



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President
Paul Morris
(512) 438-5685
paul.morris@dfps.state.tx.us

President-Elect
Vacant

Immediate Past President
Mara Ash
Mara.Ash@bafolutions.com

Secretary
Autumn Bellfield
Autumn.bellfield@va.gov

Treasurer
Mari Queller
mari.queller@ers.state.tx.us

Research Chair
LaTosha Goard
Latosha.goard@tceq.texas.gov

Education/Programs Committee
Debi Weyer
debiweyer@gmail.com

Communications Committee
Jeanne Yanga
jeaneyanga@gmail.com

CGFM Committee
Bernard Ndoping-Angandje
Bernard.Ndoping-Angandje@tceq.texas.gov

Community Service Committee
Lynda Baker
bright_sunny_disp@yahoo.com

Awards Committee
Patty Aguilera
Patty.Aguilera@ers.state.tx.us

Membership Committee
Kadie Weyer, Chair
Kadie.Weyer@twc.state.tx.us
Aaron Dvorak, Co-chair
Aaron.Dvorak@ers.state.tx.us

CPE Events Committee
Adana Barry
Adana.barry@austintexas.gov

Chapter Historian
Sharita Coyle
Sharita.Coyle@dfps.state.tx.us

Webmaster
Eddie Chan
eddie.chan@ers.state.tx.us

Regional VP
Bob.Broughton@arkansas.gov

PRESIDENT MESSAGE

We roll into the New Year facing many challenges at both a federal and state level. National talk of averting the effect of the fiscal cliff and last minute agreements have our federal agency members wondering what hurdles they may face in meeting their mission objectives. Locally, our state members are heartened by an improving revenue picture for the state of Texas, but questions remain for many working is state budget and finance. I guess we'll find out soon enough what the real revenue numbers are for Texas.

I suppose challenge is always present in both our personal and professional lives. Perhaps the positive outlook is this: being a little scared keeps us from getting too comfortable. I think that's why we keep stepping up to challenging times and opportunities. As for me, I'll keep leaning on my friends with the AGA, attending monthly training and networking with folks so that I can bounce big ideas around. I hope you will, too.

Respectfully Submitted,
Paul Morris
President, AGA Austin Chapter



Upcoming Event

Scholz Garten
1607 San Jacinto Blvd.
Austin, TX 78701

Thursday, January 10th, 2012 - 11:30am-3:00pm

	Cloud Computing- Who cares?	Getting a Handle On Internal Controls (Audio Conference)	Both Sessions
	1 CPE's	2 CPE's	3 CPE's
AGA Member	\$20	\$25	\$45
Non Member	\$25	\$35	\$55

Registration: Send email to Adana Barry - Adana.Barry@austintexas.gov
(If you prefer a vegetarian dish, please let Adana know when registering)



Since its inception in 1994, the Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) has become the standard by which government financial management professionals are measured. Its [education](#), [experience](#) and [ethics requirements](#) have served to elevate the most seasoned financial professionals.

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For more information, Please follow this link. <http://www.agacgfm.org/CGFM-Certification/The-Value-of-CGFM.aspx>

HIGHLIGHTS OF MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the December 20, 2012

Call to order

Paul Morris called to order the Executive Committee Meeting at 12:00 PM on Thursday, December 20, 2012.

Roll call

The following members were in attendance physically either at the ERS Conference Room – Longhorn Annex or via conference call: Paul Morris, Aaron Dvorak, , Sharita Coyle, , Adana Berry, , Autumn Bellfield, Mara Ash, Kristen Gonzales.

Old Business and Approval of Meeting Minutes

- There was a motion to approve the October 2012 Executive Committee meeting minutes. The motion was seconded. The October 2012 Executive Committee meeting minutes are approved.

Central Market Mixer Event

- Evelyn Brown enjoyed the mixer and thought it was a nice way to introduce the Executive Committee.
- The mixer had a good attendance turn out. There were more people at this event than at the past mixer.
- The Central Market location was nice, convenient, and centrally located.
- Aaron Dvorak and Kadie Weyer will get together and look into having another mixer in Spring 2013.

Charitable contributions

CPS Adopt-A-Family

- Debi weyer deliver the gifts to the family of seven the AGA has adopted

this year.

Dancing with the Austin stars Event

- The numbers are being prepared, which includes how much money was raised, how many people participated, etc.

Wreaths Across America

- The Austin Chapter did not participate in this event; however, we sent a \$150.00 check as a donation.

Other News

- The executive Committee will revisit service in January 2013.

Education

- The December luncheon expenses were \$507.76, and we brought in revenue of \$455.00.
- E-mail Debi Weyer if you have any ideas for the February, March, or April luncheons. Our chapter is looking for ideas to attract federal employees and college students.

For details of our meeting minutes, please visit our website at:

<http://www.agaaustin.org/ECMinutes.html>

AGA CORE VALUES



Upcoming Event

January 10, 2013 (Thursday) 11:30-1:00pm

Cloud Computing – Who Cares?

Speaker: Dr. Dwight D. Daniel Director, MS in Computer Information Systems, School of Management and business, St Edward's University.

- Dr. Dwight Daniel has been a faculty member at St. Edward's University since 2004 and a Director since 2009 having just retired from IBM after thirty-five years as an IT Architect and OEM Technical Lead (among other positions). Dr. Daniel brought a wealth of industry experience to the program. He has designed IT solutions for worldwide corporations, employing 100k+ employees, to small businesses, including for his as a small business owner.

