



SOUTHERN
WISCONSIN
CHAPTER



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Monthly Footnotes

OCTOBER 2010

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UW Memorial Union



Monona Terrace

October Luncheon Meeting Welcome Members and Non-Members

TOPIC: 26 Years in the Legislature – The Changes I've Seen

SPEAKER: Representative Spencer Black (D-Madison, WI)

DATE: Wednesday, October 27, 2010

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

COST: \$6 for Members, \$12 for Non-Members

PLACE: Dayton Street Café (Inside the Concourse Hotel, 1 West Dayton Street)

MENU: Meals include soda, coffee, or tea

- **Salad Bar** - variety of salads, toppings, soups
- **Grilled Chicken** – grilled chicken, pesto mayo, mozzarella cheese, roasted tomatoes, lettuce on toasted ciabatta bred, with penne pasta salad
- **Traditional Burger** – dry-aged highland beef served with fries

RESERVATIONS

Please contact Sherri Voigt **by 1 p.m. on Friday, October 22, 2010** with your name, membership status, meal choice at (608) 267-9818/e-mail: sherri.voigt@wisconsin.gov. If you need help getting a ride to lunch, please contact Sherri for car-pooling information.

NEW MEMBERS FIRST LUNCHEON MEETING

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

ABOUT THIS MONTH'S SPEAKER

Representative Spencer Black (D-Madison, WI) has represented the 77th Assembly District since 1984. He is the Chair of the Assembly Natural Resources Committee. He previously served as Assembly Minority Leader and Assistant Minority Leader.

Representative Black is generally considered to be the Legislature's leading environmental advocate. He is a leader in a number of other policy areas including consumer protection, health care, education, transportation and senior citizen issues.

Representative Black attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison and has two graduate degrees - Masters of Science in Urban and Regional Planning and a Masters of Arts in Public Policy and Administration.



Spencer Black confers with former Senator and Governor Gaylord Nelson

Representative Black previously worked as a high school teacher and coach, as Curator of Education of the State Historical Society and as a conservation representative for the Sierra Club. Black is married to Pam Fornell, a physical therapist at University Hospital. Their son, Tim, is in his second year of college.

Passionately Pink for the Cure at October 27 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.

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: Team captains are encouraged to send in donations as soon as their Passionately Pink for the Cure day is over. (October 27)

Q: Can donations be made online?

A: We encourage it! Donors can either go to [passionatelypink.org](http://www.info-komen.org/site/TR/PassionatelyPink/PassionatelyPink?pg=team&fr_id=1846&team_id=145766), click register/donate and find the team's 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.

Team: [agasowi](http://www.info-komen.org/site/TR/PassionatelyPink/PassionatelyPink?pg=team&fr_id=1846&team_id=145766) **Link:** http://www.info-komen.org/site/TR/PassionatelyPink/PassionatelyPink?pg=team&fr_id=1846&team_id=145766

Q: How should checks be made out?

A: Please make checks payable to Susan G. Komen for the Cure.



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

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

Coupon Valid at the April or May Lunch



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Sherri Voigt, CGFM, CPA



For the 3rd year, Our Chapter will host a Komen "Passionately Pink for the Cure" event as part of the *October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month* campaign. We will do this on conjunction with the October 27 lunch meeting. See above for some FAQ. Anyone who would like to donate can use the link noted on page 2 or bring a donation to the lunch meeting. Anyone who donates \$5 or more will receive a pin. All lunch attendees will be entered in a drawing for a pink pashmina scarf (prize donated to the chapter.)

If you would just like more information on risk factors and prevention, please visit <http://ww5.komen.org/breastcancer/loweryourrisk.html>.

Our speaker this month is Representative Spencer Black. He is leaving politics after over 25 years of public service. His presentation will highlight some of the changes he has seen in public policy administration over the length of his career. I hope you are able to join us! Please note the lunch meeting is a Wednesday this month!

Sherri V. 🍷



2009 Event Photo

September 23 Lunch Meeting Notes

Speaker: Tommy Winkler, Asst Division Administrator, Division of Ethics and Accountability, WI Government Accountability Board

Topic: Role of the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board

- The GAB board consists of 6 retired non-partisan judges with staggered terms. The agency was created by combining the format Ethics and Elections boards.
- Basic assumptions of GAB
 - Government should be transparent to taxpayers.
 - Officials should not profit from their public position.
 - Citizens should have access to elected officials.
- People must register as a lobbyist with the GAB and pay a registration fee. This raises about \$500,000/year. It can't be lapsed to GPR reserves or it would be a tax on free speech.
- They maintain strict rules for lobbying and reports must be submitted within 15 days of a lobbying communication, increasing timeliness and they're posted on the web for public viewing.

