



# CENTRAL ARKANSAS CHAPTER

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Issue 4 January, 2006

## January Chapter Meeting

The January Chapter meeting will be held at St Vincent's Infirmary on January 17, 2006 at 12:00 noon in the De Paul Room. One hour of CPE credit will be awarded.

## President's Message

By Marion Carlton

We all make New Year's resolutions of some sort. I hope that you have resolved to join your friends and colleagues at the AGA chapter meetings and AGA sponsored seminars. Our organization is about providing quality educational opportunities. To provide the level of education we would like to give you, we need your participation and input. So come on down to the next chapter meeting. If you have ideas on topics that you believe would be appropriate for AGA, please share them.

## Welcome....

### New Members

Randy G. Dennis  
Danny R. Ford  
Hong He  
Phyllis Hill  
Steve McClellan  
Gary L. Prince  
Marcus Pyland  
Joyce Walker  
Kimberly D. Wright

## Coming Events!

### Audio Conference

Central Arkansas AGA is pleased to participate with the national AGA offices, in conjunction with the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers (NASACT), and the National Association of Local Government Auditors (N.A.L.G.A.), in presenting an audio conference on Sarbanes-Oxley.

In response to Sarbanes-Oxley private sector requirements, the Federal government has revised OMB Circular A-123. Some fear this trickle-down effect may turn into a flood that will reach State and Local governments. This audio conference will cover the latest on the status of audit and internal control efforts for State and Local governments and the possible effects of additional requirements. Kinney Poynter, Executive Director, National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers, and Nancy A. Valley, CGFM, Partner and National Industry Leader, KPMG LLP, will discuss these issues and the results of a joint AGA/NASACT research project on this topic.

Please join us for two hours of lively discussion about this important and timely topic. In addition to the speakers' presentations, there will be

20 minutes for Q & A so that the participants can ask the speakers questions and share their own experiences.

The audio conference will be presented March 1, 2006 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm. The cost of the conference is \$10.00. The location will be announced in a separate announcement. Due to limited seating, please contact Shirley Manning ([Shirley.Manning@dfa.state.ar.us](mailto:Shirley.Manning@dfa.state.ar.us)) for reservations. Registration fees may be paid in advance or at the door

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**Date: November 7, 2005**

1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room, DFA Building, 1509 West 7<sup>th</sup> Street

### **Members Present:**

Marion Carlton, President; Bob Broughton, Past President and Meetings & Awards Co-Chair; Brenda Horner, Treasurer; Shirley Manning, Education Chair; Deanna Richardson, Programs Chair; Lisa Ricks, Membership Chair; Danny White, Community Service Co-Chair; Sandy Becker, Community Service Co-Chair; Kim Hardwick, CGFM Chair, Richard Drilling, Co-Webmaster; Don Bellcock, Co-Webmaster; Brenda Jackson, Regional Vice President; Teri Matthews, Secretary.

The minutes of the October 3, 2005, Executive Committee meeting were

presented. Bob Broughton made a motion to approve the minutes. Sandy Becker seconded the motion. Eleven voted in favor, one abstention.

Brenda Horner presented the October 2005 financial statements. Bob Broughton made a motion to approve the financial statements as presented. Shirley Manning seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Marion Carlton appointed the Nominating Committee: Bob Broughton, Chair; Brenda Jackson and Linda Miles. Don Bellcock will serve in place of Linda Miles, in the event Linda is unable to serve. Kathleen Wingo resigned as President-Elect and Newsletter Co-Editor. Marion asked Bob to send the membership an inquiry regarding whether anyone wished to be considered for the position of President-Elect. Marion inquired whether anyone on the board wanted to be considered for the position. Sandy Becker and Brenda Horner expressed interest. The Nominating Committee will present a list of nominees for the membership to vote for a president-elect in a special election.

Bob Broughton presented plans for a Christmas party on Friday, December 16. The Holiday Inn-Airport will provide a room for 50-70 people for dinner, as well as a hospitality suite. Members will attend free of charge, and non-members will be charged \$10. Happy hour will begin at 6 pm, with dinner at 7 pm. The \$250 recruitment scholarship will be utilized to purchase drinks and

snacks in the hospitality suite to encourage non-members to attend the event. Marion and Brenda Jackson will serve as hosts in the hospitality suite. Richard Drilling made a motion to approve the Christmas party as planned. Sandy Becker seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. An ad will be placed in the newsletter, and a flyer will be sent out to all members.

