



2009-2010 Chapter History Report

August, 2010

The Southern Wisconsin Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants earned gold status for the 2009-2010 program year. We had a wide variety of educational events and community service opportunities. We were able to offer a total of 1,227 CPE hours during the program year. Anyone attending all sessions could earn 17 CPE for the year.

1. Training Events Held – Total CPE Offered: 9 Hours

May 11, 2010: AGA Annual Spring Symposium at University of Wisconsin
Topics – Various accounting/auditing/development topics (listed behind speaker below)
Speakers:

- Billy Morehead, CGFM, AGA National President, Accountancy Chair-Delta State University, *International Accounting Standards and GASB Updates*
- Billy Morehead, CGFM, AGA National President, Accountancy Chair-Delta State University, *Ethics 101*
- Joanne Cantor, Ph.D., UW-Madison Center for Communication Research, *So You Think You Can Multitask: Preserving Productivity Under Cyber Overload*
- Sarah Gibson, Accent Business Communication, LLC, *Effective Gender Communication in the Workplace*

Location – UW Memorial Union, Madison, WI

CPE's Offered – 7 hours

Attendance: 136

April 29, 2010: Using Internal Controls to Better Manage and Monitor Programs- CD Audio Conference

By now, most people understand the need for internal controls. But do they know how to implement these concepts? What are the underlying reasons that intelligent, hard-working people simply ignore or circumvent such checks and balances? Is it a matter of inadequate resources or laziness? Should poor leadership be tolerated? How can poor internal controls lead to fraud?

Once we have recognized the need for internal controls in most organizations and have developed a comprehensive set of internal controls, how can an agency's investment in compliance help it reduce the total cost of controls and regulatory compliance as well as improve performance, thereby reprogramming resources in support of mission initiatives?

To share their views on these internal controls questions are **Terry Carnahan, CGFM, CPA**, Managing Director for Federal Internal Audit and Regulatory Compliance Services, KPMG LLP; and **Robert Gray, CGFM, CIA, CFE**, Consultant, Robert Gray Training; Former Regional Inspector General, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Location – Rocky Rococo Pizzeria

CPE's Offered – 2 hours

Attendance: 26

Monthly Chapter Luncheon Meetings– 1 CPE offered for each luncheon except January Tax Update – 6 CPE

- September 24, 2009 - Retirement System Update, Sari King, Constituent Relations, Department of Employee Trust Funds (ETF), (36 attended)
- October 22, 2009 – State of Wisconsin Strategies for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), Susan Crawford, Chief Legal Council to Governor Doyle (42 attended)
- November 19, 2009 – Wisconsin Economic Update, John Koskinen, Chief Economist, Wisconsin Department of Revenue (37 attended)
- January 28, 2010 – Annual Tax Update, Mardee L. Blattner, CPA, MST, Manager, Baker Tilly Virchow Krause & Company (35 attended)
- February 25, 2010 – Eugene S. Farley, MD, MPH, Health Care – What It Means For Individuals, Families, Businesses, Governments, and Health Care Providers (35 attended)
- March 25, 2010 – Bradley Livingston, Director, Dane County Regional Airport (21 attended)
- May 20, 2010 – The Latest Progress on Wisconsin's High Speed Rail, Robert Lenz, ProRail Board of Directors (17 attended)

2. **Membership:**

We offer a free lunch meeting to all new members to encourage participation. New members are announced and welcomed at the monthly lunch meetings. Members who attend 3 training sessions from September through February receive a free lunch coupon to use for a lunch in March, April, or May. This year, we mirrored the recruitment program that Indianapolis offers and offered \$10 rebates to new members and their recruiters. We had 4 new members sign up under this.

3. **Community Service:**

Our chapter held a school supply drive at the September meeting. We gathered over 4 boxes of supplies. These supplies were delivered to the Beloit Schools. In October, we participated in the Passionately Pink for the Cure program to raise funds for breast cancer awareness. Our chapter conducted a food drive and cash donation collection at the November and January monthly luncheons. Three members participated in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program, totaling over 100 hours. The chapter created a team to participate in the MS Walk on May 2, 2010. Our team of 5 included 1 member and 4 non-members. We raised \$620 in donations, including a chapter \$50 donation noted below. The chapter made the following cash donations during the program year: \$500 to the AGA Circle City chapter, \$39 to the Komen Foundation, \$250 to the Second Harvest Food Bank (plus \$45 from chapter members), and \$50 to the MS Walk.

4. **CGFM Activities:**

We published articles in each newsletter related to the certification and offered reimbursement to the first 4 people to pass the exam. This year, we had one member start the certification process and pass 2 exam parts. A study group of 3 people started up. We

were once again able to get a Governor's Declaration that March was CGFM month. We received a signed certificate from James Doyle, Governor, State of Wisconsin. The certificate was displayed and highlighted at the March 25 lunch meeting and May 10 Symposium. CGFM holders who came to the March lunch received a free lunch. At our March 25 luncheon and the May 10 Symposium, all CGFM holders received a special CGFM sticker for their name badge to highlight their professional achievement.

5. **Early Career Activities**

We tried to target early career people with the membership rebate offer. One student signed up as a member.

6. **Award**

At our May 10 symposium training, we presented the UW-Platteville Challenge Team with a certificate of achievement for winning the challenge in the first year ever participating. Sharif Gias, Assistant Professor of Finance, UW-Platteville attended the conference to accept.