



THE AGA LEDGER

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President's Message

Welcome Back! I'm not quite sure where this summer has gone. The CEC took a much needed break over the summer but came back in full force in August. We welcomed new board members Jenny Wall (also a new member) and Daniel Durbin to our CEC filling the positions of Membership Chair and Community Services Chair. We are still missing a program director, however so if anyone is willing to chip in, it would be greatly appreciated.



As president this year, I am implementing a few changes that you will be seeing soon. Our first change this year is the way in which we communicate to you. Previously, we provided a monthly newsletter detailing all our information. Going forward, we will be providing a quarterly newsletter with all of our information. Then on a monthly basis, we will be sending out a mini-letter of information and changes to our schedule. We hope this allows you to find out what is going on without wading through a mountain of paper.

We have also begun quarterly CEC meetings as opposed to monthly. Meetings will be held in the Hoover building for those on the complex, but those in other buildings or cities can meet via conference call. My goal in this is to ensure our board can discuss those items important to us, but not take as much time away from our offices. I am also hopeful this will help eliminate the "I have no time to meet" excuse from the list of reasons people cannot serve on the CEC. There will be other changes throughout the program year, but they will be announced at monthly meetings and in the mini-letters, so stay tuned.

We kicked off our program year on August 24th with an audio conference. We purchased 12 audio conferences this year from AGA. A schedule of these is included in the newsletter. In addition to the audio conferences, we will have 8 lunch-n-learns, 1 evening awards meeting, and 1 seminar. This provides an opportunity to earn 39 hours of continuing education....one hour shy of 40....I'll work on that.

I have met so many of you at conferences, lunch-n-learns, etc. But for those of you who don't know me, I am the lead accountant at the Department of Human Services. I work with many departments throughout State Government in the course of my daily work. And have had the privilege of working with many more as a member of the CEC. As President, a lack of a program director means I will be developing our program year. And, while I have worked with so many people, I have by no means conquered all of the ins and outs of government. If you have any suggestions or areas you would like to learn more about, please don't hesitate to contact me. My door is open to program ideas or general ideas for ways AGA can be successful. I can be reached at nstorm@dhs.state.ia.us or 515-281-8047.

Final thoughts....I was told when I agreed to be President that the President's message in the newsletter could be short....I'll work on that for next time.

I hope everyone enjoyed their summer and we look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events!
Natalie Storm, Des Moines Chapter President

Upcoming Events!!

Ola Babcock Miller Bldg.
 State Library of Iowa
 Des Moines, IA

Wed., Sept 28, 2011

Lunch 'n Learn

11:30 - 1:00

"Impact of Budget Reductions on DHS and the Resulting Redesign"

Recommended CPE: 1 Hr

Audio Conference

1:00 - 3:00

"Continuous Monitoring—
 Management's Window to Preventing
 Fraud, Waste and Abuse"

Recommended CPE: 2 Hrs

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Chapter Executive Committee

Chapter President

Natalie Storm, CPA
nstorm@dhs.state.ia.us
Department of Human Services

President-Elect & Chapter Recognition Chair

Deb Schroeder
schroeder@northpolk.org
North Polk Community School District

Immediate Past President

Patricia Townsend, CPA
patricia.townsend@iowa.gov
Iowa Communications Network

Secretary

Khristan Kaufman, CPA, CFE
khristan.kaufman@ia.usda.gov
USDA, GIPSA, & P&SP

Treasurer

Natalie Storm, CPA
nstorm@dhs.state.ia.us
Department of Human Services

Accountability Outreach Chair

Janice Jensen, CPA, CGFM
janice.jensen@iowa.gov
Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation

By-Laws & Procedures Director & Historian

Janice Evans, CPA, CGFM
janice.evans@iowa.gov
Department of Education

Communications Director

Kim Knight, CPA
kimberly.knight@iowa.gov
Department of Administrative Services

Community Services Director

Daniel Durbin, CPA
daniel.durbin@auditor.state.ia.us
Auditor of State

Early Careers Director

Valerie Wedgeworth
valerie.wedgeworth@iowa.gov
Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation

Membership Director & Recognition Chair

Jenny Wall, CPA
jenny.wall@auditor.state.ia.us
Auditor of State

Professional Certification Director

Denise Ragias, CGFM
denise.ragias@iowa.gov
Department of Education

Program & Technical Meeting Director

VACANT

Website Chair

Patricia Townsend, CPA
patricia.townsend@iowa.gov
Iowa Communications Network

CEC Meeting Minutes | Thursday, August 11, 2011

President Natalie Storm opened the August 11, 2011 meeting of the Chapter Executive Committee (CEC). Other members in attendance were Patricia Townsend, Kim Knight, Denise Ragias, Janice Evans, Khristan Kaufman, and via telephone: Jenny Wall, Janice Jensen, Val Wedgeworth, and Deb Schroeder.

Chapter President: President, Natalie Storm, went over the meeting schedule for the program year (see website or newsletter for dates and topics). Natalie requested any suggestions for speakers be given to her as we don't currently have anyone on the CEC to fill the position for Programs.

PDC Report: Natalie reported that the conference was really good. While at the conference, she found out that quite a few chapters pay part, or all, of the membership fee for CEC members as an incentive. Natalie asked to put a small committee together to put together some ground rules proposing how the Des Moines Chapter could implement a similar program. Janice Evans recommended having some people that are not on the CEC involved in the committee. Val, Deb, Kim, Patricia, and Natalie are the current volunteers for the committee.

President Elect: Deb Schroeder asked CEC members to let her know when reports are submitted to National, or other communications are made with National, so the Chapter can get points. Deb is also working on getting the SLM hosted in Des Moines next year or the year following.

Treasurer: Natalie Storm reported on the Chapter's current fund balance. We currently have approximately \$700 in the checking account, \$5 petty cash, \$3,900 in savings and \$4,038 in cd's. Natalie presented the budget and it was approved by vote.

Membership: Jenny Wall reported that we have 3 new members, bringing total membership to approximately 77 members. Jenny will e-mail new members to Kim so they can be included in the newsletter.

Newsletter: Kim has seen other chapters preparing quarterly newsletters rather than monthly. Due to the large amount of time it takes to prepare the newsletter and the amount of information that is repeated month-to-month, Patricia moved that the Des Moines Chapter prepare quarterly newsletters and a monthly mini-letter to keep Chapter members informed of upcoming events. Kim seconded the motion and it was carried. *Newsletter articles are due to Kim by August 26th.*

Programs: Natalie is looking for speaker ideas. If anyone has an idea, please do not schedule anything yourself so as to avoid double scheduling, rather let her know the name and contact information.

Vendor -vs- Sub recipient Audio – The Chapter purchased the audio cd "Vendor -vs- Sub recipient. A discussion was held as to when we should hold the training to view the cd. Janice Jensen suggested adding the training to the Sept. 28th lunch-n-learn and making the day a "mini-seminar." There was also a suggestion to offer the audio once in the fall then again in the spring. It was decided the audio would be added onto the Oct. 5th audio conference in the morning (10:30 -12:30) with lunch from 12:30 – 1:00 then the afternoon audio conference from 1:00 – 3:00. Lunch could be offered for those who are interested.

NASACT Conferences – NASACT Conference opportunities will be e-mailed to the CEC for voting as they arise.



Article continued on page 3.

CEC Meeting Minutes (Continued from pg 2.)

May Seminar – Overall we had good reviews from the past seminar; however, there were many comments that the audio portion did not go well. Natalie recommended we try not combining the seminar with an audio conference this year. A pre-purchased audio conference may work if someone has previewed it beforehand to make sure it's good.

There was a discussion as to whether one or two seminars this year. As they can be difficult to plan, Kim thought one would be enough. At this time, we will continue with a planning committee for the Spring 2012 seminar and revisit the idea of a second in the Fall 2012. The volunteers for the planning committee were Natalie, Denise, Kim, Jenny and maybe Deb.

Community Services: Charities this quarter are Meals from the Heartland and Susan G. Komen Walk for the Cure. Natalie will establish the "AGA Racers" team and e-mail the details to members in October. Kim moved and Denise seconded that the chapter approve a contribution of \$100 for each charity (6 total) with a fundraiser this year. The motion was carried.

