

NEXT MEETING

October 21, 2010

Norfolk Airport Hilton

1500 North Military Highway
Norfolk, VA

11:30 am

**Featuring
SURPRISE SPEAKER!**

One CPE

\$10 for members
\$15 for non members

Payment of cash, check or credit card
accepted in person.

All attendees must RSVP to

Melissa Saunders at
melissa.a.saunders@gmail.com
by October 14th

Upcoming Chapter Meeting:

November 18, 2001
Crowne Plaza, Hampton Marina,
700 Settlers Landing Road, Hampton
11:30

Chapter President's Message

What a way to start our program year than with a 50th anniversary celebration! Our Executive Director Relmond Van Daniker was our speaker and inspired us to continue to support AGA. In attendance along with members and guests was Lisa Casias, our National President. Having both of these individuals at an event is a rarity. I want to thank our anniversary committee for a job well done; it was a night to remember.

Our involvement at the Accounting Career Fair at ODU was very rewarding for the chapter and the participants. We were able to discuss with the students the many benefits of being a member of AGA.

I want to remind you about our Mid-Year PDC to be held at the Williamsburg Hospitality House, Williamsburg, VA on December 9th and 10th. Following are some of the confirmed speakers:

Joe Kull, Director, PricewaterCoopers

Sherry Weir, Partner, Kearney & Co.

Manju Ganeriwala, Treasurer of Virginia

Karen Joyner, CFO Foodbank of Southeastern VA

*Channing Guvernator, Public Awareness & Training Coordinator-
Eastern Virginia Region*

I would love to have members volunteer to be a part of the PDC planning committee. Very soon we will have the registration form for the PDC on the website and I will also be emailing them as well, so there will be no excuse to miss out on the exciting time and great speakers.

I encourage each of you to become involved in the chapter in any of the areas that you have an interest in. Currently the Director of Membership position is vacant, so don't hesitate to contact me.

Thanks for all you do,

Bradford W. Smith

President

AGA VA Peninsula Chapter



Brad, rubbing elbows with AGA's big brass, the Executive Director and National President, at the September meeting



*Chapter President
Bradford Smith*

What's Happening?

This month:

- October - Community service projects: Blankets, winter clothing drive, food drive, Union Mission (chapter will help provide manpower to help stock and arrange food supplies for the upcoming holidays). POC is [Helen Brooks](#))
- October 11-12 - [3rd Annual Controllars & Management Accountants Conference](#)
- October 13 – 14 – AGA [Performance Management Conference](#), Embassy Suites Baltimore Airport, Baltimore, MD
- October 17– [ODU 5k](#) – The chapter is a race sponsor. Members are invited to participate in the family friendly race, held in conjunction with ODU homecoming. (POC is [Curtis Joachim](#))
- October 21, 2010 – Chapter lunch meeting, Crowne Plaza, Hampton (POC is [Melissa Saunders](#))

Two Opportunities to Support ODU's Department of Accounting

Sign up for the 5K

ODU Department of Accounting's 12th annual 5K run and walk is scheduled for October 17th (a Sunday). The run is one of the major fund raisers for the ODU Accounting Department and has a scenic route through ODU's scenic campus that ends at the Elizabeth River Beach with a big pizza party. Several of our members have already registered so plan to join them. Family and friends are welcome. [Click here for registration information.](#)

Speak at a MAAC meeting

ODU's Managerial Auditing and Accounting Club (MAAC) is a student organization that enhances the opportunities for accounting students to better understand the real world of accounting and auditing. Meetings are held to accommodate both day and night students. MAAC members are members of AGA's only student chapter. Please consider supporting them by offering to serve as a guest speaker at one of their upcoming meetings. **FOOD WILL BE SERVED!** The meeting schedule follows, along with contact information for the MAAC.

