

Monthly Footnotes

A monthly publication of the Southern Wisconsin Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants

2004

Vol. V, No. 3

Luncheon Meeting

SPEAKER: Carol Brown

TOPIC: Indian Gaming Compacts

DATE: October 28, 2004

COST: \$ 8.00 Members
\$10.00 Non-Members

REGISTRATION: 11:30 a.m.

LUNCH: 11:45 a.m.

PLACE: The Coliseum Bar - 232 East Olin Avenue (near the Coliseum)

MENU: All meals include fries and fountain soda.

* Jingles' Burger * Veggie Burger * French Dip Sandwich * Chicken Breast Sandwich

RESERVATIONS: Please call the office of Sherri Voigt by 10 a.m. on Monday, October 25, 2004 with your name, menu selection and membership status, 267-9818 or e-mail:

sherri.voigt@dnr.state.wi.us

NEW MEMBERS FIRST LUNCHEON MEETING

If you are a new member and this will be the first luncheon you are attending, please note that when calling in your reservation. Your first chapter luncheon meeting is FREE!

BRING YOUR SUPERVISOR TO LUNCH ON AGA

One of the benefits of belonging to our Chapter is that you can bring you Supervisor to lunch once annually to show your appreciation for his/her support of your participation in AGA. Why not invite them for this month's meeting? When making luncheon reservations mention you are bringing your supervisor to lunch on AGA.

About This Month's Speaker

Carol J. Brown is the managing partner of Brown & LaCounte, LLP, an Indian-owned law firm providing legal representation to Indian Tribes and their members across the United States and Europe. Ms. Brown is a member of the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, and specializes in issues involving jurisdiction, sacred site preservation, governmental negotiations, constitutional law, and land. Ms. Brown also serves on the State Bar Lawyer Regulation Study Committee, the State Bar Lawyer Dispute Resolution Committee, the Governor's State/Tribal Relations Committee, and the Wisconsin Law School Legal Educational Opportunities Steering Committee. She is admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court, the 7th and 8th Circuit Courts of Appeals, and various Tribal Courts in Wisconsin.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Sherri Voigt, Chapter President

Hello all! Thank you to all who attended the September luncheon with Jack Heck of the Common Cause in Wisconsin. His presentation gave an interesting overview of campaign financing reform and how the check-off box on the tax form could be better used to provide public funding to candidates.

By now you should have received an e-mail brochure about the November 4 training. This is a unique opportunity to learn about performance reporting from a GASB representative. The session will be held at Union South and offer 4 CPEs. I look forward to seeing you there.

We have a few vacancies on our chapter board. Anyone interested in taking a more active role in the chapter should take a look at the vacancies on the last page of the newsletter. Feel free to contact me for more information or attend a board meeting to get an idea of what the committees do.

From the National Office

Call for National Awards Nominations
Due October 29, 2004

Who do you know that deserves special recognition for contributions to our field?

Please help us acknowledge financial professionals at the federal, state and local level and private sector who are leading the way! (You might even consider nominating yourself.)

*** Nominees do not have to be members of AGA.**

These awards will be presented at AGA's Third Annual National Leadership Conference

**February 7-8, 2005 in Washington, D.C.
Submit your nominations today!**

Federal Leadership Awards

- [Distinguished Federal Leadership Award \(Word version\)](#) – Formally recognizes individuals in either the legislative or executive branch who have made outstanding contributions to enhancing government financial management.
- [Elmer Staats Award \(Word version\)](#) – Recognizes the cumulative achievements of federal professionals who throughout their career have served as a role model for others and who have consistently exhibited the highest personal and professional standards.
- [Andy Barr Award \(Word version\)](#) - Formally recognizes the cumulative achievements of private sector individuals who throughout their career have served as a role model for others and who have consistently exhibited the highest personal and professional standards.

State and Local Leadership Awards

- ◆ [Excellence in Government Leadership Award \(Word version\)](#) – Recognizes the cumulative achievements of a state or local government professional who throughout his/her public career has served as a role model for others and has consistently exhibited the highest personal and professional standards.

