



October/November 2006

AGGA

PHOENIX CHAPTER

2006 - 2007
Issue 2

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the Phoenix Chapter of the AGA! We are back into the swing of our normal monthly luncheon/CPE meetings every 2nd Thursday of the month. My goal this year is to try and make our Chapter Bigger and Better.

I encourage all of you to join the Recruitment Challenge Special Membership drive by sponsoring two new members to our chapter. Please note that you will receive a \$25 gift certificate for sponsoring every two new members without any numerical limit. Let's congratulate our first winner in this challenge, Mr. John Schutter and have fun going down this road to success together.

It is our sincere hope to provide you with a host of programs and events that are not only timely but also interesting and meaningful.

If you are not already a member of the AGA, I urge you to join today. I look forward to working with you this year.

Warm Regards,
Gayathri D (Devi) Bala, CGFM. CPA

UPCOMING EVENTS

Join us for our Audio Conference on November 8th!
AGA National will be speaking on The New Yellow Book (2 hours of CPE)

Location: Maricopa Community College District Office, Governing Board Room, 2nd Floor, 2411 W. 14th Street, Tempe, AZ

Cost: \$10 members, \$20 nonmembers

Time: 12:00 noon - 1:50 PM

Menu: Box Lunch with Various Sandwiches, Tortellini Salad, Brownie, Chips, Apple, Soda, Water, and Tea

Join us for our Monthly Meeting and Luncheon on November 16th!
Larry Glendon will be speaking on Innovative Banking (1 hours of CPE)

Location: Maricopa Community College District Office, Governing Board Room, 2nd Floor, 2411 W. 14th Street, Tempe AZ

Cost: \$15 members, \$20 nonmembers

Time: 11:30 noon - 1:00 PM

Menu: Chicken Enchiladas, Beef Taquitos, Tamales, Corn and Black Beans, Chips and Salsa, Southwestern Salad, Desserts, Soda, Tea and Water

RSVP: Please RSVP via email to eventreg@agaphoenix.org by **NOON on Tuesday November 6th for Audio Conference and by Tuesday November 14th for Monthly Meeting.** If you must cancel a reservation kindly send an email by the morning of the event. Thank you!

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**AGA PHOENIX CHAPTER
Program Year 2006/2007
EXECUTIVE BOARD**

PURPOSE: Consists of chapter officers, past president, committee chairs, and other members appointed by the chapter president. Responsible for all chapter business and planning.

OFFICERS: President Gayathri (Devi) Bala, CPA, CGFM
Past President Michelle Paul
Co-Vice President Betsy Thompson
Co-Vice President Sandy Minor
Secretary Lynne Davis
Treasurer Tara Barton

ADDRESS: AGA Phoenix Chapter, PO Box 64911, Phoenix, AZ, 85082-4911

PHONE: (480) 731-8582

FAX: (480) 731-8560

EMAIL: AGA@agaphoenix.org

Mission Statement

AGA Phoenix Chapter serves Arizona professionals in the government financial management community by providing quality, low-cost continuing education, promoting professional development and interaction among members, and fostering a commitment to community involvement as well as a sense of responsibility for advancing government accountability.

Vision

AGA Phoenix Chapter actively creates an avenue for membership to share ideas with each other, to share knowledge and time with the community, and to promote the advancement of government standards and accountability within the profession.

Goals for FY 2006 – 2007 and Beyond

- Provide high quality, low-cost continuing professional education to the membership and the government accounting community.
- Promote the value of AGA membership in order to retain and expand membership.
- Promote the value of the Certified Government Financial Management (CGFM) program.
- Promote government financial management to schools and colleges and become spokespersons for the advancement of government accountability through quality course offerings to students.
- Seek National AGA support for a consistent local web site format and the technical support necessary to provide a web base venue that the membership can use to research current information relating to the Phoenix chapter.
- Promote networking among membership at chapter events.
- Promote Executive Board membership in order to diversify our ideas and strengthen our focus.
- Expand AGA membership throughout the state.

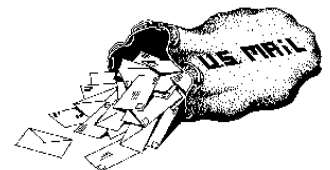
NEWSLETTER

We'd love your input!

