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AGA- OKC

December 2009 Newsletter

December 2009

President's Message

"It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas everywhere you go..." These words by Johnny Mathis couldn't be more true! The stores are decorated and already offering bargains, and people are rushing to get all their activities done before the big day...trees decorated, gifts selected and wrapped, greeting cards written to family and friends, then planning menus and baking and attending choir practices and parties. The list is almost endless.

With all that activity, it might be easy to forget that you need 2 more hours of CPE before December 31st. Not to worry – just in the "St. Nick" of time your OKC AGA chapter has got you covered! Make your list

and check it twice, and if you still need 2 hours, sign up for the December 16th audio conference, Latest Trends in Occupational Fraud, by Dr. William Moorehead, CGFM and AGA National President. It will be an excellent presentation and well worth the small fee.

This month, we have a wonderful opportunity to help those less fortunate than ourselves. We will be taking cash and food donations for the regional food bank. Look for more information about this later.

Also in December is the annual OKC Chapter Christmas Party. All family and friends are invited. We always have a great time with lots of laughs and some



orderliness during the dirty Santa game. Our guest speaker for the evening is from the charity we are supporting this year, American Red Cross. It will be a great evening. I hope to see you all there!

Wishing you a blessed Christmas season,

Brenda Bolander, CGFM,
CPA

AGA-December Social

**Thursday
December 10, 2009
6:00 - ???**

Speaker: American Red Cross

Dirty Santa: \$10 approx.

**Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma
Donations will be collected;
Chesapeake Energy is matching
donations up to \$50,000**

**Italiano's
4801 N. Lincoln Blvd
Oklahoma City**

Oklahoma AGA Luncheon

**Wednesday
January 13, 2010
11:30 - 1:00**

**Speaker: Carol McFarland
AGA Regional Vice-President**

**Topic: The Myths of Performance
Measures in Government**

**Italiano's
4801 N. Lincoln Blvd
Oklahoma City**

November 2, 2009 Officers' Meeting Minutes

The Oklahoma City AGA Chapter officers met Monday, November 2nd, at Italiano's Pasta & Pizza. The meeting was called to order by President Brenda Bolander. Present at the meeting were Betty Koehn, James Calkins, John Miner, Vonna Anderson, Donna Anderson, Carol McFarland and Marilyn Capps.

The upcoming Fall Conference was discussed. Currently we have 20 people signed up.

Decisions were made concerning the lunch and break menus, about providing information concerning the CGFM program and the presentation of the SEA award to the Health Care Authority. All agreed to have a short chapter meeting after lunch at the conference.

Vonna talked about the December 16th Audio Conference. The January and the February meetings are set and Donna is working on a possible

joint meeting in March with the American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC).

Carol McFarland, our regional VP, mentioned the Sectional Leadership Meeting that will be held in Kansas City on May 14-15, 2010.

The next officers' meeting will be December 7th at Italiano's. The Christmas party is tentatively scheduled for either December 3rd or 10th at Italiano's with the

traditional Dirty Santa.

President Brenda Bolander adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Koehn, Secretary



In the News with Headlines

Source: <http://www.acfe.com/home.asp?copy=news>

SEC Puts Out Call for Inside Information About Fraud

Burned by its failure to uncover Bernard Madoff's Ponzi scheme, the Securities and Exchange Commission Wednesday issued an invitation to informants who have inside information about financial frauds: Come on in. - *USA Today*

Panel Told of FBI Efforts to Fight Financial Crime

Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. told a panel created to examine the reasons for the financial crisis on Thursday that the Justice Department was working to hold accountable those who had contributed to the near collapse and to prevent similar conduct in the future. - *The New York Times*

FBI Raids Health-Care Facilities in \$14.5 Million Medicare Fraud Case

The FBI and other federal agents launched a series of Metro Detroit raids this morning in connection with an alleged scheme to bilk Medicare of more than \$14.5 million. Two doctors -- one licensed and one not -- are among 13 defendants indicted by a federal grand jury in Detroit. - *The Detroit News*

Seven Years Prison for U.S. Lawyer in Refco Fraud

A U.S. judge sentenced a former outside lawyer for Refco Finance Holdings LLC to seven years in prison on Thursday for his role in a \$2.4 billion fraud that caused the collapse in 2005 of the commodities broker. - *Reuters*

UN Cuts Back on Investigating Fraud

The United Nations has cut back sharply on investigations into corruption and fraud within its ranks, shelving cases involving the possible theft or misuse of millions of dollars, an Associated Press review has found. - *ABC News/The Associated Press*

From AGA Today -

FEMA Needs Better IT Systems to Cut Risk of Double-dipping, Auditors Say

By Alice Lipowicz
Federal Computer Week
November 02, 2009

The Federal Emergency Management Agency is at high risk of paying duplicate benefits to disaster victims because of limitations in its business processes and information technology systems, according to a [new audit](#) released by an inspector general.

The IG of FEMA's parent department, the Homeland Security Department, hired the KPMG LLP accounting firm to review \$22.7 billion worth of disaster aid distributed by FEMA under the National Flood Insurance Program and in the Individuals and Households Program from August 2005 to August 2006, according to the report published Oct. 30.