- ◆ [William R. Snodgrass Distinguished Leadership Award \(Word version\)](#) - Recognizes the outstanding leadership of individuals in state government that led to improved financial management practices, policies, systems or operations and consistently exhibited the highest personal and professional standards.
 - ◆ [Distinguished Local Government Leadership Award \(Word version\)](#) - Formally recognizes the outstanding leadership of individuals in local government that led to improved financial management practices, policies, systems or operations and consistently exhibited the highest personal and professional standards.
 - ◆ [Private Sector Financial Excellence Award \(Word version\)](#) – Recognizes the cumulative achievements of private sector professionals who throughout their careers have served as a role model for others and have consistently exhibited personal and professional standards.
- * Photos of nominees must accompany nomination packages!

Raymond Harris, CGFM, Joins AGA National Office Staff

Alexandria, VA – Raymond Harris, CGFM, a member of AGA's New York Capital Chapter, joined the AGA National Office staff Sept. 13 as the director of education. He retired from the New York State Comptroller's Office where he served as the internal control officer and executive assistant to the deputy comptroller.

Formerly, Harris was the audit director for the New York State Office of Mental Health for nine years. As vice president for education and programs, Harris directed his chapter's successful professional development events. The chapter has been recognized as the best education provider in AGA for Group A chapters for the past two years. He plans to bring to the National Office the same enthusiasm for high-quality education at the national and chapter levels.

Harris has also served in several AGA national and chapter positions, including the National Executive Committee, chairing the Regional Governance Task Force and chairing the Chapter Assistance and Development Committee. He has served as Northeast Regional Vice President and chapter president, as well as various other chapter officer and director positions for the past 15 years. He has received numerous national and chapter awards for his AGA volunteer work.

“We are very excited to bring Ray on board at the National Office,” stated Relmond P. Van Daniker, DBA, CPA, AGA executive director. “His experience in the government financial management field and his devotion to AGA makes for a winning combination.”

He received his MBA from Adelphi University with a major in marketing and his BBA from Hofstra University with a major in accounting. In addition to being a CGFM, Ray is also a Certified Fraud Examiner. He resides in Glenville, NY, with his wife, Dr. Doreen Harris, a psychologist, and their two Siberian huskies, Anik and Kia.

Career Foundations Conference in Washington, D.C.

The Association of Government Accountants (AGA) is holding a FREE Career Foundations Conference and Exposition on Wednesday, October 6, at the Renaissance Washington D.C. Hotel. Announcements were sent out earlier. This event is worth 2 CPE credits. Here is the URL link to our conference website: www.agacgfm.org/career/default.aspx <<http://www.agacgfm.org/career/default.aspx>>

This is a brand-new endeavor for AGA. We believe that there is a need to produce an event that allows professionals to gain helpful information and tips from top government financial managers about this growing and exciting industry. As a result, we have invited Inspectors General, Chief Financial Officers and others to offer presentations regarding their chosen career and what advice they would offer to a group of up and coming government financial managers.

And, as a special bonus, AGA set up a Career Fair with a selection of government agencies, private accounting firms and companies there to recruit on-site. These individuals will also be submitting their resumes to a database that can be accessed by all exhibitors.

Conference Career Fair Exhibitors Include:

- Clifton Gunderson LLP
- Deloitte
- Grant Thornton LLP
- KPMG LLP
- Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts
- Management Concepts
- Social Security Administration, Office of the Inspector General
- U.S. Army Audit Agency

Confirmed Speakers Include:

- Sam Mok, CFO, Dept. of Labor
- Linda Combs, CFO, Dept. of Transportation
- Evelyn Brown, Deputy CFO, Office of Personnel Management
- Dennis Duquette, Deputy IG, Dept. of Health and Human Services (retired), Current Director, Deloitte & Touche LLP
- William Taylor, Chair, Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) Certification
- Marie C. Caputo, CGFM, CPA, Senior Manager, Clifton Gunderson LLP

This conference is offered for FREE to all attendees.

