

San Antonio Chapter "NEWS"

Association of Government Accountants

March 2008



2007-2008 Board Members are listed by position presented in this Newsletter. Secretary Angela Brown (assetcountonme@aol.com).

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In the News: Future AGA National Conferences, Training Opportunities
Your Board Members: Are listed in each article with contact emails in this Newsletter

President Message - *Ernest Dabon*
Ernest.Dabon@us.army.mil

Ethical Year. Ethics, small word but, is something to live by. Thesaurus.com/Lexico describes ethics as that branch of philosophy dealing with values relating to human conduct, with respect to the rightness and wrongness of certain actions and to the goodness and badness of the motives and ends of such actions.

The Yellow Book shows the ethical principles that guide the work of auditors who conduct audits in accordance with GAGAS are:

- a. the public interest;
- b. integrity;
- c. objectivity;
- d. proper use of government information, resources, and position; and
- e. professional behavior.

According to an introduction for training on our AGA website, ethics is an individual and leadership issue. Ethics can affect a career, create obstacles and help determine one's success in an organization. It can also impact entire organizations and surrounding communities. What is intriguing about ethics is that people seem to get into difficulty when the rules are not specifically spelled out or they are not aware of their own organization's code of ethics.

We, the people, will have an opportunity this year to see, potentially, the reshaping of our nation as we progress to the 22nd century. We look to our leaders to convey that trickle down effect of ethical behavior to sow our country in a manner that we will all be proud of. Yet we all have to participate and assist one another.

There are many things to consider and or confronting our country today and many decisions to be made, we hope ethical ones. Stem-cell research, the dollar, oil, and the war which has exceeded the trillion dollar mark. Ethics, without it, there would be complete and utter chaos.

President-Elect Message by Gwendolyn Sewell , CGFM

Gwendolyn.Sewell@brooks.af.mil

Our March 5, 2008, a Audio Conference on “How Fraud Can Undermine the Integrity of Environmental Programs and Create Environmental Risks” was very informative and well received. We were equipped with tools to better our present processes to assist in reducing risk. We look forward to your attendance at our March 26, 2008 Audio Conference which will be on “Emerging Issues at FASAB and GASB: The Landscape is Changing. Hope to see a record turn out.

Our chapter is looking for additional professionals who will join our board members in continuing the legacy of a vibrant and instrumental organization in our community. We will have vacant positions. Contact one of our board members for additional information or to nominate a fellow AGA member.

TX OK Regional VP-Elect Message by Helene A. Baker, CGFM, CFE

HeleneBaker@satx.rr.com

As the year is early in Primary elections across the country so quickly approaches our Chapter year in selecting new board officers for the upcoming term of 2008-2009. With this in mind National sponsors four Sectional Leadership Meetings and costs to attend these leadership development meetings. This coming SLM for the Texas Oklahoma Region II will be held in New Orleans. More information will be distributed on the types of Chapter Executive Board positions sponsored to attend the SLM. The four sectional leadership meetings and conference overview is shown here. Our chapter is currently interviewing members to become part of this next term. Should you have an interest in one of the board positions please contact me or Gwendolyn Sewell by email.

Conference Overview

. Sectional Leadership Meetings (SLMs)

AGA will hold four Sectional Leadership Meetings (SLMs) in the spring of 2008 to bring together AGA national, sectional, regional and chapter leaders with AGA National Office staff to discuss the following objectives:

- AGA's national direction and initiatives
- Expectations of our national, regional and national leaders
- Ways to improve services to current members and recruit new members and leaders
- How to access information to be a more effective leader

These meetings are by invitation only. Stay tuned for more information in early 2008. For more information about the SLMs, please contact [Ray Harris](#) or [Julie Cupp](#).

- Not sure which SLM you should attend? [View a map](#) of Sections and Regions
- Not sure what chapter belongs in which region? [View a chapter listing](#) broken down by region.

