



**VIRGINIA
PENINSULA
CHAPTER**



Next Chapter Meeting:

January 12, 2012

*Joint meeting with
American Society of
Military Comptrollers (ASMC)
Hampton Roads Chapter*

**Lt Col Timothy Kodama,
Comptroller (USAF)**
633 Air Base Wing,
Joint Base Langley-Eustis

***Fiscal Operations in a
Joint Base Environment***

*Langley Officers Club,
128 Benedict Ave,
Hampton VA
11:30am*

1 CPE

Lunch is pay as you go.
Prices vary
(a buffet or sandwiches available)

**To be able to get on base, be
sure to register in advance.
Watch for an e-mail with a link to
register.**

For more information contact
Melissa Saunders at
msaunders@wittmares.com

**Welcome New Member
Charles Brooks, NASA**

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Chapter President's Message

What a conference! If you missed the 2011 Fall Professional Development Conference (PDC) in Williamsburg, you missed one for the ages. This year's conference was unlike any other that I have attended in recent memory. Making an exciting event out of a conference that is typically expected to be dull can be a challenge, but somehow, through the efforts of our dedicated planning committee members, we were able to pull it off. Thanks to all who gave of their time, talents and energies to make it a success. Budget constraints limited the participation of some agencies and sponsors alike, but in cases where we lost veteran attendees, we picked up a few new ones.

For those who were able to attend, there was something for everyone. From inspirational and motivational speeches to best practices to adopt and pitfalls to avoid; from the wrong and right way to right-size to CFO Act successes and works in progress, it was truly an AGA event! State, local, federal and private industry accounting and finance professionals all working together to foster government accountability and contributing to the growth and professional development of each other.

If you weren't able to make it, do not fret. You'll soon get another opportunity this coming spring when we team with ASMC for the Spring PDC at the VA Beach Oceanfront! It's gonna be a blast! So start planning today to attend.

As we bring 2011 to a close and prepare to welcome in 2012, I wish you and your families a merry Christmas and the absolute best for the New Year. I also want to express my sincere appreciation for you, our members. For without you, there would be no chapter. Thanks for serving as our directors and committee chairs, for coming out to the monthly meetings and the volunteer opportunities, for reading the newsletters and most of all for being you, a government accountant. If you're not yet active in the chapter, please plan on doing so in the New Year. No matter how big or small there's always a part you can play. Just let me or anyone of our board members know that you're interested in serving. You can make a difference! See you at our January luncheon with ASMC!

*Curtis P. Joachim, CPA, MBA
President
AGA VA Peninsula Chapter*



***Happy Holidays from your
Virginia Peninsula Chapter!
See you next year!***

What's Happening?

This month:

- January 12, 2012, Chapter Meeting - joint with ASMC at Langley AFB, Hampton (POC is Melissa Saunders at msaunders@wittmares.com)
- January community service - "Coats for Kids". AGA will collect gently used coats for kids working with the local News Channel, Wavy TV10 and businesses (contact tia.m.godwin@uscg.mil).

To be able to get your CPE certificate, be sure to sign in at chapter events. An e-mail will be sent to you when CPE certificates are ready for retrieval.

ODU a Finalist in AGA Undergraduate Case Challenge

Congratulations to the undergraduate case challenge team from ODU for being named a finalist in this year's competition. The team, which consists of Maxim Urenev, Aaron Wheeler and Renee Nettles (team captain), created a Citizen-Centric Report for the City of Alexandria, VA. The other finalists are the University of Guam and the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. Stay tuned for more information about the finals.

The January Speaker - Lt Col Timothy Kodama

Lt Col Timothy Kodama is the Comptroller (USAF) of the 633 Air Base Wing, Joint Base Langley-Eustis. He will be speaking on "Fiscal Operations in a Joint Base Environment" at the January meeting, which is our annual joint meeting with the American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC).



