



# Monthly Footnotes

OCTOBER 2009

VOLUME X, ISSUE 2



## October 2009 Luncheon Meeting



**Welcome Members and Non-Members**

**TOPIC:** State of Wisconsin Strategies for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)

**SPEAKER:** Susan Crawford, Chief Legal Counsel to Governor Doyle

**DATE:** Thursday, October 22, 2009

**REGISTRATION:** 11:30 a.m.      **LUNCH:** 11:45 a.m.

**COST:** \$5 for Members, \$10 for Non-Members

**PLACE:** Babe's Restaurant (5614 Schroeder Road; just off Hwy 12 at Whitney Way exit)

**MENU:** In room pasta buffet with: Caesar salad, garlic bread, fettuccini and tortellini, marinara sauce (meatless), Alfredo sauce, and meatballs. Includes coffee.

### Inside this Issue:

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### RESERVATIONS

Please call **Sherri Voigt** by **10 a.m. on Monday, October 19, 2009** with your name and membership status, (608) 267-9818 or e-mail: [sherri.voigt@wisconsin.gov](mailto:sherri.voigt@wisconsin.gov). If you need help getting a ride to the lunch, please contact Sherri for car-pooling information.

### 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.

## About This Months Luncheon Speaker

Susan Crawford will present an overview of the State of Wisconsin's strategies and plans for ensuring accountability of funds allocated to state agencies under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Ms. Crawford is chief legal counsel in the Office of Governor Jim Doyle and also serves as deputy director of the Office of Recovery and Reinvestment. Governor Doyle created the Office of Recovery and Reinvestment to work with communities, local governments, the private sector and other stakeholders to put Recovery Act money to work in Wisconsin to protect priorities such as preserving quality education and creating jobs. Ms. Crawford's responsibilities include coordination of state agency compliance, performance, and reporting requirements under the Recovery Act.

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Sherri Voigt, CGFM, CPA



We had a great turnout for the September lunch meeting on the WI Retirement System and collected over 4 boxes of school supplies for the Janesville/Beloit schools plus over \$35 in donations to purchase additional supplies. Thank you to everyone who contributed!

October is Breast Cancer Awareness month. We are once again participating in the Passionately Pink for the Cure campaign. We encourage people to wear pink on Thursday, October 22 to support the cause. For people donating \$5 or more, we have the new edition of the Komen pin. Donations can be made at the event or on the "team" web page:

[Click here to view the team page for AGA-Southern Wisconsin](#)

Click on the "Donate to this team" button. The chapter will place matching donations based on the number of people we get participating. Last year we raised \$155.10, so we would like to beat that number.

For those unable to attend the September lunch, I am including some highlights and a link you may find of interest. Sari King of WI ETF condensed a huge volume of

information into the 50 minute presentation.

Statistics and interesting facts:

- \*Of the 1,462 WRS employers, there are 1,400 local and 62 state employers (state=26%.)
- \*The oldest active employee is 94.
- \*The person with the longest service record has 2 years of military and 57.5 years of work.
- \*The oldest retiree turned 108 in June.
- \*There are 557,062 WRS participants
  - 265,721 active (# is stable or declining)
  - 144,033 annuitants (# is growing)
  - 147,308 inactive (money left in WRS when left active service)

Employee Trust Funds has an extensive video library to assist people that want information without having to wait for a live presentation to be offered. Sari suggests you have high-speed internet to make playback effective. There is something for employees at every stage of their career with topics ranging from retirement topics to insurance and commuter benefits to beneficiary considerations. The link is: <http://etf.wi.gov/webcasts.htm>





## Back by Popular Demand Who says there's no free lunch?

Members Who Attend 3 Training Sessions September to February  
**Earn a Free Lunch**

*Coupon Valid at the March, April, or May Lunch*

### Chapter Board Meeting Minutes - September 1, 2009

**Attending:** Carrie, Dave, Roger, Mary, Lily, Tom, Dolly, Sherri.

**Membership:** At 88 members currently. Plan to do a 2 week "get a member" promotion this fall.

**Community Service:** School supply drive set for September lunch.

**Education:** Invitation out to ORR for speaker. Lunch menu set for October lunch meeting.

Other topics discussed for November.

