York Mayor Mike Bloomberg, who declared a goal of [having the cleanest air of any big city in America](#), are beginning to find ways to create the same kind of energy around health outcomes that was generated around climate change and other environmental issues.

4. The Millennial Generation. "Over the next decade, the Millennial Generation will entirely recast the image of youth from downbeat and alienated to upbeat and engaged — with potentially seismic consequences for America." That's from "[Millennials Rising](#)" by Neil Howe and William Strauss. On several occasions, I've heard Neil Howe speak at Governing events about the generation born between the mid-1980s and the mid-2000s. His description of these young people matches what I have observed with my own kids, ages 26 and 22, and their friends. Generally speaking, they care about family and feel more collective responsibility. They're more interested in advancing the welfare of the group than in cutthroat competition, and, unlike us boomers, they don't especially like argument and debate. They are an extremely social generation. Thinking about these young folks fills me with hope.

5. The good politicians. During my time as mayor of Kansas City, I learned how incredibly difficult is the work of an elected official who wants to create meaningful change. I got to see quite a few of those officials up close, and my respect and admiration for them grew. Part of the mission of the Governing Institute is to recognize public officials for their good work, which *Governing* does through its annual [Public Officials of the Year program](#). Part of my job is to build a network of connections among the members of this elite cadre. The work of a politician may often be dirty or nasty, and yet good people, skilled and articulate, go forth and do it every day. Under the radar, beyond the range of the talking heads on the cable-TV shows, good politicians are governing effectively. The more I get to know them, the better I feel about the future.

Community Service Update



Topeka Rescue Mission is dedicated to providing food, shelter, clothing, training and most importantly, hope to the homeless and impoverished.

Shelter services include 286 beds available, meals are provided seven days a week to mission guests and the public, during 2011 almost 3,000 people received needed clothing through the clothing bank, and additional services such as recovery programs, work training programs, and many other services.

Each month on their web site, you will find a list of current needs of the Mission. Keep in mind, any clothing etc donated goes to the members at shelter first and then to the community but nothing goes to the landfill.

<http://www.trmonline.org/>

For the next few months, we will be collecting loose change during our membership meetings. The chapter will match any donations up to \$100. At this time, we collected \$5.23 in February, \$13.27 in March and \$7.75 in April. Remember those less fortunate and reach out to help others.

Nickie Roberts, Community Service Chair

“The greatest accomplishments in life are not achieved by individuals along, but by proactive people pulling together for a common good. Look behind every winner and you will find a great coach. Look out in front of every superstar and you will see a positive role model. Look alongside every great achiever and you will find caring people offering encouragement, support and able assistance.”

- Pulling Together, author John Murphy

Community Service Upcoming Events

Ronald McDonald House
Year Round
Metal Tab Collection

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

Accounting Corner

GASB Issues Two Statements for State, Local Governments



The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has issued two Statements addressing important practice issues for state and local governments.

Statement No. 65, *Items Previously Reported as Assets and Liabilities*, clarifies the appropriate reporting of deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources to ensure consistency in financial reporting.

Statement No. 66, *Technical Corrections—2012*, enhances the usefulness of financial reports by resolving conflicting accounting and financial reporting guidance that could diminish the consistency of financial reporting. The provisions of both Statements are effective for periods beginning after December 15, 2012, and would be applied on a prospective basis. Early adoption is encouraged. For information on ordering Statements 65 and 66, visit www.gasb.org.

The mission of the Topeka Chapter is "To facilitate the professional and personal growth of Government Accountability Staff (finance / accounting / budget / audit), and their private sector colleagues, through education and certification, professional opportunity, and networking."

Visit AGA on the Web!

National AGA
www.agacgfm.org

Topeka Chapter
www.agaks.org