Day Meetings 12:30 – 1:20 pm
(Constant Hall 2099)

- Oct 5, 19, 26
- Nov 4, 9, 30

Evening Meetings 6:00 – 6:45 pm
(Constant Hall 2002)

- Oct 13, 20
- Nov 3, 17

Virginia Peninsula Chapter 2010-2011 Schedule of Upcoming Events

- November –Community service events (POC is [Helen Brooks](#)):
 - Stockings and Bears for Christmas drive
 - Samaritan House (chapter to help hand out stockings and bears).
 - Marine Corp Toys for Tots (collection boxes located at agencies)
 - Food Collection for local area food banks. Chapter will collect food and money donations by members plus make a monetary contribution to each food bank (Southside and Peninsula)
- November 18, 2011 – Chapter lunch meeting at Crowne Plaza, Hampton Marina, 700 Settlers Landing Road, Hampton, VA (POC is [Melissa Saunders](#)). Bring a guest!
- November 20 -Family Volunteer Day (POC is [Allison Shoemaker](#))
- December 9 - 10- Mid-Atlantic region joint fall conference with AGA Richmond Chapter in Williamsburg, VA. (POC – Brad Smith).
 - Fundraising raffle to benefit the Make-a-Wish Foundation (POC is [Helen Brooks](#))
- December 11 – Emerging Leaders at Jillian's (POC is [Allison Shoemaker](#))
- January 20 – Chapter lunch meeting at the Norfolk Hilton (POC is [Melissa Saunders](#))
- January - "Coats for Kids" drive (POC is [Helen Brooks](#))
- January TBD – ODU basketball game (POC is [Allison Shoemaker](#))
- February - Annual Sock Drive (POC is [Helen Brooks](#))
- February TBD – Admiral's hockey game (POC is [Allison Shoemaker](#))
- February 17-18 AGA [National Leadership Conference](#), Ronald Reagan Building - International Trade Center, Washington, D.C.
 - Sign up for AGA's special intensive review course and take the CGFM Examinations after the NLC. (POC is [Katya Silver](#))
- February 17 or 24 – Chapter lunch meeting, Chesapeake (POC is [Melissa Saunders](#))
- March TBD – Chapter's spring conference, Chesapeake conference center, (POC is [Curtis Joachim](#))
- April 21 – Chapter lunch meeting, Hampton (POC is [Melissa Saunders](#))
- April - March of Dimes Walk America –Chapter will help provide manpower to register walkers and count donations after the event for deposit. (POC is [Helen Brooks](#))
- May TBD – Chapter awards night (POC is [Brad Smith](#))
- May - 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. (POC is [Joe Rutecki](#)).
- June - Clean the Bay Day (POCs are Latrealle Lee (GAO) and [Ellen Silvela](#)).
- July 10-13, [AGA Professional Development Conference](#), *Celebrating Our Past, Embracing the Future*, Atlanta Marriott Marquis, Atlanta, GA.
 - Sign up for AGA's special intensive review course and take the CGFM Examinations before the PDC. (POC is [Katya Silver](#))
 - July - Community Service Fund Raiser at the AGA PDC in Atlanta, GA The chapter will provide a gift basket as a prize for the fund raiser and a donation for the chapter challenge. (POC is [Helen Brooks](#))

MAAC POCs	Fall 2010		
President:	Lidiana Young	Lyoun024@odu.edu	757-589-7019
Vice President (Day):	Renee Nettles	Rnett003@odu.edu	501-681-2592
Vice President (Night):	Kristen Peters	Kpete019@odu.edu	757-679-5302
Vice President (Night):	Matthew Rendell	Mrend002@odu.edu	757-635-6298
Advisor:	Dr. Ziegenfuss	dziegenf@odu.edu	757-683-3514



Managerial Auditing and Accounting Club

Since We Last Met...

A Celebration of our History and a Challenge for our Future

Nearly 100 members and guests, including 15 past chapter presidents, the Mid-Atlantic Regional Vice President, and AGA's National President and Executive Director helped celebrate the Virginia Peninsula chapter's 50th anniversary on September 23rd. With so many different people recognized, it was as if everyone in the room got introduced -- but that pointed to the depth and breadth of volunteerism the chapter enjoys. It was clear that it's not just one superstar volunteer that carries the weight of the chapter, either in its history or present day, rather its alot of people playing a part that together, have made history! The night was an opportunity to reminisce on the Virginia Peninsula's proud history and acknowledge the hard work of members who have been actively involved in the chapter and its events throughout the years.

