



# Topeka Register

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

March 2013



## 2012-2013 OFFICERS

### President

Paula Hinman, CPA  
Phinman@ku.edu  
University of Kansas

### Immediate Past-President

Boyd Jantzen  
b\_jantzen@hotmail.com  
Department of Health and Environment

### President Elect

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

### Treasurer

Marie Winter-Zima  
Marie.Winter-Zima@da.ks.gov  
FIT Team

### Secretary

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

## 2012-2013 DIRECTORS

### Community Service

Anna Lippold  
aclippold@gmail.com  
Department of Health and Environment

### Web Site

Walt Darling  
walt\_darling@hotmail.com  
Retired

### Education

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

### Chapter Recognition

Marti Leisinger, JD  
mleisinger@ksbor.org  
Board of Regents

### Accountability

Kathy Bonhoff  
Kbohnhof@ksinsurance.org  
Kansas Insurance Department

### CGFM Coordinator

Vacant

### Membership

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

### Young Professionals

Linda Shaver  
lhshaver@ksinsurance.org  
Kansas Insurance Department

### Newsletter

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

### Bylaws—Vacant

## President's Message

The Topeka Chapter AGA has a number of exciting activities scheduled during March. March is CGFM (Certified Government Financial Manager) month. Our first event starts on March 12<sup>th</sup> with a Proclamation signing of CGFM month by the Topeka Mayor.

Our next round is highlighted with a visit by Mary Peterman, the National AGA President-Elect. She will be our guest speaker at the Professional Lecture Series on March 13<sup>th</sup> (Jayhawk Tower, Topeka). If you are unable to join us for lunch that day, a social will be held that evening in Mary's honor after work at the home of Boyd Jantzen. (Please see additional information later in the newsletter).

Our final round is capped with a three day CGFM Course #2 Review held at the KU Continuing Education Center in Lawrence, KS on March 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>. Course 2 covers Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting (see [http://www.agacgfm.org/CGFM-Certification/Preparing-for-Examinations/Government-Financial-Manager-\(GFM\)-Training-Progra.aspx#Course2](http://www.agacgfm.org/CGFM-Certification/Preparing-for-Examinations/Government-Financial-Manager-(GFM)-Training-Progra.aspx#Course2) for more information). If you haven't had an opportunity to sign up for this class, please contact Linda Shaver to get registered.

In addition, membership renewals are due by the end of March. If you haven't renewed your membership, please take time to renew or join now.

If you have any questions, or would like additional information on any of our activities, please contact one of the Board members.

Thank you for your support of AGA.

Paula Hinman



## Training Calendar

**March 13, 2013 – Professional lecture series at Jayhawk Tower.**

**Speaker: Mary Peterman, CGFM, CPA—National AGA President-Elect**

**March 21, 21 and 22, 2013—Course #2 Government Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting training**

**April 10, 2013 – Professional lecture series at Jayhawk Tower.**

**Speaker: Dr. Dan Deines—Kansas State University Professor, Department of Accounting**

**May 8, 2013 – Professional lecture series TBD at Jayhawk Tower.**

**May 2013—PDC event, TBD.**

**June 12, 2013 – Professional lecture series at Jayhawk Tower.**

**Speaker: Dr. David Sollars, Washburn University Dean, School of Business and Professor of Economics**

**See website ([www.agaks.org](http://www.agaks.org)) to register for CPE events.**

## AGA, Topeka Chapter Board Meetings

The Board meets monthly and we invite you to attend our meetings if you are interested in joining the Board, interested in the Board or AGA activities or if you are just bored for an hour or so in the evenings. Please contact Russell at [rshipley@btandcocpa.com](mailto:rshipley@btandcocpa.com), Melinda at [Melinda.Richter@kbi.state.ks.us](mailto:Melinda.Richter@kbi.state.ks.us), or Paula at [Phinman@ku.edu](mailto:Phinman@ku.edu).

We also invite you to check us out on LinkedIn, Facebook and of course our website!

## AGA Membership Renewal Time

### How to Renew Your Membership or Certification:

- Renew online at [www.agacgfm.org](http://www.agacgfm.org)
- Enter your AGA ID number to the login field.
- Your password is your first initial immediately followed by your last name.
- Upon logging in, press the gray “billing” tab at the right hand corner of the screen to renew with a credit card.
  
- Note: Paper invoices are mailed in February, but online renewals are preferred for speed and convenience.