Section I - Cleveland, OH
 Embassy Suites Cleveland Downtown
 April 11 – 12, 2008

Section II - New Orleans, LA
 Embassy Suites New Orleans Convention Center
 May 2 – 3, 2008

Section III - Reno, NV
 John Ascuaga's Nugget
 May 16 – 17, 2008

Section IV - Baltimore, MD
 Embassy Suites Baltimore at BWI Airport
 June 6 – 7, 2008

Treasurer Update by Richard Middleton, CGFM
rlmcollector@aim.com

Finance Report - San Antonio Chapter Balance Sheet and Income Statement

Balance Sheet
 Through February 29,
 2008

Income Statement
 For the period April 1, 2007
 through February 29, 2008

	Debit	Credit		Debit	Credit
<u>Assets</u>			<u>Income</u>		
Cash-Unrestricted	1,708.02		Luncheon Income		1,342.00
Cash-Restricted for scholarships	0.00		Dues		207.80
Accounts Receivable	0.00		Misc. Income		158.00
 Total assets	 1,708.02		 Total Income		 1,707.80
 <u>Liabilities</u>			 <u>Expenses</u>		
 Total liabilities		 0.00	Misc. Expense	977.95	
			UTSA – Scholarship	500.00	
			Luncheon Expenses	1,114.18	
			 Total Expenses	 2,592.13	
 <u>Retained Earnings</u>			 Net Income	 -884.33	
Retained from prior chapter & Start-up		2,179.90			
Retained Earnings - Prior Years		412.45			
Retained Earnings - Current Year		-884.33			
Total Liabilities and Retained Earnings		1,708.02			

Programs/Communications Update by Jesse Barrios

jlbarrios@sbcglobal.net

On March 5, 2008 for the February meeting, we had four members attend.

AGA San Antonio Chapter 2007 – 2008				
Month	Meeting Function	Community Event	Other	CPE
March 26, 2008	Chapter Meeting Educational Event Luncheon at Conference Room, Padgett, Stratemann & Co. L.L.P., 100 NE Loop 410, Suite 1100. PS&CO. to provide lunch.		50/50 Raffle	2 hours
	Live NASBA Audio Conference – GASB/FASAB Update	Spring Clothing Drive – Goodwill Industries	Update 2d year of audio event plates on P&S Plaque and make formal presentation	2 hours
April 23, 2008	Chapter Meeting/Luncheon/ At Joe's Crab Shack 255 E. Basse Rd. SA TX 78209 210-930-1736 Activity: Vote Exec Board/Scholarship Awards Speaker: Pete Gonzales, San Antonio, City Auditor Subject: City Budget	Easter Basket – Hotel Sundry Items – for SA Battered Women and Children Shelter	50/50 Raffle	1 hour
May 28, 2008	Chapter Meeting/Luncheon at Joe's Crab Shack 255 E. Basse Rd. SA TX 78209 210-930-1736 Activity: Awards/Change Exec Board Speaker : Medical Command, Fort Sam Houston – TBA – Subject: Challenges of Budget Resources and Research	Mother's Day Basket – Teddy Bear, Activity Book and Crayons – for SA Battered Women and Children Shelter	50/50 Raffle	1 hour

Web Master Editor Update by Floyd Daigle

The new website added feature of a 2007-2008 Calendar to the drop down menu in the blue bar. This month the website will feature a 'Registration Form" for both luncheons and audio conferences and will be published as a link in the event flyer. Visit the chapter website for updates on chapter activities at <http://sanantonioaga.org>. In addition, for a fast reference to our home page and the National web page click on links in blue bar located in the header of this Newsletter.

CGFM/Early Careers Chair/Education Director/University Contact Update by Jana Dudding jdudding@satx.rr.com

E + E + E =  Education + Experience + Examination

A New CGFM Exam

In 2007, AGA undertook a psychometric review and update of the three CGFM Examinations. To ensure the examinations' content reflects the current industry practices, AGA conducted a full-scale Job Analysis Study of the role of the Certified Government Financial Manager. While the core of the examination content remained the same, the three examination content outlines were updated, refreshed and streamlined. The weighting among the sub-content areas within each examination was adjusted, and the language of the content outlines was revised to provide additional depth and detail to support candidates preparing for the examinations.

The revised examination content outlines may be found on <http://www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/downloads/CGFMExamContentOutlines08.pdf>

The Job Analysis process is described on <http://www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/jobevalstudy.aspx>.

The updated CGFM Examinations will be offered for the first time at the Intensive Review Course/CGFM Examinations event to take place before the Professional Development Conference in Atlanta on July 24-27, 2008. The updated examinations will be available in Prometric testing centers beginning on August 15, 2008. CGFM Examinations taken prior to that date will follow the existing examinations content outline (see <http://www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/exams/>).