Virginia Peninsula Chapter 2011-2012 Calendar of Events

- February 16, 2012, Chapter Meeting - joint with IIA (POC is Melissa Saunders at msaunders@wittmares.com)
- February community service- Food Collection for local area Food Banks. Chapter will collect food items and money donated for each Food bank (Southside and Peninsula). Also, prepare breakfast for the families of the Ronald McDonald House.
- March 14 & 15 – Spring PDC (joint with ASMC) in Virginia Beach
- April 19, 2012. Chapter Meeting (POC is Melissa Saunders at msaunders@wittmares.com)
- April community service - March of Dimes Walk America – Sponsor and participate in this fundraising event. Also, Chapter will help provide manpower to register walkers and count donations after the event for deposit (contact tia.m.godwin@uscg.mil).
- May community service projects (contact tia.m.godwin@uscg.mil):
 - Equikids Therapeutic Riding program for special children. Chapter will contribute \$250 to sponsor a hole for the fundraiser and/or help sponsor a team to participate. Point of Contact will be Joe Rutecki.
 - Hampton Veterans Affairs Affairs Center - Volunteers provide many important functions throughout the Medical Center and help make patients' stay more enjoyable. Volunteers will be performing a number of services.
- July 28-August 1, 2012 – AGA National PDC, *Navigating the Winds of Change*, San Diego, CA.



Roanoke Chapter Collecting for Memorial Fund

As you know, on Thursday, December 8, a lone gunman fatally shot Deriek Crouse, a Virginia Tech police officer, during a routine traffic stop. Officer Crouse is survived by his wife and five children. The Roanoke Chapter of the AGA will be collecting donations for the Crouse family. If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation please make checks payable to: AGA - Roanoke Chapter. Please annotate "Crouse Family Fund Raiser" on the face of the check and mail to:

Crouse Family Fund Raiser
Attn: Patty Belcher, Financial Services Manager
Mount Rogers Community Services Board
770 West Ridge Road
Wytheville, Virginia 24382

If you have questions or require more information please contact Patricia Bidanset at pbidanset@rfca.com.

Thank you for your support and consideration.

Lal Harter
Director of Finance
Pulaski County Public Schools
lharter@pcva.us



'Tis the season – In what's become an amazingly generous holiday tradition, the staff of the DoDIG Yorktown office once again filled dozens of stockings and donated boxes of toys for the Salvation Army and Toys for Tots. Read more on community service projects on page 4

Education News

By Mark Morehouse, RVP-elect

Job well done! *Mid-Atlantic Conference Deemed a Success*

Rave reviews have been pouring in regarding the regional professional development conference (PDC) the Virginia Peninsula co-hosted with the Richmond chapter earlier this month. Over 116 financial management professionals attended the two-day, 16 CPE, training event at the Hospitality House in Colonial Williamsburg. It was well planned and executed as evidenced by the high caliber presentations and the professionalism exhibited. In talking to participants, many positive comments were heard regarding the quality presentations and how enjoyable it was.

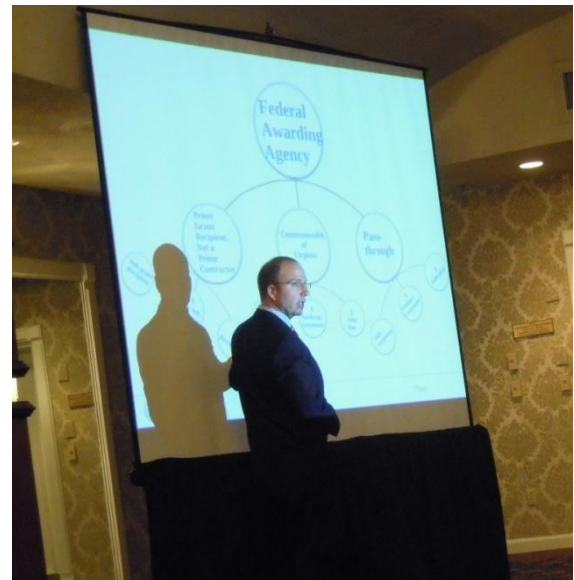
The event was supported by a number of sponsors including PricewaterhouseCoopers (major sponsor), Kearney & Company, The Graduate School, Becker Professional Education and Management Concepts. Many of the sponsor representatives were actively involved in AGA. John Gioeli, Director for Government Programs for Becker Professional Education, also serves as the AGA Certification regional coordinator for the Capital Region. He reported that he has been a member of AGA (Northern Virginia chapter) for nineteen years. During breaks, refreshments were offered in the exhibitors' room where participants were free to mingle with the sponsors. Also, during this time tickets were sold for the charity raffle to support Make-A-Wish of Greater Virginia. Over \$700 was raised and it will be matched by AGA national.