- In the first 1.5 years of the current legislative session, \$53M and 411,000 hours have been spent on lobbying activities.
- GAB staff are available to provide confidential advice to officials when they aren't quite sure what can/should not do in a set of circumstances.
- He put in a plug for people to get out and vote. He also mentioned poll workers are always needed and asked people to consider volunteering.
- See their website at <http://gab.wi.gov/> for more information on ethics rules, Contract Sunshine, campaign finance, and other election updates



Chapter Board Meeting Minutes October 5, 2010



Present: Mary Laufenberg, Sherri Voigt, Tom Scheidegger, Roger Birkett

Treasurer's Report \$19,834.40

Membership - 79 members; one DOR person signing up soon; still working on reinstatements

Community Service - October lunch
Passionately Pink for Cure;
November lunch food drive

CRP – Q1 points entered: 5,105 points earned to date (out of 22,000 total)

Newsletter –ready to send

Education – need to look at Symposium-national speaker request; need 11/18 speaker and location

Other Items: Audio cd conference will be offered 12/7 for 2 cpe; DOR conference room reserved

Board meetings: Next meeting is 11/16



**National President
Lisa Casias, CPA**

National News

Register Today for AGA's Performance Management Conference in Baltimore

AGA's Sixth Annual Performance Management Conference (PMC), scheduled for Oct. 13–14 in Baltimore, MD, has it all. It is designed for those who are leading the performance practice at their government entity and for those who are new to the process. We'll talk about what works and what doesn't in performance management.

We've been told that the PMC is the place to be for those on the front lines of performance reporting. New ideas, successful practices and lessons learned are all a part of this event. Attendees are passionate about their role in government and that enthusiasm is infectious. They want to share their experience, and the best venue is AGA's PMC.

Head to Baltimore and experience the outstanding technical program planned and executed by your colleagues from around the country. This event is packed with opportunities to network as well.

Hotel Accommodations

**Embassy Suites Hotel-BWI Airport
1300 Concourse Drive
Linthicum, MD 21090
410.850.0747**

**AGA Rate: \$139 + Tax (Single/Double)
Discount Deadline Extended to Sept. 24, 2010**

When making your reservation, mention you are attending the "AGA PMC" to ensure you receive the discounted rate. [You may also reserve a room online.](#)

Keynote speakers include:

- **Beth Blauer**, Director, Governor's State Office, State of Maryland
- **Shelley H. Metzenbaum, Ph.D.**, Associate Director of Performance and Personnel Management, U.S. Office of Management and Budget
- **Harry Hatry**, Distinguished Fellow, Director of the Public Management Program and Principal Research Associate for The Urban Institute



- **Jonathan Walters**, *GOVERNING* magazine correspondent and author of "Measuring Up: GOVERNING's Guide to Performance Measurement for Geniuses and other Public Managers"

Take the lead in your government to learn more about performance measurement and management.

[Register online](#)

[Print the registration form](#) and fax to 703.684.6933

Emerging Issues Committee Seeks Members

Do you want to be part of a dynamic think tank on the leading edge of government accountability issues? AGA has one and you can participate. The Emerging Issues Committee can have up to 11 members; the committee is looking for AGA members in good standing to serve a three-year term. Committee co-chairs, **Jeanette Franzel, CGFM, CPA**, and **Tony Rainey**, are primarily looking for applicants who are with state or local levels of government to strengthen committee representation in those constituencies, but feds are also welcome!

The committee's mission is to identify and elevate awareness of significant emerging issues that impact government accountability at the federal, state and/or local level. Once issues are identified, the committee can take a range of possible actions to assist other AGA members in dealing with these issues. The committee also provides input to the technical committee for the Professional Development Conference & Exposition and to the Corporate Partner Advisory Group Research Program. The committee presents a session on emerging issues at the PDC.

If you are interested in serving on this prestigious committee, please contact the staff liaison for the committee, AGA director of Research [Anna Miller](#).

Members Are Invited to Accept the Challenge of AGA National and Regional Leadership

AGA's National Nominating Committee is currently seeking members for volunteer leadership positions as:

- National President-Elect
- National Treasurer-Elect
- Senior Vice President for Regional Services – Section III
- Senior Vice President At-Large
- Fifteen Regional Vice Presidents (RVP)-Elect

Term

The three-year terms begin July 1, 2011.

Qualifications and Eligibility

To serve in any of these positions, candidates must be AGA members in good standing and have professional backgrounds for each position. Persons serving as National President, National President-Elect, National Treasurer, National Treasurer-Elect, Senior Vice President, and Regional Vice President may not serve concurrently in any other



elective Association office, except the National Executive Committee. Other qualifications apply.

Submissions

All submissions will be forwarded to the National Nominating Committee, which will choose the slate of candidates.