Long time chapter members Joe Rutecki served as master of ceremonies, jokingly noting that while it was the norm at chapter gatherings in the early days, the abundance of such well dressed professional at the anniversary celebration could be mistaken for a job fair, one of many signs of how times have changed over the chapter's history. The Virginia Peninsula chapter has grown from 33 founding members to a solid 206 today, with many members involved at AGA's regional and National level. The chapter has held educational conferences, sponsored job fairs, helped our community with a robust community service program and established two student chapters, one of which (Old Dominion) continues as AGA's only remaining student chapter.

The chapter's one lifetime member – Joe Stevens - who ironically was chapter president during the VA Peninsula's 25th anniversary year – was in attendance and given special recognition. In the keynote presentation, AGA's executive director Relmond Van Daniker segued from the past to the present in highlighting AGA's position today as the thought leader in advancing government accountability and transparency. He noted our work is not over and charged the group, retirees included, to keep pushing for government accountability by demanding that governments at all levels provide information that is clear and understandable.

(Coverage of the anniversary celebration continues on the following pages)

Chapter Supports ODU Accounting Career Fair

Chapter president Brad Smith represented the VA Peninsula chapter of AGA in holding down our booth at ODU Career Fair on September 16th. Several other chapter members were in attendance, supporting the career searches of ODU accounting students.



Relmond Van Daniker, AGA's Executive Director, charges VA Peninsula chapter members, both past and present, to keep working on making a difference.



Cathy Silvela, a student member at ODU, helped at the registration



Brad Smith and Melissa Saunders attended last month's ODU Accounting Career Fair

Celebrating 50 Years VA Peninsula Chapter's Golden Anniversary, 9/23/10



Above, Patricia Scott and Cecelia Smith (2008 chapter president)

Below, VA Peninsula chapter presidents Ron Ingram (2003), Brad Smith (2010), and Mark Morehouse (2005)



"Wow, what a powerful meeting! Have to say that's one of the best orchestrated meetings I have ever had the pleasure to attend. The successful results prove just how powerful teamwork can be. Everyone worked together to make the evening meaningful, yet light, and sociable. I talked to some new members who wanted to become more involved as a result of the meeting."
--Mark Morehouse

"Great job to all and hope to be around for the 75th."
-Joe Rutecki



Master of ceremonies Joe Rutecki



From left, Lee Ball (39 year member), Paul Geraty Mid-Atlantic RVP), Brad Smith (current chapter president) and (front) Paul Allison (1975 chapter president)

Past chapter presidents in attendance

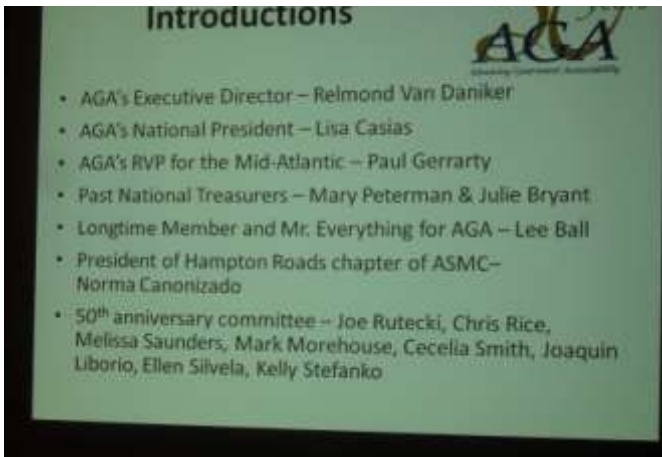
- Paul Allison (1975)
- Tom Sayre (1984)
- Joe Stevens (1985/1986)
- Sharon Horne (1988)
- Fred Harrison (1991)
- Chris Rice (1993)
- Jesse Hughes (1996)
- Charles Parker (1998)
- Rebecca Beale (2001)
- David Schmitt (2002)
- Ronald Ingram (2003)
- Janine Prybyla (2004)
- Mark Morehouse (2005)
- JoAnn Stevenson (2007)
- Cecelia Smith (2008)