Duplication of benefits can occur in several ways, including recipients of flood insurance also receiving homeowners' insurance payments, or recipients of cash grants for housing also receiving

government-supplied motel rooms, trailers or home repair funding.

Because of limitations in FEMA's IT systems, KPMG said it was not able to determine a specific amount of duplicate payments. For example, applicant data may be entered into one of several FEMA processing systems, which are not interconnected, and the result is significant data inconsistency.

However, KPMG auditors concluded that the risk of double-dipping is substantial.

"FEMA's risk of paying duplicate benefits is high because of limitations in how FEMA's business processes and systems collect and maintain disaster assistance data," the audit states. "The process and system limitations reduce FEMA's ability to operate sound management controls to identify and prevent duplicate payments."

The auditors recommend that FEMA implement improved business processes and IT systems and correct data inconsistencies. FEMA officials agreed with the recommendations.

It is not the first time FEMA has been criticized

for weak business controls. In April, DHS Inspector General Richard Skinner [pointed out problems](#) with FEMA's information security controls.

Committee Allows a Break on Certain Auditing Rules

Legislation that its supporters say would provide greater protection to investors sailed through a House committee on Wednesday, but not before the lawmakers added a provision to ease new auditing standards for small and medium-size companies, *The New York Times's* Stephen Labaton reported. The House Financial Services Committee voted to exempt companies worth less than \$75 million from Sarbanes-Oxley auditing rules. — Andrew Ross Sorkin, *The New York Times*.

Miscounting of Stimulus Jobs Cuts Both Ways

Confusion over U.S. Office of Management and Budget stimulus reporting guidelines has led to under-counting— in addition to already reported over-counting—

of jobs saved or created by the Recovery Act, according to an analysis by Government Executive. —Robert Brodsky, *Government Executive*. [Read more.](#)

GASB Requests Input on Emerging Issues

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is committed to addressing important emerging issues in governmental accounting and financial reporting as they arise. If you are aware of new issues for which guidance is needed or any issues related to the interpretation or implementation of GASB standards or with the financial reporting information that results from application of existing guidance, please let the GASB know by contacting the GASB's Director of Research and Technical Activities at director@gasb.org.



2009 - 2010 Upcoming Meetings

Thursday, December 10, 2009	Christmas Social (evening) American Red Cross speaker	
Wednesday, December 16, 2009	Audio Conference—Latest Trends in Occupational Fraud, William Moorehead	2 hours CPE
Wednesday, January 13, 2010	Carol McFarland, RVP, Performance	1 hour CPE
Wednesday, February 10, 2010	SA&I. ARRA	1 hour CPE
Wednesday, March 3, 2010	Audio Conference—Fraud	2 hours CPE
Wednesday, March 10, 2010	Monthly Luncheon TBD	1 hour CPE
Wednesday, April 14, 2010	UCO Scholarship Recipient	1 hour CPE
Wednesday, May 12, 2010	Audio Conference—Ethics	2 hours CPE
Thursday, May 13, 2010	End of Year Social (evening) Oklahoma Redhawks	



AGA-OKC strives to meet the needs of our members and other accountability professionals in our state. Do you have an idea or example of how we might enhance our chapter? We need to know! Don't hesitate to contact one of the officers above to make suggestions and recommendations for the coming year. Your input is vital to our success!

BE MORE THAN AN
OBSERVER!
PARTICIPATE!

AGA-OKC is looking
for enthusiastic
individuals willing to
invest time and energy
into making our
Chapter the best it can
be!

Are you looking for
leadership skills /
training? Or need to
add some pizzazz to
your resume? Here's
your chance! Become
a member of the OKC
Chapter Executive
Committee!

Contact
Brenda Bolander
or
Carol McFarland
at the email
addresses to
the right.

Visit our website at
www.agaokc.org



Association of Government Accountants Oklahoma City Chapter 2009 - 2010 Chapter Officers

President.....	Brenda Bolander, CGFM	Brenda.Bolander@osf.ok.gov
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Past President.....	Vonna Anderson, CCFM	Vonna_Anderson@sde.state.ok.us
Secretary.....	Betty Koehn	B.Koehn@occemail.com
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Association of Government
Oklahoma City Chapter No. 39

P.O. Box 10672
Midwest City, OK 73140

Financial Update

Association of Government Accountants
Oklahoma City Chapter
October 2009

Beginning Balance 1 October 2009		\$ 8,827.58
INCOME		
October Member Meals	\$ 276.00	
Tail Twister	\$ 39.00	
September Audio Conference Registrations	<u>\$ 80.00</u>	\$ 395.00
EXPENSES		
October Meals	\$ 321.62	
Speaker's Gifts	\$ 152.00	
Bank Maintenance Fee	\$ 5.00	
Checkcard Monthly Fee	<u>\$ 1.00</u>	<u>\$ 479.62</u>
Ending Balance 31 October 2009		\$ 8,742.96
Note: Tail Twister - Balance		\$ 132.00