

ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS
“Advancing Government Accountability”
AUSTIN CHAPTER – History Report
June 2011 – May 2012

<p style="text-align: center;">The Executive Committee</p>	<p>The Austin Chapter began its new year under the leadership of President Mara Ash. 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, Paul Morris; Immediate Past President, Zulay Sanchez; Secretary, Lynne Pfeffer; Treasurer, Mari Queller; Research Chair, Leita Hart; Education/Programs, Debi Weyer; Communications, Eddie Chan; CGFM Chair, Bernard Ndoping-Angandje; Community Service, Lynda Baker; Membership, Kadie Weyer; Luncheon Chair, Patti Aguilera; Historian, Phillip Ashley; and Webmaster, Lynne Pfeffer.</p> <p>John Amidon continued serving in his role as Regional Vice President. John’s term expires 6/30/2012.</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 six luncheons, giving members and guests the opportunity to receive a total of 6 CPE hours.</p> <p><i>September 2011:</i> Joe Collins, Certified Fraud Examiner and former financial advisor and licensed broker with a Fortune 500 company, presented on the topic “Collateralized Debt Obligations and the 2008 Stock Market Crash.”</p> <p><i>October 2011:</i> Irene Lee, representing the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, provided attendees with an update on recent GASB activity and highlighted several new GASB Statements.</p> <p><i>December 2011:</i> Dr. Carolyn Conn, an Associate Professor of Accounting at St. Edward’s University, presented on how to plan and conduct interviews during the course of audit and fraud investigations.</p> <p><i>February 2012:</i> Leita Hart-Fanta, author of The Yellow Book Interpreted and owner of Yellowbook-CPE.com, provided attendees with an update on the 2011 Yellow Book.</p> <p><i>March 2012:</i> Osvaldo “Ozzie” Alaniz, Supervisory Special Agent with the FBI, presented on the topic of “White Collar Crime” and discussed his experiences conducting those investigations.</p> <p><i>April 2012:</i> Douglas Wilson, Inspector General with the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, presented on the topic of “The Changing Face of Health Care Fraud, Waste, and Abuse in a Managed Care Environment.</p> <p>Monthly attendance at the meetings averaged 37, which is a 6% increase over 2010-11 attendance numbers. An attendance breakdown by luncheon follows:</p>

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	<p>September 2011: 33 October 2011: 30 December 2011: 33 February 2012: 43 March 2012: 37 April 2012: 48</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 Eric Cruz from the Employees Retirement System won a \$250 scholarship by raffle at the March luncheon. The purpose of the scholarship is to offset the cost of taking the CGFM exam. Eric intends to take Part I of the exam in the fall.</p>
<p>Education, CGFM & Scholarships</p>	<p>In addition to the 6 CPE hours offered via the monthly luncheons, the Chapter was able to offer 12 more CPE hours by hosting six audio conferences over the course of three days. The audio conference topics included: <i>Reviewing the CFO Act – Lessons Learned and Observation for Advancing Financial Management Practices</i>; <i>SSAF 16: Reporting on Controls</i>; <i>“Needles in a Haystack” – Data Mining & Predictive Analytics to Prioritize Leads and Highlight Risk for Investigators & Auditors</i>; <i>Achieving Transparency – The Next Step to Integrating Your Data</i>; <i>Major Challenges to the Public Sector Auditing Profession</i>; and, <i>Find Strength in Numbers: Sampling Techniques to Improve Financial Audit, Control, and Program Performance</i>. This year, the Chapter experimented with holding the audio conferences in place of the luncheons so as to maximize the amount of CPE that could be earned at one time. In total, there were 34 attendees for the audio conferences. Collectively, the luncheons and audio conferences provided attendees with an opportunity to earn up to 18 CPE hours.</p> <p>Texas Governor Rick Perry declared March 2012 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>Additionally, Bernard Ndoping-Angandje, CGFM Chair, spearheaded an</p>

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	<p>effort to write a letter to Governor Perry to ask the Governor to support existing CGFMs and encourage others to obtain this certification by formally recognizing the CGFM as a preferred qualification and offering a pay incentive for government financial managers in the State of Texas who earn and maintain the certification.</p>
Membership	<p>As of May 2011, the Austin Chapter had 102 members. As of May 2012, Chapter membership increased to 109 members, an approximate 7% increase from the previous year. During the year, 17 new members joined the Chapter:</p> <p>David Floyd, Austin Community College Michael Moore, Department of Veteran Affairs Nicholas Cotton, Texas Workforce Commission Vanessa Hunt, Texas Employees Retirement System Karen Parker, Texas Employees Retirement System Alberto Canales Jeanne Yanga Andrew Dimas, Texas Department of Information Resources Patricia Robinson Priscilla Suggs, Texas Department of Family Protective Services Autumn Bellfield, Department of Veterans Affairs Daniel Funderburk, Robert Half Management Resources Tandra Potts-Gainer, Department of Veteran Affairs Richard Rivas, Department of Veteran Affairs Mary Braden, Texas Health & Human Services Commission Annick Barton, Texas Health & Human Services Commission Kadie Weyer, Texas Workforce Commission</p> <p>The following members reached their 5, 10, 15, and 20 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 2011-2012:</p> <p>5 YEARS: Crystal Russell Thomas E. Voyce</p> <p>10 YEARS: Eddie Chan Deborah Mitchell Lynne Pfeffer</p> <p>15 YEARS:</p>