Symposium topics list started since request in to National President.

**Other Topics:**

We will run the free lunch promotion to members (attend 3 of 5) this fall. It has proven popular.

Newsletter deadline is the 25<sup>th</sup>.

Notify Dolly of any work done for CRP reports.

### Passionately Pink for the Cure at October 22 Meeting!

**Q: What is Passionately Pink for the Cure?**

A: Passionately Pink for the Cure is an awareness and fundraising program benefiting Susan G. Komen for the Cure.

**Q: How will the funds raised be used?**

A: Eighty-seven cents of every dollar Komen receives goes toward our mission. Twenty-five percent is used to fund life-saving research and 75% is shared with our Affiliates across the country to be used in local education, screening and treatment efforts.

**Q: Will I receive a tax receipt?**

A: Susan G. Komen for the Cure issues receipts for any funds of \$10 or more received directly by Susan G. Komen for the Cure. Anyone who provides a check written directly to Komen will receive an acknowledgement within approximately four to six weeks from the date it was deposited. We are unable to issue official tax receipts to team captains to give to their participants at the time they collect donations.

**Q: Is my donation tax-deductible?**

A: Yes, contributions to Susan G. Komen for the Cure may be tax-deductible to the fullest extent

of the law. Please consult your tax advisor for more information

**Q: When are the donations due?**

A: We encourage team captains to send in their donations as soon as their Passionately Pink for the Cure day is over. (October 22)

**Q: Can donations be made online?**

A: We encourage it! Donors can either go to [passionatelypink.org](http://passionatelypink.org), click register/donate and find the team's donation page, or go directly to the team's donation page using the team URL. Online donors receive immediate acknowledgements, and you don't have to worry about sending checks by mail. Best of all, the money Komen saves in postage and handling goes toward the cause.

**Q: How should checks be made out?**

A: Please make checks payable to Susan G. Komen for the Cure and include your team ID number on all checks.

**Q: Can my gift be matched?**

A: If your company matches gifts to nonprofit organizations, find out if Susan G. Komen for the Cure is one of them and use the enclosed matching gift checklist.



# National News

## From the National President



### AGA @ 30,000 Feet

What a privilege it is to be serving as your National President, especially on AGA's 59th birthday! Congratulations to everyone who has had a hand in guiding our Association since its inception on Sept. 14, 1950. So far this year, it has been a real treat getting around to many chapters and visiting with you and participating in your educational and chapter events. Earlier this month, the Capitol Region RVP team, Section IV Senior VP, several others and I attended and spoke at the joint PDC held by the three West Virginia chapters. The highlight of the event was presenting the Beckley, WV Chapter with its official charter. What a GREAT day!

On the flight home, I turned my thoughts to writing this article. Looking out across the clouds, it hit me--AGA @ 30,000 Feet. The NEC and I serve you and lead AGA by setting policy, providing fiduciary oversight and ensuring that the executive director is managing the operational activities of the National Office. The NEC should function at the strategic and policy level and allow the executive director and National Office staff to carry out the association's day-to-day operations. We each have important roles and responsibilities, and we each reap rewarding benefits. [Read more.](#)

## NEW! Latest Research Study Just Released from AGA

AGA has just completed a research study on "**Managerial Cost Accounting in the Federal Government: Providing Useful Information for Decision-Making.**" The new report is the 22nd in the AGA Corporate Partner Advisory Group Research Series and was sponsored by corporate partner The MIL Corporation. The study looked at 10 federal entities that have had success with implementing their Managerial Cost Accounting (MCA) systems and are reaping the benefits. The objective of the research was to give pointers to entities that may be considering setting up a managerial cost accounting system and give them advice on how to do it well. Benefits documented include: enhanced awareness on the part of program managers on how cost-accounting data can help make smarter decisions; more informed knowledge of the value of activities conducted in pursuit of effective mission delivery; better cost-effectiveness and efficiency; and easier compliance with requirements such as audits, budget justifications and testifying to Congress.

