

## Chapter President's Message

*Hello,*

*Well, here we are again! I can't wait to see all of you at the September meeting! I am all about "transparency" and along that line, I have requested that Treasurer's Reports regularly be included in the newsletter. I want every member to be aware of where we are financially -- where we are hitting as well as missing our budgeted expense and revenue targets. I want our activities to be open to the membership so you, the members, don't need to guess as to our financial standing.*

*Now, to more fun items! Barbara Carraway, Chesapeake City Treasurer, has agreed to speak on **Lower Real Estate Assessments-Stimulus Money and Tax collections-The Effect on One Local Government** at our September 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. We have a Bicycle Ride and Network Event on September 12<sup>th</sup> -- don't miss out! Contact [Ellen Silvela](#), Membership Director or [Allison Shoemaker](#), Emerging Leaders Chair, so we know to expect you! Then on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, don't miss the ODU Accounting Job Fair. The chapter is sponsoring a booth and would love to see you there! If you are interested in any of these events, please check the body of the newsletter for additional details.*

*Until next month, take care and stay well! Be sure to check the events coming up and make sure you let someone know if you want to help out or participate. Volunteer and participate -- we need you!*

*Donna L. Miller, MSAC  
President  
AGA VA Peninsula Chapter*



*Chapter President  
Donna Miller*

*Editor's Note: The one page "News in a Flash" highlights that was the top page of last month's newsletter has moved to the last page of this month's edition. Be sure to check it out...and print it out as an easy reference guide to upcoming events! Newsletters are also being posted to the [chapter's website](#).*

### NEXT MEETING

**September 24**

**Location:**  
Norfolk Airport Hilton

**Time:**  
11:30 – 1:00

**Featuring**  
Barbara Carraway,  
City Treasurer,  
Chesapeake

**One CPE**

Lunch will feature pan seared breast of chicken in vermouth cream sauce with fresh rosemary, tossed garden salad w/assorted dressings, chef's selection of potatoes, rice or pasta, fresh seasonal vegetables, freshly baked rolls and butter, chef's selection of dessert. Regular and decaffeinated coffee and iced tea/water will be served.

**\$10 members**

**1<sup>st</sup> time guest free, all other guests \$15**

**RSVP to**

**Darcea Johnson at**  
[darcea.johnson@navy.mil](mailto:darcea.johnson@navy.mil)

**by September 18th**

Upcoming meetings:

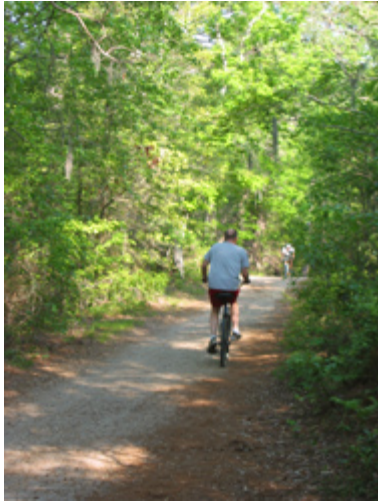
October 15  
& November 19

There will be no monthly meeting in December due to the chapter's professional development conference December 3 – 4 at the Williamsburg Hospitality House.

# Membership News

## Enjoy the Outdoors with AGA This Fall

By Ellen Silvela



### Join us for a Bike Ride!

Saturday, September 12, our chapter will be having a *Bicycle Ride for Fun & Networking* event, starting at 3:00pm on the Cape Henry Bike Trail at [First Landing State Park](#), Virginia Beach. Hosted by your Emerging Leaders and Membership chairs, this is going to be a social event where you can have fun, network with other emerging leaders and members, and enjoy the outdoors --all at the same time!! This trail is about 6 miles through the park, mostly on sand roads but we will be crossing some sections of paved blacktop. Friends and family are welcome. If you don't have a bike to bring, there is a bike shop close to the trail where you can rent one. If you would like to join us, please RSVP to [Ellen Silvela](#) or [Allison Shoemaker](#).



## Member News

Both past chapter president **Tanya Renica** and current chapter president **Donna Miller** have new jobs in Washington DC. Renica is now with the United States Coast Guard Headquarters and Miller is with the Department of Homeland Security, Office of the Chief Financial Officer. Both remain members of the chapter.

As of July 1, 2009, our very own **Mary Lechner** became AGA's National Treasurer. As such, she serves as the chief financial officer of the Association and is responsible for overseeing all of the Association's financial affairs.

Congratulations ladies!