"I enjoyed attending. It really is a great experience to see so many folks dedicated to a common organization and cause."
- Lisa Casias
AGA National President

Members and guests in attendance:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Alan Bardwell | Amanda Gallant |
| Annie Rice | Brad Smith |
| Caitlin Lavee | Carolyn Heggins |
| Carolyn Richardson | Catherine Sivela |
| Chika Onodu | Ciara Hunter |
| Clement Mikowski | Curtis Joachim |
| Daphne Turner | Darryl Carver |
| David Sweeney | Denise Halvorson |
| Douglas Ziegenfuss | Ellen Sivela |
| Gail Henderson | Garnise Dennis |
| Joaquin Liborio | Joseph Rutecki |
| Joy Leyeza | Juan Rivero |
| Juliet Williams | Kelly Stefanko |
| Larry White | Lee Ball |
| Lisa Casias | Margaret McIntosh |
| Mark Sangalang | Melissa Saunders |
| Millie Stevens | Miryam Woodson |
| Nancy Sayre | Norma Canonizado |
| Patricia Scott | Paul Geraty |
| Paul Gvoth | Ray Reyes |
| Steve Reagan | Relmond Van Daniker |
| Sandy Rutecki | Taromba Smith |
| Yolanda Joyner | Yvette Fleming |
| Traneisha Bailey-Williams | |

Celebrating 50 Years VA Peninsula Chapter's Golden Anniversary, 9/23/10



Above, a slide from the powerpoint program introducing some of the many special guests in attendance.



Above, Jesse Hughes (1996 chapter president), Relmond Van Daniker (AGA's Executive Director) and Joe Stevens (1985/1986 chapter president)



Mmmm...anniversary cake, designed by 50th anniversary committee member Melissa Saunders

Below, past chapter presidents Mark Morehouse (2005) and Joann Stevenson (2007). Joann travelled all the way from Indianapolis to attend!



Above Brad Smith, Lisa Casias (National President), Paul Geraty and Cecelia Smith.

Below, 50th anniversary committee members Ellen Silvela and Joaquin Liborio.



Celebrating 50 Years VA Peninsula Chapter's Golden Anniversary, 9/23/10

“Millie and I very much enjoyed last night's anniversary celebration and dinner. The committee did a great job with the arrangements. It was enjoyable for me to revisit the chapter history and to see many of my associates from the 70's and 80's. It's obvious that the chapter currently has a strong core group of individuals that keeps it moving forward. Keep up the good work and thanks again for inviting us. Hope the chapter has a great year. “

-Joe Stevens



Joe Stevens (at left), chapter president in 1985 at the Virginia Peninsula chapter's 25th anniversary, has maintained his AGA membership for 40+ years, earning AGA's distinction as a "Lifetime Member". Here he receives a certificate for this achievement from chapter historian Mark Morehouse.

Final scenes from the 50th Anniversary Celebration...



Membership News



It's Back -- Sponsor a New Member Challenge!

All members are encouraged to participate in the Virginia Peninsula chapter's own recruitment challenge. The chapter member who sponsors the most new members from September - March will win a free membership for the 2011-2012 program year. The winner of the challenge will be announced at the April monthly meeting; your membership status must be current to win. In case of a tie, membership dues will be divided equally. What are you waiting for – share your AGA experience and encourage someone to join today!

What Drives You? *The AGA National Member-Get-A-Member Program*
AGA's national membership campaign offers you the opportunity to win great prizes for sharing your AGA experiences with your friends and colleagues and persuading them to join.

During the campaign, which is already underway and runs through April 30, 2011, current members are encouraged to recruit new members. Since you already know the benefits of being an AGA member and have contacts in the industry, this is a great way to increase AGA's membership, which expands your professional network and allows AGA to better meet your needs.