AGA would also like to bring to your attention a unique program, The Public Service Challenge, www.publicservicechallenge.com <<http://www.publicservicechallenge.com/>>, which will be held on November 8-10, 2004 in Washington DC. Network with peers from across the government and engage in a friendly competition running an innovative Business-of-Government Simulation <<http://www.publicservicechallenge.com/home.aspx>> at www.publicservicechallenge.com/home.aspx. Learn from a panel of experts who will connect the hands-on experience of the simulation to the management challenges facing today's government executives. View the Agenda <<http://www.publicservicechallenge.com/agenda.aspx>> at www.publicservicechallenge.com/agenda.aspx

In addition to the panel of experts and presentations from organizations such as The Balance Scorecard Collaborative, Mercatus Center and London Business School, participants will hear from the following keynote speakers:

- David M. Walker – Comptroller General of the United States
- David Gergen – U.S. News & World Report / Harvard's Kennedy School of Government
- Dr. Bernadine Healy - Senior Writer, U.S. News and World Report; Former Director of the National Institute of Health; and Past CEO and President of the American Red Cross
- Michael Montelongo – Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management and Comptroller

AGA members receive a special discount of 10% so be sure to use registration code AGAPSC on the registration form.

Education Corner

CGFMs Get Leg Up On CIA Exam

The Institute of Internal Auditors' (IIA) Board of Regents has recognized AGA's CGFM certification. Effective immediately, currently registered and new CIA candidates who have successfully completed the requirements for the CGFM designation are eligible to receive Professional Recognition Credit for CIA exam Part IV. If you hold the CGFM designation, and are thinking of taking the CIA exam, one part of the four-part exam is completed.

November 4th AGA/GASB Training in Madison

Mr. Wilson S. Campbell, Project Manager, Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), will present a half-day seminar on **Reporting Performance Information: Suggested Criteria for Effective Communication Based on GASB's Service Efforts and Accomplishments (SEA) Research**. The Southern Wisconsin Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants (AGA) arranged for the seminar to be conducted on the morning of **Thursday, November 4, 2004** at the University of Wisconsin Union South building, 227 North Randall Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin. Cost is \$30 for members and \$45 for non-members. A continental breakfast is included.

The GASB recently published a special report entitled, Reporting Performance Information: Suggested Criteria for Effective Communication. The primary purpose of this report is to describe a set of suggested criteria that state and local governments can use in preparing an effective report on performance information. This report, which is funded in part through a grant from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, was published in August 2003. This special report describes what governments can do to produce effective reports on performance. The suggested criteria are intended to provide guidance for governments that, if followed, should result in external reports on SEA (or performance) that communicate relevant, reliable information about the results of government programs and services to elected officials, citizens, and other users.

This seminar will highlight GASB's SEA research, share information about the managing for results process, accountability and citizen involvement, present an overview of the suggested criteria with illustrations from current SEA reports, and discuss efforts to encourage experimentation with the suggested criteria.

REGIONAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Have you checked out our Chapter's website? There is information on our Chapter and the opportunities it offers as well as a link to the National website. Check it out!

Information on our Chapter, meetings, and other events can

Be found on our website at:

www.aga-wis.org

A wealth of information can be found on the North Central Region Website at:

<http://www.adpc.purdue.edu/NCREGAGA/NorthCentral.html>

CGFM Corner



The Mark of Excellence in Government Financial Management

Earning the CGFM Certification

The Rutgers University created a scholarship program for AGA members interested in earning the CGFM certification. All courses are available online. Candidates for the scholarship certificate program should hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university and submit unofficial copies of their transcripts along with a resume and two letters of recommendation. For more information, contact Lin Latham at 800-AGA-7211, ext. 209, or llatham@agacgfm.org. Additional information is also available at www.agacgfm.org/education/educationdefault.aspx.

Become a Certified Government Financial Manager

Visit our website at www.agacgfm.org or send an email to ksilver@agacgfm.org to start on the pathway to CGFM certification. The Chapter will reimburse the exam fees for first four chapter members each year who pass all parts of the CGFM exam. Contact Eric Busse for details.

New Study Guide for CGFM Exam 3

Studying for the CGFM examinations? Want to learn about governmental auditing and internal controls? Good news: the Governmental Financial Management and Control Study Guide is here!

This guide has multiple goals:

- It is a self-study guide for those interested in studying on their own for CGFM Examination No. 3: "Governmental Financial Management and Control;"
- It is used as the course guide in the instructor-led version of this course; and
- It offers knowledge and learning beyond preparing for the examination, and an option of earning 16 continuing professional education (CPE) hours upon passing a CPE examination.

