



PORTLAND CHAPTER

Important Dates:

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 1

JULY, 2007

August 8, 2007 – Portland Chapter Audio Conference – Performance Management and Reporting (2 CPE Hours). Contact Ben Dick, Portland AGA Education Chair, at bmdick@bpa.gov or (503) 230-3346, by August 6th to register.

September 10 – 11, 2007 – National Educational Opportunity – [Internal Control and Fraud Conference](#), Atlanta, GA (14 CPE Hours)

September 20, 2007 – Portland Chapter Audio Conference – Making The Transition to Management: What IT Takes to Succeed

September 24 – 25, 2007 - [AGA's Third Annual National Performance Management Conference](#), Phoenix, AZ (14 CPE Hours)

President's Message:

Hello Chapter Members!

There are a lot of activities on the horizon as part of the Chapter's education and community service events. We invite and encourage members of the Chapter to participate in as many opportunities as possible.

We would like to thank Jinah Nakaji and Dan Hays for their participation in "Banking On Our Future".

There are certainly a lot of opportunities in the educational arena during 2007-2008, with the first of our Audio Conferences on August 8. We invite our members to identify early career professionals and encourage them to attend the audio conferences.

We want to make a special announcement: Jinah Nakaji has had a new addition to her family! On July 17, 2007, she and her husband had a baby boy, Dylan Kai Nakaji, 7 lbs. 15 ounces. Congratulations to the proud parents and welcome to Dylan!

Finally, there continue to be many opportunities for volunteers to get more involved with the Chapter. Please feel free to contact any of the Chapter Officers if you would like to participate in or help with any of our many efforts throughout the year.

Until next month,

Lorinda Limpf

For additional information on AGA, please visit the following websites:

AGA National Website - <http://www.agacgfm.org/homepage.aspx>

AGA Portland Chapter Website - <http://www.agapdx.org>

AGA Educational Opportunities:

This year the Portland Chapter is offering numerous audio conferences with interesting topics and knowledgeable speakers. These audio conferences offer 2 hours of CPE at a cost of \$10 dollars to members and \$20 dollars to non-members.

In an attempt to further cater to our audience, we would like to hear from you what topics or issues you would like the Portland Chapter to offer in the future. Let us know what educational events you have enjoyed and where we might focus our efforts to build stronger, more engaging conferences.

The next Audio Conference is on August 8th covering Performance Management and Reporting. Mark that date on your calendar, and make sure you are on our e-mail list for updates on the time and location – we'll forward to seeing you then!

Future audio conferences will cover topics such as Tools for Performance and Efficiency, Internal Controls, Environmental Fraud, GASB Update, and Ethics. 2 CPE Hours is available for each audio conference attended.

For additional information on AGA educational opportunities, please contact Ben Dick, Portland Chapter Education Chair, at (503) 230-3346 or bmdick@bpa.gov

Membership:

The Portland Chapter is currently seeking a volunteer for the position of Membership Director. For additional information on this opportunity, please contact Lorinda Limpf, Chapter President, at (503) 230-7623.

AGA needs YOU!



See <http://www.agacgfm.org/membership/join/> for details.



Community Service:

Tools for Schools (August 2007)

During the month of August, the Portland AGA is asking for member support to provide school supplies and backpacks for children whose families can't otherwise afford these items.

Race for the Cure (September 2007)

Last year we had 3 women go out and participate in the race event. This year let's try and raise the number of participants and the donations to help support cancer research in finding a cure!

Portland Marathon (October 2007)

The Portland Marathon is scheduled for October 7th. Come out to cheer on fellow AGA members and volunteer at the 21st mile Aid Station.

For additional information on, or to offer suggestions for, the Portland Chapter's Community Service program, please contact Jan Wilson, Portland Chapter Community Service Chair, at jmwilson@bpa.gov or (503) 230-3143.

Join AGA or renew today!



See <http://www.agacqfm.org/membership/join/> for details.

Why Earn the CGFM?

[\(Reprinted from the AGA National Website\)](#)

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.

In a 2001 survey by Robert Half International, a financial management placement firm, 85% of the 1400 CFOs surveyed "believed that a professional certification...can boost career advancement opportunities."

Heritage and Needs

Over the past two decades, a number of factors have created a rapidly changing environment for today's government financial managers. Beginning with the New York City financial crisis in the 1970s and 1980s, state and local governments began overhauling their financial management systems. In 1990, the Chief Financial Officers (CFO) act called for reforms that brought the goal of accountability to the forefront.

The value of financial managers against this turbulent backdrop has shot upwards. Those who believe they are on the high end of the profession, or on the "fast track" toward getting there, need a credential that shows they 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 deals not with testing a person in a specific area, but with measuring 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.

Expertise, Value and Recognition

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. Since the 2001 federal legislation authorizing federal government agencies to use appropriated funds to pay for expenses to obtain professional credentials, three agencies including the DoD and twelve of its components, have issued formal professional certification policies, with other agencies soon to follow suit. The CGFM designation is listed as one of the funded certifications.

To date, seven states have formally recognized the CGFM - Idaho, Mississippi, Missouri, Maine, Tennessee, Virginia and Washington. Also, various counties, including Contra Costa county in California, and cities, including Topeka, KS have also formally recognized the CGFM. 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.

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 developments and new methods of implementation are creating a new environment in which government financial managers must function.

Increasing knowledge and skills is the key to staying abreast of the latest developments. AGA presents a dynamic program of events and courses every year containing solutions, innovations, and technological breakthroughs that you'll need to retain and enhance your CGFM.

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.

Why Certification?

"Certification programs are win-win-win--the certifiers benefit; the certified benefit; and so does any customer, client or employer who relies on the certification. That should explain why, within a decade, every market leader in every global industry will offer certification programs for its key employees." Fortune Magazine, 6.26.00

[CGFM Certification—Take the CGFM Exams today!](#)

AGA Portland Chapter

2007-2008 Officers and Directors

Lorinda Limpf
President
Bonneville Power Administration
Office: (503) 230-7623
e-mail: llimpf@bpa.gov

Shawna Lamothe
President-Elect
Bonneville Power Administration
Office: (503) 230-3077
e-mail: salamothe@bpa.gov

Kevin Owen
Immediate Past President
Bonneville Power Administration
Office: (503) 230-7619
e-mail: kaowen@bpa.gov

Jennifer Ellington
Secretary
Bonneville Power Administration
Office: (503) 230-5121
e-mail: jmellington@bpa.gov

Steve McGuire
Treasurer
Bonneville Power Administration
Office: (503) 230-5346
e-mail: smcguire@bpa.gov

Vacant
Membership

Suzanne Reichel
Communications
Bonneville Power Administration
Office: (503) 230-4028
e-mail: slreichel@bpa.gov

Nancy Hagen
Historian
Bonneville Power Administration
Office: (503) 230-3990
e-mail: njhagen@bpa.gov

Ben Dick
Education
Bonneville Power Administration
Office: (503) 230-3346
e-mail: bmdick@bpa.gov

Robert Shier
Bylaws and Procedures
Bonneville Power Administration
Office: (503) 230-5347
e-mail: rpshier@bpa.gov

Jan Wilson
Community Service
Bonneville Power Administration
Office: (503) 230-3143
e-mail: jmwilson@bpa.gov

Dan Hays
Awards
Bonneville Power Administration
Office: (503) 230-3955
e-mail: drhays@bpa.gov

Shawna Lamothe
CGFM Chair
Bonneville Power Administration
Office: (503) 230-3077
e-mail: salamothe@bpa.gov



Association
of Government
Accountants

Post Office Box 12181
Portland, OR 97212

<http://www.agapdx.org>