Prizes are awarded to show appreciation for your support of AGA and your efforts to help the Association grow. The member who recruits the most new members from May 1, 2010 through April 30, 2011 will be presented with the *Recruiter of the Year* distinction and receive a **complimentary AGA National Meeting registration and four nights at the Marriott.**

For more information on the "What Drives You?" campaign rules and prizes, go to the [recruitment](#) section of the AGA website.

Member News

Wanda Witherspoon, our Director of Membership, has moved to the DC area for a new job. Congratulations Wanda and you'll be missed in the VA Peninsula chapter!

Education

Plan now to attend the 15th Annual Mid-Atlantic Professional Development Conference

**December 9-10, 2010 – The Williamsburg Hospitality House
415 Richmond Road, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185
Telephone (757) 229-4020**

Program: Day 1 (8:15am - 5:00pm) / Day 2 (8:15am - 5:00pm)
(Registration both days starts at 7:30am)

Audience: Accountants, auditors, financial and performance managers, budget analysts, chief financial officers, information systems managers, finance directors, etc. Finance and Audit Professionals employed in government (federal, state, and local) and the private sector (for-profit and non-profit agencies). We expect 150 + attendees. Conference will include annually required ethics for Virginia CPAs. Watch your e-mail for the registration form coming soon!

Marketing Opportunities: Limited exhibit space is available. Please contact Ellen Siveola at esiveola@deloitte.com for pricing. You may make your literature available, demonstrate software and display your banners. The exhibit hall is located outside the main conference hall. All exhibitors will be acknowledged in the conference program. Participants will be able to visit your exhibit throughout the 2 day conference, but primarily before 8:30 am, at the breaks, at lunch, and after 5pm. The Hospitality Suite will be open to all participants from 7-11pm on Dec 8-9.

Welcome New Members!

Traneisha K. Bailey-Williams
Deloitte

Ciara L. Hunter
US Army Cadet Command

Join Emerging Leaders in Giving Back to the Community

Unfortunately, due to work obligations during the month of October, Allison Shoemaker will not be able to come down to the Hampton Roads area for an emerging leader event. There will be a November event though....

For the third year in a row, we will be helping pack nonperishable food for local shelters and outreach programs on Saturday, November 20th from 8:30am to 12:00pm at Virginia Wesleyan College, Jane P. Batten Student Center. The cost is FREE...it doesn't cost a thing to give back.

If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Allison Shoemaker at ashoemaker@kearneyco.com by Friday, October 29th and include the number of people that will be attending. Groups are limited to 10 people. However, if enough people express interest by the sign up deadline, we can look into putting together an additional group. Additionally, families can volunteer together and are limited to 5 people. For additional information visit the [event website](#)

Family Volunteer Day

Sponsored by Disney Florida

A HandsOn Network
Signature Program

Member Spotlight



Miryam Woodson

What is your job position?

Principal Accountant, Finance Department/Comptroller's Office, City of Virginia Beach.

Give us a brief description of your job.

I assist the Comptroller with the administration of the financial activities for the City of Virginia Beach. This includes the coordination of year end activities and processes, planning and preparation of schedules for the independent auditors, and the preparation of the City's annual financial report (CAFR). I provide oversight over various other functions performed in the Comptroller's Office, including financial management of grants and awards, year-end closeout of capital projects, arbitrage management, and the preparation of monthly interim financial reports.

What do you like most about your job?

The variety of accounting issues and the teamwork involved in accomplishing a demanding workload. I am proud of the work that we do.

What is your favorite perk of AGA membership?

The conferences! They are interesting, keep me up to date regarding financial issues, and provide a great way to earn CPEs.

What is your most memorable AGA experience?

Being recruited to coordinate volunteers for the March of Dimes.

What are your hobbies?

Reading Mary Higgins-Clark suspense novels at the beach and taking walks at First Landing State Park with my husband and dogs.

What was your best vacation?

Going to Hawaii for Christmas 2008. My family used to live in Honolulu and the Big Island and we had not been back since we left in 2001. It was great to be able to visit family and friends.

Anything else you'd like to share about yourself?