[Read the report.](#)

Contact [Susan Fritzlen](#) for copies.

## Hotel Reservations Now Being Accepted for 2010 PDC in Orlando

Make plans now to attend AGA's 59th Annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition (PDC)--the premier education and networking event of the year!

Dream. Learn. Achieve. The PDC has it all! Join us **July 11-14, 2010**, in Orlando,

FL, to hear dynamic speakers, participate in informative sessions, learn about the latest research, share best practices, discover innovative management techniques and see the technological tools that can aid efficiency and improve effectiveness.

In addition to an outstanding technical education program, and the ability to earn 24 CPE hours, AGA's PDC is packed with opportunities to network with colleagues from around the country and make new friends. While you're here, be sure to experience all the attractions, shopping, fine dining and recreational activities Orlando has to offer.

Information about the agenda, speakers, travel discounts and registration is coming soon. In the meantime you can reserve your spot at the official conference hotel.

We have reserved a block of rooms at the Orlando World Center Marriott to accommodate PDC attendees. The rate is \$108 per night (plus tax) for single and double occupancy. However, **rates are only guaranteed until June 18, 2010, or until the room block is sold out.**

Reservations received after June 18, *or after the room block has been filled*, will be made on a space-available basis, and may be subject to significantly higher rates. Rooms sell quickly...we encourage you to make your hotel reservations early, for the best price and availability.

- To make a reservation, please call the Orlando World Center Marriott at 800.621.0638 and mention you are attending the "AGA PDC" to receive the discounted rate.
- You can also [reserve a room online](#).
- [Download Registration Form](#)

## Connect To the Profession Through Chapter Membership

Get Connected! The strength of any association lies with its membership. When you are ready to make new friends, meet colleagues who do what you do, and learn from the most creative people in the field, you can tap into AGA's vast interconnected community. Professionals join and stay with AGA because of the access that it provides to a wide range of industry experts around the country. Your colleagues are often your best source for in-depth insight and guidance.

Government financial managers and other accountability professionals rely on AGA to give them the tools and information they need to stay current on industry news, trends and best practices. Whether you are a new or seasoned professional, AGA provides professional development opportunities and helps you advance your career to the next level. All you have to do is get involved.

Engage with the financial management community through your chapter membership. To learn if there is a chapter near you, click on the Chapter Locator Map. Each of the 100 AGA chapters links with AGA National to share resources, which increases your opportunities for networking and professional development. Many members who live in areas with multiple chapters join more than one to maximize their membership opportunities. If you have not been taking advantage of the many benefits that your chapter provides, take the time to get involved now. Remember: AGA National membership does not include chapter membership. For additional information on how to utilize your member benefits [contact us](#).

## CGFM Corner

### CGFM FAQ: What is the CGFM's responsibility for maintaining documentation of CPE?

**ANSWER:** CGFMs are required to maintain supporting documentation on CPE hours earned for a minimum of three years and provide it to AGA upon request. The CGFM's records must include the following information for each CPE program or activity attended or completed:

- A.** The sponsoring organization (for example, AGA National Office, a local AGA chapter);
- B.** The title of the program, including subject matter, field of study or a brief description of its contents;
- C.** The dates attended for group programs or dates completed for individual study programs;
- D.** The number of CPE hours earned; and
- E.** Evidence of attendance or completion.

This might include the following:

- A certificate of attendance, a CPE form or other evidence or completion

of CPE from the CPE provider for group and individual-study programs.

- A grade report received for a university or college credit course.
- A letter from the program sponsor, documenting the CPE courses presented and/or developed.
- A copy of the published book, article, or materials that names the writer as author or contributor, a written statement from the writer supporting the number of CPE hours claimed, and the name and contact information of the publisher, if applicable.
- An official report from the employer that has the employer's name and lists all of the required information (employee's name, sponsoring organization, title of the program, completion date and number of CPE hours earned).