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	<p>David Gibson Mitt Salvaggio Vicki F. Skinner</p> <p>20 YEARS: David Griffith Patty Lynn Hamm Greg Herbert</p> <p>The Chapter also held our Annual Chapter Networking Event, organized by our Membership chair, Kadie Weyer. The mixer, held at Opal Divine’s at Penn Station, was a great opportunity for our members to promote AGA and mingle with other people who were interested in joining.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">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>Mari Queller expertly carried out her duties as Treasurer. The Chapter began the year with a cash balance of \$6,872.99 and ended the year with a balance of \$8,700.14. Treasurer Reports can be found on the Chapter web site at: http://www.agaaustin.org/TReports.html</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Communications – Newsletter</p>	<p>Eddie Chan, newsletter editor, gave the newsletter extra color, included 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>The Chapter web site can be referenced at: http://www.agaaustin.org/index.html</p>

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**Community Service
and Awards**

The Austin Chapter is excited to report that we exceeded the number of volunteer hours that are required for Community Service for the 2011-2012 year. We want to thank everyone who helped make this year a success!

JUNE 2011–MAY 2012

- * This year, the Austin Chapter again participated in the Community Tax Centers program which provides free tax assistance for 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. Austin Chapter member **Bernard Ndoping-Angandje** was awarded the Bronze Level United States President’s Volunteer service award for contributing over 180 hours to our local tax center.
- * **Lynda Baker** helped to organize a Baby Food Drive at the October luncheon. The Austin AGA Chapter competed against the Dallas and San Antonio Chapters to see which Chapter could donate the most baby food products to their local food bank. The Austin Chapter’s donations went to the Capital Area Food Bank. A combined total of over 450 members in our chapters made this event possible and a combined total of 4,853 pounds of baby food were donated.
- * Also in October, Chapter members **Lynda Baker, Michele Bauman, Lesli Cathey** and **Debi Weyer** volunteered to help with the Play Bingo Ladies Luncheon event organized by the Centers for Child Protection Agency. The Center’s mission is to reduce the trauma for children during the investigation and prosecution of child abuse cases.
- * In November, the Austin Chapter hosted a Thanksgiving Dinner food drive that benefited a low-income family in the Austin area. The Chapter collected non-perishable food items and HEB gift cards for a family and was able to provide that family a great Thanksgiving.
- * In December, the Austin Chapter adopted a family of 8 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. A total of \$235 in gift certificates was provided to the family to purchase food and other needed items.
- * Also in December, Chapter members **Lynda Baker, Michele Bauman, Lesli Cathey** and **Debi Weyer** participated in the 5th annual *Dancing with the Stars Austin* which is sponsored by the Centers for Child Protection. The event pairs Austin celebrities with professional dancers for a ballroom dance performance to raise money for abused children in Austin.
- * In January, the Chapter again participated in a job shadowing program with Texas State University. The program provided volunteers with opportunities to interact with students in a variety of ways by having

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	<p>the student spend a day with them on the job.</p> <p>* Many of our members volunteer throughout the year on their own with various non-profits including Habitat for Humanity, Meals on Wheels, etc. A big thank you to all of those who give of their time and talents to help those who are less fortunate.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Members on the Move</p>	<p>Phillip Ashley, CPA, CGFM, was promoted to the position of Director of Fiscal Management for the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts</p> <p>Nellie Zhao, former CGFM Chair for the Austin Chapter, accepted the position of staff accountant in the Finance Office of the Harvard Medical School.</p> <p>Jeanne Yanga recently accepted an auditor position at the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Awards and Elections</p>	<p>AGA Austin completed the year with the election of new officers: President-Elect, Priscilla Suggs; Treasurer, Mari Queller, and Secretary, Autumn Bellfield. The new officers were elected at our April luncheon meeting. Incoming President, Paul Morris, relieves outgoing President Mara Ash.</p> <p>The Austin Chapter was awarded the National Community Service Award for Group C and the Gold Award at the AGA PDC Conference in July 2012. Lynda Baker accepted the award on behalf of the Chapter.</p> <p>Michele Bauman received the 2011 Staff Council Tina G. Schultz Staff Excellence Award from Texas State University. Michele actively participates in our Chapter and has held positions on the Executive Committee in the past.</p>