*If you have member news you'd like shared, please send to newsletter editor [Kelly Stefanko](#). Photos welcomed as well!*

## Calling All Walkers, Runners and Pizza Lovers

Whether you run all the time or have never considered participating in a foot race, don't miss out on ODU's Department of Accounting annual run and walk Saturday, October 18. It's an event the whole family can participate in. The route through campus is scenic and whether you walk or run it's great exercise. Everyone gets a t-shirt and all proceeds go to support the ODU Department of Accounting. The race starts at 1:30 at the corner of Powhatan Ave and 48th. Come a little early to pick up your race bib and find fellow AGA team members for a photo op. The race ends on 48th Street at the Elizabeth River Beach with pizza, soda and adult beverages. Awards are given to the first three male and female finishers, the first three finishers in each age group, and the first team in each category. To be on team AGA, you must register in advance, either via [www.active.com](http://www.active.com), or by mailing a completed registration form directly to ODU. Registration forms will also be available to complete on site at the September 24<sup>th</sup> chapter meeting. [Click here](#) for complete registration information and race details. Have questions? Contact [Ellen Silvela](#)



## Welcome New Members!

**Socorro Folkes, Navy**  
**Brenda L. Albright, DCAA**  
**Gail Henderson, NASA**  
**Ashley Meeks, HU student**

AGA members in the Norfolk City Auditor's Office welcome new AGA member Ashley Meeks, who learned of the association while serving as their summer intern. Meeks is a senior accounting major at Hampton University. (Pictured from left are Kelly Stefanko, Yvette Fleming, Brad Smith, Ashley Meeks, John Sanderlin and Frank Graves).

Darryl  
Carver  
with his  
wife  
Sandy



## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Darryl A. Carver, MBA

### Position?

Accountant (US Coast Guard FINCEN)

### What you like most about your job?

I like to analyze data to facilitate corrective actions and look for ways to improve processes. I love to build very complicated spreadsheet to assist with my analysis.

### Brief description of your job?

Currently prepare the FMS 224 for military payroll processed at the *Personnel Pay Center* in Topeka, Kansas. Also, analyze general ledger accounts to identify and resolve balances to ensure proper posting to appropriations and general ledger accounts.

### Involvement with AGA?

Member since 2007, attended PDC in Williamsburg, Volunteered in food drives.

### Favorite perk of membership?

Networking and meeting new people; the quality of the speakers at the monthly luncheons.

### Most memorable AGA experience?

PDC held in Williamsburg VA, and helping fill Thanksgiving baskets for the needy.

### Hobbies?

Spending time with family and friends, jet skiing, fishing, watching sports (football, baseball, basketball, golf, & tennis are my favorites).

### Best vacation?

Took a cruise to the Caribbean. Looking forward to going to Hawaii in the very near future.

### Anything else you'd like share about yourself?

I have a wonderful family consisting of a wife, two very smart kids who are in college (son – VT grad/Penn State grad student, & daughter – NSU student), and a dog named Toby (aka little boy). I come from a very large family of 14 kids and was blessed with two very loving and caring parents that instilled high values in all of us regardless how tough things may or may not have been. I attend a very powerful church, *Calvary Revival*, in Norfolk that also provides the tools and teaching that strengthen the foundation that I have been blessed with. I love working with people.

## More on Membership

By Ellen Silvela

### Sponsor a New Member Challenge has Begun

The “Sponsor a New Member Challenge” began this month and all members are encouraged to participate. Membership is the lifeline of our chapter and one of the ways we recruit members is through the personal efforts of our own members. The New Member Challenge is a membership recruitment contest which encourages all Virginia Peninsula members to personally reach out to potential members during the year. Potential members are everywhere – think of people you currently work with, people you have worked with in the past, college classmates, those you’ve met at past conferences or even those you will meet at our upcoming monthly luncheons.

The member who sponsors the most new members from September 2009 to March 2010 will win a free AGA membership for the 2010-2011 program year. Yes, we will take care of your next year’s membership dues! **To get credit for sponsoring a new member, be sure new members that you recruit include your name and AGA member ID in the sponsor section on their membership application.** The winner of this challenge will be announced at the April monthly meeting. To win, it will not be necessary to be present but your membership status must be current. Good luck everyone!



*You'll have to work hard to out-recruit Membership Director Ellen Silvela (center) in the New Member Challenge – she attracts groups!*

### Monthly Luncheon Door Prizes Continue

*One of the perks of attending monthly luncheons!*

In addition to professional development and networking, our meetings include monthly door prize drawings. Every person in attendance at our monthly luncheons is eligible for the drawing. The door prize is a free admission to a future monthly luncheon. The more meetings you attend, the better your chance to win!

