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Presidents Message

It is March and spring is in the air. March is also the month for our full day professional development conference we sponsor with the Lansing Chapter of the Institute of Internal Auditors on March 30, 2010. We have a great lineup of speakers including Billy Morehead, the AGA National President. Billy will be speaking on ethics and his national theme, Think Big! Act Courageously! Make a Difference!. Check out his biography at <http://www.agacgfm.org/about/governance/president.aspx>

We will also be sponsoring a food drive for the Greater Lansing Food Bank at the March 30 PDC. Feeding America is the nation's leading hunger-relief charity. It recently released its Hunger in America 2010 report. Feeding America is annually providing food to 37 million Americans, including 14 million children. This is an increase of 46 percent over 2006, when they were feeding 25 million Americans, including 9 million children, each year. These are startling statistics that illustrate the current economic conditions in America. Please contribute food or money at the March 30 PDC to help combat hunger in America.

Go to <http://www.lansing-aga.org/cde.cfm?event=297509> to register for the March 30, 2010 PDC and learn more about the food drive and conference speakers.

Sincerely,



Corey Sparks, CPA

2009-2010

**AGA - Greater Lansing Chapter
Officers and Committee Chairpersons**

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Community Service

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Jean.young@plantemoran.com

Past President

Timothy Becker (241-5585)
beckert1@michigan.gov

2009/2010 AUDIO CONFERENCE SCHEDULE
All audio conferences start at 1:50 p.m. and ends at 4:00 p.m.
Online registration is open for all audio conferences
Audio conferences are FREE to members and \$15.00 to nonmembers.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Audio Conference</u>
March 24, 2010	Suggested Guidelines for Voluntary Reporting: Sharing the Government's Story Using Non-Financial Resources
April 21, 2010	The Latest Tools and Techniques for Auditors
May 19, 2010	Ethics

AGA/IIA 2010 Spring Professional Development Conference

Please join the Greater Lansing Chapter AGA and the Lansing Chapter IIA for the 2010 Spring Professional Development Conference, Tuesday, March 30, 2010. We will have AGA National President Billy Morehead giving a presentation on "Ethics" and "Think Big! Act Courageously! Make a Difference!" The Office of Internal Audit Services will present an "Auditing 101" topic. Assistant Attorney General Wallace Hart will give us "The Facts About Medicaid Fraud in Michigan". Citizens Research Council Research Associate Jill N. Roof will present "Public Education Governance in Michigan". The Michigan Recovery Office, Government Accountability Office and the Office of Internal Audit Services will present the "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Compliance and Controls". MDIT Agency Services Deputy Director Lynn Draschil will present "Innovative Service Delivery". More event information and registration can be found at <http://www.lansing-aga.org/cde.cfm?event=297509>.

Please register early as seating is limited.

Also, do not forget the Greater Lansing Chapter AGA's Community Service Project. We will be collecting non-perishable food, personal care items and monetary donations to support the Greater Lansing Food Bank during the conference.

National Academic Scholarship



Call for 2010 National Academic Scholarships

Are you or a family member pursuing undergraduate or graduate studies in disciplines such as accounting, auditing, budgeting, economics, finance, information technology, public administration, etc.? If so, consider applying for an AGA National Academic Scholarship today!

Each year, AGA National awards:

- Up to four \$3,000 full-time merit scholarships to AGA members and their family members,
- Up to one \$1,000 part-time merit scholarships to AGA members and their family members, and
- Up to one \$3,000 community service scholarship

The deadline for receipt of applications is **Wednesday, March 31, 2010**. Apply now and take full advantage of your AGA membership. To download a copy of the application go to <http://www.agacgfm.org/membership/awards/> or contact [Louise Kapelewski](#).