Chapter Meetings: There was a discussion on who would be available to run the power point for the upcoming audio conferences. Natalie will take care of August, Val will do September, and Natalie or Val will do October. It has been mentioned by various people that the person running the power point isn't able to get the full benefit of the training; therefore, Janice moved that this person receive free registration. Denise seconded the motion – all approved.

Name Drawing: The past practice of drawing a name at each chapter meeting was discussed. The reason for doing this was to attract people to attend our events and hopefully increase chapter membership. Deb moved that each person whose name is drawn will receive a reasonably priced* meal (compliments of the Chapter) at the YE evening meeting. The prize will be non-transferrable and will serve as an incentive for people to attend the year-end event. Janice seconded the motion. Motion was carried. * *Definition of "reasonably priced" will be determined once a location for the event has been set.*

Research/Historian: Committees should begin meeting in September at the regularly scheduled time for the CEC meeting (2nd Thursday of each month from 11:30 – 12:30). This includes the committee for the By-laws & Procedures updates.

Early Careers: Val suggested visiting a school (possibly DMACC) to get the word out about AGA. Patricia offered to go with her. The procedures for the scholarship application process need to be updated and brought to the CEC for approval.

Webmaster: New schedule is on the web. If there is anything else for the web, e-mail to Patricia.

Accountability: Centric reports are wanted for chapters.

Next Meeting: CEC meetings will be held quarterly. The next CEC meeting will be scheduled for November 10th.

Interested in becoming a Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM)?

The Des Moines AGA Chapter is here to help. General information about the CGFM program and exam is available on our website at <http://www.agadsm.org/epc.asp> or the national website at <http://www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/cgfmdefault.aspx>.

To aid in your studies, the Des Moines AGA Chapter has two study guides for the newly revamped CGFM exam. The study guides are available to check out to anyone interested.

Scholarships are also available to Chapter members, in good standing, who successfully complete the CGFM exam (Scholarship information is available at the above referenced website).

If you have any questions about the program, please contact Denise Ragias: 281-4741

Denise.Ragias@iowa.gov



Welcome to Our New Members!!

1. Deborah Krueger (Iowa College Student Aid Commission)
2. Claudia Siegel (USDA)
3. Jenny Wall (Auditor of State)



Congratulations to Kent Farver, Department of Education, for passing the 3rd and final part of the CGFM!!



Community Service Corner

September's community service focus is on **Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure**. The **Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure's** focus is on raising money and awareness to help researchers find a cure for breast cancer. Donations may be made at the September and October meetings. You can also participate in the annual Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure. An email was sent to members on 9/12/2011 with participation details. Contact Natalie @ nstorm@dhs.state.ia.us if you need more information about the race.

In June-August we collected \$66 for Kids Against Hunger. \$100 was matched by the Des Moines Chapter and a request for a \$166 match has been made to the National Chapter. Thank you to the contributors!



AGA Members can Earn Points as follows:

ATTENDANCE:

- Regular chapter meeting (20 points)
- Bonus for attending more than 4 meetings (15 points)
- Bonus meeting (30 points)
- For each guest attending the meeting (10 points with a maximum of 20 points per guest per member)

MEMBERSHIP:

- Each new member sponsored and accepted (35 points)

CHAPTER PROGRAMS:

- Member who is a speaker or panel participant at regular meeting (50 points)

EDUCATIONAL:

- Each chapter sponsored presentation at high schools or colleges (50 points)
- Conducting chapter workshop or financial management in addition to regular meeting (50 points)
- Attending an AGA-sponsored seminar or training session (35 points)

PUBLICATIONS:

- Manuscript of research project accepted by National Research Committee (100 points)
- A financial management article at least 300 words published in newsletter or other AGA publication (50 points)
- Article on any topic of general interest of at least 200 words published in chapter newsletter (30 points)

SERVICE:

- Participating in an AGA sponsored community service project (15 points)
- Participating in a Non-AGA sponsored community service project (5 points with a maximum of 25 points)
- Service on any board, committee, or other chapter position other than an office (40 points)

To check your total points or to report activities or events you have participated in, please contact Jenny Wall at:

Jenny.Wall@auditor.state.ia.us

The membership recognition director must be notified if you attend an AGA sponsored seminar or training session with a chapter other than the Des Moines chapter, or if you participate in a Non-AGA sponsored community service project to properly award the membership recognition points.