Please remember to send in any articles of interest, including any that you may have written on the subjects of management, accounting, or auditing. We welcome your comments and suggestions.

In addition, please send us any special announcements in relation to promotions, marriages, births, anniversaries, certifications achieved, or any other significant event for any of our chapter members. Any article submitted by the second week of the month will be included in the next month's newsletter.

Please email your news for forthcoming newsletters to newsletter@agaphoenix.org.



TREASURER'S REPORT

	July	August	September
Book Balance	14,730.49	14,078.30	13,135.72
Receipts	20.17	20.82	851.42
Disbursements	672.36	963.40	1193.20
Book Balance	<u>14,078.30</u>	<u>13,135.72</u>	<u>12,793.94</u>
Outstanding Checks	710.68	41.40	23.32
Outstanding Deposits	0.00	0.00	0.00
Adjusted Book Balance	<u>14,788.98</u>	<u>13,177.12</u>	<u>12,817.26</u>
<u>Account Balance</u>			
Cash on Hand	30.00	130.00	130.00
Checking Balance	2466.63	734.27	349.99
Savings Balance	3,352.79	3,354.93	3,357.00
Scholarship Fund	4,089.21	4,095.58	4,101.76
Share Certificate	4,850.35	4,862.34	4,878.51
Total	<u>14,788.98</u>	<u>13177.12</u>	<u>12,817.26</u>



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ Chief Internal Auditor, Department of Revenue, \$53,595 - \$72,779: DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS - Experience performing operational audits of governmental & federally sponsored programs; train professional staff. A Bachelor's degree in a field emphasizing analytical skills, research, & organization of written data, & generally five years of related experience. i.e. Accounting, Finance, etc. FOR DETAILS - go to www.azstatejobs.gov/internal . Once you are in the website, you will either create an account if you are a first time user or click on login and search for jobs. Type in DOR in the Keywords field or e-mail HRRe-sumes@azdor.gov.

CGFM COMMITTEE

Congratulations to Chapter Member Traci Helwig for earning her Certified Government Financial Manager Designation!!

Traci recently received confirmation that she had passed all the examinations and was awarded her certificate. I hope you all will join me in acknowledging Traci's achievement at the November 16 Chapter meeting.

If you are interested in pursuing this professional credential, here is a step-by-step guide on how you too can earn the CGFM designation:

Step 1 - Apply for the CGFM Program. Submit an application form for the CGFM Program via internet, fax or mail, including the application fee of \$85. Fax or mail a copy of your transcript from an accredited college or university.

Step 2 - Eligibility Letter. Once your application, payment and degree documentation are received and processed, the Office of Professional Certification will mail you an Eligibility Letter with instructions on how to purchase your CGFM Examinations.

Step 3 - Work Verification. Submit a Verification of Government Financial Management Work Experience form as soon as you have at least two years of professional-level experience in the government financial management field.

Step 4 - Studying for Examinations. You have several options, including classroom courses, study guides and a reading resources list.

Step 5 - Examination Purchase. Following the instructions on your Eligibility Letter, purchase CGFM Examination(s) through the AGA website and print the Test Authorization Letter. Examination fees are \$109 for each of the three examinations.

Step 6 - Taking the Examinations. Follow the instructions on the Test Authorization Letter to schedule a testing appointment at a Prometric Test Center near you. Show up at the testing center on your appointment date.

Step 7 - Score Reporting and Retakes. After you complete an examination at a Prometric Test Center, you will immediately receive a pass/fail score on the computer. If you did not pass, there is a 30-day waiting period before you can repurchase and retake that examination. If you fail the same exam more than once, the waiting period is 90 days.

Step 8 - Award Letter. Once you pass all three CGFM Examinations, and your Verification of Government Financial Management Work Experience form has been submitted and accepted, the Office of Professional Certification will send you an award letter announcing your new CGFM designation. You can start using the "CGFM" after your name only after you receive the official award letter from AGA.

Step 9 - CGFM Certificate. A CGFM certificate will be mailed within a few weeks of issuing the award letter.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

New Members as of October 2006:

Astrid Hanson - Arizona Department of Transportation
Jami Sue Hovet - Arizona State University
Andrea Willy - Arizona State University

Welcome New AGA – Phoenix Chapter Members!