AGA is in the process of revising the three CGFM Study Guides to reflect the updated examinations content outline. The updated study guides will be available in March. More information regarding the study guides update will be posted on the CGFM Examinations update page (<http://www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/examupdate.aspx>).

If you have any questions about the examinations update, please visit the CGFM Examinations Update: Frequently Asked Questions page (http://www.agacqfm.org/cqfm/update_faq.aspx) or contact the Office of Professional Certification at 800.AGA.7211, ext. 305.

Please consider obtaining the CGFM Certification. Never stop learning, never stop growing, never stop.....

Membership Director Update by Sergio Vigil
Monyeman2000@yahoo.com

I am thinking about new ideas in how to recruit new members instead of the tradition methods. One idea is to go to other organization meetings like the Noon Lions, Kwiawas, etc another idea would be to go Local Community College and talk to students, Accounting Club.

Community Events Director: (Charitable Drives) by Joan Navarro, CGFM
Joan.Navarro@brooks.af.mil



Easter Basket

The Chapter is collecting hotel soaps, lotions, shampoos, and other personal size items to fill a beautiful Easter basket! We will present the filled basket to the San Antonio Battered Women and Children's Shelter of Bexar County on 28 Mar 08. Many thanks for your generosity in making this service project a great success!

Ongoing Blood Drive - In coordination with the San Antonio Blood Bank, the Chapter has extended the, "Blood Drive" project from a one month event through the remainder of the year! Our sponsor number is SPON051653. So please pass the word along and support this worthy project. Your gift of life is greatly appreciated.

Training Opportunities

Future Conferences:	
	<p style="text-align: center;">Professional Development Conference July 27-30, 2008 <i>Building on the Dream: Shaping a Culture of Accountability</i> Marriott Atlanta Marquis, Atlanta, GA</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">June 21-24, 2009 New Orleans Marriott, New Orleans, LA</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">July 11-14, 2010 Orlando World Center Marriott, Orlando, FL</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">National Executive Committee (NEC) Meetings Feb. 20, 2008 - Washington, D.C. July 25, 2008 - Atlanta, GA</p>



February 11, 2008

**Final List of Significant
PMA/GPRA/Clinger-Cohen Act
Publications**

1 December – 31 December, 2007

ALERT #08-18 is a final list of various publications related to the PMA, GPRA, or Clinger-Cohen Act issued from 1 through 31 December 2007 that might interest you. You can use it as a checklist of URLs in case you missed any of the documents. This list below compiled for December-dated publications is deemed final for our purpose. We allow at least 30 days after the close of a monthly period to publish a Final list since many GAO and OMB publications are actually released later than the publication date shown on covers.

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) has revised its way of showing some URLs, i.e. rather than the traditional blue underlining in every case, they may show “Full Report”, “Highlights”, or “Summary”. To download your selection, just put your cursor on that selection and Microsoft Outlook will show “CTRL+click to follow link”. So simply press your CTRL key and click as instructed to bring up the document.

GAO Government Auditing Standards: Implementation Tool: Professional Requirements Tool for Use in Implementing Requirements Identified by "Must" and "Should" in the July 2007 Revision of Government Auditing Standards, [GAO-08-210G](#), December 31, 2007 [Summary \(HTML\)](#) [Full Report \(PDF, 92 pages\)](#) [Accessible Text](#) *Key Words: Auditing Standards*

GAO National Flood Insurance Program: Greater Transparency and Oversight of Wind and Flood Damage Determinations Are Needed [GAO-08-28](#) December 28, 2007 [Summary \(HTML\)](#) [Highlights Page \(PDF\)](#) [Full Report \(PDF, 35](#)

pages) [Accessible Text](#) *Key Words: Transparency, Oversight*

GAO Legal Services Corporation: Improved Internal Controls Needed in Grants Management and Oversight. GAO-08-37, December 28. <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-08-37> Highlights - <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d0837high.pdf> *Key Words: Internal Controls*