The book covers various financial management functions and controls required of government financial managers, including internal controls, auditing, performance measurement, financial analysis techniques and specific financial management practices used in government. It is designed for accountants, auditors, budget professionals, and controllers in government as well as academics and other professionals that have an interest in government. It is particularly appropriate for newly hired professionals.

The new study guide features textbook-like format with learning objectives, a chapter summary and a reinforcement quiz for each chapter. The book is close to 400 pages, not counting the extensive appendices, which bring the page count to 800+ pages. In addition to the relevant resources, the appendices contain a glossary, a list of reference materials, answers to reinforcement quizzes with explanations and end-of-course review questions.

To order your study guide today, visit AGA at www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/prepare/studyguide.aspx.

CGFM Chapter Promotion

AGA national wants to help! From September 1 until November 30, 2004 they will give a discount of \$20 to CGFM applications received with the assistance of AGA chapters.

In order to receive the \$20 discount:

1. Submit the complete CGFM application (application form, \$85 application fee and proof of a bachelor's degree) must be received by AGA Office of Professional Certification during the period of September 1 through November 30, 2004.
2. The CGFM application form must have the promotional phrase: "**CGFM chapter promotion – Southern WI**" written at the bottom of the form (under the source code). If the application is submitted online, the applicant should send a same-day email to ksilver@agacgfm.org with his/her name and a promotional phrase above.

Important notes:

- ✓ A full application fee of \$85 must be paid at the time of application. The \$20 check will be sent to the applicant by mail in December.
- ✓ Applications must be submitted by the applicant and not by the chapter. The applicant does not have to be a chapter member in order to receive the discount.
- ✓ Be sure to include the chapter name on the application form to receive the discount.

The CGFM application at <http://www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/start/> or pick one up at any luncheon or training session. Contact Eric Busse, CGFM chairperson, with any questions:

Eric.Busse@dpi.state.wi.us

Board Meeting Minutes

August 24, 2004

In attendance: Carrie Ferguson, Sheri Voigt, Rita Klawitter, Eric Busse, David Mellem, Dolly O'Laughlin, Roger Birkett, Tom Scheidegger and Dennis Dombrowicki

Planning 2004 – 2005 Luncheon Topics

Board members' discussion on status of topic and speakers for the coming year luncheons.

AGA Training

Southern Wisconsin Chapter of AGA will sponsor half day training session on "Reporting Performance Information" November 4 at Union South. Wilson Campbell will be the instructor. The cost for AGA members will be \$35 and non-members \$50 (subsequently lowered fee).

Finance Report

Roger Birkett gave the board an update on the Chapter's financial status. The Chapter subsidy for the lunches amounted to \$605. The financial status for the year ending July 31, 2004 includes a net gain of \$6,000 and a cash balance of \$19,000.

Newsletter Articles

FMSB Members Debate Disclosure of Net Assets

AGA's Financial Management Standards Board (FMSB) has provided detailed comments to the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) on its proposal, *Net Assets Restricted by Enabling Legislation, an Amendment of GASB Statements No. 34 and No. 44*. In an Aug. 31 letter, the FMSB said it was generally supportive, but added that "if the concept of legally enforced restrictions on net assets impacts the decision on whether fund balance should be reserved, that the Board consider rejoining the guidance on net assets with guidance on fund balance reporting before issuing a final Statement." Several members of the board were concerned that the proposal will not make the Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports of various governments more compatible, and questioned the benefits of disclosure. Almost half the members, however, agreed with displaying net assets restricted by enabling legislation separately from other restricted net assets on the financial statements and in the statistical section. [Click here to read the complete letter.](#)

AGA's FMSB Comments on FASAB Proposal

AGA's Financial Management Standards Board supports a one-year deferral of two standards proposed by the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB). The Proposed Statement of Federal Financial Accounting Standards (SFFAS) is called, *Deferral of the Effective Date of Reclassification of the Statement of Social Insurance (SOSI: Amending SFFAS Nos. 25 and 26)*. The FMSB said the deferral would help agencies plan ahead and develop projections related to the SOSI. FMSB Chair Russell W. Hinton, CGFM, in an Aug. 20 letter to FASAB wrote, "Three agencies (the Office of Management and Budget, the Social Security Administration, and the Department of Health and Human Services) have requested the deferral to allow them time to prepare and because the audit guidance has not yet been finalized. The FMSB deems the agencies' request for a deferral reasonable given the absence of final audit guidance and inadequate preparation time to conduct an audit." [Click here to read the complete letter.](#)