Nominations are due **Friday, Oct. 29, 2010.**

Please note that since the committee often receives more than one nomination per position, not every nominee will be selected. Candidates for elective office are reminded that the National Bylaws do not permit campaigning for elective office. Additionally, only ONE nomination per candidate is necessary and candidates should not solicit additional nominations. Also, the committee will not recognize endorsements of candidates.

For More Information

If you are interested in serving or know of potential leaders, please [click here](#) for a Nominations Brochure that contains information about position terms, qualifications and eligibility, a list of Sections/Regions/Chapters, and National Officer Nomination Form. Or, contact



[Louise Kapelewski](#), Nominating Committee staff liaison, at the National Office at 800.AGA.7211, ext. 321.

CGFM Corner



AGA 2010 Compensation Survey Report:

The Value of CGFM Certification

In February 2010, Association of Government Accountants (AGA) conducted its first compensation survey. An e-mail invitation was sent to approximately 14,000 AGA members and Certified Government Financial Managers (CGFMs).

In total, 3,537 completed online submissions were received by April, representing a response rate of 25 percent. Industry Insights Inc., an independent professional survey research firm, conducted the survey. The survey highlighted the value of certification. The two most common certifications/licenses held by survey respondents were CGFM (44 percent of respondents) and CPA (38 percent of respondents); one-quarter of the respondents had no certifications or licenses.

Those who had earned a CGFM certification reported a higher average



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salary than those who do not: \$105,815 compared to \$78,905, a difference of 34 percent. When compared to the average salary of individuals with no designations—\$68,416—the average salary of CGFMs was 55 percent higher.

Many factors affect compensation, and the environment of each organization is unique. As this survey reveals, certification—and CGFM in particular—is a significant factor. The CGFM designation can offer additional benefits such as potential advancement and holding a credential that is preferred for certain job titles. Individuals seeking a career in government financial management or desiring to advance in the field should explore the CGFM certification to enhance their marketability and potentially increase their compensation. More information on the CGFM Program can be found at www.agacgfm.org/cgfm or by calling 800.AGA.7211.

Articles

Federal News

President Names GAO Veteran Dodaro to Head Agency

President Obama announced Wednesday he would nominate **Gene L. Dodaro, CGFM**, to serve as comptroller general of the United States and head of the U.S. Government Accountability Office. Dodaro, a member of AGA's Northern Virginia Chapter, has been acting head of GAO since March 2008, when David M. Walker left the agency to head the Peter G. Peterson Foundation. If Dodaro's nomination is approved by the Senate, he will serve a 15-year term as comptroller general. Dodaro is a GAO veteran, having served at the agency for more than 30

years. For nine years, he was GAO's chief operating officer, the No. 2 position at the agency. Before that, he headed its largest operating unit, the Accounting and Information Management Division. During that period, Dodaro oversaw the first-ever audit of comprehensive financial statements covering all federal agencies. —Tom Shoop, *Government Executive*.

[Read more.](#)

Feds Gain Power Over Billions in Medicare Fraud

Proposed regulations seek to crack down on Medicare and Medicaid fraud by subjecting operators of certain medical firms to fingerprinting and stopping payments when credible fraud allegations are made, documents show. The rules would give federal health officials key powers to identify fraud early and reduce the estimated \$55 billion in improper payments made each year in the Medicare and Medicaid programs, said Peter Budetti, director of the new anti-fraud office at the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. —Alison Young, *USA Today*. [Read more.](#)

State and Local News

Virginia Transportation Dept. Audit Uncovers Hundreds of Millions in Unspent Funds

Gov. Robert F. McDonnell is expected to announce the findings of a new audit of the Virginia Department of Transportation, which sources said has uncovered hundreds of millions of dollars in unspent funds spread across several accounts. Two sources familiar with the audit, who spoke on the condition of anonymity so as not to preempt the governor's announcement, said the accounts could total \$500 million. Sen. John C. Watkins (R-Chesterfield) said Secretary of Transportation Sean T. Connaughton told

him that the audit could bring in at least \$300 million. According to Watkins, Connaughton said those funds, nearly \$500 million from the possible privatization of the state's liquor system and a third, yet-to-be-announced revenue source could total \$1 billion. The money is significant because the state has struggled for years to find road and transit funds. "All the stars have to be aligned right," he said. —Anita Kumar, *The Washington Post*. [Read more.](#)

From Facebook to Government: Can Millennials Increase Government Popularity?