Marion Carlton requested that Shirley Manning prepare a flyer to promote the December 7 audio conference which will be held in the St. Vincent LaHarpe room. Marion will prepare copies of the slide presentation for attendees. Shirley will check on the availability of a Power Point slide projector.

Speakers for the Spring Conference was the next topic of discussion. Marion Carlton suggested that James Turkett, Regional Vice President, be asked to speak. Brenda Jackson suggested requesting that Sam McCall, National President, come speak. Don stated that he obtained the names of two speakers from a Tennessee Chapter. Shirley Manning stated that she, Don Bellcock, and Paul Louthian met the previous week and came up with suggestions for speakers--Bill Oliver and Pat Keith. Shirley added that topics for future PSI classes were discussed at the meeting, as well as the fact that 8 hours of free CPE will be offered in March. Shirley and Don will meet with Kyleen Hawkins on Thursday, November 10.

Discussion about proposed contract guidelines included whether contracts should be allowed to cross

years and become the obligation of future boards. Deanna Richardson suggested that contracts be written so that they could be ratified by a new board, that the board approve contracts under \$2,000, and that board members who wish to contract with the board be required to remove themselves from discussion and voting on the contact. Brenda Jackson will check with the National and Regional offices regarding whether guidance exists for local chapters.

Participation in an Angel Tree was discussed as a community service project. Deanna Richardson made a motion to participate in an angel tree and spend \$100. Kim Hardwick seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Brenda Jackson stated that input is needed on what the National office can do to assist local chapters. The board was asked to e-mail suggestions to Marion, who will forward to Brenda. Brenda Jackson also stated that she would like to use the chapter's scholarship to attend the Leadership Training Conference June 18.

Meeting adjourned at 1:25pm

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**Date: December 12, 2005**  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room, DFA  
Building, 1509 West 7<sup>th</sup> Street

**Members Present:**

Marion Carlton, President; Bob Broughton, Past President and Meetings & Awards Co-Chair; Brenda Horner, Treasurer; Shirley Manning, Education Chair; Lisa Ricks, Membership Chair; Danny White, Community Service Co-Chair; Sandy Becker, Community Service Co-Chair; Don Bellcock, Co-Webmaster; Teri Matthews, Secretary.

The minutes of the November 7, 2005, Executive Committee meeting were presented. Bob Broughton made a motion to approve the minutes. Sandy Becker seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Brenda Horner presented the November 2005 financial statements. Bob Broughton made a motion to approve the financial statements. Sandy Becker seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Shirley Manning and Don Bellcock advised the Committee that a new contract with PSI is being formulated. Committee members will receive a tentative copy of the contract in late December, and a finalized contract will be voted on by December 30.

General contract guidelines are still being formulated.

It was suggested that a portion of the cash balance be invested in certificates of deposit. Marion Carlton asked Brenda Horner to project cash needs and suggest investment strategy.

Bob Broughton stated that the Nominating Committee will meet this week to determine candidates for president-elect.

Danny White reported that the Community Service Committee obtained the name of a needy child in Southwest Arkansas from the Gingerbread at the Department of Health and Human Services. The Committee purchased and delivered Christmas gifts for the young girl.

Don Bellcock made a motion to donate \$25 collected at the December 7 audio conference to the Department of Health and Human Services Foster Care Child Fund. Shirley Manning seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Lisa Ricks presented the December 2005 Membership Report.

Meeting adjourned at 1 pm.

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## From the CGFM Corner

AGA's Maine Chapter has learned a few things about bringing the live CGFM training courses to its members.

Gathering tips from other chapters, co-sponsoring the courses with the state controller's office, finding free classroom space and keeping prices low helped. The biggest key to success, however, was the support of State Controller Ed Karass,

CGFM, who calls himself the CGFM's "biggest cheerleader in state government."

Karass has gone beyond encouraging his employees to earn the credential - he has added the CGFM to the list of certifications for newly opened high-level management positions in state finance. April Newman, financial management coordinator for the Office of the State Controller, who helped organize the courses, said 13 people had signed up before the CGFM was added to the list of minimum qualifications; within a week or two of this change, the courses were filled. "Suddenly, there was a lot of interest in people taking the courses and getting the certification," Newman said.

Karass and Chapter President Karen Doyle, CGFM, director of the Division of Accounting and Finance Services, followed up by speaking to state government leaders on the benefits of hiring professionals with the CGFM designation. So many people signed up for the courses that the price was dropped from \$600 to \$400. State managers paid the entire course fee for the employees they sent to the courses.