Call for Nominations for National Awards



2010 Call for National Award Nominations

AGA's National Awards Committee is now accepting nominations for our 13 National Awards that recognize the leaders advancing our profession and setting the standards of excellence:

- Robert W. King Memorial Award
- Einhorn-Gary Award
- Frank Greathouse Distinguished Leadership Award
- Achievement of the Year Award
- Educator Award
- Cornelius E. Tierney/Ernst & Young Research Award
- Chapter Education Award
- Chapter Service Award
- Community Service Award
- International Achievement Award
- Chapter CGFM Award
- Emerging Leader Award of Excellence
- Regional Coordinator Award

These awards will be presented during AGA's 58th Annual Professional Development Conference and Exposition in Orlando, July 11–14, 2010. In many cases, individuals do not have to be members of AGA to be eligible. All nominations are due by **Friday, April 16, 2010**. Nomination forms are available online. For more information, contact Louise Kapelewski.
Minutes of Chapter Executive Committee – AGA Greater Lansing Chapter

Minutes of Chapter Executive Committee – AGA Greater Lansing Chapter

Location – Treasury Investment Offices

Date February 10, 2010

CEC members present: Tim Becker, Deb Christopherson, Hollie Dietz, Marian Frane, Heather Hammond, Cindy Johnson, Tim Martin, Charlotte Roper, Susan Saari, Corey Sparks, and Jean Young.

CEC members not present: Debbie Brady, Marion Hart, Duane Smiley and Dan Wawiernia.

Call to order: 12:00 P.M.

Acceptance of Agenda: Motion to accept agenda, seconded and approved

Website –On-line credit card payment is up and working.

Approvals of Prior Meeting minutes – January minutes were approved on January 19th.

Treasurer’s Report and Budget –Motion was made accepted and approved to increase the budget for bad debt to \$523. Motion carried. Motion was made and seconded to write off bad debt of \$523. Motion carried. As a matter of practice we will monitor those individuals and require pre-payment. Motion was made to approve \$786 of December disbursements and \$463 of January disbursements.

Community Service – Food bank project is being prepared for conference. We let MDOT know discontinuing adopt a highway. We are checking to see if AGA national still offers a match. We are still looking at other options for community service

Education – March conference scheduled for 30th at LCC west with IIA. The agenda will be finalized soon, one spot still to confirm. Registration is available on-line.

Awards – Nomination letter has gone out. We have already gotten some responses. Committee to meet following the February CEC.

Programs – The February meeting is scheduled for the 25th. The topic is Michigan political races.

Communications - February newsletter should post the today.

Membership –. Drawing for membership drive, one for chapter only, one for both national and chapter

CGFM certification and audio conferences –The room and equipment are reserved. Next audio conference is today, then March 2nd and March 3rd. Need to send out information on the CGFM month proclamations very soon. Delhi Township has expressed a willingness to do so.

Old Business –None.

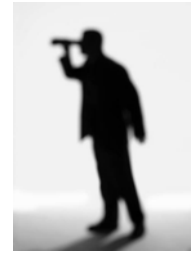
New Business- We will need volunteers to transport Billy Morehead. Also, schedule permitting, would like to host a social event and invite West Michigan and Detroit chapter leadership.

Adjournment –Motion made, seconded and passed. Meeting adjourned at 1:08.

Next meeting – March 10th 11:45AM, Lewis Cass Building.



MEMBERSHIP CORNER



AGA Greater Lansing Chapter Celebrates Members' Anniversaries

30 Years

Mr. Jerome B. Herman Mar 01

24 Years

Mr. Stephen Hilker, CGFM, CPA Mar 31

18 Years

Ms. Darlene A. Workman Mar 30

15 Years

Mr. Jon A. Wise, CGFM-Retired, CPA Mar 02
Ms. Margo A. Yaklin Mar 20

14 Years

Ms. Lilia C. Denney, CGFM Mar 11
M. Rodney W. Markowski Mar 18

13 Years

Mrs. Brenda L. Seelman Mar 31
Ms. Amy Zimmerman Mar 28

11 Years

Mr. John E. Buck, CGFM – Retired Mar 11
Mrs. Jackie S. Lawson, CGFM Mar 23
Mrs. Elizabeth A. Torres, CGFM Mar 04

3 Years

Ms. Marian S. France Mar 01

1 Year

Mr. David Benit Mar 01
Mrs. Hollie Dietz Mar 01
Ms. Catherine Funches Mar 01
Heather Hammond Mar 01
Ms. Jasna Omerovic Mar 01



Membership News

On January 29 we held a drawing to reimburse membership fees to two of our new members. Congratulations to our winners Joe Reeves and Angela Richards. Joe was awarded both national and chapter dues. Angela was awarded chapter dues.