*(More on Membership, con't next page)*

*(More on Membership, con't from previous page)*

The theme for the October luncheon is a "Bring a Guest." Current members may invite guests to the October luncheon at no charge. Members will pay the normal monthly luncheon fee of \$10 but their guest will be free. Members may bring their boss as their guest, which is a great way for them to see the educational and professional development benefits offered by our chapter.

## Membership Resources for Prospective Members

Do you know anyone who is interested in AGA and has a bunch of questions about membership? Feel free to refer them to me via email or phone and I can help them with their questions. You can also show them the [AGA National website](#) and our [chapter website](#) which contain a wealth of information.

Do you know any non-members who like reading our newsletter and/or want to receive notifications on chapter educational, community service and other chapter activities? Ask them if they would like to be on our email distribution list. It's free and they will be able to receive the up-to-date chapter information that members receive.

## Membership Gets Help



*Wanda Witherspoon*

Wanda Witherspoon, accountant with the US Coast Guard Finance Center, has graciously stepped forward to assist me with Membership Chair responsibilities. She has taken time to meet with me this past summer to bounce around ideas and develop the Membership Plan for this program year. Recently, she helped jump start the Member Spotlight newsletter articles which will feature members in our chapter so that we can get to know each other better as we grow our professional networks. I look forward to working with her this year and thank her for her efforts! If you are interested in being "Spotlighted" in our newsletter, please let us know so we may reach out to you for future newsletters.



*Nicole Whitaker spreads her wings*

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

**Nicole Whitaker**

### Position?

Accounting specialist on the Property Control Team for the US Coast Guard Finance Center (FINCEN). I am a contractor employed by MacFadden.

### What do you like most about your job?

I like working at the FINCEN, the camaraderie and the flexibility of the hours. I like the fact that my job has only a few deadlines a month and the rest of it is an ongoing process that I continually update.

### Brief description of your job?

Responsible for auditing, reconciling, updating and all documentation of projects in process, including review of project expenditures and classification of costs to be capitalized.

### Involvement with AGA?

I joined AGA as a student member through the Managerial Auditing and Accounting Club (MAAC) club at Old Dominion University. I have belonged to AGA just over 2 years.

### Your favorite perk of membership?

I love to read the monthly newsletter and AGA e-mails. I feel like I can keep up with all important changes in the financial landscape of the government.

### Hobbies?

I like science fiction books, movies and TV. I love spending time with my husband. We just had our 1 year anniversary. I like hanging out with my friends and going bowling or having Wii parties and playing with my two cats, Patches and Safari. I love spending time with my husband's large, close knit family and they have a lot of get-togethers during the year. Coming from a small and spread out family I cherish this family time. I love watching fireworks from the balcony of my downtown Norfolk apartment. We have a great view from the 18<sup>th</sup> floor.

### Anything else you'd like share about yourself?

I'm attending ODU, completing my bachelor's and starting my master's degree, fondly known as a "super senior." I can't wait to be done and sit for some certification exams. Halloween is my favorite holiday and my husband bought me beautiful wings as you can see in my photo (at left).

# Community Service

## Chapter Supports Hospice for Children

By Joe Rutecki

Although it was 90 degrees and humid, there were not many golfers whose game was as HOT as Mike Joseph's, who shot a 76 (4 over par), in the Edmarc Annual Charity Golf Classic, August 20<sup>th</sup> at Cypress Creek Golfers club in Smithfield. Although our AGA team didn't get the lowest score or score the longest drive, they had a fun day, despite the heat.

In addition to the chapter's \$250 donation, AGA team members (Mike Joseph, Brad Smith, Joe Rutecki, and John Wren) personally contributed to the cause in paying entrance fees and buying mulligans, raffle tickets and silent auction items. Joseph, along with his wife Adria, also sponsored the pre-game luncheon for the participants. Fundraisers such as this allow Edmarc to continue to fulfill its purpose of easing the trauma of a child's illness or death and reducing the disabling effects in families who struggle to cope with illness, loss and bereavement. Edmarc Hospice for Children is grateful for AGA's continued support.



*Team AGA golfers and Edmarc supporters (from left) Brad Smith, Joe Rutecki, Mike Joseph, and John Wren.*

### Winter Items and Food Drives Start Next Month

**Blankets & Winter Clothing** We will be collecting blankets and all types of winter clothing (new socks particularly) to give to women's shelters, homeless shelters, and anywhere that has a need. Collection lasts from October to January.

If the weather stays cooler this year, winter could be very harsh. Many don't have a warm place to stay and a blanket would be a comfort to the homeless, a child, or the elderly on a blistery night.