GAO Military Health Care: Cost Data Indicate That TRICARE Reserve Select Premiums Exceeded the Costs of Providing Program Benefits, GAO-08-104. December 21, 2007 [Summary](#) (HTML) [Highlights Page](#) (PDF) [Full Report](#) (PDF, 34 pages) [Accessible Text](#) *Key Words: Cost/Benefit Analysis*

GAO Federal Acquisition: Oversight Plan Needed to Help Implement Acquisition Advisory Panel Recommendations. GAO-08-160, December 20. <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-08-160> Highlights - <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d08160high.pdf> *Key Words: Acquisition Management*

GAO Energy Markets: Increasing Globalization of Petroleum Products Markets, Tightening Refining Demand and Supply Balance, and Other Trends Have Implications for U.S. Energy Supply, Prices, and Price Volatility. GAO-08-14, December 20. <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-08-14> Highlights - <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d0814high.pdf> *Key Words: Energy Management*

GAO Motor Carrier Safety: The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration Has Developed a Reasonable Framework for Managing and Testing Its Comprehensive Safety Analysis 2010 Initiative. GAO-08-242R, December 20. <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-08-242R> *Key Words: Program Management*

GAO Budget Issues: Accrual Budgeting Useful in Certain Areas but Does Not Provide Sufficient Information for Reporting on Our Nation's Longer-Term Fiscal Challenge, GAO-08-206, December 20, 2007. [Summary](#) (HTML) [Highlights Page](#) (PDF) [Full Report](#) (PDF, 47 pages) [Accessible Text](#) *Key Words: Budgeting, Long-Term Fiscal Challenge*

GAO Air Traffic Control: FAA Reports Progress in System Acquisitions, but Changes in Performance Measurement Could Improve Usefulness of Information, GAO-08-42, December 18, 2007 [Summary](#) (HTML) [Highlights Page](#) (PDF) [Full Report](#) (PDF, 33 pages) [Accessible Text](#) *Key Words: Performance Measurement, Acquisitions*

GAO Maritime Transportation: Major Oil Spills Occur Infrequently, but Risks Remain, GAO-08-357T, December 18, 2007 [Summary](#) (HTML) [Highlights Page](#) (PDF) [Full Report](#) (PDF, 29 pages) [Accessible Text](#) *Key Words: Risk Management*

OMB [2007 Financial Report of the U.S. Government](#) (December 17, 2007) *Key Words: Government Financial Report*

GAO A Call For Stewardship: Enhancing the Federal Government's Ability to Address Key Fiscal and Other 21st Century Challenges, GAO-08-93SP, December 17, 2007 [Summary](#) (HTML) [Full Report](#) (PDF, 31 pages) [Accessible Text](#) *Key Words: Fiscal Challenges*

GAO Force Structure: Better Management Controls Are Needed to Oversee the Army's Modular Force and Expansion Initiatives and Improve Accountability for Results. GAO-08-145, December 14. <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-08-145> Highlights - <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d08145high.pdf> *Key Words: Management Controls, Accountability, Results*

GAO Coastal Wetlands: Lessons Learned from Past Efforts in Louisiana Could Help Guide Future Restoration and Protection GAO-08-130, December 14, 2007 [Summary](#) (HTML) [Highlights Page](#) (PDF) [Full Report](#) (PDF, 57 pages) *Key Words: Lessons Learned, Program Management*

GAO The Democratic Republic of the Congo: Systematic Assessment Is Needed to Determine Agencies' Progress toward U.S. Policy Objectives [GAO-08-188](#), December 14, 2007 [Summary \(HTML\)](#) [Highlights Page \(PDF\)](#) [Full Report \(PDF, 40 pages\)](#) *Key Words: Policy Objectives, Planning, Results*

GAO DOD Travel Improper Payments: Fiscal Year 2006 Reporting Was Incomplete and Planned Improvement Efforts Face Challenges, [GAO-08-16](#), December 14, 2007 [Summary \(HTML\)](#) [Highlights Page \(PDF\)](#) [Full Report \(PDF, 40 pages\)](#) *Key Words: Improper Payments*

GAO Indian Health Service: HIV/AIDS Prevention and Treatment Services for American Indians and Alaska Natives, [GAO-08-90](#), December 14, 2007 [Summary \(HTML\)](#) [Highlights Page \(PDF\)](#) [Full Report \(PDF, 32 pages\)](#) *Key Words: Program Management*