Voluntary Bond Fee Program Launched to Support GASB

In response to a request from the Government Finance Officers Association, National Association of State Treasurers, and National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers, The Bond Market Association has agreed to ask its members to collect a voluntary fee in support of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) starting July 1, 2004, from municipal bond issuing clients. The fee is intended to help fund a budget gap incurred by the GASB, resulting in part from the loss of accounting firm contributions to the Financial Accounting Foundation (FAF) following the enactment of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. The FAF also oversees the Financial Accounting Standards Board, which sets accounting standards for the private sector. The voluntary GASB fee initially has been set at one half cent per bond (\$1,000 par value), and in no event will the fee exceed that amount. The three state and local groups will meet annually to review fee collections. The fee will be collected on all municipal bond new issue transactions, negotiated and competitive, with aggregate par values of \$1 million or more and stated in final maturities of not less than two years. The GASB fee is to appear as a separate line item that dealers itemize as a cost of the transaction for all applicable negotiated bond issues. In competitive transactions, it is expected that issuers will indicate on their notices of sale and bid forms that the respective issuer will remit the GASB fee to the winning bidder for remittance by the winning bidder to the Financial Accounting Foundation. If the GASB fee is not collected from an issuer, the dealer is not responsible for the fee. The GASB fee program is one of several

ongoing programs designed to create a stable and sustainable funding stream for the GASB through broad-based constituent support.

Federal Accounting Corner by Simcha Kuritzky, CGFM, CPA Lies, Damn Lies and Statistics

Accounting is one of the oldest information systems. Its purpose is to provide meaningful data to stakeholders and decision-makers, but do we defeat our purpose through the use of specialized jargon, obscure concepts and a focus on the mechanics of bookkeeping? Rather than address that issue directly, I will give an example from a sister science, statistics. There is a legend about how President Eisenhower was shocked to learn that fully half of all public school students were below average. This tale is supposed to ridicule the intelligence of the late President, but it really tells us more about how ridiculous statistics can be. Obviously, half of all students will fall below the median, but what does that really mean? [Click here to read more.](#)

From “I, Robot” to “iPOD”? Partnership Says Innovation Needed to Attract Federal Workers

The Partnership for Public Service recently released the findings of its latest survey designed to measure Americans’ views of federal government workers. Six hundred likely voters were surveyed on their attitudes of the government work environment and how to improve the perceptions of federal jobs. Surprisingly, 71 percent of those surveyed had an overall positive attitude of federal workers. Sixty-two percent held a favorable opinion of the government in general, while state and local government workers held a favorable rating with 78 percent of respondents. [Click here for the full results of this and other Partnership for Public Service surveys.](#)

Administration Renews Focus on Reducing Improper Payments

The Bush administration is searching for more cost-effective methods of tracking and reducing improper payments to beneficiaries of government programs and is considering subjecting federal agencies to more rigorous audit requirements, according to an Office of Management and Budget (OMB) report. To help agencies comply with the 2002 Improper Payments Information Act (H.R. 4878) at minimal expense, OMB and the Chief Financial Officers Council are developing standardized techniques for identifying and reporting payment errors, said OMB Controller Linda Springer in an report on governmentwide efforts to improve financial management. Mistakes typically occur when agencies distribute benefits to ineligible applicants, over- or underpay beneficiaries, or send out duplicate payments. The 2002 law requires agencies to identify payment errors and devise plans for correcting those that add up to more than \$10 million or more than 2.5 percent of a program's spending. They then must set targets for reducing mistakes. Agencies are trying to comply, but are having a difficult time setting appropriate targets, especially for more complex programs, Springer said. — Amelia Gruber, Government Executive. [Click here to read more.](#)