**Food Collections** will take place for local area Food Bank. The chapter will collect food items and money donated by members plus contribute a monetary contribution to the Southeastern Foodbank during the annual "FOX Mayflower Marathon" food collection drive.

Have questions or suggestions? Contact Community Service Director Helen Brooks at [Helen.M.Brooks@uscg.mil](mailto:Helen.M.Brooks@uscg.mil)

## Helping Out is Easy

By Joe Rutecki

Keep collecting those register receipts, aluminum pull tops, toiletries, and boxtops. No POC at your organization to turn them in to? Volunteer to do it yourself and bring collections from the entire office to Community Service Director [Helen Brooks](#) at the next meeting.



Farm Fresh's *123-4 the Community* program begins this month and runs through April. If you shop at Farm Fresh, please save the *123 receipts* portion of your receipt and bring them into work or the next AGA meeting. We will donate all receipts collected to a local elementary school to redeem for free educational equipment.

Shop at Food Lion? It's community service program, *LionShop & Share*, allows customers to designate a local charity on their MVP card to which a portion of their total grocery purchase is donated. Our chapter has selected the Special Olympics. To participate, simply go to [www.foodlion.com](http://www.foodlion.com), click on "Lion Shop and Share", click on "register and link your MVP card". Select "Virginia", "Richmond" and "Special Olympics" and follow the directions for registering your 12-digit number and name.



Helping out with the Virginia Peninsula chapter's award winning community service program is just that easy!

# Treasurer's Report

## Financial Report Summary ...or, How Much \$ Do We Have?

By Curtis P. Joachim



The Virginia Peninsula Board of Directors approved the chapter fiscal year 2009/2010 budget at the July 25, 2009 board meeting.

Here is a brief summary of the approved budget (below), as well as a status of funds as of August 31, 2009 (right).

An audit was performed by Brad Smith on August 7, 2009 for the period ending July 31, 2009. This audit included the review of bank statements, deposit slips, invoices, *Statement of Income* and other support documentation deemed necessary. The documents reviewed appeared to fairly reflect the cash received and disbursed for the period October 31, 2007 through July 31, 2009. There were no issues that needed to be reported and any observations noted were discussed orally.

<b>AGA VIRGINIA PENINSULA CHAPTER STATUS OF FUNDS AS OF AUGUST 31, 2009</b>	
<b>Balance Brought Forward From FY 08/09</b>	<b>\$ 7,741.96</b>
<b><u>Income</u></b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total Funds Available</b>	<b>\$ 7,741.96</b>
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>	
Ed Marc Charity	250.00
ODU 5K Charity	500.00
Hilton Norfolk Airport - September Luncheon Deposit	300.00
ODU 2009 Job Fair	250.00
Mailbox	57.00
Postage	8.80
<b><u>Total Expenses</u></b>	<b>\$ 1,365.80</b>
<b>Funds Available August 31, 2009</b>	<b>\$ 6,376.16</b>

<b>AGA VIRGINIA PENINSULA CHAPTER 2009-2010 BUDGET</b>	
<b>INCOME - NET OF CONFERENCE EXPENSES</b>	
FALL 2009 PDC	\$ 5,500
SPRING 2010 PDC	5,500
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 11,000</b>
<b>EXPENSES - NET OF CONFERENCE COLLECTIONS</b>	
CHARITY	\$ 2,100
AWARDS/GIFTS	1,120
MEETINGS	6,000
MEMBERSHIP INCENTIVE	350
ADMINISTRATIVE	356
SCHOLARSHIPS	1,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 10,926</b>
<b>NET INCOME/LOSS</b>	<b>\$ 74</b>

Thank you!

The chapter expresses its thanks to Bill Renica for a job well done in his years as chapter Treasurer. Thanks also to Brad Smith for volunteering his time to perform the chapter financial audit.

If you have any questions about this year's budget or the state of the chapter's finances, don't hesitate to contact me at [curtis.p.joachim@uscg.mil](mailto:curtis.p.joachim@uscg.mil).

# The Push for Platinum

By Ron Ingram

Last month you read about the Chapter Recognition Program -- guidelines designed to help chapters provide well rounded programming in support of AGA's mission. Our chapter leaders are like jugglers, keeping lots of balls in the air to maximize the benefits of your AGA membership. All members can help our chapter earn program points – the more you know about the eight program sections, the more prepared you'll be to help the chapter keep its platinum level designation! Hopefully you already recognize them as mainstays of Virginia Peninsula chapter operations.