GAO Force Structure: Better Management Controls Are Needed to Oversee the Army's Modular Force and Expansion Initiatives and Improve Accountability for Results, [GAO-08-145](#), December 14, 2007 [Summary \(HTML\)](#) [Highlights Page \(PDF\)](#) [Full Report \(PDF, 42 pages\)](#) [Accessible Text](#) *Key Words: Controls, Results*

GAO Organizational Transformation: Implementing Chief Operating Officer/Chief Management Officer Positions in Federal Agencies, [GAO-08-322T](#), December 13, 2007 [Summary \(HTML\)](#) [Highlights Page \(PDF\)](#) [Full Report \(PDF, 16 pages\)](#) [Accessible Text](#) *Key Words: Organizational Transformation*

GAO Smithsonian Institution: Status of Efforts to Address a Range of Funding and Governance Challenges, [GAO-08-250T](#), December 12, 2007 [Summary \(HTML\)](#) [Highlights Page \(PDF\)](#) [Full Report \(PDF, 28 pages\)](#) [Accessible Text](#) *Key Words: Governance*

GAO Military Base Realignments and Closures: Estimated Costs Have Increased and Estimated Savings Have Decreased, [GAO-08-341T](#), December 12, 2007 [Summary \(HTML\)](#) [Highlights Page \(PDF\)](#) [Full Report \(PDF, 24 pages\)](#) [Accessible Text](#) *Key Words: Cost/Benefit Analysis*

OMB PART Guidance #2007-7 [Improving the Quality of PART Performance and Efficiency Goals](#) (December 12, 2007) (3 pages, 62 kb) *Key Words: PART*

Military Base Realignments and Closures: Cost Estimates Have Increased and Are Likely to Continue to Evolve, [GAO-08-159](#), December 11, 2007 [Summary \(HTML\)](#) [Highlights Page \(PDF\)](#) [Full Report \(PDF, 63 pages\)](#) [Accessible Text](#) *Key Words: Cost/Benefit Analysis*

GAO Information Technology: Census Bureau Needs to Improve Its Risk Management of Decennial Systems, [GAO-08-259T](#), December 11, 2007 [Summary \(HTML\)](#) [Highlights Page \(PDF\)](#) [Full Report \(PDF, 24 pages\)](#) [Accessible Text](#) *Key Words: Risk Management*

GAO U.S. Postal Service Facilities: Improvements in Data Would Strengthen Maintenance and Alignment of Access to Retail Services, [GAO-08-41](#), December 10, 2007 [Summary \(HTML\)](#) [Highlights Page \(PDF\)](#) [Full Report \(PDF, 61 pages\)](#) [Accessible Text](#) *Key Words: Data Improvement*

OMB M-08-06 [Implementing Executive Order 13450: Improving Government Program Performance](#) (December 7, 2007) (2 pages, 37 kb) *Key Words: Performance Improvement*

GAO Social Security Disability: Better Planning, Management, and Evaluation Could Help Address Backlogs, [GAO-08-40](#), December 7, 2007 [Summary \(HTML\)](#) [Highlights Page \(PDF\)](#) [Full Report \(PDF, 82 pages\)](#) [Accessible Text](#) *Key Words: Planning, Management*

GAO Chemical Demilitarization: Additional Management Actions Needed to Meet Key Performance Goals of DOD's Chemical Demilitarization Program. [GAO-08-134](#), December 6, <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-08-134> <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d08134high.pdf> [Highlights](#) - *Key Words: Performance Goals*

GAO Veterans' Benefits: Improved Operational Controls and Management Data Would Enhance VBA's Disability Reevaluation Process, [GAO-08-75](#), December 6, 2007 [Summary \(HTML\)](#) [Highlights Page \(PDF\)](#) [Full Report \(PDF, 18 pages\)](#) [Accessible Text](#) *Key Words: Internal Controls, Evaluation*

GAO DOD Schools: Additional Reporting Could Improve Accountability for Academic Achievement of Students with Dyslexia, [GAO-08-70](#), December 6, 2007 [Summary \(HTML\)](#) [Highlights Page \(PDF\)](#) [Full Report \(PDF, 26 pages\)](#) [Accessible Text](#) *Key Words: Program Accountability*

Sincerely,

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