

ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS
“Advancing Government Accountability”
AUSTIN CHAPTER – History Report
June 2010 – May 2011

<p style="text-align: center;">The Executive Committee</p>	<p>The Austin Chapter began its new year under the leadership of President Zulay Sanchez. Meetings of the Executive Committee continued to be held monthly at the Employees Retirement System with some committee members participating via conference call. Members that volunteered their time and energy to serve on the Executive Committee and ensure the Chapter’s success included:</p> <p>President-Elect, Mara Ash; Immediate Past President, Eddie Chan; Secretary, Lynne Pfeffer; Treasurer, Chris Glancy; Research Chair, Leita Hart; Education/Programs, Debi Weyer; Communications, Eddie Chan; Community Service, Lynda Baker; Membership, Paul Morris; Luncheon Chair, Patti Aguilera; Historian, Phillip Ashley; and Webmaster, Lynne Pfeffer.</p> <p>John Amidon and Debi Weyer continued serving in their roles as Regional Vice President and Regional Education Coordinator, respectively.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Luncheons</p>	<p>Chapter luncheons were regularly held each month at Corazon at Castle Hill restaurant, which is located on 5th street near downtown Austin.</p> <p>The Chapter was successful in recruiting the following speakers for nine luncheons, giving members and guests the opportunity to receive a total of 9 CPE hours.</p> <p><i>September 2010:</i> Ed Parr, author of the book <i>Natural Born Manager: A Handbook for Accountability Management</i>, presented on the topic “Can You Find Your Destiny?”</p> <p><i>October 2010:</i> John O’Brien, representing the Legislative Budget Board, educated attendees on the state’s budget deficit and discussed various methods for how the state Legislature might choose to address it.</p> <p><i>November 2010:</i> Marc Garcia, a consultant in private practice specializing in the field of information technology auditing, provided an overview of next generation continuous monitoring systems, which utilize computer-based audit and data analysis software tools.</p> <p><i>December 2010:</i> Bob Elder, representing the Texas State Securities Board, discussed common investment scams and how to recognize them.</p> <p><i>January 2011:</i> Mike Hay, CEO of Strategic Risk Consulting, presented on the basics of risk management.</p> <p><i>February 2011:</i> Dr. Carolyn Conn, Associate Professor of Accounting at St. Edward’s University, discussed fraud prevention and detection.</p> <p><i>March 2011:</i> Mac McMillan, co-founder and CEO of CynergisTek, Inc., helped attendees to understand the risks associated with litigation readiness and the role that technology plays in the electronic discovery reference model (EDRM).</p>

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	<p><i>April 2011:</i> John Amidon, representing the Texas Attorney General’s Office, provided attendees with an overview of the Attorney General’s Medicaid Fraud Unit.</p> <p><i>May 2011:</i> Phillip E. Flora, principal and managing member of FloBiz & Associates, LLC, presented on the topic of ethics, and the related challenges, opportunities, and impact.</p> <p>Monthly attendance at the meetings averaged 35, which is a 21% increase over 2009-10 attendance numbers. An attendance breakdown by luncheon follows:</p> <p>September 2010: 46 October 2010: 45 November 2010: 28 December 2010: 31 January 2011: 31 February 2011: 45 March 2011: 29 April 2011: 33 May 2011: 31</p> <p>Various members of the Executive Committee carried out the monthly luncheon tasks of checking in members, distributing nametags, and making sure the lunch was served in a timely fashion. Debi Weyer introduced the speakers and after their presentations presented them with a small token of appreciation. To ensure all luncheon attendees received proper CPE credit, Patti Aguilera provided a CPE certificate to each attendee. In addition, Patti collected program evaluations, compiled the results, and shared them with the Executive Committee to use as a tool to make future decisions about topics, speakers and the location of the luncheons.</p>
<p>Member Incentives & Drawings</p>	<p>Luncheon attendee Michael Moore won a \$25 Cabela’s gift card in a special drawing recognizing those volunteers who donated baby care products for the SafePlace shelter donation drive.</p> <p>We offered one free membership in a drawing at the Annual Chapter Networking Event. Despina Lambros was the winner.</p>
<p>Education, CGFM & Scholarships</p>	<p>In addition to the 9 CPE hours offered via the monthly luncheons, the Chapter was able to offer 8 more CPE hours by participating in four audio conferences sponsored by the National Office. The audio conference topics included: <i>Improving Program Performance & Accountability Through Cooperative Audit Resolution, Was it Fraud or Just Poor Audit Quality, Internal Controls and Management’s Risk Assessments – Thoughts on SAS 109 and SAS 115, and Mortgage Fraud and Beyond: Looking Toward the Future.</i> The Chapter continued the popular practice this year of combining the audio conferences</p>