It may be difficult to look beyond the mounting deficits, partisan rancor and political gridlock driving headlines today. But at this moment exists a unique opportunity to reshape government—in Washington, D.C., in every state capital and throughout local government in America. Approximately 60 percent of the federal work force is age 45 and older, according to the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, including one in every three mid- to senior-level federal officials is preparing to retire in the near term. At the state and local levels, a similar retirement wave is taking place, according to the Center for State and Local Government Excellence. Baby boomers are exiting the public work force in numbers that will grow significantly over time. —John Della Volpe, *Governing*. [Read more.](#)

Federal Accounting Corner

Depreciation in the Public Sector

In the private sector, depreciation matches the acquisition cost of the asset against the revenues the asset makes possible. Because the revenue flow is uncertain, companies often depreciate assets quickly (that is, it is usual for an asset to be fully depreciated before it is retired). This goes hand in hand with the conservative principle and also tends to more closely match net

book value with market value, though there is no guarantee of the latter. How should depreciation be viewed and calculated in the public sector? —Simcha Kuritzky, CGFM, CPA. [Read the entire column.](#)

Private Sector News

For the Unemployed Over 50, Fears of Never Working Again

Patricia Reid is not in her 70s, an age when many Americans continue to work. She is not even in her 60s. She is just 57. But four years after losing her job she cannot, in her darkest moments, escape a nagging thought: she may never work again. College educated, with a degree in business administration, she is experienced, having worked for two decades as an internal auditor and analyst at Boeing before losing that job. But that does not seem to matter, not for her and not for a growing number of people in their 50s and 60s who desperately want or need to work to pay for retirement and who are starting to worry that they may be discarded from the work force—forever. Since the economic collapse, there are not enough jobs being created for the population as a whole, much less for those in the twilight of their careers. —Motoko Rich, *The New York Times*. [Read more.](#)

Accounting Standards News

AGA Standards Board Sends Comment Letter on Pension Accounting

AGA's Financial Management Standards Board (FMSB) sent a comment letter Sept. 21 to the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) on their Preliminary Views Document on Pension Accounting and Reporting by Employers. The FMSB agreed with much of GASB's proposed guidance, but emphasized the

significant change for state and local governments should the provisions of the PV ultimately result in a standard. The FMSB does expect that the final standard will provide the basis for making fiscally sound pension-related policy decisions, especially by identifying the full expense of pension plan benefits and the liability of entities to fund that expense. [Read the full letter.](#)



October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

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.agacqfm.org/membership/form_address.htm



SHARE YOUR NEWS

Do you have some interesting news that your fellow chapter members may be interested in? If so, you are welcome (and encouraged) to submit an article to the NewsletterEditoratradiojevich@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 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 or the Chapter President at sherri.voigt@wisconsin.gov

Southern Wisconsin Chapter Calendar of Events for 2010-2011

August 31, 2010 – Board Meeting, Old Country Buffet, Madison

September 23, 2010 – Lunch Meeting, Tom Winkler, Government Accountability Board, Role of the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board, Dayton Street Café at The Concourse Hotel

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

October 27, 2010 – Lunch Meeting, Representative Spencer Black (D-Madison, WI), Dayton Street Café at The Concourse Hotel

November 16, 2010 – Board Meeting, Old Country Buffet, Madison

November 18, 2010 – Luncheon topic and location to be determined

December 7, 2010 – audio cd conference (2 cpe), WI DOR Conference Room

January 4, 2011 – Board Meeting, Old Country Buffet, Madison

January 27, 2011 – Annual Tax Update

February 1, 2011 – Board Meeting, Old Country Buffet, Madison, WI

February 24, 2011 – Luncheon topic and location to be determined

March 1, 2011 – Board Meeting, Old Country Buffet, Madison

March 24, 2011 – Luncheon topic and location to be determined

April 5, 2011 – Board Meeting, Old Country Buffet, Madison

April 28, 2011 – Luncheon topic and location to be determined

May 1, 2011 – MS Walk 2011 (community service event)

May 3, 2011 – Board Meeting, Old Country Buffet, Madison

May 10, 2011 – *Annual Spring Symposium*

June 7, 2011 – Board Meeting, Old Country Buffet, Madison

June 9, 2011 – Luncheon topic and location to be determined

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

AGA Southern Wisconsin Chapter 2010-2011 Officers and Directors

President – Sherri Voigt, CGFM, CPA, DNR, sherri.voigt@wisconsin.gov, 608-267-9818

President Elect – Vacant

Past President – Eric Busse, DPI eric.busse@dpi.state.wi.us, 608-267-9199

Chapter Recognition – Dolly O’Laughlin, olaughlin@co.dane.wi.us, 608-242-6314

Secretary – Vacant

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

Historian – David Mellem, CGFM, CIA, CISA, US DHHS OIG, david.mellem@oig.hhs.gov,
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Carrie Ferguson, CPA, LAB, carrie.ferguson@legis.state.wi.us, 608-259-9839

Webmaster – Scott Thornton, scott@goochpages.com

Community Service Chair – Sherri Voigt, CGFM, CPA, DNR, sherri.voigt@wisconsin.gov

Research Coordinator & Liaison w/ Other Profession Organizations – Vacant

CGFM Chair – Vacant

Awards Chair – Vacant

Early Careers Chair – Vacant

Directors -

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SOUTHERN WISCONSIN CHAPTER