



Disclosures

Presidents Message

By Susan C. Saari

September activities included planning and preparing our educational program, the September 28th Fall PDC conference "Protecting Your Assets". This year's event included topics on Internal Audit presented by Doug Ringler, CPA, Director of Department of Technology, Management and Budget (DTMB) Office of Internal Audit Services, Implementing Environmentally Friendly Strategies presented by Julie Powers from Mid-Michigan Environmental Action Council and Becky Jo Farrington from Michigan Energy Options Forensic Accounting presented by Michelle McHale-Adams CPA/CFF CFE, from Plante & Moran, PLLC, and Cyber Security Trends for 2011 presented by Richard Reasner, State Chief Security Officer from DTMB. Many thanks to all our speakers and our education co-chairs Heather Hammond and Hollie Dietz for making our PDC a success.

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NEW! AGA Intergovernmental Partnership Receives Excellence Award from Inspectors General Today—A group of federal, state and local government volunteers, brought together by AGA, is being honored today by the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE). AGA's Partnership for Intergovernmental Management and Accountability created a guide designed to improve program performance through a collaborative process called the Cooperative Audit Resolution and Oversight Initiative (CAROI). **[Read more.](#)**

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I know many of you are busy this month with year-end closing and preparing the 2011 financials. However, you won't want to miss our upcoming October educational events. On October 5, 2011, we will present an audio conference SSAE16 Reporting Controls – Revised SAS 70 Report and Service Organization Control Reports and our October 18, 2011, Luncheon topic will be Budget Update presented by Ellen Jeffries, Director, Senate Fiscal Agency.

Our chapter community co-chairs Shaun Krick and Tom Colosimo wanted me to remind you that we will be collecting non perishable food products for the Greater Lansing Food Bank. Please bring your donations to our November 21st luncheon; there are many needy families in Michigan

If you have life events (promotions, births, retirements, etc.) you would like to share, send your news to your Communication Chair Debbie Cushman cushmand1@michigan.gov. She will publish your news in our monthly newsletter.

[CALENDAR OF EVENTS](#)

(Link)