This tax season I worked as a volunteer tax preparer for the VA Tax Aide. It was a very fun and rewarding experience and I highly recommend it.

Community Service

Giving Back to the Community

By Helen Brooks

First of all, I would like to say that your time, effort and donations in helping others are very much appreciated. It touches the beneficiaries, supporters, donors as well as those people around them.

Last year, we conducted a survey that many of you participated. The result showed that we have to be in tune with YOU, the members! So this year, here are the exciting and fun-filled events!

New project Knitting and Crochet Club	October Blankets & Winter Clothing Drive Food Collections Union Mission/Salvation Army
November Stocking and Bears for Christmas Marine Corp Toys for Tots Blankets & Winter Clothing Drive Food Collection	December Blankets & Winter Clothing Drive Food Collection Fall PDC Raffle
January Coats for Kids Blankets & Winter Clothing Drive	February Annual Sock Drive On-Going Knitting & Crochet Project
April On-Going Knitting & Crochet Projects	May Equikids Therapeutic Riding Program

COME BE A PART OF THE FUN!
VOLUNTEER FOR AGA'S COMMUNITY EVENTS!!!

Wanted Volunteers!

By Helen Brooks

If you are the point-of-contact in your organization for chapter community service events, or if you are interested, please e-mail me at Helen.M.Brooks@uscg.mil or call (757) 523-6861. We will include your organization in the bulletins and updates for the chapter's community service activities. In addition, the chapter has many on-going projects. Please let me know if you would like to be the point of contact or a volunteer for a particular project.

We have begun soliciting items for the community service fundraising raffle during the fall professional development conference in Williamsburg on December 3-4, 2009. We need your support with this community service project. If you are willing to help contact business owners to solicit gift certificate or other gift item to this fundraiser, please contact me at Helen.M.Brooks@uscg.mil and I can provide you a form letter to provide to prospects that includes our tax ID number. Last year's fundraiser raised \$1,250 for the foundation which our AGA National office matched.

Volunteer and meet new people ...gain knowledge ...
develop new skills...and hone those customer service skills !

Pick up a bear or stockings... bring in your canned goods and winter items ...
obtain donations for our raffle...join our new club!

On-Going Community Service Projects

Blankets & Winter Clothing

Although the economy is recovering from recession, unemployment rates are still at an all time high. More than ever, now is the time that we need to extend our help to assist individuals and their families in these tough economic times.

Food Collections

This month, the chapter is collecting food items for the Annual Thanksgiving Drive. In November, we will be collecting for the Christmas Food Drive for the Southside and Peninsula Food Banks. The items collected are donated to the area shelters.

Supporting the chapter's Blankets & Winter Clothing Drive and Food collection are some of the ways you may extend assistance to the needy families.

What's New!

This year we are starting a new community project called the "Knitting and Crochet Club." The chapter will provide the yarn and will teach you the skills. We just need volunteers!

Salvation Army's Dress-Up a Bear and Stockings to Fill

Interested volunteers may pick up a bear to dress and stockings to fill with toys & gifts. It is so much fun to volunteer for a worthwhile cause! Don't miss out!!

Have questions or suggestions?
Contact Community Service Director
Helen Brooks at
Helen.M.Brooks@uscg.mil

Treasurer's Report

By Ellen Silvela

At right is the chapter's status of funds as of the end of August 2010.

Below is the financial summary from the 9/23/10 chapter anniversary meeting.

If you have any questions, e-mail me at esilvela@deloitte.com



AGA Virginia Peninsula Chapter Status of Funds as of August 31, 2010	
Balance Brought Forward August 1, 2010	\$ 20,428.82
Income	
Interest from Bank	\$ 0.83
Total Income	\$ 0.83
Total Funds Available	\$ 20,429.65
Expenses	
Credit Card Fees	\$ 17.95
Charity - Edmarc Golf Tournament	\$ 250.00
ODU Accounting Job Fair Booth	\$ 250.00
Walmart Giftcard for Chapter Member Survey Prize	\$ 25.00
Deposit for hotel - Oct 2010 and Jan 2011 Meetings	\$ 500.00
Deposit for hotel - 50th Anniversary Meeting	\$ 500.00
Commemorative Pins - 50th Anniversary Meeting	\$ 181.00
Total Expenses	\$ 1,723.95
Payables due to ASMC for Spring 2010 PDC	\$ 4,412.00
Net Income	\$ (6,135.12)
Funds Available August 31, 2010	\$ 14,293.70