Audio Conference – 1:15-3:00pm

Getting a Handle on Internal Controls

Speaker: William D. Miller, CGFM, CIA, County Auditor, Johnson County, Kansas, and Member, AGA National Executive Committee.

- This audio conference addresses the elements of internal control from top management to operating levels. It includes the consequences of failing to pay attention to organization operations and the internal control environment, so often overlooked by auditors and management alike.

Membership News

A **Welcome** to our newest members:

- Tynetta Ballinger– Department of Veteran Affairs.
- Michael Needham– Texas Education Agency.

ANNIVERSARIES

1 Year

Mr. Andrew D. Dimas , CGFM

15 years

Ms. Dianne H. Casey, CGFM–
Retired

20 years

Mr. Monday N. Rufus, CGFM



If you have an anniversary approaching, please let us know.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report	
For the period ending 12/31/2012	
Beginning Bank Balance 11/30/12	\$7,733.47
<i>Revenue:</i>	
Credit Cards - Square Luncheon 12/13/12 Luncheon 11/8/12	\$97.25 \$325.00
Luncheon 12/13/12 \$85.00 and Donation Ck for Christmas Family \$150.00	\$235.00
Dividend through November 30, 2012	\$0.64
Total Revenue	\$657.89
Funds Available	\$8,391.36
<i>Expenditures:</i>	
<i>Check No./ Credit Card.</i>	
<i>Date</i>	
12/01/12 CC	AGA Nat'l Membership for Mixer Winner Michael D. Needham Lynda Baker Reimbursement for \$95.00
12/14/12 2163	Christmas Family \$250.00
12/15/12 CC	Scholz Garten Luncheon 12/13/12 \$507.76
Total Expenditures	\$852.76
Ending Bank Balance 12/31/12	\$7,538.60
Check Register Reconciliation:	
Ending Bank Balance 12/31/12	\$7,538.60
<i>Outstanding Checks:</i>	
<i>Date</i>	<i>Check No. Description</i>
Total Outstanding Checks	\$0.00
<i>Outstanding Deposits:</i>	
<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>
Total Outstanding Deposits	\$0.00
Adjusted Ending Bank Balance @ 12/31/12	\$7,538.60
Total Chapter Cash Available Per Check Register @ 12/31/12	\$7,538.60
<i>Cash On Hand:</i>	
CU Min Savings Balance	\$5.00
Luncheon Bank	\$40.00

COMMUNITY SERVICE



Dancing with the Austin Stars

Dancing with the Stars held on December 2, 2012 was a great success! The night was jammed packed with energy! The dancers did an amazing job. The Centers for Child Protection raised \$800,000 between the Dancing with the Stars Austin event and the Lexus Raffle! Without the volunteers' energy, enthusiasm, and persistence, it couldn't have happened. Let's give a big hand to Lynda Baker and Zulay Sanchez who volunteered as greeters and auction spotters. A special thank you goes to AGA member's friends, Sylvia Garcia, and Rebecca Ehle for volunteering for this fun event.

For those that want to view the dancers performances, visit the Centers for Child Protection YouTube page at <http://www.youtube.com/user/cntr4childprotection>.

Holiday Giving

AGA adopted a family of seven from the Centers for Child Protection and was able to ensure that the family had a great Christmas! Each child received clothes (3 shirts, 2 pair pants, and pajamas), shoes, toys, gift certificates, and their special request including the kitchen and Barbie doll house. In addition, a total of \$150 gift certificates were provided to the family to purchase food and other items that may be needed. The certificates were made up of \$100 gift certificate from AGA and \$50 gift certificates from AGA members. Let's give a big hand to all of the AGA members that helped to brighten this family's Christmas!

A special thank you goes to Travis Mattingly, a friend of an AGA member, who donated a brand new Wii U and games. An extra special thank you goes to Lynda Baker and Debi Weyer for delivering the gifts to the Center.

Tax Assistance

Community Tax Centers program needs over 700 volunteers to help complete the 20,000 tax returns anticipated for this year and bring in over \$32 million in refunds to the Austin economy. In order to secure those

700 active volunteers the Center will need to recruit more than 1000 people. This year the Center will have 10 area sites running in Austin, Round Rock, and Del Valle. The Center provides free tax assistance for the low-income families and individuals in the Austin area. This is a wonderful volunteer opportunity that is really helping to lift people out of poverty and increase spending in the Austin economic market.

The website is www.communitytaxcenters.org. Please contact **Nick Banach**, the Volunteer Coordinator for the Community Tax Centers program for more information Nick.Banach@foundcom.org or call 512-610-7396.

*If you volunteer, please turn in your hours to **Lynda Baker** at bright_sunny_disp@yahoo.com.*

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Public Accounting vs. Private Accounting

Choosing between public accounting and private industry means learning about a wide range of choices and career paths that each area of the field offers. Public accountants, often certified public accountants (CPAs) perform a broad range of accounting, auditing, tax, and consulting activities for their clients, which may be corporations, governments, nonprofit organizations, or individuals. Some are forensic specialists, others specialize in government accounting and auditing.

Accountants working the private sector as internal auditors review and verify their companies' financial and information systems, management procedures, and internal controls. They evaluate the efficiency of a company's operations and may recommend and review controls for their organization's computer systems. They may function as auditors, work within the finance areas of the company or take on the responsibilities of management accountants.

Both sectors offer great potential for careers and compensation. Many corporate executives have a background in accounting, internal auditing, or finance. Public accountants often advance to positions with more responsibility in one or two years and to senior positions within another few years.

Please Follow the link below to read more about the article
<http://www.accountingjobstoday.com/cm/Articles/public-vs-private.html>