



Observations



A monthly publication of the Chicago Chapter, Association of Government Accountants

AGA – Dedicated to serving the community and promoting government accountability

March 2011

Issue 5

Upcoming Events

Luncheon:

March 14, 2011
11:30 AM

Speaker:

Keith A. Byers
Supervisory Special Agent,
Chicago FBI

Location:

77 W. Jackson Blvd.,
Room 328

Price:

\$5 members
\$12 non-members

1 CPE

Please RSVP to:

Tom McManigal at tmcmanigal@hudoig.gov
and cc
Matthew Matczynski at MMatczynski@hudoig.gov

Update your member information!

Please review and update your personal information at National's website, www.agacgfm.org. You can update your information in the 'Member's Only' page. This allows us to keep you better informed throughout the year!

Renew your membership now! Save Time, Save Effort and Save the Environment by Renewing Your AGA Membership Online—

Going green is easy in 2011 when you renew your membership online. It's not only safe and quick, but it's also the fastest renewal method! To renew your membership and keep receiving member benefits, please login to the website. Remember your membership ID number is your login and the first initial of your first name followed by your entire last name is your password. You can locate your membership number on your membership card, e-mailed renewal reminder and mailed renewal form. The 2011-2012 membership renewal notice will be sent to you via mail within a few weeks. The due date for renewal payments is March 31st, 2011. Don't wait...[Renew Now!](#)

In This Issue . . .

President's Message.....	2
Chapter message.....	3
Training Schedule.....	4
Speaker Bio.....	5
CGFM Corner.....	6
Chapter Recognition Program.....	7
Training Opportunities.....	7
From the National Office.....	8
Contact Us.....	11



March 8, 2011

Dear AGA Chicago Chapter Members,

I would like to thank Paul Lionikis of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston for his presentation of the U.S. Treasury's Internet Payment Platform (IPP) for electronic invoicing. His presentation highlighted the intricacies of the platform and the challenges of transitioning into a new government wide system. Everyone enjoyed the luncheon and we appreciate Mr. Lionikis' time and effort in speaking to our chapter.

Our next meeting will be held on Monday, March 14, 2011 at 77 W. Jackson Boulevard, GSA Conference Room 328. The speaker will be Keith A. Byers, Supervisory Special Agent from the Federal Bureau of Investigation who will be discussing *Public Corruption*.

Our chapter recently obtained all three Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) study guides. Please contact our CGFM chair Raul Nieto if you are interested in checking them out. His contact information, along with the contact information of the entire executive committee, is included on the last page of this newsletter.

We still have open positions on our executive committee and are looking for members who want to get more involved. Please contact me at tmcmanigal@hudoig.gov if you are interested in volunteering. (The Chicago chapter pays board members' annual membership fees if that is any incentive!)

Sincerely,

Thomas McManigal

Tom McManigal
President-Elect

AGA Chicago Chapter

We would like to thank Mr. Paul Lionikis for speaking at our AGA Chapter meeting last month! Thanks to all who participated!



Paul Lionikis, Strategic Agency Relations Director U.S. Treasury Internet Payment Platform and AGA Chicago Chapter President- Elect, Tom McManigal

2010-2011 Training Schedule

DATE*	TOPIC	SPEAKER	LOCATION
March 14, 2011	Public Corruption	Keith A. Byers Supervisory Special Agent, Chicago FBI	77 W. Jackson Blvd.GSA Conference Room 328
May 4-5, 2011	PDC	To be announced	77 W. Jackson Blvd.GSA Conference Room 328

*Dates subject to change

Please RSVP to **Matthew Matczynski** at MMatczynski@hudoig.gov **and cc**
Tom McManigal at tmcmanigal@hudoig.gov

Please join us on Monday, March 14th
77 West Jackson Blvd.,
Room 328 at 11:30AM!!!

Price:
\$5 members
\$12 non-members

Speaker Bio

Keith A. Byers

Keith A. Byers is a Supervisory Special Agent with the Chicago FBI where he supervises the Chicago City PC Task Force and serves as the FBI's Public Corruption Coordinator. He previously served as an SSA in the Public Corruption Unit at FBIHQ overseeing the North Central Region and serving as the FBI's Border Corruption program manager. Since 1997, SSA Byers also has served in the San Diego, San Juan, and El Paso FBI Divisions. He previously has provided corruption training at the FBI Academy, as well as in Afghanistan, El Salvador, Hungary, the Philippines, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic. Prior to the FBI, he served on active duty as an attorney and naval officer in the JAGC at NAS Jacksonville.