MARCH IS CGFM MONTH

Why Earn the CGFM?

The Certified Government Financial Manager

The Mark of Excellence in Federal, State and Local Government.

Since its inception in 1994, the CGFM has become the standard by which government financial management professionals are measured. Its [education](#), [experience](#) and [ethics requirements](#) have served to elevate the most seasoned financial professionals.

More than 14,000 individuals have received the designation so far. Now it's your turn. Experience the benefits of certification first hand—the CGFM is the mark of excellence in your profession. We look forward to adding your name to our distinguished list of Certified Government Financial Managers.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that the employment of accountants and auditors is expected to grow 18 percent between 2006 and 2016, which is faster than the average of all occupations. Accountants and auditors that hold a college degree or any other certification will have the best job prospects.

Give Yourself an Edge Over Your Competitors

Recent research has shown that employers attribute their recruiting difficulties to a shortage of qualified professionals. Give yourself a competitive advantage by showing your commitment to lifelong learning. You need a credential that shows you are qualified and have the skills to lead. The Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) does this like no other credential.

The CGFM is the first certification broad enough to cover the whole field of government financial management—federal, state and local. It measures a wide range of knowledge and skills that a professional needs to succeed in the federal government financial environment, or to meet the unique challenges faced by state and local government financial managers.

“In today's complex and changing world, a professional certification provides prospective employers with a degree of confidence that candidates are prepared for the real world.” —John Radford, CGFM, State Controller, State of Oregon

Value and Recognition of the CGFM Credential

The foundation of the CGFM is the requirement for Education, Experience and Examination. Building on this foundation is a [Code of Ethics](#) and required Continuing Professional Education (CPE).

This designation is already recognized as a professional standard. Each year, more and more federal agencies and state and local governments are realizing the value of the CGFM and are formally embracing the designation. It is often listed as a preferred hiring qualification on federal RFPs. The Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) Board of Regents has also recognized the CGFM. It is accepted as a waiver for part IV of the CIA examination.

Toward the Future

The challenge facing today's government financial managers is to keep up with the changing times. New innovations, new regulations and new methods of implementation require staying abreast of the latest developments.

AGA presents a dynamic program of educational events every year that will expand your knowledge and sharpen your skills.

The field of government financial management will be far different tomorrow from what it is today. Having a broad knowledge and a recognized professional designation will be the way to distinguish yourself from the crowd.

There's no time like the present for joining the thousands of other leaders in government financial management who already have discovered the unique value and benefit of the CGFM designation.

“In the aftermath of the accounting scandals, professional certification is even more important to ensure that accountants’ credentials and knowledge of ethics are sound. Regardless of specialty, accountants and auditors who have earned professional recognition through certification or licensure should have the best job prospects.” —Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2008-2009 Edition

[Apply for the CGFM designation today!](#)



Financials



**Association of Government Accountants - Lansing Chapter
Chapter Financial Update
February 28, 2010**

ASSETS:

	January - 10	January - 10
Current assets:		
Checking	\$ 3,367.40	\$ 3,594.88
Time Deposits	5,181.71	5,181.71
Prepaid Expenses	0	0
Accounts Receivable	0	523.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 8,549.11	\$ 9,299.59

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Accounts Payable	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Total Accounts Payable	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Unrestricted Fund Balance - Beginning of year	\$ 9,299.59	\$ 9,762.26
TYD Income (Loss)	(\$ 750.48)	(\$ 462.67)
Unrestricted Fund Balance - End of period	\$ 8,549.11	\$ 9,299.59
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	\$ 8,549.11	\$ 9,299.59



Association of Government Accountants
Greater Lansing Chapter

Tuesday, March 30, 2010 at Lansing Community College West Campus

5708 Cornerstone Drive, Lansing

8 a.m. — 4:30 p.m.

Registration begins at 7:30 a.m.

2010 Spring Professional Development Conference

Advancing Government Accountability

“Ethics” Billy Morehead, Ph.D., CGFM, CPA, AGA National President

The definition and role of Ethics in the workplace, highlighting ethical failures over the past decade and dilemmas we face in 2010.

“Think Big! Act Courageously! Make a Difference!” Billy Morehead, AGA National President

Billy has been dubbed the “Education President” since he brings the academic component into AGA leadership and his theme includes a key focus on education within AGA.