Dr. Ziegenfuss (Accounting Department Chair and Professor, Old Dominion University) provided Virginia CPAs an end of the year opportunity to earn their annually required ethics CPEs.

US Coast Guard LCDR David Hachett, who spoke on "SBR Challenges", is a proud member of AGA who recently passed the CGFM exam. He had taken the Management Concepts review course and, within the week of intensive study, passed the exam. He attributed his passing to the excellent program that Management Concepts presented and the fact that they were in a hotel in Waynesboro, Virginia where there was nothing else to do but study. His glowing report was very encouraging and inspirational to those who want to pass the exam.

All in all, the PDC was a very successful event that exhibits the finest that AGA has to offer. The region is very fortunate to have leaders who are as caring and dedicated as those found in the Richmond and Virginia Peninsula chapters. The region has every reason to expect future regional PDC's to be just as outstanding and a draw for local financial management professionals.

Chapter president Curtis Joachim thanked the planning committee for a job well done. He said, "Everyone did their part and it all came together nicely. It was truly a team effort."



George Strudgeon, VA Auditor of Public Accounts, Director of Human Services Management, presents on grants management



(Above) Traneisha Bailey-Williams, VA Peninsula chapter Membership Director (on left) mans the registration desk with Richmond chapter members.



(Above) Attendees enjoy a great lunch sponsored by The Graduate School and Kearney & Company



Chapter president Curtis Joachim thanks the last presenters James McKay, Deputy Director and Jeffrey Bobich, Director of TSA Office of Financial Management. At right is Marc Sangalang, Chapter Recognition Director, who served as conference computer/presentation operator.



Community Service

By Tia Forte Godwin, Chapter Community Service Director

AGA Members Show their Generosity in December

Stockings and Bears for Christmas: A total of 69 Salvation Army Stockings were filled with books, toys, games and gifts for area children. In addition, 84 toys were collected and donated to Toys for Tots. On Saturday, December 10th, Connie and Dale Wakefield volunteered at the Toys for Tots/Salvation Army Distribution Center. Thank you so much for your generosity!



January Volunteer Opportunities

Coats for Kids: Help Hampton Roads' children stay warm this winter by donating a new or gently used coat. The AGA Virginia Peninsula Chapter will be collecting coats during our January 19th chapter meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting, donations can be made at any of the following locations:

- Albano Cleaners
- Boulevard Cleaners
- Langley Federal Credit Union Locations
- Priority Automotive Locations

Blankets and Winter Clothing Drive: Join our *Blankets and Winter Clothing for the Homeless* initiative this winter and make a difference where you live during the cold months to come. A rapidly growing number of kids, women, and men, including veterans, are becoming homeless everyday and the realization is that most shelters seem to run out of blankets for homeless families and individuals. If you would like to donate some gently used items to the Union Mission, please call 757.627.8686 to schedule a pick-up. Thank you in advance for your support!

Military Care Package: Anyone who has ever been away from home for long periods of time, especially during the holiday season, can relate to the excitement and joy of receiving a care package. The USO takes great pride in extending that touch of home to troops deployed overseas. It creates an instant connection between the troops, home, and the citizens they serve. Operation USO Care Packages include an individual letter of support. These letters can range from children's drawings, note cards, post cards or simple letters. Please send your letter(s) to:

AGA
P.O. Box 1464
Chesapeake, VA 23327-1464

Contact tia.m.godwin@uscg.mil for more information.