Worst-Run County in U.S. Tackles Fiscal Crisis

The fiscal crisis that erupted in the late 1990s and threatened to bankrupt Nassau County, NY—one of the country's wealthiest suburbs—is now over, County Executive Thomas R. Suozzi said last week. "The phony budgets and one-shot revenues—that crisis is behind us," Suozzi said as he previewed his budget proposal for 2005, released Monday. "We've accomplished the transition from the worst-run county in the country to having the most bond upgrades." As evidence of the turnaround, Suozzi's \$2.4 million budget for 2005 would freeze the county property tax for the second year in a row. Having shrunk the county's work force by one-tenth to

its lowest total in three decades, Suozzi is now calling for limited hiring, mostly of police and correction officers. The county still has problems, especially the steeply rising mandated costs for pensions, health insurance and Medicaid, "but we're managing them," Suozzi said. "That's a problem that counties face all across New York State." —Bruce Lambert, *The New York Times*. [Click here to read more.](#)

GASB Requests Comments on Communication Methods for Financial Reports

The GASB is requesting feedback on proposals made in its June Exposure Draft, *Communication Methods*. The proposed Statement of Governmental Accounting Concepts would provide a conceptual basis for selecting communication methods to present items of information within general purpose external financial reports that contain basic financial statements. The proposed Concepts Statement defines the communication methods commonly used in general purpose external financial reports and develops criteria for each. These communication methods would include recognition in basic financial statements, disclosure in notes to basic financial statements, presentation as required supplementary information and presentation as supplementary information. The definitions and criteria are intended to help the GASB or, in the absence of authoritative guidance, a preparer of a financial report determine the appropriate methods to use to communicate an item of information. A consistent approach should benefit users in understanding the location and nature of information in financial reports. The Exposure Draft (order code GE58) can be obtained free of charge by calling 800.748.0659 or going to www.gasb.org until Sept. 30, the end of the comment period.

GASB Seeks Information on Termination Benefits, Intangible Assets and OPEB

The GASB is seeking information to prepare for discussions of issues related to three projects on its technical agenda.

- **Termination Offers and Benefits**—The GASB is gathering information on the types of termination benefits that are provided by governmental employers. Specifically, staff is interested in a general description of the benefits, such as cash payments or post-employment health care; whether the benefits were provided for voluntary or involuntary separation from service; and how the benefits were accounted for. Please contact [Michelle Czerkowski](#) at 203.956.5293.
- **Intangible Assets**—The GASB soon will be conducting a survey of existing practice for reporting intangible assets, such as right-of-way easements, development and other easements, software, rights to use tangible capital assets (for example, school building or water treatment plants), rights to access the natural resources of land (including mineral, water, and timber rights), and miscellaneous intangibles. Many believe that current authoritative guidance for intangible assets is conflicting and that reporting practices vary from government to government. The survey is intended to help the board understand the pervasiveness of the issue and decide which types of intangibles should be addressed in the project. The survey will be posted to the GASB's website at www.gasb.org by the end of September.
- **OPEB Implementation Questions**—Earlier this year, the GASB released two Statements on accounting and financial reporting for postemployment benefits other than pensions (other postemployment benefits, or OPEB). The GASB is developing an Implementation Guide to assist financial statement preparers and auditors in the implementation and application of the OPEB Statements and is seeking input. Guidance will be limited to clarifying, explaining or elaborating on the underlying standards. Send suggestions to [Michelle Czerkowski](#). If you have a technical issue and wish a personal response, please

submit your question through the GASB's online Technical Inquiry System at www.gasb.org

Computer-Based Auditing Tools & Techniques—A Special Supplement to the Summer 2005 Journal

Auditors everywhere rely on a variety of computer-based tools and techniques to get their jobs done. The supplement will be bagged and mailed along with the Summer 2005 Annual Technology issue of the *Journal of Government Financial Management*. [Click here for more information.](#)

Other News of Interest

You Deserve a New Suit... and so does someone else

Do you have a closet full of suits or business attire you no longer wear?

Bring them to an AGA luncheon! Our new service project is collecting clothing for the Community Action Coalition (CAC) to aid individuals who are in need of clothes for interviewing and the workplace. They would be happy to accept other clothing donations, too. At this time of year, winter coats, hats, and mittens are in great demand.



Use this chance to clear your closets of gently used items that can be put to good use. Create space for yourself (or an excuse to shop for more) and make a difference in someone else's life.

The clothing drive will run through December.

Do you have some interesting news that your fellow chapter members may be interested in? If so, please submit an article to the Newsletter Editor at radivl@dhfs.state.wi.us. Deadline for submission of articles is the 25th of the month.