CEC MEETING

12 OCT 2011

14 Nov 2011

Luncheons – Information

18 OCT 2011 BUDGET UPDATE

21 NOV 2011 MANAGING THE GREATER LANSING AND
MID-MICHIGAN FOOD BANK

25 JAN 2012 TAX UPDATE

2011-2012

AGA - Greater Lansing Chapter Officers and Committee Chairpersons

President

Susan Saari (335-6712)
ssaari@invest.treas.state.mi.us

President-Elect

Deb Christopherson (335-3730)
christophersond@michigan.gov

Treasurer

Daniel Wawiernia (241-2768)
wawierniad@michigan.gov

Secretary

Corey Sparks (241-1043)
sparksc1@michigan.gov

Programs Co-Chairs

Karen Stout (335-1012)
kstout@invest.treas.state.mi.us

Education Chair

Heather Hammond (241-9405)
hammondh@michigan.gov

Hollie Dietz (335-0356)
dietzh@michigan.gov

CGFM Coordinator Co-Chairs

Tracey Monahan (373-1518)
monahant@michigan.gov

Charlotte Roper (636-0541)
roperc@michigan.gov

Membership

Marian Frane (268-3021)
Marian.frane@delhitownship.com

Communications/Public Relations

Debbie Brady (241-1048)
BradyD@michigan.gov

Randy Bitner (241-5040)
bitnerr@michigan.gov

Webmaster

Linda Debourbon (481-7657)
DebourbonL@michigan.gov

Awards and Nominations

Karine Apokov (342-9076)
kakopov@mibankers.com

Community Service

Shaun Krick (336-7477)
shaun.krick@plantemoran.com

Tom Colosimo, CGFM (335-3536)
colosimot@michigan.gov

Members' Anniversaries

Members' Anniversaries

32 Years

Ms. Carol Carlson, CGFM October 01
Ms. Jane Wallin October 01

25 Years

Mr. Elden Lamb, CGFM October 01

23 Years

Mr. Thomas McTavish, CGFM October 17

22 Years

Mr. Pratin Trivedi, CGFM October 25

19 Years

Mrs. Cynthia Osga, CGFM October 08

14 Years

Mr. Smruti Shah, CPA October 31

10 Years

Mrs. Doreen Brown, CGFM October 01

9 Years

Mr. Nicholas Bohac October 01

6 Years

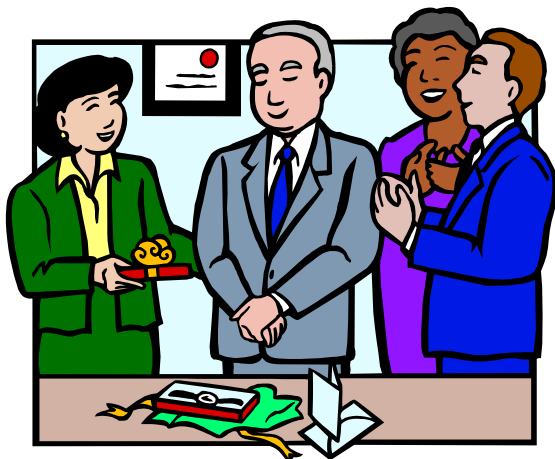
Ms. Peggy Murphy, CPA October 01

3 Years

Mr. Adam Christenson October 01

1 Year

Ms. Karine Akopov October 01
Ms. Zada Schriener



Upcoming Audio Conferences 2012

» November 2, 2011

*Major Challenges to the Public Sector
Auditing Profession*

» December 14, 2011

Fraud

» January 11, 2012

Getting a Handle on Internal Controls

» February 8, 2012

Financial Management

» March 7, 2012

Data Mining

» April 18, 2012

*Find Strength In Numbers: Sampling
Techniques to Improve Financial Audit,
Controls and Program Performance*

» May 23, 2012

Ethics

» June 6, 2012

Performance Management

Community Service Projects

The AGA and VITA

It is our pleasure to announce that the AGA Lansing Chapter will be partnering with the Asset Independence Coalition (AIC) to participate in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program for the upcoming 2011 tax filing season.

The AIC is a coalition that is dedicated to engaging Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham County residents as partners in the effort to create an economically sustainable community. We believe that the goals of the AGA's community service efforts will be greatly enhanced by partnering with the AIC for this event, especially since this event is bettering our own neighborhoods and communities. During 2011 alone, the AIC completed income tax returns for 2,035 individuals and families in the tri-county area. This equated to refunds of nearly \$2.7 million, and Earned Income Tax Credits of \$672,000. There were 247 households served in Clinton County, 204 served in Eaton County, and 1,584 in Ingham County.

We encourage all of our members to participate in this year's community service outreach event, and by donating your time to help those that need assistance. The time commitment for this event is flexible and can generally accommodate your availability. You do not need prior tax preparation experience to participate!! Training and materials are provided by the Internal Revenue Service through either a classroom setting or through the IRS's Link and Learn system, (<http://www.irs.gov/app/vita/>). However, if you are interested in volunteering, please keep in mind you will need to complete a training course, **before** you are eligible to participate.

Further communications and updates will be provided through the news letter regarding scheduled classroom trainings, as well as when the IRS has updated their website for the 2011 tax year.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program



November 21st - AGAs Food Drive for Greater Lansing Food Bank



**II 2011 Professional Development Conferer
September 28, 2011
Library of Michigan
“Protecting Your Assets”**

We had 44 attendees at our fall 2011 Professional Development Conference (PDC) at the Library of Michigan on Wednesday, September 28, 2011. Doug Ringler, Director of Internal Audit Services for the State of Michigan, gave an overview of what an “Internal Audit” was and was not. He also noted key differences between internal and external auditors, planning and conducting internal audits, and maximizing the benefits of having internal auditors. Becky Jo Farrington, Environmental Education Manager for Michigan Energy Options, and Julie Powers, Director of Mid-MEAC, followed up with “Implementing Environmentally Friendly Strategies”. They gave tips on how to make our office more green and energy efficient. After a short break, Michelle McHale-Adams, a member of Plante & Moran’s Forensic & Valuation Services Group and the Practice Leader for the firm’s Investigative Services Group, delved into “Forensic Accounting Basics”. She touched on forensic accounting versus fraud examination versus an audit. She focused on fraud, fraud prevention and data testing. Michigan’s Acting Chief Security Officer and Director of DTMB’s Office of Enterprise Security, Rich Reasner finished up our conference with “Cyber Security Trends for 2011”. Rich gave some chilling trends in the cyber world and some helpful tips to lessen the effects of cyber-crimes.



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 15,000 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.

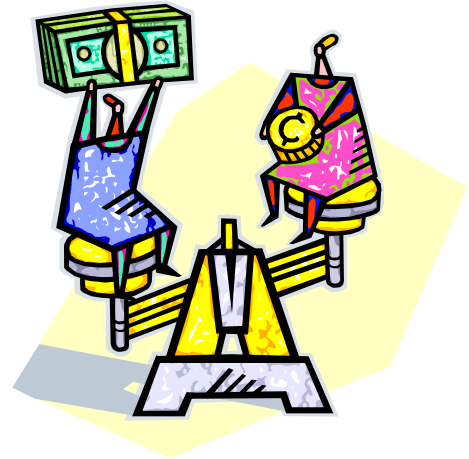
To ensure the CGFM designation remains the first-rate certification and reflects the current government financial management profession, the CGFM Program just completed a comprehensive update of all three CGFM Examinations, including a [Job Analysis study of the role of the Certified Government Financial Manager](#). The new CGFM Examinations went live on Aug. 15. See the [CGFM Examinations Update page](#) for more information.