"I give them a lot of credit for doing that," Newman said, noting that managers throughout government want to recruit and retain qualified

people because a wave of pending retirements is expected to thin the ranks. "This truly opened the doors," she said, "only 20 people are active CGFMs in Maine now, so this was a great opportunity for people who would not have done it otherwise."

Karass has encouraged all 34 state employees who took Courses 1 and 3 last month to go forward and take the examinations and become CGFMs. Eight people from the controller's office attended the courses. Another chapter member offered to organize a study group to help them prepare. Course 2 will be offered in May.

Jody Breton, CGFM, an AGA Immediate Past Regional Vice President for the New England region, and Dave Lachance, CGFM, outgoing chapter president, were also instrumental in bringing the courses to Augusta, Newman said.

Newman admits that the idea of bringing the courses to Maine, which has a small chapter of about 140 members, was somewhat daunting at first, but getting help from other chapters, not to mention the support and encouragement of the state controller, made all the difference. "If anyone had said to me, this could be done, I wouldn't have believed it," she said.

- by Christina Camara

**Central Arkansas AGA**  
**Balance Sheet**  
November 30,2005

**ASSETS**

Current Assets		
Checking	\$	31,884.80
Certificates of Deposit		<u>6,509.12</u>
 Total Current Assets		 <u>38,393.92</u>
 Total Assets	 \$	 <u><u>38,393.92</u></u>

**LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL**

Current Liabilities		
Unearned Revenue	\$	<u>550.00</u>
 Total Current Liabilities		 <u>550.00</u>
 Capital		
Beginning Balance Equity	\$	9,862.89
Equity – Retained Earnings		26,500.69
Net Income		<u>1,480.34</u>
 Total Capital		 <u>37,843.92</u>
 Total Liabilities & Capital	 \$	 <u><u>38,393.92</u></u>

**Central Arkansas AGA**  
**Balance Sheet**  
December 31, 2005

**ASSETS**

Current Assets		
Checking	\$	29,762.02
Certificates of Deposit		<u>6,523.71</u>
 Total Current Assets		 <u>36,285.73</u>
 Total Assets	 \$	 <u><u>36,285.73</u></u>

**LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL**

Current Liabilities		
Unearned Revenue	\$	<u>-</u>
 Total Current Liabilities		 <u>-</u>
 Capital		
Beginning Balance Equity	\$	9,862.89
Equity – Retained Earnings		26,500.69
Net Income		<u>(77.85)</u>
 Total Capital		 <u>36,285.73</u>
 Total Liabilities & Capital	 \$	 <u><u>36,285.73</u></u>

## CENTRAL ARKANSAS CHAPTER OFFICERS 2005--2006

Marion Carlton, President;  
682-2893

[marion.carlton@arkansas.gov](mailto:marion.carlton@arkansas.gov)

Bob Broughton, Past President;  
Meetings & Awards Chair

682-1454

[bob.broughton@arkansas.gov](mailto:bob.broughton@arkansas.gov)

Brenda Horner, Treasurer;  
682-5243

[brenda.horner@dfa.state.ar.us](mailto:brenda.horner@dfa.state.ar.us)

Teri Matthews, Secretary;  
682-5255

[teri.matthews@dfa.state.ar.us](mailto:teri.matthews@dfa.state.ar.us)

Shirley Manning, Education Chair;  
682-5241

[shirley.manning@dfa.state.ar.us](mailto:shirley.manning@dfa.state.ar.us)

Deanna Richardson, Programs Chair;  
683-0395

[deanna.richardson@dfa.state.ar.us](mailto:deanna.richardson@dfa.state.ar.us)

Sherri Cathey, Newsletter Co-Editor  
847-5213

[sherri@provservices.com](mailto:sherri@provservices.com)

Lisa Ricks, Membership Chair;  
683-1065

[lisa.ricks@arkansas.gov](mailto:lisa.ricks@arkansas.gov)

Danny White, Community Service Co-  
Chair; 682-6949

[danny.white@arkansas.gov](mailto:danny.white@arkansas.gov)

Sandy Becker, Community Services Co-  
Chair; 447-1115

[sandy.becker@lrsd.org](mailto:sandy.becker@lrsd.org)

Kim Hardwick, CGFM Chair;  
683-4630

[kim.hardwick@dfa.state.ar.us](mailto:kim.hardwick@dfa.state.ar.us)

Richard Drilling, Co-Webmaster;  
324-9062

[richard.drilling@dfa.state.ar.us](mailto:richard.drilling@dfa.state.ar.us)

Donald Bellcock, Co-Webmaster;  
682-8902

[donald.bellcock@arkansas.gov](mailto:donald.bellcock@arkansas.gov)