ARE YOU MOVING?

If you are moving, or have already moved, please be sure to advise AGA National of your change of address. You can update your address online at: www.agacgfm.org/membership/form_address.htm. Also, don't forget to notify your local chapter.

Southern Wisconsin Chapter Calendar of Events for 2004-2005

September 23, 2004 – Luncheon Meeting, Jay Heck, WI Common Cause - "The 2004 Elections-- More Expensive and Negative than Ever--Why?" (J.T. Whitney's)

October 12, 2004 – Board Meeting, Old Country Buffet, Madison

October 28, 2004 – Luncheon Meeting, Carol Brown, Indian Gaming Compacts (Coliseum Bar)

November 4, 2004 – Half-day Training Session, *Reporting Performance Information*, Wilson Campbell, CGFM, Union South

November 9, 2004 – Board Meeting, Old Country Buffet, Madison

November 18, 2004 – Luncheon Meeting, Topic and speaker to be determined (The Concourse)

December 14, 2004 – Board Meeting, Old Country Buffet, Madison

No December Luncheon Meeting

January 11, 2005 – Board Meeting, Old Country Buffet, Madison

January 27, 2004 – Luncheon Meeting, *Annual Tax Update*, Speaker to be determined

February 8, 2005 – Board Meeting, Old Country Buffet, Madison

February 24, 2005 – Luncheon Meeting, Topic and speaker to be determined

March 8, 2005 – Board Meeting, Old Country Buffet, Madison

March 17, 2005 – Luncheon Meeting, Topic and speaker to be determined

April 12, 2005 – Board Meeting, Old Country Buffet, Madison

April 14, 2005 – Luncheon Meeting, Topic and speaker to be determined

April 28, 2005 – *Annual Spring Symposium*, Various speakers and topics to be determined, Tripp Commons, UW-Madison Memorial Union

May 10, 2005 – Board Meeting, Old Country Buffet, Madison

May 19, 2005 – Luncheon Meeting, Topic and speaker to be determined

June 14, 2005 – Board Meeting, Old Country Buffet, Madison

Note: Community service, VITA and social events will be announced during the year.

2004-05 Chapter Officers & Board Members

President – Sherri Voigt, CPA, DNR, sherri.voigt@dnr.state.wi.us, 608-267-9818

President Elect – Vacant

Immediate Past President – Carrie Ferguson, CPA, LAB, Carrie.ferguson@legis.state.wi.us, 608-259-9839

Chapter Recognition – Rita Klawitter, CPA, LAB, rita.klawitter@legis.state.wi.us, 608-266-2818

Secretary - Dennis Dombrowicki, CGFM, DHFS, dombrdh@dhfs.state.wi.us, 608-266-3057

Treasurer - Roger Birkett, CPA, jabirk@charter.net

Historian - David Mellem, CGFM, CIA, CISA, US DHHS, OIG, david.mellem@oig.hhs.gov, 608-264-5415 ext 25

Membership Chair - David Mellem, CGFM, CIA, CISA, US DHHS, OIG, david.mellem@oig.hhs.gov, 608-264-5415 ext 25

Newsletter Editor - Lillian Radivojevich, DHFS, radivl@dhfs.state.wi.us, 608-267-7306

Education Chair – Carrie Ferguson, CPA, LAB, Carrie.ferguson@legis.state.wi.us, 608-259-9839

Webmaster - Scott Thornton, scott@goochpages.com

Community Service Chair - Julie Gordon, CPA, LAB, julie.gordon@legis.state.wi.us, 608-259-9811

Research Coordinator & Liaison w/Other Profession Organizations – Vacant

CGFM Chair – Busse, Eric A. DPI [[mailto: Eric.Busse@dpi.state.wi.us](mailto:Eric.Busse@dpi.state.wi.us)]

Awards Chair – Vacant

Early Careers Chair – Vacant

Directors -

Thomas A. Scheidegger, CPA, Virchow Krause, Tscheidegger@virchowkrause.com, 608-240-2303

Dolly O’Laughlin, dollyo@mcr.com, 608-242-6314

Connie Wali, CGFM, DHFS, walicm@dhfs.state.wi.us, 608-261-7785

RVP North Central Region – Larry Tippin, ltippin@sboa.IN.gov, (317) 232-2521



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