AGA - Des Moines Chapter
Operating Statement for the Period Ended August 31, 2011
For the Year Ending April 30, 2012

	Budget	% of Budget	1st Qtr <u>2011</u>	August <u>2011</u>	2nd Qtr <u>2011</u>	Year to <u>Date</u>
<u>Revenues/Receipts</u>						
Interest	30.00	43%	12.94		-	12.94
Membership Fees	400.00	61%	244.20		-	244.20
Conference Revenues	21,000.00	27%	5,479.26	222.74	222.74	5,702.00
National Recruitment Scholar.	150.00	0%	-		-	-
Donations	350.00	22%	76.00		-	76.00
Member Meals	800.00	0%	-		-	-
Total Revenues	22,730.00		5,812.40	222.74	222.74	6,035.14
<u>Expenses</u>						
Conference Expenses	16,440.02	45%	7,272.05	50.85	50.85	7,322.90
Postage & Supplies	100.00	4%	3.84		-	3.84
Website Expense	0.01	0%	-		-	-
National PDC	1,475.00	9%	127.47	-	-	127.47
Scholarship	2,185.00	0%	-	-	-	-
CGFM Study Guides	0.01	0%	-		-	-
Gifts	265.00	14%	37.80	-	-	37.80
Meals	800.01	0%	-	-	-	-
Donations	950.00	19%	176.00	-	-	176.00
Miscellaneous	60.00	117%	70.38		-	70.38
Total Expenses	22,275.05		7,687.54	50.85	50.85	7,738.39
Revenues o/(u) Expenses	454.95		(1,875.14)	171.89	171.89	(1,703.25)
Beginning Balance 5/01/11	10,549.93					10,549.93
Ending Balance 4/31/2011	11,004.88					8,846.68



AGA-Des Moines Chapter
Balance Sheet
As of August 31, 2011

Assets	
Checking	820.01
Petty Cash	5.00
Savings	3,983.49
Certificate of Deposit	4,038.18
Total Assets	8,846.68
Liabilities & Equity	
Equity-Unreserved	8,846.68
Total Liabilities & Equity	8,846.68

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE FOLLOWING AGA EVENTS!!!!

Starting and Ending Times are usually:

- Lunch n' Learn (1 CPE) - 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**
Audio Conferences (2 CPE) - 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
NASACT Webinars (2 CPE) - 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

9/28/2011	Lunch 'n Learn: Jean Slaybaugh, DHS, "Impact of Budget Reductions on DHS & the Resulting Redesign" Audio: Continuous Monitoring - Management's Window to Preventing Fraud, Waste & Abuse
10/5/2011	Video: 10:30-12:30 "Subrecipient or Vendor? - Sorting Out the Subaward of Federal Grant Funds Now" Audio: SSAE 16 Reporting on Controls - Revised SAS 70 Report & Service Organization Control Reports
10/19/2011	Lunch 'n Learn: TBA Audio: Performance Management
11/2/2011	Lunch 'n Learn: David Vaudt, State Auditor, "Status of the State Budget" Audio: Major Challenges to the Public Sector Auditing Profession
11/16/2011	Audio: Using XBRL to Improve Accountability, Transparency & Efficiency in Government
12/14/2011	Lunch 'n Learn: TBA Audio: Fraud
1/11/2012	Lunch 'n Learn: TBA Audio: Getting a Handle on Internal Controls
2/8/2012	Lunch 'n Learn: Kristi Maitre, IRS, "IRS Update" Audio: Financial Management
3/7/2012	Lunch 'n Learn: Margaret Van Ginkel, Iowa State University, "Budgeting 101" Audio: Data Mining
4/18/2012	Lunch 'n Learn: TBA Audio: Finding Strength in Numbers: Sampling Techniques to Improve Financial Audit, Control & Program Performance
5/9/2012	Audio: Fraud Evening Meeting: TBA
5/23/2012	Spring Ethics Conference

Regional Training Opportunities

Lincoln Chapter:

- ⇒ September 21, 2011; Fall Professional Development Conference
- ⇒ See www.lincolneaga.org/index.php for details.



The AGA LEDGER

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