Tia Forte Godwin, Curtis Joachim, and Ellen Silvela set up for the raffle, which raised \$763. This amount will be matched by the AGA National office and donated to the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Make-A-Wish Foundation: I would like to personally thank each person who contributed to the AGA community service fundraising activities during the 16th Annual Mid-Atlantic PDC. I would also like to thank our generous sponsors:

- Williamsburg Hospitality House
- Funny Bone Comedy Club, Virginia Beach
- The Williamsburg Winery
- Cedars of Williamsburg Bed and Breakfast



Membership News

By Traneisha Bailey-Williams, Membership Director

Membership Update

Need a New Year's Resolution? Set a goal of recruiting one new member in January! Talk to a colleague about your own AGA experiences, forward them the newsletter, and invite them to attend a meeting with you.

As a reminder, both AGA National and our local chapter are running membership recruitment programs with incentives for getting new members to join!

The AGA National membership campaign is called Ready, Set, Grow. The Virginia Peninsula chapter's is called AGA Fever!

Current members (excluding officers) and non-members are encouraged to participate. Here's how it works -- attend at least 3 meetings and 1 chapter-sponsored event (conference, community service event, etc.) this year for a chance to earn free membership for the 2012 – 2013 program year. The winners (up to 3) will be announced at the April monthly meeting. It will not be necessary to be present to win. In case of a tie, there will be a drawing.

If anyone has any membership suggestions or improvements on how I can better serve them, please e-mail me at mailto:tbaileywilliams@deloitte.com

Member Spotlight

By Joyce A. Milton-Cuffee



Lyndon S. Remias

What is your job position? City Auditor for the City of Virginia Beach

Give us a brief description of your job.

As the City Auditor, I report directly to the City Council. I manage a professional staff of four auditors. My office is responsible for performing financial, operational and compliance audits of all the various departments and programs throughout the City. My office also manages the City's Fraud, Waste, and Abuse hotline. We perform all investigations received from the hotline.

What do you like most about your job?

I enjoy working with City employees to help promote accountability and integrity throughout the City. I know that audits we perform help to ensure the city is a good steward of the taxpayer's dollar.

Where would you like to see yourself in five years?

In five years I would like to see myself continuing to grow professionally as an auditor and continuing to make a difference within the City and the community.

What innovations would you like to implement?

I am proud that I was able to implement the AutoAudit workpaper system in Virginia Beach. AutoAudit automates processes including risk assessment, scheduling, work papers and reporting. This has allowed our office to move to a paperless work environment and has led to increased efficiency. I would like to next implement a continuous auditing model using ACL that will help us identify risks at the earliest stages.

What are the benefits of being in a professional association?

Besides the AGA I belong to the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) and the Association of Local Government Auditors (ALGA) where I am the outgoing President. The benefits of being in a professional association are plenty. First, it allows me to network with colleagues outside of my organization and to stay abreast of issues impacting the profession. Secondly, professional associations such as the AGA provide quality, low cost continuing education opportunities. I am a big advocate of being involved in professional associations.

What is your most memorable AGA experience?

My most memorable experience was speaking at the Joint AGA/ASMC Spring 2011 Professional Development Conference. I was able to share with members various audits that I have performed that have helped to improve operational efficiency and effectiveness in Virginia Beach. These audits could easily be replicated at the Federal and State levels to help improve operations. In addition, I was able to meet many of my fellow AGA members.

Anything else you'd like to share about yourself?

Outside of work I enjoy spending quality family time with my wife Susan and our two boys Ryan (13) and Jayden (10). They keep us constantly on the run with their school and extracurricular activities such as basketball, soccer, and piano. We also love to travel. This past Thanksgiving, I was grateful that we were able to visit New York City and for the first time watch the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade live. It was a great experience.

Beyond the Chapter

AGA National News



Remember to join AGA on LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter!

Online Government Fraud ToolKit Another Perk of AGA Membership

AGA released a state-of-the-art, online resource designed to help officials at all levels of government prevent, detect and deter fraud. AGA's Online Government Fraud Prevention ToolKit promotes program integrity at all levels of government.