October 2011 LUNCHEON

Budget Update

Ellen Jeffries, Director

Senate Fiscal Agency



Tuesday, October 18, 11:45am – 1:00pm

Capitol View Building; Conference Center B

Meal Details: Buffet style - Chicken or Beef Kabobs with fresh vegetables

Cost for AGA Members: \$ 12.00

Cost for Non-Members: \$ 20.00

This program qualifies for one hour of CPE, Category: Other

RESERVATIONS:

Please register online using the link provided on the Lansing AGA Chapter webpage:
<http://www.lansing-aga.org/calendar.cfm>

You may also contact:

Karen Stout at (517) 335-1012 or Stoutk@michigan.gov

Dan Wawiernia at (517) 241-2768 or WawierniaD@michigan.gov

Payment by exact change or check is appreciated. Registrants are responsible for paying the cost of the luncheon unless a cancellation is received by the deadline.

You will need to indicate your membership status.

Deadline for Reservations or Cancellations: **COB, Thursday, Oct 13.**

Minutes of the Chapter Executive Committee – AGA Greater Lansing Chapter
Location: Plante & Moran Training Center, 1111 Michigan Ave., East Lansing, MI 48823

Date: September 14, 2011

CEC Members Present: Deb Christopherson, Tom Colosimo, Linda DeBourbon, Marian Frane, Heather Hammond, Shaun Krick, Tracey Monahan, Charlotte Roper, Susan Saari, Corey Sparks, Karen Stout and Dan Wawiernia

CEC Members Not Present: Karine Akopov, Randy Bitner, Debbie Cushman and Hollie Dietz

Call to Order: 12:08 pm

Acceptance of Agenda: Motion to accept the agenda was seconded and approved.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes: August 2011 minutes were approved prior to the meeting by email on August 18, 2011.

Treasurer's Report: No August report. Per Dan there was very little August activity. Dan completed the review of the IIA financial statements. Kathy Krause from IIA is conducting the 2010/2011 review of our financial statements.

Community Service: Shaun has been reviewing the IRS website for the 2011 VITA information. The CEC discussed ways to expand collecting for the Greater Lansing Food Bank at chapter activities. Shaun will contact them to find out what volunteer opportunities are available.

Education: The fall PDC is Sept 28, 2011 at the Library of Michigan. Heather reported that 25 people have signed up. She will send out a reminder email. The caterer will be the concession at the library. Heather received an email from the national office requesting dates for chapter activities and sponsors.

Program Luncheons: First luncheon is October 18 with a budget update. A possible topic for November 21 is a speaker from the Greater Lansing Food Bank. Karen will contact SAAABA to see if we can work together on a joint tax luncheon.

Awards: No report

Communications/Newsletter: No report. Susan proposed that the deadline for articles be the 15th of the month. The CEC discussed alternative ways to deliver the newsletter to chapter members. Linda will look at doing it the same way national does.

Membership: Marian reported 124 members as of August 31, 2011. She contacted national about membership scholarship program. She will get the money and we can plan what to do with it. Is there a way to get email addresses of accountants in the State? Marian will contact Leo Laporte to discuss a possible FOIA request. The CEC discussed ways to reach out to students.

CGFM and CPE Events: Nothing new to report. Charlotte will copy Marian on the sign in sheets from the audio conferences.

Website: Linda will work on getting the body of the newsletter into the emails. Dan will get a copy of the Affiniscape contract to Linda. Linda is working on a chapter Facebook page.

Old Business: None

New Business: Deb will be contacting people for quarterly activity for reporting on the national website.

Adjournment: Motion made, seconded and passed. Meeting adjourned at 1:16 p.m.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 12, 2011, Lewis Cass Building, 320 S. Walnut, Lansing, 2nd Floor Directors Audit Conference Room, sponsored by Dan Wawiernia.

**Association of Government Accountants - Greater Lansing Chapter
Balance Sheet**

ASSETS:	SEP '11	AUG '11	Change
Current Assets:			
Cash and Equivalents			
Checking - variable APY	\$3,828.22	\$3,575.71	\$252.51
13 month CD - matures 12/28/11	\$5,552.15	\$5,552.15	\$0.00
Subtotal Cash and Equivalents	\$9,380.37	\$9,127.86	\$252.51
Prepaid Expenses			
PDC Registration, Travel, Web	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Subtotal Prepaid Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Accounts Receivable			
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Subtotal Accounts Receivable	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Current Assets:	\$9,380.37	\$9,127.86	\$252.51
TOTAL ASSETS:	\$9,380.37	\$9,127.86	\$252.51
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS:			
Current Liabilities:			
Accounts Payable			
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Subtotal Accounts Payable	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Subtotal Current Liabilities:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Unrestricted Fund Balance - Beginning of Month	\$9,070.65	\$9,100.52	(\$29.87)
Income (Loss)	\$252.51	(\$29.87)	\$282.38
Unrestricted Fund Balance - End of Month	\$9,323.16	\$9,070.65	\$252.51
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS:	\$9,323.16	\$9,070.65	\$252.51