



Association of Government Accountants  
Greater Lansing Chapter

# 2009 Annual Report

CELEBRATING 31 YEARS OF  
SERVICE TO THE  
ACCOUNTABILITY  
PROFESSION



# Vision

AGA is the premier association in advancing government accountability.

# Mission

AGA serves government accountability professionals by providing quality education, fostering professional development and certification, and supporting standards and research to advance government accountability.

# Strategic Themes

- Accountability
- Certification
- Education and Research
- Service

# Core Values

- Service
- Accountability
- Integrity
- Leadership

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

A Message from the President	4
Board of Directors	6
Service at the National AGA	7
History: The National AGA	8
History: Greater Lansing Chapter	9
Service Activities	10
Award Recipients	11
Chapter Gold Award	15
Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM)	16
Proclamations for CGFM Month	18
2009 Conference Highlights	22
Program Report	24
Communications/Public Relations Report	25
Treasurer's Report	26
AGA Greater Lansing Chapter Website	28
Membership Report	29
Members 2009	30
Contact Us	32

## **A Message from the President**

First I would like to thank the AGA Greater Lansing Chapter membership for allowing me to serve as president for 2009 – 2010. I have enjoyed the experience. We are fortunate to have a great group of dedicated individuals on the Chapter Executive Committee. I am looking forward to the future of the chapter.

When I began as chapter president, I made implementation of a new website, community service and continuing to provide high quality and cost effective CPE for our members the main areas of focus of my term. Our new website became available in September 2009. Some of the many benefits of the new website are a much more efficient event registration process, a secure site to accept credit card payments, and a more user friendly website administration process. Visit our new website at <http://www.lansing-aga.org/>.

The chapter continues to provide high quality CPE for its members and the financial community. During 2009 -2010 over 40 hours of CPE has been offered through full and half day professional development conferences, audio conferences, and luncheons. The average cost of each hour of CPE is less than \$10 for an AGA member. A highlight of our March 30, 2010 PDC is a visit from Billy Morehead, AGA National President.

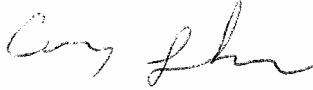
We continued to serve our community through Adopt-A-Highway on Lansing Road. A new community service event for this year is a food drive for the Greater Lansing Food Bank at the March 30, 2010 PDC.

This year we started a corporate sponsorship program. This program gives other entities the opportunity to sponsor events, our website and newsletter. This program helps connect our membership to non-government entities and helps fund our chapter expenses. Becker Professional Education became our first sponsor. They sponsored our January luncheon and also our website.

The AGA West Michigan Chapter was chartered on December 1, 2009. Bobby Derrick, CGFM presented the charter at the chapter's inaugural meeting in Grand Rapids. Our chapter was instrumental in assisting the new chapter's startup.

Thanks to all members for making this a successful and memorable year for me. I am looking forward to working with the new Chapter Executive Committee in the upcoming years.

Sincerely,



Corey Sparks, CPA



**Passing the Gavel to Corey Sparks from Tim Becker**

Tim Becker served as President from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009.

Corey Sparks is currently serving as President from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### July 2008 – June 2009

### July 2009 – June 2010

Tim Becker	<b>President</b>	Corey Sparks
Corey Sparks	<b>President Elect</b>	Cindy Johnson
Deb Christopherson	<b>Secretary</b>	Deb Christopherson
Tim Martin	<b>Treasurer</b>	Tim Martin
Mike DiBernardo Stephen Blann	<b>Education</b>	Heather Hammond
Dan Wawiernia Brian Curran	<b>Programs</b>	Dan Wawiernia Susan Saari
Susan Saari Duane Smiley	<b>Communications</b>	Duane Smiley
Marilyn Williams	<b>Membership</b>	Hollie Dietz
Jean Young Kristine Latchaw	<b>Community Service</b>	Jean Young
Jean Ramsey	<b>Awards/Nominations</b>	Marian Frane
Debbie Brady	<b>Web Master</b>	Debbie Brady
Dairus Reynnet	<b>Past President</b>	Tim Becker
Cindy Johnson Charlotte Roper	<b>CGFM Coordinator</b>	Charlotte Roper Marion Hart
Cindy Osga	<b>Historian</b>	Cindy Osga