CGFM Corner



The Mark of Excellence in Government Financial Management

If you want to learn...

- more about the benefits of CGFM certification - [Why Earn the CGFM?](#)
- what is the first step to becoming a CGFM holder - [Where Do I Start?](#)
- about the content of CGFM examinations - [What Do Exams Cover?](#)
- how you can study for the CGFM exams - [How Do I Prepare?](#)
- how to purchase CGFM examinations - [How Do I Purchase the Exams?](#)
- about maintaining a CGFM certification after it is earned - [How Do I Maintain a CGFM?](#)

Have additional questions? Try our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page, or call the [Office of Professional Certification](#) at 800.AGA.7211, or at, 703.684.6931, ext. 341.



[Current list of active CGFM's!](#)

[Apply for the CGFM designation today!](#)

Chapter Recognition Program

(February 2011)

<i>Category</i>	<i>Points Earned</i>
Chapter Leadership, Planning & Participation	25 points
Education & Professional Development	150 points
Certification	75 points
Communications	599 points
	Total - 849 points



[AGA Training Opportunities](#)
Click to find events near your area!

From the National Office

2011 PDC Hotel Scholarships

We are happy to announce that AGA's Chapter Hotel Scholarship program will continue at this year's PDC, which takes place July 10-13 at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis. The scholarship program covers room and tax for two individuals from each AGA chapter for up to five nights.

Members chosen by their chapter to receive the hotel scholarship are responsible for making their own reservations. Once a reservation is made, e-mail the confirmation number and arrival/departure dates to [Jessica Jones](#). There must be a separate name listed for each confirmation number provided. Approximately two weeks prior to the PDC, members participating in the scholarship program will be moved to AGA's master account and have their room and tax charges billed directly to AGA.

The PDC conference rate is \$132 (plus tax) per night until June 20, or until the room block is sold out. Reservations received after June 20, or after the block is filled, may be subject to higher rates. AGA's scholarship program will not cover rooms booked at a higher room rate. To make a reservation, please call the hotel directly at 866.469.5475 and mention you are attending the "AGA PDC" to ensure you receive the discounted rate. Please do not mention the scholarship, as this may cause confusion when trying to book a room. You may also [reserve a room online](#).

All hotel rooms are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis until the hotel is sold out. We encourage you to make your reservations early. If you have any questions regarding the hotel scholarship program, please contact [Jessica Jones](#).

New AGA Audio Conference

Watch for AGA's new audio conference on Program Integrity set for 2-3:50 p.m. (EDT) **March 30**. Details will be announced soon. This cost-effective educational tool will be discounted at the early registration rate of \$175, or \$74 less than usual. Remember, attendance is unlimited and participants can earn 2 CPE hours for each audio conference. [View the entire schedule](#).

Renewal News for Chapters

If your chapter is planning an event that will pay the annual membership dues on behalf of attendees, please notify AGA Membership Services immediately to assist you with the planning, logistics and recording of the funds to be paid. The AGA membership team is working to make the 2011-2012 membership renewal process as smooth and trouble-free as possible. We want to ensure that all chapter dues payments made for a multiple attendees will be properly credited and processed. Please contact [Pamella Shaw](#) or [Rodneikka Scott](#).

AGA Needs You!

AGA is seeking candidates interested in serving on our National boards and committees. As members of AGA and leaders in your profession, we need you to help this association

succeed. Serving as a board or committee member is one of the most important contributions you will make to your career and the profession!

Commitment

All board and committee terms begin July 1. Board terms run for one, two or three years, depending on the board, and committee terms run for three years. Conference committees each hold a one-year term.

Qualifications

If you are an AGA member in good standing, able to serve a full term of office, and able to participate in board and committee conference call meetings, you are qualified to serve.

[Read specific qualifications.](#)

More Information

Learn more about our boards and committees by visiting the [AGA website](#). If you are interested in serving, [please fill out and submit a sign-up form](#) prior to April 15. Please contact [Louise Kapelewski](#) or call 800.AGA.7211, ext. 321 for more information. Take advantage of this exceptional opportunity today!