AGA's ToolKit contains a comprehensive array of tools, posters, educational materials, PowerPoint presentations and videos. It is organized in a manner that promotes education. Users can find tools by looking under business process, such as accounts receivable, program area, such as the Office of Management and Budget's high-risk programs, or by fraud type, such as bid-rigging.

[View the ToolKit.](#)

Leadership Positions Available on National Boards and Committees

AGA is seeking candidates interested in filling vacancies on national boards and committees. Serving as a board or committee member might just be the most important contribution you will make to your own career and the profession.

If you are an AGA member in good standing, able to serve a full term of office, and can participate in board and committee conference call meetings, you are qualified to serve. Specific qualifications for each committee are listed here.

Learn more about the activities our boards and committees perform by visiting the AGA website. Contact Louise Kapelewski at 800.AGA.7211, ext. 321 for more information. Please fill out the online sign-up form by March 30.

Apply for 2012 National 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!

The **deadline for receipt of applications is Friday, March 30, 2012.** Apply now and take full advantage of your AGA membership.

[Download a copy of the application](#), or contact [Louise Kapelewski](#).



Nicole Whitaker, chapter Treasurer, exhibits CGFM certification information at the vendors/exhibitors area at the Mid-Atlantic PDC in Williamsburg

Certification News



Steve Reagan, CGFM Director

Ready to Earn Your CGFM in February?

Examinations Are Free if you Take the Intensive Review

Don't miss the opportunity to take the CGFM Examinations and earn your CGFM at the next Intensive Review Course event in February. AGA is offering a two-day Intensive Review Course on **Monday, Feb. 27, 2012** and **Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2012** and an opportunity to take CGFM Examinations on **Feb. 29-March 2, 2012**. The cost of the course is only \$279 for qualified participants, and it offers 18 CPE hours. **Special Bonus:** The CGFM Examinations are offered at no cost to course attendees. [Learn more.](#)

Are YOU preparing for the CGFM?

Be sure to keep us in the loop on your progress by e-mailing Steve Reagan, chapter Director of Certification at sreagan01@verizon.net

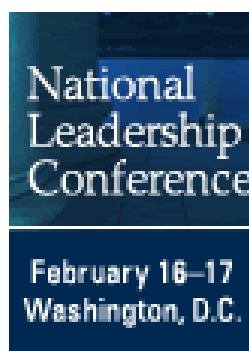
Don't forget, until Dec. 31, 2011, you can receive a rebate of \$20 on your CGFM application if mentioning the assistance of our chapter. Visit [AGA's website](#) for additional information.

[CGFM Application](#) and [CGFM Certification--Learn More](#)

[Click here for detailed information on CGFM CPE requirements.](#)

UPCOMING NATIONAL CONFERENCES

(click icons for more info)



Treasurer's Report

By Nicole Whitaker

Current financial statements were not ready due to this month's early publishing deadline, therefore last month's are being re-run. If you have any questions regarding chapter finances, please contact Chapter Treasurer Nicole Whitaker at nicole.e.whitaker@gmail.com.

AGA Virginia Peninsula Chapter Balance Sheet As of October 31, 2011

	Accrual Basis Oct 31, 11
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Towne Bank	9,348.47
Accounts Receivable	-411.00
Undeposited Funds	-75.00
Total Current Assets	8,862.47
Office Equipment	314.49
Total Fixed Assets	314.49
TOTAL ASSETS	9,176.96
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Payroll Liabilities	250.00
Total Liabilities	250.00
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	2,857.53
Retained Earnings	12,227.69
Net Income	-6,158.26
Total Equity	8,926.96
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	9,176.96

Chapter Treasurer Nicole Whitaker can be reached at nicole.e.whitaker@gmail.com.