“Auditing 101” Office of Internal Audit Services

Introduction to types of audits performed on State of Michigan programs by internal auditors, the Office of the Auditor General, federal auditors, and outside auditors. What we all need to know about the differences.

“The Facts About Medicaid Fraud in Michigan” Wallace Hart, J.D., Assistant Attorney General

We hear so much about Medicaid fraud and abuse. What are the facts for Michigan? How does Michigan compare to other states and the national average?

“Public Education Governance in Michigan”

Jill N. Roof, Research Associate, Citizens Research Council

Policy makers at all levels of government are involved in the education debate. Gain an understanding of school governance, school financing and implications of policy decisions made at all levels of government.

“American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Compliance and Controls”

Michigan Recovery Office, Government Accountability Office, and the Office of Internal Audit Services

As we are in the midst of accounting for the ARRA grants, this update will provide insights into compliance and GAO findings from their work in Michigan.

“Innovative Service Delivery” Lynn Draschil, Department of Information Technology

Learn about dramatic changes in the way services are delivered due to innovative approaches. Major new IT systems are being used at the Departments of Community Health, Human Services, State, and Treasury.

Qualifies for 7 hours of CPE

\$70.00 AGA and IIA members

\$100 non-members

Register on-line prior to 3/23 at:

<http://www.lansing-aga.org/cde.cfm?event=297509>

Pay by credit card or

Send payment to AGA by mail:

P.O. Box 12159

Lansing, Michigan 48901

MAIN ID 2521858718-005

CONFERENCE LOCATION:

Lansing Community

College's

West Campus

5708 Cornerstone Drive

(Just south of I-496 and east of

S. Creyts Road off Mt. Hope)

Free Parking

Questions:

Heather Hammond at

517-241-9405

hammondh@michigan.gov

Rick Lowe at

517-335-0972

lower@michigan.gov

Registrants are responsible for paying the cost of the conference unless a cancellation is received by the deadline.



Association of Government Accountants
Greater Lansing Chapter

2010 Spring Professional Development Conference

Advancing Government Accountability

Agenda

		<u>CPE</u>
7:30 a.m.– 8:00 a.m.	Registration: Coffee, juice, continental breakfast	
8:00 a.m.– 8:15 a.m.	Welcome and Opening Remarks	
8:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	<i>Ethics 101 and Think Big! Act Courageously! Make a Difference!</i> presented by Billy Morehead, Ph.D., CGFM, CPA, AGA National President	1.0 Hour Ethics .5 Hours Other
9:30 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.	Break	
9:50 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.	<i>Auditing 101</i> presented by Office of Internal Audit Services	1.0 Hour Auditing
10:40 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Break	
11:00 a.m. – 11:50 p.m.	<i>The Facts About Medicaid Fraud in Michigan</i> presented by Wallace Hart, J.D., Assistant Attorney General	1.0 Hour Auditing
11:50 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.	Lunch & Awards	
1:15 p.m. – 2:05 p.m.	<i>Public Education Governance</i> presented by Jill N. Roof, Research Associate, Citizens Research Council	1.0 Hour Other
2:05 p.m. – 2:25 p.m.	Break with refreshments	
2:25 p.m. – 3:40 p.m.	<i>American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Compliance and Controls</i> presented by the Recovery Office, Government Accountability Office and the Office of Internal Audit Services	1.5 Hours Auditing
3:40 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	<i>Innovative Service Delivery</i> presented by Lynn Draschil, Department of Information Technology	1.0 Hour Other
4:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.	Closing Remarks	7.0 Hours Total

FOOD DRIVE FOR GREATER LANSING FOOD BANK

Community Service Project

Support the Greater Lansing Food Bank by bringing non-perishable food, personal care items and **monetary donations** for a collection at the seminar.

MOST NEEDED ITEMS:

All Types of Canned Beans, Canned Fish, 100% Fruit Juice, Canned Fruits, Boxed Meals, Canned Meat, Vegetable Oil, Pasta, Peanut Butter, Rice, Instant Potatoes, Canned and Boxed Soup, Snack Items, Canned Tomato Products.

Make checks payable to the Greater Lansing Food Bank