Here they are:

**Chapter Leadership, Planning and Participation.** This section includes some of the basic structure needed in developing and maintaining a well-rounded chapter.

**Membership.** Membership is the lifeblood of the chapter and AGA --without them, we cease to exist. We need to continually seek new members, meet our members' needs and strive to keep members and potential members interested and involved.

**Awards.** The efforts and accomplishments of individuals and groups should be recognized.

**Certification.** The chapter involvement and support of the CGFM certification program is essential and necessary for the continued success of the program.

**Education and Professional Development.** Chapters are rewarded for providing quality education and fostering professional development to enable members to achieve greater heights in their employment and meet certification requirements.



**AGA's Chapter Recognition Program**

**Community Service.** The chapter is encouraged to utilize its members' professional skills to make a positive social impact in their local community.

**Communications.** Effective communications is instrumental in the success of any organization and is essential to accomplishing our goals.

**Early Career and Student Members.** We are encouraged to get early career and student members involved in all aspects of our chapter and AGA. Helping them to make connections and learn how to network are invaluable lessons they will use through their career.

# Education

## Related Organizations Offer Great Training Opportunities

With the chapter's December professional development conference still months away (*December 3 – 4 at the Williamsburg Hospitality House*), here are training opportunities being offered by related professional organizations.

### 2009 VLGAA Fall Conference (15 CPE)



**Thursday, October 1, 2009 and  
Friday, October 2, 2009**

Featuring

#### **Conducting an ALGA Peer Review (8 CPE)**

presented by VLGAA's own

**Drew Harmon, CPA, CIA**

Municipal Auditor, City of Roanoke VA  
and

**Theresa Weatherman, CPA, CIA**

Audit Director, Fairfax County Public Schools  
Internal Audit  
and

#### **Auditing for Fraud (7 CPE)**

presented by **Dennis Dycus, CPA, CFE, CFGM**  
Director, Division of Municipal Audit, State of  
Tennessee

#### **at the Sheraton Park South Hotel**

9901 Midlothian Turnpike  
Richmond, VA 23235

Registration fees are \$125 for both days. Single day registration is available: Peer Review Course - \$50; Auditing for Fraud - \$85. VLGAA offers a group discount of 20% for organizations registering 5 or more. The registration deadline is Friday, September 25, 2009. [CLICK HERE](#) to access the 2009 VLGAA Fall Conference Registration Form

### Mid-Atlantic Region District 1 2009 IIA DISTRICT CONFERENCE RICHMOND, VA



### **OCTOBER 19-23, 2009**

#### **SHERATON PARK SOUTH HOTEL**

The conference is offering two days of exciting training, highlighted by accomplished speakers such as Robert Mainardi and Dr. Paul Walker, and featuring topics on Continuous Auditing, Top 5 Mistakes Made By Audit Departments and Enterprise Risk Management.

As usual, Glenn Summers of LSU will be teaching all four parts of his renowned **CIA Review Course!**

[Downloadable Brochure!](#)

Check out these web links for AGA National Training Opportunities at [www.agacgfm.org](http://www.agacgfm.org):

[Register for AGA's Fourth Annual Internal Control & Fraud Conference, Sept. 16-17, 2009, Washington, D.C.](#)

[Register for AGA's Fifth Annual Performance Management Conference, Nov. 5-6, 2009, Seattle, WA](#)

[Bring New AGA-Sponsored Training Courses to Your Organization](#)

# AGA National & Regional News

## Beyond the Chapter

By Cecelia Smith

### AGA is Looking for Leaders!

The call for National Leader Nominations is out. This is a great opportunity to join AGA's National and Regional Leadership Team and become more involved in the organization. This is also a great opportunity to advance your profession.

From a personal standpoint, being an officer of the local chapter and a regional officer of AGA National has enhanced my leadership skills and broadened my scope of assignments and opportunities in my career. It has put AGA in the limelight at my organization as the premier financial professional organization. Our agency looks to AGA for various training programs, as well as other information that is important to the financial community.

AGA is seeking leaders to serve on the National Board of Directors (for the term July 1, 2010-June 30, 2013) in the following positions:

- National President-Elect
- National Treasurer-Elect
- Senior Vice President for Regional Services—Section II (*NOT OUR REGION*)
- Senior Vice President At Large
- Regional Vice Presidents-Elect (for AGA's 15 regions)

Interested? Additional information on the positions can be found on the website listed below. If you have questions, or would like to speak with me personally about a position, please feel free to contact me.

Read more details in [AGA's nomination brochure](#). [Nomination forms](#) are due to [Michiyo Wheeler](#) by Oct. 30.