## ARTICLES

### Nominee Lays out Priorities for Federal Financial Management

President Obama's pick to be the government's top financial executive on Wednesday told senators he would focus on reducing improper payments and managing stimulus spending if confirmed. **Danny Werfel**, nominated to be head of the Office of Management and Budget's Office of Federal Financial Management, told the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee eliminating inefficient spending, including payment errors and investments in unnecessary real

property, would be a priority. Other goals include controlling the cost of financial management operations and modernizations; improving grants management; strengthening financial statement audits at individual agencies and government wide; and meeting the Obama administration's transparency requirements, especially for Recovery Act spending, he said. —Elizabeth Newell, *Government Executive*. [Read more.](#)

## **Four Strategies for Transforming State Government**

President Barack Obama came to office promising to "redesign" the federal government and how it interacts with citizens by moving to a "21st century government." He's been getting headlines for innovations being undertaken by his new administration. But the secret is that many of these have been piloted first by state governments in recent years. In fact, before the big financial crunch of recent months, states have been pursuing four strategies to transform the ways they govern. These four interrelated strategies — anticipatory governance, results-oriented governance, collaborative governance, and transparent governance — were first described in "Four Strategies to Transform State Governance," a report last year by the late Keon S. Chi, a long-time researcher at the Council of State Governments. —Jonathan D. Breul and John M. Kamensky, *Governing*. [Read more.](#)

## **To Count New Stimulus Jobs, Help Really Wanted**

As the \$787 billion federal stimulus package was being deliberated by Congress in February, the White House estimated that the act would increase employment by 3.5 million jobs, including 24,000 combined in New Hampshire and Wyoming. So far, though, those states say the stimulus has added fewer than 1,000 jobs. Less than a month from now, when every state receiving stimulus funds will be required to make such a report, the numbers will fall far short of White House projections -- whether it's the original 3.5 million job projection or the latest estimate, issued by the White House last week, that one million jobs have been created thus far by the stimulus act. The enormous spread between the states and the White House

reflects how difficult it is to measure job creation and attribute it to a specific cause. —Carl Bialik, *The Wall Street Journal*. [Read more.](#)

## **Federal Accounting Corner**

### **The FY2010 SF133 Section Two: Status of Budgetary Resources**

Last month I discussed section one of the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) new format of the SF133 Report on Budget Execution and the associated Standard General Ledger (SGL) Account mapping. This month I cover section two. As a review, the new SF-133 format has five sections, using four-digit line numbers. It generally goes into more detail than the current format, though that is not the case for the second section. —Simcha Kuritzky, CGFM, CPA. [Read the entire column.](#)

## **IG Faults DHS for Breaking Rules on Some Noncompetitive Contracts**

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security did not comply with federal regulations in the awarding of 70 noncompetitive contracts in fiscal 2007, according to a new report from DHS Inspector General Richard Skinner. Overall, DHS officials obligated \$3.1 billion in procurements without full and open competition that year, and detailed review of 82 of those procurements -- worth a total of \$417 million -- showed that DHS skirted the rules in awarding 70 of them, according to Skinner's report. —Alice Lipowicz, *Federal Computer Week*. [Read more.](#)

## Employment Opportunities

### SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

Dane County Human Services has an immediate vacancy to perform responsible professional accounting work compiling, analyzing and reconciling fiscal information. This position will maintain, analyze and document financial records; may work on developing, implementing and maintaining departmental accounting policies and procedures; prepare fiscal reports; may supervise the work of clerical staff engaged in contract compliance, contract processing or other accounting support related activities and do related work as required. Requires any combination of training and experience equivalent to graduation from college with a bachelor's degree in accounting and two years of professional accounting experience. This recruitment will be used to establish an eligible list from which future provisional and regular vacancies in this classification may be filled. Starting annual salary is \$54,101 with further merit increases to \$70,325 with excellent benefits. Anticipated exam: Qualifications Statement describing training and experience pertaining to essential functions of the job (to be submitted with completed application form).

To access the qualifications statement, click on the link to application and examinations (above). Scroll down to "Examinations" and click on the "Senior Accountant Qualifications Statement." To access the application, simply click on the "Standard Application" button.