AGA Members, Families Eligible for Academic Scholarships

Are you or a family member pursuing undergraduate or graduate studies in disciplines such as accounting, auditing, budgeting, economics, finance, information technology, public administration, etc.? If so, consider applying for an AGA National Academic Scholarship today.

Each year, AGA National awards:

- . Up to four \$3,000 full-time merit scholarships
- . One \$1,000 part-time merit scholarship
- . One \$3,000 community service scholarship

Visit the AGA website to download applications for [high school](#), [undergraduate](#) or [graduate](#) students.

The deadline for receipt of applications is **March 31**. Please contact [Louise Kapelewski](#) at 800.AGA.7211, ext. 321, if you have questions. Apply now and take full advantage of your AGA membership.

Call for National Awards Nominations

AGA's National Awards Committee is now accepting nominations for 13 national awards that recognize the leaders advancing our profession and setting the standards of excellence. These awards will be presented during AGA's 60th Annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition (PDC) in Atlanta, July 10-13. In many cases, individuals do not have to be members of AGA to be eligible. All nominations are due by April 15. See a complete list of available awards and [download nomination forms](#). For more information, contact [Louise Kapelewski](#).



For additional information regarding Chapter/ National news and events, please click on the links below:

Helpful Links
Our Website
Our Events Calendar
Our Newsletters
AGA National Website

<p>Executive Committee</p> <p>President Heath Wolfe HUD/OIG 312/ 913-8674 wwolfe@hudoig.gov</p> <p>President – Elect Tom McManigal HUD/OIG 312/ 913-8035 tmcmanigal@hudoig.gov</p> <p>Past President Heath Wolfe HUD/OIG 312/ 913-8674 wwolfe@hudoig.gov</p> <p>Secretary Sandy Lawera HHS/OIG 312/ 353-3144 Sandy.Lawera@oig.hhs.gov</p> <p>Treasurer Thomas DiLisio DOL 312/ 596-5454 Dilisio.thomas@dol.gov</p> <p>Program Director Matthew Matczynski HUD/OIG 312/ 913-8644 MMatczynski@hudoig.gov</p>	<p>Meetings Director Vacant</p> <p>Membership Director Janet Knauff RRB/OIG 312/ 751-4683 Janet.Knauff@rb.gov</p> <p>Newsletter Editor Alexandria Hayden HHS/OIG 312/ 353-3033 Alexandria.Hayden@oig.hhs.gov</p> <p>Historian Aníbal Marrero HHS/OIG 312/ 353-3029 Anibal.marrero@oig.hhs.gov</p> <p>Education Director Frank Moy GSA/OIG 312/ 353-7781, Ext. 112 franklin.moy@gsa.gov</p> <p>Website Director Mark Knudson RRB/ OIG 312/ 751-4764 mark.knudson@rb.gov</p> <p>Community Service Director Matthew Matczynski HUD/OIG 312/ 913-8644 MMatczynski@hudoig.gov</p>	<p>CGFM Raul Nieto ED/OIG 312/ 730-1634 raul.nieto@ed.gov</p> <p>Early Careers Coordinator Jolanta Biskup ED/OIG 312/ 730-1619 Jolanta.biskup@ed.gov</p> <p>Job Referral Rick Urbanowski HUD/OIG 312/ 913-8492 rurbanowski@hudoig.gov</p> <p>Publicity Director Olga Gesell HHS/OIG 312/ 353-7907 Olga.Gesell@oig.hhs.gov</p> <p>Awards Director Zakia Haneef HUD/OIG 312/ 913-8693 zhaneef@hudoig.gov</p> <p>Chapter Recognition Rick Urbanowski HUD/OIG 312/ 913-8492 rurbanowski@hudoig.gov</p>
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Newsletter Information

Observations is the monthly newsletter of the Chicago Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants (AGA). Subscriptions to Observations may only be obtained by joining AGA. This is the fifth edition of Observations for the **2010-2011** chapter year. To submit material for upcoming issues, contact Alexandria Hayden at 312/353-3033 (phone) or 312/353-3814 (FAX). **To update delivery information, contact Alexandria Hayden at 312/353-3033.** If you are not receiving the Chicago Chapter Newsletter electronically, please send your current e-mail address to:
Alexandria.Hayden@oig.hhs.gov