*I'm Cecelia Smith, your Regional Vice President for the Mid-Atlantic Region of AGA. Each month I will bring you various topics of interest from a regional perspective as well as keep you updated on AGA national news. I will also keep you posted on upcoming training and educational opportunities. If there are other topics of interest you would like to hear about from a regional or national perspective, please send me an email at [cecelia.smith-1@nasa.gov](mailto:cecelia.smith-1@nasa.gov)*

### Reports Make it Easier for Citizens to Follow Their Government's Finances

Many governments struggle to communicate the business of government to residents, particularly when presenting information about how taxpayers' money is allocated and spent. Traditionally, financial information has been presented in forms accessible only to trained accountants — reams of information, which, though vital, have little meaning for the average person.

AGA's Citizen-Centric Government Reporting Initiative is intended to foster innovative means of communication between governments and their citizenry. AGA believes that government financial information should be provided to citizens in forms that are clear and understandable, updated regularly and often, delivered to all, easy to locate, honest in breadth and technically accurate in detail. In fact, as the owners of government, citizens have a right to this information.

AGA believes that these reports will make governments more accountable to their citizens, and will help Americans become better educated and better able to participate in government activities.

AGA has released a Citizen Centric Report to its own members, which is [available online](#). Our very own Mary Lechner was instrumental in the development of the report template as well as getting the United States Coast Guard to issue one of the first federal citizen centric reports.

### AGA is on Facebook

With AGA members of all career levels and backgrounds embracing online networking sites such as Facebook, AGA has decided to make its own mark with an official Facebook page. [Facebook](#) is one of the premier networking sites on the Web, allowing its users to join networks organized by city, workplace, interests and region to connect and interact with other people. Through AGA's presence on Facebook, members can create their own profiles, search for colleagues and friends, get information on conferences, view event photo galleries, blog and soon communicate with their chapters.

It is easy to access AGA on Facebook. Search for "Association of Government Accountants" to find the AGA Facebook profile. AGA invites all members and financial management professionals to become "fans" of its Facebook page, as yet another way to keep in touch with AGA. Are you an emerging leader? AGA also has a page specifically for them.

# Career, Certification & Professional News



## Ready to Become a CGFM?

### Incentives Abound for Applying NOW for the CGFM

Been thinking for a while about becoming a CGFM but just haven't found the motivation to get the paperwork started? AGA's Office of Professional Certification is once again providing candidates a personal incentive -- in the form of an extra \$20 in your pocket -- with its CGFM chapter promotion. Your complete CGFM application (application form, \$85 application fee and transcript copy) must be received by AGA Office of Professional Certification during the period of September 1 through December 31, 2009, **with the promotional phrase: "CGFM chapter promotion – VA Peninsula chapter" written at the bottom of the form (If the application is submitted online, you must put this phrase in the last question: "How did you learn about the CGFM Program?").**

In addition to personal benefits of applying for and becoming a CGFM, the chapter, also benefits. During this promotion, the chapter will receive 50 bonus chapter recognition points per application. Additionally, the chapter with the most applications during the promotion will get a check for \$20 times the number of applications its chapter members submit! Finally, a special bonus being offered this year, if the chapter has 5 members apply during the promotion, it will receive a **free set of three study guides!**

Instead of waiting for the new year, resolve now to apply for the CGFM BEFORE this year ends. If you're thinking about becoming a CGFM or planning to apply please let the chapter know by e-mailing our Director of Professional Certifications, Steve Reagan at [Stephen.D.Reagan@uscg.mil](mailto:Stephen.D.Reagan@uscg.mil)

### Out of Site - Go Exploring on Mark's Website of the Month

By Mark Morehouse, CGFM

Certified Government Financial Managers (CGFMs) are required to complete at least 80 hours of continuing professional education (CPE) every two years in government financial management topics or related technical subjects. Government auditors have a similar CPE requirement. Locally, you can attend the chapter's two annual conferences -- Mid-Atlantic Regional PDC in the fall and the AGA/ASMC PDC in the spring – and earn **64 CPEs** in a two year cycle!

But did you know that AGA also offers a variety of one to two day classroom-type training courses that can be designed around your particular requirements and presented at your facility by experienced and knowledgeable financial management professionals?

Custom meet your staff's training and education needs with classroom training, CGFM review courses, audio conferences, conferences & local chapter events and journal CPE online. Many of these are listed in AGA's 2009 Education Catalog...a valuable resource for today's active government financial professional. Just click here – or on the catalog cover on the right:

### Set Your Sites on Intensive Review

Does the idea of completing the CGFM process in a short period of time, having a set deadline to take the examinations, and saving money appeal to you? If so, consider signing up for AGA's next intensive review course. In recent years, AGA has offered an Intensive Review Course followed by two days of CGFM examinations in conjunction with its National Leadership Conference (held in Washington DC in February) and its Professional Development Conference (scheduled for July in Orlando).