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	<p>with the monthly luncheons and offering attendees the opportunity to earn 3 CPE credits in a single afternoon. Collectively, the luncheons and audio conferences provided attendees with an opportunity to earn up to 17 CPE hours.</p> <p>During the year the Chapter purchased one complete set of CGFM study guides and established a program for loaning those guides to members who seek to study and sit for the CGFM exams. This is yet another way the Chapter is actively encouraging its members to obtain a CGFM certification.</p> <p>Texas Governor Rick Perry declared March 2011 to be Certified Government Financial Manager Month, in recognition of the importance of certified government financial managers in ensuring efficiency and effectiveness in government operations.</p>
<p>Membership</p>	<p>As of May 2010, the Austin Chapter had 90 members. As of May 2011, Chapter membership increased to 100 members, an 11% increase from the previous year. During the year, 19 new members joined the Chapter:</p> <p>Juanita Johnson-Cooley, Department of Veterans Affairs Rena Cotton, Department of Veterans Affairs Florence Anderson, Department of Veterans Affairs Jerri Davis, Department of Veterans Affairs Kristen Gonzales-Cedillo, Department of Veterans Affairs Michael Harrison, Accenture Eric Cruz, Employees Retirement System of Texas Aaron Dvorak, Employees Retirement System of Texas Richard Wright, CIA, CISA, Department of Veterans Affairs Terrell Blodgett W. Erwin, CGFM, Texas State University Donald McPhee Caixiang Zhao, University of Texas at Austin Adana Barry, City of Austin Michele Castro, CGFM, Texas State University Katherine Golgert Despina Lambros, University of Texas at Austin Bernard Ndoping Angandje, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Jose Saucedo, Department of Veterans Affairs</p> <p>The following members reached their 5, 10, 15, 20, and 25 year milestone anniversary during the Chapter year. We recognize these longtime members because they continue to show their commitment and support for the AGA by renewing their membership each year and some volunteer to serve on committees or the Executive Committee. Reaching a milestone in 2010-2011:</p>

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	<p>10 YEARS: Kip D. Wilson, CGFM</p> <p>15 YEARS: Dwight C. Casey, CGFM David E. Flores, CGFM Steven D. Adrian, CGFM David L. Spencer, CGFM Debra L. Weyer, CGFM Michael S. Abkowitz, CGFM Sheila K. Ammons, CGFM Leita Hirsch, CGFM</p> <p>20 YEARS: Leslie B. Cathey, CGFM Stephen H. Niemeier Tommy Strealay, CGFM</p> <p>The Chapter also held our 1st Annual Chapter Networking Event, organized by our Early Career/Young Professional committee chair, Paul Morris. More than 15 people attended the event at Garrido’s. It was a great opportunity for our members to promote AGA and mingle with other people who were interested in joining.</p>
<p>Minutes and Treasury Reports</p>	<p>Secretary Lynne Pfeffer captured key points made in the luncheon presentations, as well as the monthly Executive Committee meetings in the form of meeting minutes. Lynne sent the meeting minutes via email to the Executive Committee for review and approval prior to publication in the newsletter and posting on the Chapter’s website.</p> <p>Luncheon meeting minutes can be found on the Chapter web site at: http://www.agaaustin.org/LunchMinutes.html</p> <p>Executive Committee meeting minutes can be found on the Chapter web site at: http://www.agaaustin.org/ECMinutes.html</p> <p>Chris Glancy carried out his duties as Treasurer. The Chapter began the year with a cash balance of \$4,549.09 and ended the year with a balance of \$6,872.99. Treasurer Reports can be found on the Chapter web site at: http://www.agaaustin.org/TReports.html</p>
<p>Communications –</p>	<p>Eddie Chan, newsletter editor, gave the newsletter extra color, included</p>