AGA Virginia Peninsula Chapter 50th Anniversary Meeting Summary	
Expenses	
Hotel Deposit	\$ 500.00
Commemorative Pins	\$ 181.00
Cake	\$ 34.87
Decorations	\$ 26.96
Cake Containers	\$ 3.15
Hotel Catering Balance	\$ 2,147.71
Total Expenses	\$ 2,893.69
Registration Fees Collected	
Registration for 41 paying attendees	\$ 820.00
Total Registration Fees	\$ 820.00
50th Anniversary Meeting Expense Net of Registration Fees	\$ 2,073.69

Food for Thought

Persistence

By Curtis Joachim

"Genius is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration."
Thomas Edison

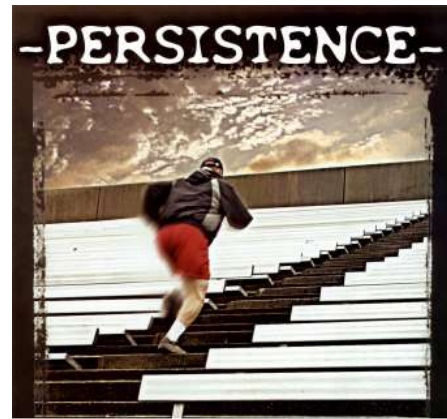
Last time we visited we talked about the fact that success leaves clues. We discussed one of those clues called self-discipline. You'll recall that we defined self-discipline in layman's terms as the ability to stay focused at the task at hand no matter what life throws at you.

Today we are going to discuss another one of those success clues, persistency.

The Webster Dictionary defines persistency as, "The continuance of an effect after the cause which first gave rise to it is removed". A term used to describe persistency is "doggedness". I'm sure you've heard the old phrase that says "it's not the size of the dog in the fight that matters, but the size of the fight in the dog". It's what you've got in you that matters, not what is going on around you.

Ever notice how those little itty bitty dogs sometimes seem to be the most vicious? If they attacked you, you could send them to Mars with one good kick. But don't tell them that, they'll bark and growl at you as if they were a 250 pound German shepherd!

Persistency goes hand in hand with self-discipline. Having a resolute determination to succeed and sticking with it no matter how many times you come up empty handed.



I'm sure you've heard of these individuals who demonstrated the pure essence of persistence by their refusal to give up even though they were faced with repeated failures:

- Thomas Edison tried and failed over 6,000 times to find the right carbonized plant fiber for his light bulb invention
- Colonel Sanders was rejected 1,009 times before someone finally bought his recipe for making fried chicken (KFC)
- Walt Disney was turned down 302 times before he got the financing for Disneyland
- Elvis Presley was kicked out of the Grand Ole Opry in 1954 – they told him to stick to his day job driving trucks
- After his first audition, Sidney Poitier was told by the casting director, "Why don't you stop wasting people's time and go out and become a dishwasher or something?"
- Peyton Manning lost countless football games before winning his first super-bowl
- Michael Jordan was cut from his high school basketball team
- Bill Gates dropped out of Harvard and starting a business called Traf-O-Data that failed
- Oprah Winfrey was fired from her job as a television reporter; she was told that she was "unfit for TV."
- Jerry Seinfeld was jeered and booed off stage his first outing as a stand-up comedian

I could go on giving countless examples of people who looked defeat in the eye, got knocked down and decided to get back up, take another swing, and go another round.

No matter what goals you've set out to accomplish, discouragement will come, set-backs will happen. But as Willie Jolley put it, "A setback is a setup for a comeback!"

