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President's Message

AGA fosters learning, certification, leadership and collaboration for professionals and stakeholders, committed to advancing government accountability.

With the start of 2012 we look forward to exciting upcoming events while looking back on past accomplishments. The New Orleans Chapter of AGA closed out 2011 with many successful accomplishments as we look to build upon them in 2012.

Looking back we had three successful dinner meetings with three exciting speakers touching upon a variety of topics relevant to our daily lives. Joseph Threat Executive Director (Acting) of the Federal Emergency Management Agency Louisiana Recovery Office gave us an overview of his career and FEMA, Travers Mackel WDSU investigative reporter gave us a report on transparency in local government and for our last dinner meeting held in November Joe Luchenta, Director of Strategy, Policy with the New Orleans Business Alliance informed us on projects of interest concerning economic development within the City of New Orleans.

On the Community Service front we worked with the St. Bernard Project helping to restore houses in the Gentilly Area, School Supply drive for Jefferson Parish Schools and Our October Community service event "The Race for the Cure" 5K and 1-mile fun run/walk to benefit the New Orleans Affiliate of Susan G. Komens. We could not have been done any of these events without you our AGA members who took their time and money to benefit others.

We start 2012 with our annual Tax Update which will take place at the National Finance Center, Executive Dining Room on January 19, 2012 at 11:30 a.m. Ms. Earline Brown will be on hand to give us insight and answer our questions about any changes for the upcoming tax season.

Plans are also in the works for a meet and greet of the New Orleans Chapter Executive Committee and AGA members in mid to late January 2012. This event will be a social gathering that will take the place of the Christmas social which we cancelled in 2011. Right after our January meeting New Year Social we will have our February meeting on Wednesday the 8th of February 2012 at Commanders Palace.

Just like the City of New Orleans with a busy Spring schedule after the BCS with Mardi Gras and NCAA Men's Final Four, AGA New Orleans will also have a flurry of exciting events including our joint meeting with the New Orleans chapter of ASWA in March, our Spring Seminar in April, joint meeting with the Baton Rouge Chapter of AGA, followed by our annual Crawfish Boil in May and baseball game at Zephyrs stadium in June.

On the Leadership side, the New Orleans Chapter will also be sending out a call for Open Officer positions for the 2012-2013 fiscal year which is fast approaching. If you are interested please contact President-elect Knica Lloyd at klloyd@la.state.la.us. Do your part to keep the chapter strong while enhancing your leadership qualities.

In closing I would like to remind members that **Membership renewal starts now for the 2012-2013 membership year.** What better time than now to come out and see the benefits of membership with all our planned events and get to know your fellow AGA members for networking opportunities. The strength of the Chapter is dependent on engaged members. Your suggestions or comments on how to make our Chapter better are always welcome. We are here to serve you!

The **January 19th meeting will be held at the National Finance Center**, Executive Dining Room, 13800 Old Gentilly Road, New Orleans, LA 70129, at 11:30 a.m. If you are not an NFC employee please contact Marcie Tureaud at Marcie.tureaud@usda.gov to obtain a visitor's pass. See you at our tax update and all of the events planned as we start out 2012.

*Patrick S. Nedd, MBA
Chapter President*

New Members

Georgia Collier-Bolling

AGA operates under a national-chapter partnership with its 100 chapters located throughout the U.S., Guam, Japan, Puerto Rico and Saipan. AGA is governed by a National Board of Directors (NBD), which includes regional leaders and chapter presidents. AGA's 16-member National Executive Committee (NEC) acts for the NBD, meeting quarterly to discuss strategic issues. The day-to-day operation of the Association is handled by the National Office, headquartered in Alexandria, VA, with 28 employees reporting to an executive director who reports to the AGA National President. More than 800 volunteer members serve the Association through committees, boards, and chapters. Thanks for being one of them!

(An excerpt from the Journal of Government

NEW ORLEANS CHAPTER OFFICERS 2011-2012



(seated left to right) Gloria Samuels, Kimberly Henry, Patrick Nedd, Linda Lewis, Faye Martin (standing left to right) Christopher Lewis, Knica Lloyd, Gary Millet, Marcie Tureaud, Jason Harris, Thomas Sylveste



Christopher R. Lewis

Christopher R. Lewis has more than 25 years of experience in the areas of Accounting, Finance and Office Management. Mr. Lewis began his career in Public Accounting where he worked over four years with **Big-4 firms** as an Auditor prior to entering Private Industry. He has held positions as, Controller, CFO, and Administrator with companies of varying sizes. Prior to his current position he was Controller for **Deutsch Kerrigan & Stiles LLP** and the legal Administrator of **Heller, Draper, Hayden, Patrick & Horn, LLC**, Mr. Lewis also acquired experience with three other Law Firms in capacities of Administrator and Accounting Manager. Mr. Lewis's preceding position was the Manager of Administrative Services and in the Finance department for Louisiana Medical Mutual Insurance Company (**LAMMICO**) the largest Louisiana based medical casualty Insurer based in Metairie, Louisiana. In 2008 Mr. Lewis accepted the position of Systems Accountant with the Financial Reporting Branch (**FRB**) of the Controller Operations Division in the USDA's Office of the Chief Financial Officer. In FRB branch Mr. Lewis coordinates, facilitates and assists in the completion and documentation of the monthly, quarterly, and Year End financial reporting of several departments of USDA. These departments include; **GIPSA** (Grain Inspection and Packers & Stockyard Administration), and his current assignment **DA** (Departmental Administration) and **ES** (Office of the Executive Secretariat).