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Congratulations to John Schutter for signing up two new members and being the first recipient of a \$25 gift certificate! For every two new members you sponsor you can earn a \$25 gift certificate. Just have the new member indicate that you are their sponsor on the enrollment form. Please contact Ed Radwan (Ed.Radwan@asu.edu) if you have any questions.

MEMBERSHIP PROFILE

This Newsletter presents a member profile on :

Nancy H. Gwilliam, CGFM

Current Job Title and Employer: Assistant Dean, College of Public Programs, Arizona State University

Brief Career History: I've been with the University for over 20 years; I can barely remember the profit sector... I started in the Financial Services Office (Comptroller's Office) as an accountant. Within the University, I have provided the lead financial management for two vice-president's, a grant funded center, and now for a college.

College Degrees and Certifications: B.S. in Accounting, Master's in Public Administration, CGFM

Why did you join AGA? What benefits has AGA offered in your career or on a personal level? AGA keeps me in touch with my accounting background. It provides me the opportunity to network with others in the financial profession, which is a treat, and to get CPE's.

What words or motto do you live by? Sunsets don't wait; live in the moment. I also seem to have a lot of use for, 'No offense taken, when none is intended.' Life is too short to hold on to bad feelings.

Who has been a big influence on your life? This was the hardest question to answer. I guess my children, who have been the biggest reason to make the choices I have made.

What do you like about your current job? I like being attached to the central mission of the organization, something financial people don't often get to experience. I also like the variety of the work.

If you could have any job other than your current career what would it be? I would like to be an 'Outdoors Trainer' for an organization like the Girl Scouts, where you get to make a difference, but still have fun. Wouldn't it be great to 'work' at teaching canoeing, kayaking, archery, wildlife identification, Dutch-oven cooking,

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MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

(CONCLUDED)

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orienteering, and basic camping?

What do you do in your free time or when you're not working? I go birding with the Audubon Club and friends, quilt, volunteer, read and keep up with my large family, including 5 siblings, 7 children/stepchildren, but no grandkids.

What career advice would you give others? Happiness is an important element of any job; no matter what the duties are, it is a good job if it increases your happiness and a bad job if it doesn't.

CONTACT THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE!

If you would like to see your (or a co-worker's) promotion, retirement, special recognition or award included in the membership section of the newsletter, or you have questions, comments or ideas regarding membership and recruitment, contact the Membership Committee at:

Membership Committee

E-mail to Edward.Radwan@asu.edu

Fax to (480) 965-2455; or

Phone at (480) 965-1101

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

AGA Community Service Update

A new Community Service project is being added this year and your help it needed to make it a success. I am looking for some members to assist in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. In order to participate in the program one needs to take a Tax Law course which can be taken either on line or by attending, at a City of Tempe location, five Wednesday evening classes in Nov & Dec (11/8, 11/15, 11/29, 12/6 and 12/13.) There is a test at the end of the course. To register and find out more about the program go to <http://www.tempe.gov/tcc/eitc.jtm>. Once I know who is interested and willing to take the classes I will let Diane Bennett know so she can give us a list of times and locations in Tempe for us to help man.

Let me know of any interest in participating or have any questions. My email is eht@asu.edu.

Betsy Thompson
Community Service Chair

AGA Scholarship Committee Update

Publicity efforts to generate applications for the three \$500 college scholarships offered by AGA were completed last month. Applications have started coming in. We hope to receive a large number of competitive applications and face a challenging award decision in December.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND AWARDS COMMITTEE (CONCLUDED)

The scholarship application has a November 30, 2006 deadline. The selection committee will meet and review applications during December, 2006. If you know of any other organizations or individuals who might benefit from learning about this scholarship opportunity, please contact Michele Wrapp at 480-965-4771.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The AGA Phoenix Chapter Now Has a Website!

Our website is now up and running! Please check it out at www.agaphoenix.org.

Almost everything you ever wanted to know about our chapter is right there on the web now. The reason why I say “almost” is because there are more items, such as information about our Board members and Community Service events, which I would like to add in the future. However, this is my first effort at being a Webmaster and I’m hoping that you will bear with me. Please peruse the website and feel free to email me at webmaster@agaphoenix.org if you have any suggestions or comments about layout or what you would like to see on our site. There is a link to my email address in the footer of every page as well as on the [Contact Us](#) page of our site.