## **SERVICE AT THE NATIONAL AGA**

**2008 – 2009**

**Financial Management  
Standards Board**

Craig Murray

**Regional Coordinator  
for Certification**

Ed Nierescher, CGFM

**Regional Coordinator  
For Education**

Ed Nierescher, CGFM

**2009 – 2010**

**Financial Management  
Standards Board**

Craig Murray

**Regional Vice-President**

Cindy Osga, CGFM

**Regional Co-Coordinator  
for Certification**

Cindy Johnson, acting for  
Ed Nierescher, CGFM



## HISTORY – THE NATIONAL AGA

For over 50 years now, the Association of Government Accountants has worked to improve accountability in government. It began officially in September of 1950 when a group of federal accountants organized the Federal Government Accountants Association. World War II was over and the federal government's finances needed improvement. The goals of the original organization were to:

- unite professional accountants for constructive endeavors
- encourage and provide a means for free interchange of ideas
- aid in the improvement of accounting and auditing; and
- contribute to the improvement of education.

Having admitted state and local officials as well as federal employees to active FGAA membership in 1971, the name was changed in 1975 to Association of Government Accountants. At that point two objectives were added:

- to enhance the professional image of financial managers and management in government service; and
- to encourage expansion and improvement of service to the public.

The organization has grown from 326 members in one chapter at the end of its first year to over 14,200 members in over 90 chapters as of January 2009. Its commitment to education and training, professional development, networking, publications, sponsoring research, and certification, has improved the quality of government finance and reporting.

Major achievements over the years:

- In 1966 worked on the front lines to get Congress to pass a law recognizing government accounting and auditing experience necessary to qualify for the CPA certificate in the nation's capital
- Advocated for the profession by establishing a Financial Management Standards Board and supporting legislation such as the Single Audit Act of 1984 and the CFO Act of 1990, establishing a chief financial officer in 24 federal departments and agencies
- In 1993 began the Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) Program as *the* certification program for government financial professionals; as of 2006 there are 8,026 CGFMs
- In 2005 the first Citizen-Centric Report was issued by a governmental entity. This report provides transparency in government and keeps governments accountable to its citizens. These reports are now being prepared at all levels of government.

For more information on AGA's National Office please visit their web site at [www.agacgfm.org](http://www.agacgfm.org).



## HISTORY – GREATER LANSING CHAPTER

The Greater Lansing Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants (AGA) conducted its first formal meeting on August 9, 1979. Chester Sipsok, President of the Detroit AGA Chapter, was the guest speaker and discussed the advantages of AGA membership. This meeting was the last opportunity to complete an application for charter membership. The Chapter received its charter from the National AGA Office on September 25, 1979. The chapter started with 66 charter members.

The chapter issued its first newsletter in January 1980. It was announced in the May 1981 that the newsletter would be called *Disclosures*. The chapter had a contest and the winning name came from Carol Shamka. While the chapter continues to issue its monthly newsletter, *Disclosures*, technology has made the process easier for those responsible for preparing the newsletter for print. The on-line location of the newsletter is now mailed to members each month, and can easily be accessed from the chapter's website at [www.lansing-AGA.org](http://www.lansing-AGA.org). The website went live September 18, 1999.

Providing quality and education at a reasonable cost is a main objective of the chapter. The chapter held its first seminar on April 2, 1981. The subject of the event was the National Council on Governmental Accounting (NCGA) Statement 1, *Government Accounting and Financial Reporting Principles*. Seminars continue to be held each year and now include audio and teleconferences to provide additional educational opportunities to members of the governmental accountability community. As another educational opportunity, the chapter began to offer continuing professional education at its monthly program meetings in 2000. In cooperation with corporate sponsor, The Rehmann Group, our chapter added a new training opportunity in 2007: the Governmental Accounting Training Series (GATS). The purpose of GATS is to educate public servants in the basics of governmental accounting, financial reporting, and internal controls. During 2009, GATS was expanded with presentations in Grand Rapids to serve West Michigan.



## SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Community service is one of our core values. Over the past few years our Chapter has participated in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program, the Adopt-A-Highway Program, and has been a regular fund raiser for the Capital Area Humane Society. In May 2009 the chapter participated for the second year in the Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Walk.

Calendar year 2009 is the eighth year that our Chapter participated in the Adopt-A-Highway Program. Our Chapter adopted a 2.2-mile stretch of Lansing Road located between I-96 and Snow Road. Volunteers cleaned our adopted stretch of highway in April, July and September.

Calendar year 2009 is the seventh year that our Chapter teamed with the Capital Area Humane Society (CAHS) to raise funds to help support their organization. On September 26, AGA animal lovers again helped the CAHS by participating in the "Run and Walk for the Animals" held at Fitzgerald Park in Grand Ledge.

The Board thanks all who participated in our community service projects.

Jean Young,  
Community Service Chair

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY



## **AWARD RECIPIENTS**

### **2009 Government Financial Manager of the Year Uday Malavia**

This award is presented annually to an individual to recognize an outstanding government financial manager at the local, state, or federal level who has been personally responsible for leading extraordinary initiatives in the course of his/her employment that have made a significant and lasting contribution to the quality, efficiency, and/or effectiveness of government financial management.

Previous Government Financial Manager of the Year Award recipients:

2008	David Angileri	2003	Laura Mester
2007	Jeannine Turner	2002	Dave Pike
2006	Lorraine James	2001	Leon Hank
2005	Sean Carlson	2000	Kim Stephen
2004	Greg DeCamp, Leo LaPorte, & Cory Sparks		

### **2009 Professional Development Award Tom Clay**

This award is presented to an individual to recognize his/her extraordinary efforts in providing continuing education opportunities for government professionals and others, and recognizes the importance of a lifetime of learning.

Previous Professional Development Award recipients:

2008	Stephen Blann	2002	Linda Dooley Simpson
2007	Dairus Reynnet	2001	Steve Stier & Rick Lowe
2006	Peter Haefner	2000	Ed Outslay
2005	Trudy Chiaravalli	1999	Jim Neubecker
2004	Laura Hirst	1998	Jon Wise
2003	Howard Pizzo & Smruti Shah	1997	Cal Kladder

## **AWARD RECIPIENTS**

### **2009 Community Service Award Tim Martin**

This award is presented to an AGA member to recognize the recipient's personal commitment to be active in community service projects sponsored by the AGA and/or others.

Previous Community Service Award recipients:

2008	Linda deBourbon	2001	Kelly Blessing
2007	Deb Christopherson	2000	Amy Henderson
2006	Vernon Johnson	1999	Amy Parker
2005	Doreen Brown	1998	John Dallal
2004	Russ Hecko	1997	Craig Mestemaker
2003	Larry Matecki Fields	1996	Linda Dooley Simpson
2002	Cindy Osga		

### **2009 Rookie of the Year Jean Young**

This award is presented to an AGA board member new in his/her position to recognize an individual who has gone the extra mile to perform his/her assigned duties with outstanding success, and has also assisted others in meeting their responsibilities.

Previous Rookie of the Year Award recipients:

2008	Corey Sparks	2002	Paul McDonald
2007	Debbie Brady	2001	Rita Barker
2006	Corrie Jameson	2000	Smruti Shah
2005	Suzi Keyes	1999	Lisa Fath
2004	Ed Nierescher	1998	Jean Ramsey
2003	Duane Smiley	1997	Pam O'Farrell

## **AWARD RECIPIENTS**

### **2009 Chapter Ambassador Award Dan Wawiernia**

This award is presented to an AGA member to recognize outstanding efforts of a member in publicizing the AGA's mission, activities and benefits. Factors considered include the member's recruitment efforts, participation in activities, encouragement of other members to attend and participate, overall reflection of a positive image of the organization and working for the betterment of the chapter.