## National AGA President-Elect

In case you are unable to make it to the monthly lecture featuring Mary Peterman, National AGA President-Elect, or if you didn't get a chance to meet with her personally, the AGA Board is having a mini-social get together the evening of March 13, 2013 starting at 5:30 at Boyd Jantzen's house. Please RSVP to Boyd Jantzen at [b\\_jantzen@hotmail.com](mailto:b_jantzen@hotmail.com) to attend or for additional information.



## Topeka Police Department Unveils Crime-Fighting Initiative

TOPEKA, Kan. – The City of Topeka and the Topeka Police Department would like to announce a crime-fighting initiative, and invite members of the public to get involved. The Topeka Police Department has entered into an agreement with Electronic Tracking Systems<sup>SM</sup> (ETS) to provide the tools, technology, and training necessary to reduce property crime in Topeka. The City of Topeka is the first in the nation to adopt a proactive program of this size and scope, and can be a blueprint for success.

Property crimes and robberies occur at an unacceptable rate in our community, and present a constant, reoccurring, and expensive threat to our City and its economy. During the past several years, community activism has helped reduce these crimes, and while the statistics have slowly improved, we have more work to do.

In 2012, the City of Topeka saw 6,817 property crimes (auto theft, burglary, copper, pharmaceutical and construction material thefts, etc.). Each crime can cost the community from \$7,500 to \$21,000 on average. The most conservative estimate, \$7,500 per crime, reveals a potential cost to our community of more \$51 million, and a significant amount of this crime is preventable.

Working with the Property Crime Reduction Program facilitator, ETS, the Topeka Police Department will strive to achieve the following results, because a reduction in crime equals an increase in property value, retail value, and general wellbeing of the community.

We can:

- Increase gross municipal product.
- Increase housing values.
- Increase commercial development/values.
- Increase tax base and revenues.
- Create a safer place for citizens to work, play, and live.

It will take community involvement to generate the funds to implement and support a program of this scope. Many members of our community have been directly affected by this type of crime and understand the personal nature and expense of property crime. Together we can make a difference.

Donations can be made to:  
Safer Cities Better Cities Topeka/PARS  
2209 SW 29th Street  
Topeka, Kansas 66611-1908  
Phone: 785.266.4606  
Fax: 785.266.3833

Donations can also be made online at [www.parstopeka.com](http://www.parstopeka.com) – Click the funding button under the “About Us” tab.

Please take this opportunity to hear how crime affects you and our entire community every day. Together we can make Topeka a Safer City - Better City.

Jennifer Thomas, the Topeka Program Manager for ETS, will be available for more information at [jthomas@topeka.org](mailto:jthomas@topeka.org) or (785) 368-9571.

**Article submitted by Nickie Roberts.**

## News of Note

Please see attached for the 2012 Proclamation by the Governor for the Topeka Chapter of AGA for the Chapter's 33rd year of service celebrating the Certified Government Financial Manager Month.

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

## Perspectives: Be Not Afraid of Benchmarking

Benchmarking is a well-known performance improvement and cost reduction tool, **not** so widely used in federal, state and local government agencies. In a benchmarking exercise, you select a number of metrics typically centered round cost and time. For example, in the Treasury function, you may measure **cycle times** to process an accounting entry, process an internal funds transfer, establish an ending cash position, or develop a short-term cash flow forecast. These metrics, when collected from peer organizations across an industry or sector, enable calculation of median, weighted average and 'benchmark' values. Typically the best value of a metric is taken to be the benchmark, though very often something more like the 80<sup>th</sup> percentile will be considered as benchmark value.

The above article continues on the National AGA website, noted below:

[http://www.agacgfm.org/AGA/TOPICS/Archive/021913/perspectives\\_datt021913.pdf](http://www.agacgfm.org/AGA/TOPICS/Archive/021913/perspectives_datt021913.pdf)

---

## Young Professionals

Young Professionals (YP) is not relative to age, it is relative to the number of years you have worked in governmental Accounting, Auditing, Finance, Budget and private sector colleagues. We are looking forward to a new year and would love to have anyone that is interested to join our YP group. If you are interested in mentoring this group, then please join us. Watch for upcoming events and gatherings! If you have any questions, please email Linda Shaver, [lhshaver@ksinsurance.org](mailto:lhshaver@ksinsurance.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](http://www.agacgfm.org)

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