AGA Virginia Peninsula Chapter Income Statement - October 2011

	Memo	Amount
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Interest Earned	Interest	0.40
Total Interest Earned		0.40
Total Income		0.40
Expense		
Charity	Snacks at Charity event	10.00
Total Charity		10.00
Credit Card Fees	Service Charge	8.00
	Service fees	9.95
	Bankcard fees	11.27
		29.22
Total Credit Card Fees	Meeting food	54.59
Meetings		54.59
Total Meetings		54.59
PDC Expenses		
Fall PDC		
Attendee Gift - Bags	Attendee gifts Fall PDC	2,495.41
Total Attendee Gift - Bags		2,495.41
Gift Fall	Speaker & sponsor gifts	359.00
Total Gift Fall		359.00
Total Fall PDC		2,854.41
Total PDC Expenses		2,854.41
Postal	Shipping	25.72
Total Postal		25.72
Total Expense		2,973.94
Net Income		-2,973.54

Mid-Atlantic PDC Showcases Regional Teamwork



A REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE

Mark A. Morehouse, MBA, CGFM
Regional Vice President-Elect for the Mid-Atlantic Region

Recently, I attended the 16th Mid-Atlantic Regional PDC. The two-day event hosted about 120 participants who heard the best speakers the region has to offer. 16 CPEs were earned along with many opportunities to network and relax in colonial Williamsburg. Attendees were mostly members of the Richmond and Virginia Peninsula chapters. The Hospitality House prepared delicious meals and snacks for all to enjoy.

The PDC was the result of months of planning by the two chapters who combined resources (funds, materials and human capital for example) to make the event happen. The boards of both chapters served as the PDC planning team. This effort involved many hours of teleconferences, emails, and phone calls long before anyone set foot in the hotel. Team members used their networks to obtain top quality speakers who could enlighten and inform attendees. All this was done while maintaining reasonable costs and thus keeping the registration fees low.

Richmond and Hampton Roads are 90 miles apart, making face to face meetings difficult. However this geographic challenge was overcome with the use of modern technology and some old fashioned team work. Team members gained the satisfaction of putting together a quality PDC while they enhanced their organizational skills and had a great time in the process. The team, under the joint leadership of their respective chapter presidents, utilized available resources to produce an outstanding training event. I am thankful for their leadership.

Mid-Atlantic Regional Team

Regional Vice President

Denise Wu (Baltimore Chapter)

Regional Vice President-Elect

Mark Morehouse (VA Peninsula Chapter)

Certification Regional Coordinator

Alfred B. Washington, CGFM (Richmond Chapter)

Chapter Dev & Assistance Regional Coordinator

Kelly Stefanko (VA Peninsula chapter)

Community Svc Regional Coordinator

Dellareese Morton-Smith (Baltimore Chapter)

Early Careers Regional Coordinator

Rashad A. Holloway (Baltimore Chapter)

Want to join our team? The region is always looking for new leaders. Please contact Mid-Atlantic RVP Denise Wu at denise.wu@cliftoncpa.com or RVP-elect Mark Morehouse at mark.morehouse@navy.mil to find out how you can get involved in our region's leadership.



VIRGINIA
PENINSULA
CHAPTER

The Virginia Peninsula Chapter Board of Directors 2011-2012

Chapter Officers:

President

Curtis P. Joachim, CPA, MBA
The Joachim Group CPAs &
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cjoachim@thejoachimgroupcpas.com

President-Elect

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esilvea@deloitte.com

Past President

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City of Norfolk
Brad.Smith@norfolk.gov

Treasurer

Nicole Whitaker
Nicole.E.Whitaker@gmail.com

Secretary

Valerie Ward
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USCG Finance Center
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Mark Morehouse, CGFM
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mark.morehouse@navy.mil

Regional Vice President- Mid Atlantic Region

Denise Wu
denise.wu@cliftoncpa.com



Honorable
Mention

Have member news or pictures to share via the newsletter? Send to kstefanko@hotmail.com

Visit the Virginia Peninsula Chapter on the web at www.agavapen.org or
AGA National at www.agacgfm.org

Mailing us something? AGA Virginia Peninsula Chapter
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Chesapeake, VA 23327-1464