Previous Chapter Ambassador Award recipients:

2008	Cindy Johnson	2002	Jean Ramsey
2007	Tim Becker	2001	Howard Pizzo
2006	Dairus Reynnet	2000	Cindy Osga
2005	Ed Nierescher	1999	Therese Regner
2004	Chris Bayley	1998	Kelly Blessing
2003	Christy Ryan	1997	Jeff Lindeman

### **2009 Leadership Award Tim Becker**

This award is presented to an AGA member who has provided outstanding leadership to the Chapter. Each year, the AGA Leadership Award is presented to an individual for his or her excellence in promoting the AGA and the value that it provides to government professional financial managers, accountants, and auditors.

Previous Leadership Award recipients:

2008	Dairus Reynnet	2002	Lisa Fath
2007	Ed Nierescher	2001	Jean Ramsey
2006	Linda deBourbon	2000	Chris Bayley
2005	Howard Pizzo	1999	Cindy Osga
2004	Christy Ryan	1998	Laura Hirst
2003	Laura Mester	1997	Lisa Pratt

## **AWARD RECIPIENTS**

### **2009 President's Award Corey Sparks**

This award is selected and presented to an individual by the Chapter President to recognize an individual who assisted the President in numerous ways and helped make the Chapter year a success.

Previous President's Award Recipients:

2008	Susan Saari	2002	Cindy Osga
2007	Linda deBourbon	2001	Christy Ryan
2006	Howard Pizzo	2000	Paul McDonald
2005	Stephen Rose	1999	Chris Bayley
2004	Judy Thelen	1998	Susan Rosenbaum
2003	Howard Pizzo		

### **2009 Membership Participation Award Tom Colosimo**

This award is presented to an AGA member at large; to recognize a member's efforts and commitment in supporting the Chapter's various activities. The selection is based on a compilation of non-board members' participation in Chapter activities throughout the program year, including luncheons, community service events, educational conferences, and special social events.

Previous Membership Participation Award Recipients:

2008	Lilia Denney
2007	Charlotte Roper

## **CHAPTER GOLD AWARD**

### **Congratulations Greater Lansing AGA!**

Chapter President Corey Sparks accepted the Gold Chapter Recognition Award at the 2009 AGA National Professional Development Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana on behalf of the AGA Greater Lansing Chapter.

The Gold Award is the second highest level awarded in the Chapter Recognition Program and recognizes the AGA Greater Lansing Chapter's success in meeting its chapter goals for the year.



**AGA National President Billy Morehead presenting the 2009 Gold Chapter Recognition Award to President Corey Sparks at the PDC in New Orleans**



## CERTIFIED GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL MANAGER

**CGFM – What is it?** It's the only certification program designed specifically to recognize the unique skills and special knowledge required of professionals who specialize in government financial management. It's the profession's mark of excellence.

**Who is eligible for certification?** Professional financial managers who have worked for government for two years and who have completed a bachelor's degree with 24 hours of courses in financial management topics are eligible for certification. Membership in AGA is encouraged but not required.

**What do I have to do?** Candidates must submit a CGFM application form and sit for three exams: Governmental Environment; Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting; and Governmental Financial Management and Control. The two-year work requirement does not have to be met to sit for the exams, but must be completed before the certification is awarded.

**How do I prepare?** The AGA web site has a list of resources available to prepare for the exams, including AGA study guides. The chapter has purchased copies of the study guides which can be made available to those studying for the exams. The guides may be loaned for a period of 30 days. A refundable deposit equal to the replacement cost of the guides is required. Contact Charlotte at 517-636-0541 for details.

**Financial help?** The Lansing Chapter may also be able to help with the expenses of preparing for the exam. See the article on the following page for details about our scholarship program

**How do I get more information?** Head for the AGA National Office web site at <http://www.agacgfm.org>; click on "CGFM Certification" on the left side. If you have additional questions contact Charlotte Roper at [RoperC@michigan.gov](mailto:RoperC@michigan.gov).





## **AGA GREATER LANSING CHAPTER CGFM SCHOLARSHIP**

The Greater Lansing Chapter of AGA is pleased to announce the availability of a scholarship for “members in good standing” who have successfully completed and passed all three parts of the Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) exam.