Recruitment ends **4:30 p.m., Friday, October 9, 2009**. Completed application and qualifications statement must be submitted by the deadline. Late application and exams will not be considered. For application materials contact: Dane County Employee Relations Office, Room 418, City-County Building, Madison, Wisconsin, 53703, 608/266-4123, and for those with TDD equipment: 608/266-

4125, or through the Dane County home page on the Internet at:

[www.co.dane.wi.us](http://www.co.dane.wi.us).

An Affirmative Action Employer operating under a Civil Service Merit System.

### School Finance Auditor

**Job Announcement Code(s): 09-02210**

The Department of Public Instruction, the Division for Finance and Management; School Management Services Team, is currently seeking applicants to fill a School Finance Auditor position. This position is located at 125 South Webster Street, Madison.

#### Job Duties:

This position has responsibility for developing, implementing, and determining adherence to accounting, financial reporting and auditing requirements for private schools participating in the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (MPCP). This individual has the primary responsibility for the independent examination of the MPCP financial and membership audits. This individual provides advanced and highly technical consultation and direction to practicing certified public accountants, department staff and private schools. Independent performance involving a high level of decision making affecting state policies concerning prescribed accounting, auditing and financial reporting is required.

Special Notes: A criminal background check will be conducted prior to an offer of hire.

#### Job Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

Knowledge of generally accepted accounting principles; generally accepted auditing standards and government



auditing standards; single audit regulations and requirements; techniques used for large and small group professional presentations; techniques used in analyzing complex reports, financial statements and other materials to determine pertinent fiscal practices and alternatives; laws and regulations pertaining to governmental and non-profit organizations, particularly private and public schools; and private and public school accounting and auditing requirements.

### Two Ways to Apply:

#### Apply online!

Go to [www.wisc.jobs](http://www.wisc.jobs) to see the full job announcement

([http://wisc.jobs/public/job\\_view.asp?annoid=38531&jobid=38046&index=true](http://wisc.jobs/public/job_view.asp?annoid=38531&jobid=38046&index=true)) If

you have not already done so, you will need to create an account. After you are logged in and are viewing the announcement, click "Apply Now." You will be asked to provide your personal information, attach a resume, and then complete the exam. [Preview Exam](#)

#### Or mail completed materials

Please send an Application for State Employment

(<http://oser.state.wi.us/application.asp>), a resume, **and** a paper limited to six pages detailing your training and experience related to:

- 1) Applying generally accepted accounting principles. Include the setting (government, school, private organization, etc.) in which the experience was obtained.
- 2) Applying generally accepted auditing standards. Include the setting (government, school, private organization, etc.) where the experience was obtained. Specify if you have experience applying the single audit standards.
- 3) Analyzing complex reports, financial statements and other materials and using this information to develop and provide

consultation related to pertinent fiscal practices and alternatives.

Your responses to these three questions are considered a civil service examination and will be used to determine your eligibility for this vacancy. Applications that do not include all of the requested materials will NOT be considered. Send completed application materials to DPI Human Resources; PO Box 7841; Madison, WI 53707-7841. You may also fax completed materials to 608-266-5856 Attn: Denise Kohout.

## **SHARE YOUR NEWS**

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 [radiojevich@co.dane.wi.us](mailto:radiojevich@co.dane.wi.us). Deadline for submission of articles is the 25th of the month. Feel to send in topic suggestions or features to include.

## **COMMENTS**

We would love to hear feedback on the newsletter changes. Let us know what you like, what you hate, what we can do better! Contact the Newsletter Editor at [radiojevich@co.dane.wi.us](mailto:radiojevich@co.dane.wi.us) or the Chapter President at [sherri.voigt@wisconsin.gov](mailto:sherri.voigt@wisconsin.gov)

## **ARE YOU MOVING?**

If you are moving, or have already moved, please notify both your chapter and AGA National of your address change. You can update your address online at the national website: [www.agacgfm.org/membership/form\\_address.htm](http://www.agacgfm.org/membership/form_address.htm)



## **Southern Wisconsin Chapter Calendar of Events for 2009-2010**

August 4, 2009 – Board Meeting, Old Country Buffet, Madison

September 1, 2009 – Board Meeting, Old Country Buffet, Madison Wisconsin  
September 24, 2009 - Retirement System Update, Sari King, Constituent Relations,  
Department of Employee Trust Funds (ETF), Great Dane - Fitchburg