When you go to www.agaphoenix.org, our [Home](#) page will always have a “Message from the President”, as well as a link to the next chapter meeting (as soon as it’s available) and possibly some special news. If you notice, on the left sidebar, there are links to the other pages on our site which are: [Our Purpose](#), [Becoming a Member](#), [Calendar of Events](#), [Newsletters](#), and the [Contact Us](#) page which provides email addresses for event registration and questions on general information, membership, CGFM, newsletter, community service, or the website.

We hope that you find our website informational and useful. Please don’t hesitate to email me if you have any questions or comments. Thanks!

Karie Tepper
AGA Webmaster

Hello Everyone! I apologize for the late submission of the November AGA newsletter. But as you all know things like work always seem to get in the way of fun! I will try my best to have December’s Newsletter delivered by December 1st. As always, your AGA Newsletter will contain the Treasurer’s Report, Committee Reports, Chapter Executive Board Minutes, and Special Announcements. All AGA members are encourage to submit any articles of interest pertaining to accounting or auditing. We would also like to include any special announcements relating to job postings, promotions, marriages, birthdays, anniversaries, certifications, or any other significant event.

All newsletter articles will need to be submitted Tara via email by the 3rd Friday of every month for inclusion in the following month’s newsletter. Therefore the December newsletter deadline will be November 24th. If possible, please submit all articles in MSWord format, Times New Roman, 11-point font.

Thanks and Happy Thanksgiving!

Tara Barton
AGA Newsletter

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

2006 - 2007 Education and Meeting Plan

Date	Time	Event & Topic	CPE Credit	Presenter
05/11/2006	11:30a-1:00p	Chapter Meeting w/ Lunch Topic: Awards and Recognition	N/A	Michelle Paul
09/14/2006	11:00a-12:50p	Audio Conference w/ Lunch Topic: Risk Assessments for Performance Audits	2	AGA National
10/12/2006	11:30a-1:00p	Chapter Meeting w/ Lunch Topic: Airport Development and It's Economic Impact	1	Frank Darriga
11/08/2006	12:00p-1:50p	Audio Conference Topic: The New Yellow Book	2	AGA National
11/16/2006	11:30a-1:00p	Chapter Meeting w/ Lunch Topic: Innovative Banking(B of A)	1	Larry Glendon Michelle Nims
12/06/2006	12:00p-1:50p	Audio Conference Topic: Procurement Cards-Successes and Challenges	2	AGA National
12/14/2006	11:30a-1:00p	Chapter Meeting w/ Lunch Topic: Holiday Social	N/A	
11/11/2007	11:30a-3:00p	Educational Seminar w/ Lunch Topic: Deferred Compensation, AZ Tax Update and Federal Tax Update	3	Audrey McGhee George Lopez
02/08/2007	11:30a -1:00p	Chapter Meeting w/ Lunch Topic: Water Management	1	Salt River Project
02/28/2007	12:00p-1:50p	Audio Conference Topic: Internal Controls	2	AGA National
03/08/2007	11:30a -1:00p	Chapter Meeting w/ Lunch Topic: Contract Fraud	1	John Kroy - JeffersonWells
03/08/2007	1:00p - 4:00p	Educational Seminar Topic: Contract Auditing	3	John Kroy - JeffersonWells
03/28/2007	12:00p -1:50p	Audio Conference Topic: Procurement Fraud	2	AGA National
04/12/2007	11:30a -1:00p	Chapter Meeting w/ Lunch Topic: Career Change	1	Anderson
04/20/2007	8:00a – 4:00p	Professional Development Conference		
		Topic: Modeling Logic or SEA Certificate	2	Jeff Hart
		Topic: Audit	2	Jerry Silva
		Topic: Investigations	1	Auditor General's Office
		Topic: Investment Pools/Operations	1	New Treasurer
		Topic: Yellow Book/GASB Updates	2	Randy Roberts

EDUCATION COMMITTEE
(CONCLUDED)

Bio on November 16th Speakers

Larry Glandon

Larry Glandon is a Senior Vice President for Bank of America's Government and Education Group, based in Phoenix, Arizona. He is responsible for leading the bank's efforts for the public sector, including state and local governments, municipal utilities, special districts, and public education.