Winners use what seems like failures to learn what not to do the next time, what does not work, what pitfalls to avoid, and where the land mines are. Before one figures out what works, one must first figure out what does not. As Darius Rucker phrased it, "You got to live and learn till you learn to live"

Never Quit!



AGA National & Regional News

Emerging Issues Committee Seeks Members

Do you want to be part of a dynamic think tank on the leading edge of government accountability issues? AGA has one and you can participate. The Emerging Issues Committee can have up to 11 members; the committee is looking for AGA members in good standing to serve a three-year term. Committee co-chairs, **Jeanette Franzel, CGFM, CPA**, and **Tony Rainey**, are primarily looking for applicants who are with state or local levels of government to strengthen committee representation in those constituencies, but feds are also welcome!

The committee's mission is to identify and elevate awareness of significant emerging issues that impact government accountability at the federal, state and/or local level. Once issues are identified, the committee can take a range of possible actions to assist other AGA members in dealing with these issues. The committee also provides input to the technical committee for the Professional Development Conference & Exposition and to the Corporate Partner Advisory Group Research Program. The committee presents a session on emerging issues at the PDC.

If you are interested in serving on this prestigious committee, please contact the staff liaison for the committee, AGA director of Research [Anna Miller](#).

Certification News

Ready to Take the CGFM? Send your application through the chapter and save \$20

The AGA National Office is running a promotion from now until December 31, 2010 for CGFM exam applications. Apply with the chapter's assistance and you'll receive a rebate of \$20. There are also special benefits for the chapters! Contact chapter Director of Professional Certifications, Steve Reagan at sreagan01@verizon.net. Also, see www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/promotion.aspx for additional information.

Don't forget, the chapter has a set of study guides for each of the three sections of the CGFM exam. They are available to be checked out for up to two weeks at a time on a first come first served basis. Anyone wishing to check out a study guide should contact our Director of Professional Certifications, Steve Reagan via e-mail at sreagan01@verizon.net.



Consider the Challenge of AGA National and Regional Leadership

Please consider the opportunity of serving as an AGA Regional Vice President (RVP). If you are a member in good standing and if you have already served as an AGA Chapter Officer for at least one year by July 2011, then you are QUALIFIED!

This is an exceptional opportunity to travel (RVPs travel to each chapter in their region) to connect with other national leaders, and to expand your leadership experience.

If you are interested in qualifying for next year by serving as a chapter officer, please contact Chapter President Brad Smith at Brad.Smith@norfolk.gov.

If you want more information, please visit AGA's website at: <http://www.agacgfm.org/about/governance/>. Alternatively, contact our current RVP, Paul Geraty pgeraty@kpmg.com or our immediate past RVP Cecelia Smith at cecelia.smith-1@nasa.gov who can tell you about their experiences and can tell you more about the commitment.

JOIN THE TEAM THAT'S LEADING YOUR PROFESSION INTO THE NEXT CENTURY

All submissions will be forwarded to the National Nominating Committee, which will choose the slate of candidates. Nominations are due **Friday, Oct. 29, 2010**. Please note that since the committee often receives more than one nomination per position, not every nominee will be selected. Candidates for elective office are reminded that the National Bylaws do not permit campaigning for elective office. Additionally, only ONE nomination per candidate is necessary and candidates should not solicit additional nominations. Also, the committee will not recognize endorsements of candidates.

If you are interested in serving or know of potential leaders, please [click here](#) for a Nominations Brochure or contact [Louise Kapelewski](#), Nominating Committee staff liaison, at the National Office at 800.AGA.7211, ext. 321. Take advantage of this opportunity to shape the future of your Association!

AGA National Training Opportunities

For more than 60 years, the AGA has provided the cutting-edge continuing professional education and training that government financial managers need. Check out [the AGA National home page](#) to see its listing of conferences, courses, training events, and audio CPE.

UPCOMING NATIONAL CONFERENCES

National Leadership Conference

Feb. 17-18, 2011

Ronald Reagan Building - International Trade Center
Washington, D.C.

Professional Development Conference

July 10-13, 2011

Atlanta Marriott Marquis, Atlanta, GA



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