**October 6, 2009 – Board Meeting, Old Country Buffet, Madison**

**October 22, 2009 – luncheon topic to be determined (Babe's Restaurant)**

November 3, 2009 – Board Meeting, Old Country Buffet, Madison

November 19, 2009 – luncheon topic and location to be determined

December 1, 2009 – Board Meeting, Old Country Buffet, Madison

January 5, 2010 – Board Meeting, Old Country Buffet, Madison

January 28, 2010 – Annual Tax Update (Imperial Garden)

February 2, 2010 – Board Meeting, Old Country Buffet, Madison

February 25, 2010 – luncheon topic and location to be determined

March 2, 2010 – Board Meeting, Old Country Buffet, Madison

March 25, 2010 – luncheon topic and location to be determined

April 6, 2010 – Board Meeting, Old Country Buffet, Madison

April 22, 2010 – luncheon topic and location to be determined

May 4, 2010 – Board Meeting, Old Country Buffet, Madison

May 2010 - *Annual Spring Symposium*

May 20, 2010 – luncheon topic and location to be determined

June 1, 2010 – Board Meeting, Old Country Buffet, Madison

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

# AGA Southern Wisconsin Chapter 2008-2009 Officers and Directors

**President** – Sherri Voigt, CGFM, CPA, DNR, [sherri.voigt@wisconsin.gov](mailto:sherri.voigt@wisconsin.gov), 608-267-9818

**President Elect** – Vacant

**Past President** – Eric Busse, DPI [eric.busse@dpi.state.wi.us](mailto:eric.busse@dpi.state.wi.us), 608-267-9199

**Chapter Recognition** – Dolly O'Laughlin, [olaughlin@co.dane.wi.us](mailto:olaughlin@co.dane.wi.us), 608-242-6314

**Secretary** – Vacant

**Treasurer** – Roger Birkett, CPA, [jabirk@charter.net](mailto:jabirk@charter.net)

**Membership Chair** – position appointment in process

**Newsletter Editor** – Lillian Radivojevich, [radivojevich@co.dane.wi.us](mailto:radivojevich@co.dane.wi.us), 608-284-4801

**Education Co-Chair** – Carrie Ferguson, CPA, LAB, [carrie.ferguson@legis.state.wi.us](mailto:carrie.ferguson@legis.state.wi.us), 608-259-9839

Mary Laufenberg, CGFM, CPA, DOR, [mary.laufenberg@revenue.wi.gov](mailto:mary.laufenberg@revenue.wi.gov), 608-266-1670

**Historian** – position appointment in process

**Webmaster** – Scott Thornton, [scott@goochpages.com](mailto:scott@goochpages.com)

**Community Service Chair** – Sherri Voigt, CGFM, CPA, DNR, [sherri.voigt@wisconsin.gov](mailto:sherri.voigt@wisconsin.gov)

**Research Coordinator & Liaison w/Other Profession Organizations** – Vacant

**CGFM Chair** – Eric Busse, DPI [eric.busse@dpi.state.wi.us](mailto:eric.busse@dpi.state.wi.us), 608-267-9199

**Awards Chair** – Vacant

**Early Careers Chair** – Vacant

**Directors -**

Julie Gordon, CPA, UW System, [jgordon@uwsa.edu](mailto:jgordon@uwsa.edu), 608-263-4395

Mary Laufenberg, CGFM, CPA, DOR, [mary.laufenberg@revenue.wi.gov](mailto:mary.laufenberg@revenue.wi.gov), 608-266-1670

Thomas A. Scheidegger, CPA, [thomas.scheidegger@bakertilly.com](mailto:thomas.scheidegger@bakertilly.com)

**RVP North Central Region** – David Mellem, CGFM, CIA, CISA, US DHHS OIG,

**Chapter Website** – [www.aga-wis.org](http://www.aga-wis.org)

**Chapter Address** – PO Box 1454; Madison, WI 53701-1454



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SOUTHERN WISCONSIN CHAPTER