In addition to his expertise in working with government and education, he has extensive experience in middle market and large corporate financial services. Larry has worked with Bank of America's portfolios across the globe, including Latin America, Asia, and Europe. Most notably, Larry worked on positioning Bank of America and the financial exposure associated with the reunification of Hong Kong to China in the mid 90's.

He received a B.A. with honors from Central College in Pella, Iowa, and an M.B.A. with Distinction from DePaul University in Chicago, Illinois. Mr. Glandon has been with Bank of America for over 15 years.

Boards and community involvement includes: Valley of the Sun YMCA – Board Member and Finance Committee; Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce - Board Member; Former Executive Committee and Vice Chairman of Downtown Revitalization, Technical Review Panel – Arizona Charter School Board; Principal for a Day – City of Phoenix; Copper Canyon Elementary - Volunteer; Government Finance Officer's Association; and Arizona Government Finance Officer's Association

Michele Nims

Michele Nims is Vice President and Treasury Management Officer for Bank of America. She is responsible for Treasury Management sales throughout the state of Arizona, focusing on the government market.

Michele has 21 years of banking experience, with eleven years in Treasury Management. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management from Arizona State University, and is a Certified Treasury Professional.



EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES

OCTOBER 2006 2006 AGA EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES

2006-2007 Program Year
October 12, 2006

Maricopa County Community Colleges
District Support Services Center
2411 W. 14th Street
Tempe, Arizona 85281-6942

Quorum Present:	Devi Bala	Tara Barton	Lynne Davis
	Keith Orr	Michelle Wrapp	
	Karie Tepper	Michelle Paul	
	Elizabeth Thompson	Kathleen Rogers	

The meeting was called to order at 10:27 AM. The agenda included the following:

The minutes of the September AGA Executive Board meeting were submitted for approval, prior to the meeting, via e-mail. Betsy Thompson motioned to approve the minutes as read on e-mail. Keith Orr 2nd the motion. Vote was unanimous.

Devi Bala reported that the audit is going well. The Board decided to amend the minutes from the last meeting, to include a \$100 gift card as an option for compensation to the person performing the audit.

Keith Orr reported on the Education Committee. He noted that the November monthly meeting was changed from Nov 9 to Nov 16, due to the audio conference occurring on Nov 8. This audio conference, as well as the remainder of the audio conferences for the year, will be held in the employee lounge at the Maricopa Community College District Office. A brown bag lunch will be offered at all the audio conferences. The cost will be \$10 for members and \$20 for non-members. It was discussed if we should have a speaker at the Holiday Social. This decision was tabled until the next meeting.

Tara Barton submitted the Treasurer's Reports for July, August and September 2006 for approval. Betsy Thompson motioned to approve the Treasurer's reports. Keith Orr 2nd the motion. Vote was unanimous.

Tara Barton reported on the Newsletter. It was suggested that a bio of the upcoming speaker be added to the Newsletter, along with a short description of the topic. Keith Orr said he would follow up on this. The deadline to submit articles for the November Newsletter is October 20. The Newsletter will be out on November 1. The articles should be submitted in Word format. The mission, vision and goals should be included in the Newsletter.

Kathleen Rogers reported on the CGFM Committee. Traci Helwig passed the CGFM exam. There will be a recognition moment at the November meeting, and she will be awarded a scholarship to reimburse for the cost of the exam.

Devi Bala reported on the Membership Committee. To date, 35 members have not renewed. Individual Board members will personally call the members who have not renewed. November 20th is the deadline to receive Chapter Recognition points.

Karie Tepper reported on the Phoenix Chapter AGA Website. The website will include the president's message, a listing of events, a community service page, and a page listing the Board members, with a link to their e-mail address. There will be a new address to RSVP to the luncheons, eventreg@agaphoenix.org.

Betsy Thompson made a motion to donate \$100 to the 3 Day Walk for the Cure on November 3 -5, as part of Community Service. Kathleen Rogers 2nd the motion. Vote was unanimous.

Meeting adjourned 11:20 AM.