Candidates pay one fee for the two day Intensive Review Course (which is less than the cost of the three examinations), and then get to take the three exams the following two days for free. Be forewarned, the Intensive Review Course is only designed as a supplement, not a replacement, to previous preparation for the CGFM Examinations (such as using study guides). So start studying now and set your sites on becoming a CGFM in February in Washington, DC! Continuing watching AGA e-mails for more information or contact Katya Silver, AGA's Director of Professional Certification Administration.



*Information is everywhere these days but who has time to search through it all? Let Mark Morehouse do the dirty work – just check here each month for the results of his exhaustive research and resulting website recommendation. An AGA member for over 20 years, Mark is a regular at chapter meetings, a past chapter president and currently serves as an At-Large Director on the chapter's executive board.*

<http://www.agacgfm.org/education/downloads/EducationCatalog09.pdf>



**VIRGINIA  
PENINSULA  
CHAPTER**

**Chapter Officers:**

**President**

Donna L. Miller, MSAC  
DHS/OCFO/OFM  
[d.l.miller@frontier.com](mailto:d.l.miller@frontier.com)

**President-Elect**

Brad Smith  
City of Norfolk  
[Brad.Smith@norfolk.gov](mailto:Brad.Smith@norfolk.gov)

**Past President**

Tanya Renica  
U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters  
[Tanya.Renica@uscg.mil](mailto:Tanya.Renica@uscg.mil)

**Treasurer**

Curtis P. Joachim, CPA, MBA  
The Joachim Group CPAs &  
Consultants, LLC  
[cjoachim@thejoachimgroupcpas.com](mailto:cjoachim@thejoachimgroupcpas.com)

**Secretary**

Valarie Ward  
US Joint Forces Command  
[valerie.ward@jfc.com.mil](mailto:valerie.ward@jfc.com.mil)

## The Virginia Peninsula Chapter Board of Directors 2009-2010

**Chapter Directors:**

**By-Laws**

Maria Walters, CGFM  
MacFadden  
[mewalt@verizon.net](mailto:mewalt@verizon.net)

**Education**

J. David Sweeney, PPM  
Booz Allen Hamilton  
[Sweeney\\_J\\_David@bah.com](mailto:Sweeney_J_David@bah.com)

**Meetings/Publicity**

Darcea Johnson  
US Navy  
[darcea.johnson@navy.mil](mailto:darcea.johnson@navy.mil)

**Membership**

Ellen Silvela  
Deloitte Consulting, LLP  
[esilvela@deloitte.com](mailto:esilvela@deloitte.com)

**Research, Early Careers and  
Academic Affairs**

Doug Ziegenfuss, CPA, CMA,  
CIA, CFE, CGFM, CCSA, CISA  
Old Dominion University  
[dziegenf@odu.edu](mailto:dziegenf@odu.edu)

**Chapter Recognition**

Ron Ingram, CGFM  
Army Audit Agency  
[Ronald.Ingram@us.army.mil](mailto:Ronald.Ingram@us.army.mil)

**Newsletter**

Kelly Stefanko, CGFM  
Norfolk City  
[kelly.stefanko@norfolk.gov](mailto:kelly.stefanko@norfolk.gov)

**Community Service**

Helen Brooks  
U.S. Coast Guard  
[Helen.M.Brooks@uscg.mil](mailto:Helen.M.Brooks@uscg.mil)

**Professional Certifications**

Steve Reagan  
U.S. Coast Guard Finance Center  
[stephen.d.reagan@uscg.mil](mailto:stephen.d.reagan@uscg.mil)

**Webmaster**

Lissa Jordin  
NASA  
[lissa.m.jordin@nasa.gov](mailto:lissa.m.jordin@nasa.gov)

**Emerging Leaders**

Allison Shoemaker  
Kearney & Co  
[AShoemaker@kearneyco.com](mailto:AShoemaker@kearneyco.com)

**Regional Vice President-  
Mid Atlantic Region**

Cecelia Smith  
NASA  
[cecelia.smith-1@nasa.gov](mailto:cecelia.smith-1@nasa.gov)

**At-Large Directors:**

Michael Joseph, CGFM  
Department of Defense  
Inspector General  
[michael.joseph@dodig.mil](mailto:michael.joseph@dodig.mil)