Mr. Lewis graduated with a Bachelor of Business degree (**BBA**) in Accounting from Emory University and received his Masters of Arts in Organizational Management (**MaOM**) from the University of Phoenix in 2000. Mr. Lewis is a licensed **CPA** in Louisiana, and a practicing member of the Louisiana Society of CPA's. In 2005 he earned the designation of Certified Legal Manager (**CLM**)SM and is a past member of the Association of Legal Administrators, Society of Human Resource Managers, and the Human Resource Management Association of New Orleans. He is a current member of the Association of Government Accountants (**AGA**).



January Speaker

Earline Brown Stennis

**Stakeholder Liaison
Stakeholder Liaison-SBSE**

Earline is a graduate of Loyola University in New Orleans with a Bachelor's degree in Public Administration and a Masters in Business Administration.

Earline began her career with the IRS in October 1988 as a Taxpayer Service Representative. As a Taxpayer Service Representative, she helped taxpayers resolve their account related issues at the front counter. Earline also served as a Problem Resolution Case Worker and as an assistor on the Tax Practitioner Hotline.

In 1994, Earline became a Revenue Agent. In addition to her regular Revenue Agent assignments, Earline completed numerous details such as working as a Cooperating Agent on a Grand Jury Task Force with the IRS Criminal Investigation Division and the U. S. Secret Service. She also served as a Public Affairs Specialist in the Communications Division and as a Loaned Executive to the Combined Federal Campaign.

In October 2007, Earline became a Stakeholder Liaison. As a Stakeholder Liaison, she works closely with tax practitioner organizations and industry associations by providing them information regarding tax law changes, federal tax products and services. Earline also serves as the practitioners' initial point of contact when they are not sure where to turn for federal tax assistance.

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 19, 2012.

Guest Speaker

Earline Brown Stennis

**Stakeholder Liaison
Stakeholder Liaison-SBSE**

Date: January 19, 2012 (Thursday)

Time: 11:30AM

Location: National Finance Center
Executive Dining Room
13800 Old Gentilly Road
New Orleans, LA 70129

Menu

Cornish Hen

Buttered Herb Noodles

Spinach Madeline/Carrot Soufflé

Tossed Green Salad

Bread and Butter

Assorted Desserts

Iced Tea, Water & Coffee

Please RSVP Kinca Lloyd (klloyd@lla.la.gov), Faye Martin (fmartin@lla.la.gov) or Patrick Nedd (patrick.nedd@msn.com) by **Friday, January 13, 2012.**

Member Cost: \$14.95 Non-Member Cost: \$15.95

AGA - New Orleans Chapter 2011-2012 Community Service Plan Planned Community Service Events

1. School Supplies – August 2011 through September 2011 – **Completed**
Assist Orleans Parish Schools by donating school supplies to help needy (Most deserving school will be selected by the Community Service Chair)
2. Susan G. Komen – Race for Cure - Saturday, October 22, 2011. **Completed**
AGA team to walk for a cure.
3. Thanksgiving – Canned and Dry Goods - **Completed**
Replenish the Second Harvesters Food Bank of Greater New Orleans – November 2011
4. Toys for Tots – Adopt-A-Child - **Completed**
Christmas Gifts for Needy Children – December 2011
5. Children’s Hospital “A Child is Born” Bring Love Peace and Joy - **Completed**
University Choir/Quartet Singing Christmas Carols to hospitalized children –December 2011
6. Rebuilding Together New Orleans (www.rtno.org)
Assist with revitalizing houses for the elderly, disabled, or families with children – TBD
7. Dress for Success – SOS “Send One Suit” Week
Accept donations of slightly used clothing for disadvantaged women entering the workforce – TBD
8. Win a Mural Contest!
College students from the surrounding Universities and/or Colleges are chosen to create a Mural for the winning Elementary, Middle or Secondary School by essay entry.
9. On-going Community Service Collections
Slightly used DVDs for area Nursing Homes
Magazines for Nursing Homes
Cell phones for Battered Women
Personal Care Products
Slightly used clothes for mission centers

**Association of Government Accountants
Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM)
Annual Plan for the New Orleans Chapter
2011-2012**

GOAL 1 – Support Current CGFMs

- ❑ Publish CGFM member’s achievements in newsletter and local newspapers.
- ❑ Partner with other organizations and/or governmental entities to promote the CGFM designation.
- ❑ Recognize local CGFMs by using the CGFM designation in chapter publications, name tags, etc.
- ❑ Contribute items to chapter newsletter such as CGFM recognition, study suggestions, encouragement, and technical requirements.
- ❑ Publicize new CGFMs in chapter and local publications.