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<p style="text-align: center;">Newsletter</p>	<p>pictures, and applied a variety of holiday graphics making it enjoyable to read. The newsletter was submitted to the National Office for entry in the annual newsletter contest.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Website</p>	<p>Webmaster Lynne Pfeffer continued to keep the web site updated with newsletters, training events, job opportunities and other documents for our members and visitors to read.</p> <p>In recognition of the great job Lynne has done, the Austin Chapter was selected as the Honorable Mention winner in the website contest for Group C. President Zulay Sanchez will accept the award on behalf of the Chapter at the AGA Professional Development Conference (PDC) in Atlanta in July.</p> <p>The Chapter web site can be referenced at: http://www.agaustin.org/index.html</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Community Service and Awards</p>	<p>A very special thank you goes out to the many members that participated in the following community service events!</p> <p>JUNE 2010–MAY 2011</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Lynda Baker and Patti Aguilera organized a Baby Shower (donation drive) for SafePlace, a local women’s shelter during the month of September. The Austin AGA Chapter provided 395 diapers; 561 baby wipes; 42 bottles of powder, lotion, body wash, and baby shampoo; 17 miscellaneous items such as clothes and toiletries; and \$60 in cash, checks and gift cards! * The Chapter again participated in the Community Tax Centers program which provides free tax assistance for the low income families and individuals in the Austin area. This program is targeted at helping to lift people out of poverty and increase spending in the Austin economic market. * The Chapter held a food drive for canned goods and other non-perishable items in November to benefit low-income families in the Austin area. Thanks to the generosity of our members, we were able to provide over 67 cans of food to the Capitol Area Food Bank. * The Chapter participated in a job shadowing program with Texas State University in January. The program provided volunteers with opportunities to interact with students in a variety of ways by having the student spend a day with them on the job. * The Chapter adopted a family of 13 from the Centers for Child Protection and was able to ensure that the family had a great Christmas! Each child received clothes, shoes, toys, gift certificates, and their special requests. In addition the Chapter donated a HEB gift certification for \$100 for the family to purchase food and other needed

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	<p>items.</p> <p>* Lynda Baker and Patti Aguilera volunteered to help out with the 4th annual <i>Dancing with the Stars Austin</i> which is sponsored by the Centers for Child Protection. The Centers for Child Protection’s mission is to reduce the trauma for children during the investigation and prosecution of child abuse cases. The event, coupled with the Center’s annual luxury car raffle, grossed more than \$900,000!</p>
Members on the Move	<p>Cheryl MacBride, CGFM, was named the deputy director of services for the Department of Public Safety (DPS) and the first female to serve the state’s law enforcement agency at the deputy director level.</p> <p>Phillip Ashley, CPA, CGFM, was promoted to the position of Assistant Director of the Comptroller’s Fiscal Management Division.</p>
Awards and Elections	<p>AGA Austin completed the year with the election of new officers: President-Elect, Paul Morris; Treasurer, Chris Glancy, and Secretary, Lynne Pfeffer. The new officers were sworn in at the May 2011 luncheon.</p> <p>President Zulay Sanchez presented the gavel to incoming President, Mara Ash, at the Executive Committee meeting in June.</p>