Mark Morehouse, CGFM  
Military Sealift Command  
[mark.morehouse@navy.mil](mailto:mark.morehouse@navy.mil)

Mary Lechner, CGFM, CPA  
(AGA National Treasurer)  
Savantage Solutions  
[mlechner@savantage.net](mailto:mlechner@savantage.net)

*Have member news or pictures to share via the newsletter? Send to [Kelly.stefanko@norfolk.gov](mailto:Kelly.stefanko@norfolk.gov)*

Visit the Virginia Peninsula Chapter on the web at [www.agavapen.org](http://www.agavapen.org) or  
AGA National at [www.agacgfm.org](http://www.agacgfm.org)

Mailing us something? AGA Virginia Peninsula Chapter  
P.O. Box 1464  
Chesapeake, VA 23327-1464

## Coming Up

Saturday, September 12, **Bicycle Ride for Fun & Networking**, 3:00-6:00pm, Cape Henry Bike Trail at First Landing State Park, VA Beach. RSVP to [Allison Shoemaker](#) or [Ellen Silvela](#)

Tuesday, September 22, **ODU Accounting Job Fair**, Ted Constant Convocation Center. Membership Director Ellen Silvela is anchoring a chapter booth to introduce AGA to accounting students -- who are the future of government accountability and potential AGA members.

Thursday, September 24 – **Chapter Lunch Meeting**, featuring Chesapeake City Treasurer Barbara Carraway, at the Norfolk Airport Hilton starting at 11:30. One CPE. RSVP to Darcea Johnson at [darcea.johnson@navy.mil](mailto:darcea.johnson@navy.mil) by September 18<sup>th</sup>.

Friday, October 2, registration deadline for **AGA's Government Finance Case Challenge**. Encourage your alma mater to participate. All members of the two highest-scoring teams will receive free travel and registration to attend AGA's National Leadership Conference, in February 2010 in Washington, D.C.

Wednesday, October 7, **AGA Audio Conference, Internal Controls for Auditors, Management and Staff: Making Government Organizations More Effective**, 2:00pm, 2CPES, \$249 per site.

Thursday, October 15 – **Chapter Meeting** – at Embassy Suites – Hampton, *Bring a Guest for Free Day*.

Sunday, October 18, **ODU Department of Accounting 5k**, 1:30 pm – 48<sup>th</sup> and Powhatan, on campus. Be part of the AGA team! Mail in your registration form by 10/1 or complete a registration form at the September chapter meeting. [Click here for registration form and details](#) Questions? contact Ellen Silvela at [esilvela@deloitte.com](mailto:esilvela@deloitte.com).

October 30, **Deadline for AGA National and Regional Leadership Position Nominations** Click here for [nomination forms](#).

Thursday & Friday, December 3 & 4, **AGA 14<sup>th</sup> Annual 2009 Mid Atlantic PDC**, Williamsburg Hospitality House. Save the date, details will be forthcoming! Want to be on the planning committee? E-mail Donna Miller at [d.l.miller@frontier.com](mailto:d.l.miller@frontier.com)

July 11–14, **AGA's National PDC**, Orlando World Center Marriott.

## Going On

**Collections for Charity** – Don't forget to bring these items to your chapter POC or Helen Brooks, Community Service Director, at the next chapter meeting -

- **Toiletries** (travel or regular size) - for the Samaritan House, Union Mission and other shelters,
- **Farm Fresh receipts** - for a local school
- **Pop-tops from aluminum cans** - for Ronald McDonald House
- **Box-tops for education** - for Ronald McDonald House.

### **ODU Student Chapter Needs Speakers**

The ODU Managerial Accounting and Auditing Club (MAAC) is the AGA's only active student chapter. Please help the future of government accounting by volunteering to be a guest speaker for a MAAC meeting. Contact Dr. Doug Ziegenfuss, at 683-3514 or e-mail [dziegenf@odu.edu](mailto:dziegenf@odu.edu). A MAAC student leader will contact you once the semester begins. Presentations last approximately 30 minutes and focus on the speaker's career and job responsibilities.

### **Sponsor a New Member Challenge is Underway**

Start signing up new members! As noted in last month's newsletter, the *Sponsor a New Member Challenge* began September 1<sup>st</sup>. The member who sponsors the most new members between now and March 2010 will win a **free AGA membership** for the 2010-2011 program year. Yes, we will take care of your next year's membership dues!! Share this newsletter with potential recruits, invite them to a meeting with you, and let them know they can join on-line on [AGA's national website](#). The VA Peninsula chapter does not charge an additional chapter fee!