GOAL 2 – Market CGFM Locally

- ❑ Encourage employer policy change to recognize CGFM.
- ❑ Solicit endorsements of CGFM from area employers and elected officials.
- ❑ Coordinate with the Regional and National coordinators to assist in promoting the Chapters goal.
- ❑ Contact area government accountability leaders.
- ❑ Create an awareness of the value of CGFM to the general public.

GOAL 3 – Assist Potential New CGFMs in Attaining Certification

- ❑ Coordinate study groups.
 - ❑ Develop a mentoring program.
 - ❑ Develop other study options.
 - ❑ Develop a plan in the Chapter to offer CGFM courses.
 - ❑ Provide a CGFM Examination Scholarship.
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RECOGNITION POINTS 2011-2012

Recognition Categories	Max Credits Per Category	Credits Through December 2011
Chapter Leadership Planning and Participation	3,000	2,750
Education & Professional Development	4,000	1,600
Certification	4,000	1,300
Communications	3,000	2,982
Membership (Early Career and Student Members)	4,000	1,050
Accountability	2,000	50
Community Service	2,000	1,800
Awards	1,000	0
Total	22,000	11,532

AGA New Orleans Chapter Meetings 2012

Date	Time	Location*	Speaker & CPE
January 19, 2012	11:30 A.M.	National Finance Center Executive Dining Room 13800 Old Gentilly Road New Orleans, LA	Internal Revenue Service Representative – Tax Update 1 CPE
February 16, 2012	11:30 A.M.	Commanders Palace 1403 Washington Avenue New Orleans, LA	Speaker: TBD 1 CPE
March 15, 2012	5:30 P.M.	Five Happiness Restaurant 3605 S. Carrollton Avenue New Orleans, LA	Joint Meeting with American Society of Women Accountants (their year to book speaker) 1 CPE
April 19, 2012	5:30 P.M.	Middendorf's 30160 Hwy. 51 Akers, LA	Joint Meeting with Baton Rouge Chapter Speaker: Richard O. Bunce AGA National President 1 CPE
May 17, 2012	5:30 P.M.	Green Acre's Country Club 5000 W. Napoleon Avenue Metairie, LA	Crawfish Boil/Chapter Awards Ceremony
June 1, 2012	5:30 P.M.	Zephyr Stadium 6000 Airline Drive Metairie, LA	Baseball Game

* Tentative – Locations and Speakers based upon availability

ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS
 NEW ORLEANS CHAPTER
 STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS
 AS OF DECEMBER 30, 2011

ASSETS		TWELVE MONTHS ENDED	
CURRENT ASSETS		OPERATING REVENUES	
CHECKING	\$ 2,974.48	EDUCATION	
SAVINGS	3,264.65	MONTHLY MEETINGS	1,675.75
PETTY CASH	200.00	50/50 EDUCATION RAFFLE	99.00
PREPAID SEMINAR	0.00	MEMBERSHIP DUES	190.00
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	<u>0.00</u>	SPONSORSHIP	0.00
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$6,539.13</u>	INTEREST INCOME	<u>4.13</u>
		TOTAL REVNEUES	<u>\$1,968.88</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		OPERATING EXPENSES	
LIABILITIES		EDUCATION	\$0.00
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE		MEETINGS	2,081.39
MEMBERSHIP		50/50 EDUCATION RAFFLE	27.00
HABITAT FOR HUNAMITY	\$ 460.32	POSTAGE/SUPPLIES/GIFTS	0.00
HURRICAN RELIEF FUND	-	PDC EXPENSES	0.00
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	1,923.83	BANK SERVICE CHARGES	0.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND	4,154.98	SCHOLARSHIP	0.00
NET ASSETS		DONATIONS	0.00
	<u>\$ 6,539.13</u>		
		OFFICER EXPENSES	<u>0.00</u>
		TOTAL OPERATING	
		EXPENSES	<u>\$ 2108.39</u>
		OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	(139.51)
		NONOPERATING REV/(EXP)	-
		INCOME (LOSS)	
		BEFORE CONTR	(139.51)
		CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS	
		(PRIOR YEAR ADJUSTMENT)	<u>238.00</u>
		CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$ 98.49
		NET ASSETS BEGINNING	
		OF PERIOD	<u>4,056.49</u>
		NET ASSETS AT END OF	
		PERIOD	
			<u>\$ 4,154.98</u>

**New Orleans Chapter
Association of Government Accountants
2010-2011 Chapter Officers**

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