### **Eligible Costs**

The Chapter Scholarship Fund will reimburse costs, up to a total Chapter member lifetime maximum reimbursement of \$500. The following costs are eligible for reimbursement:

### **CGFM exam prep materials**

Reimbursement will be paid upon successful completion of the exam. This includes either an approved classroom study course, or a self-paced study course consisting of texts and/or software, including on-line study. Travel expenses such as hotel and airfare related to preparing and or taking the CGFM examination are also eligible for reimbursement. We will only reimburse the successful candidate for one study course format for each part of the 3-part exam.

### **CGFM exam registration fees**

Reimbursement will be paid upon successful completion of the exam. Original exam registration receipt(s) and a letter from the AGA announcing your successful completion (i.e., passing) must be presented to the Scholarship committee in order to obtain reimbursement. For an application, as well as additional requirements and limitations, please contact any board member.

# CGFM Proclamation by State of Michigan

## STATE OF MICHIGAN



Executive  
Office

Jennifer M. Granholm  
Governor

### CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION

On behalf of the citizens of Michigan, I,  
Governor Jennifer M. Granholm, do hereby proclaim March 2009

### Certified Government Financial Manager Month

**Whereas**, The Greater Lansing Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants, or AGA, is a professional organization which has a network of 15,000 members in 97 chapters in the United States and around the world; and,

**Whereas**, There are approximately 200 certified government financial managers representing state, federal, municipal and private sector accountants, auditors, and financial managers in Michigan; and,

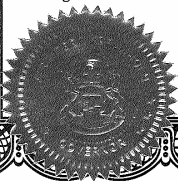
**Whereas**, AGA members have responded to its mission of advancing government accountability as it continues its broad educational efforts, with emphasis on high standards of conduct, honor and character; and,

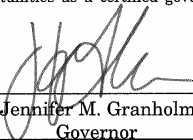
**Whereas**, AGA is also making significant advances in professional ability and in service to the citizens of the state of Michigan by mastering increasingly technical and complex accounting requirements; and,

**Whereas**, The certified government financial manager program of AGA provides a means of demonstrating professionalism and competency by requiring certified government financial managers candidates to have appropriate educational and employment history; and,

**Whereas**, AGA also instills a code of ethics for all certified government financial manager candidates and requires them to pass three examinations to test their expertise in governmental environment, governmental financial management and control, and governmental accounting, financial reporting and budgeting;

**Now, Therefore, be it Resolved**, That I, Jennifer M. Granholm, governor of the state of Michigan, do hereby proclaim March 2009 Certified Government Financial Manager Month in Michigan. I encourage all citizens to learn more about career opportunities as a certified government financial manager.



  
Jennifer M. Granholm  
Governor

# CGFM Proclamation by City of Lansing

Virg Bernero, Mayor

*Believe in Lansing*

## Proclamation

**WHEREAS:** it is a privilege to join with the Association of Government Accountants (AGA) to recognize the contributions of capable and efficient government accountability professionals who are dedicated to sound financial management practices and the wise use of public funds and economic resources, and

**WHEREAS:** the Greater Lansing Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants (AGA) is a professional organization, part of the Association of Government Accountants which has a network of 15,000 members in 97 chapters in the United States and around the world and approximately 149 active members in Lansing, Michigan representing state, federal, municipal and private sector accountants, auditors, and financial managers in Michigan, and

**WHEREAS:** AGA - Greater Chapter members have responded to AGA's mission of Advancing Government Accountability, as it continues its broad educational efforts, with emphasis on high standards of conduct, honor, and character in its Code of Ethics, and are making significant advances both in professional ability and in service of the citizens of Michigan by mastering increasingly technical and complex requirements, and

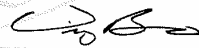
**WHEREAS:** the Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) program of AGA provides the means of demonstrating professionalism and competency by requiring CGFM candidates to have appropriate educational and employment history, to abide by AGA's Code of Ethics and to pass three examinations requiring expertise in Governmental Environment, Government Financial Management and Control, and Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting, and requires each CGFM holder to maintain certification by completing at least 80 hours of continuing professional education in government financial management topics or related technical subjects every two years.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, VIRG BERNERO,** Mayor of the City of Lansing, by the power vested in me do hereby proclaim the month of March 2009 as

**"Certified Government Financial Manager Month"**

in Lansing. I urge all citizens to join with me in recognizing the many professionals who provide these vital services to our community.

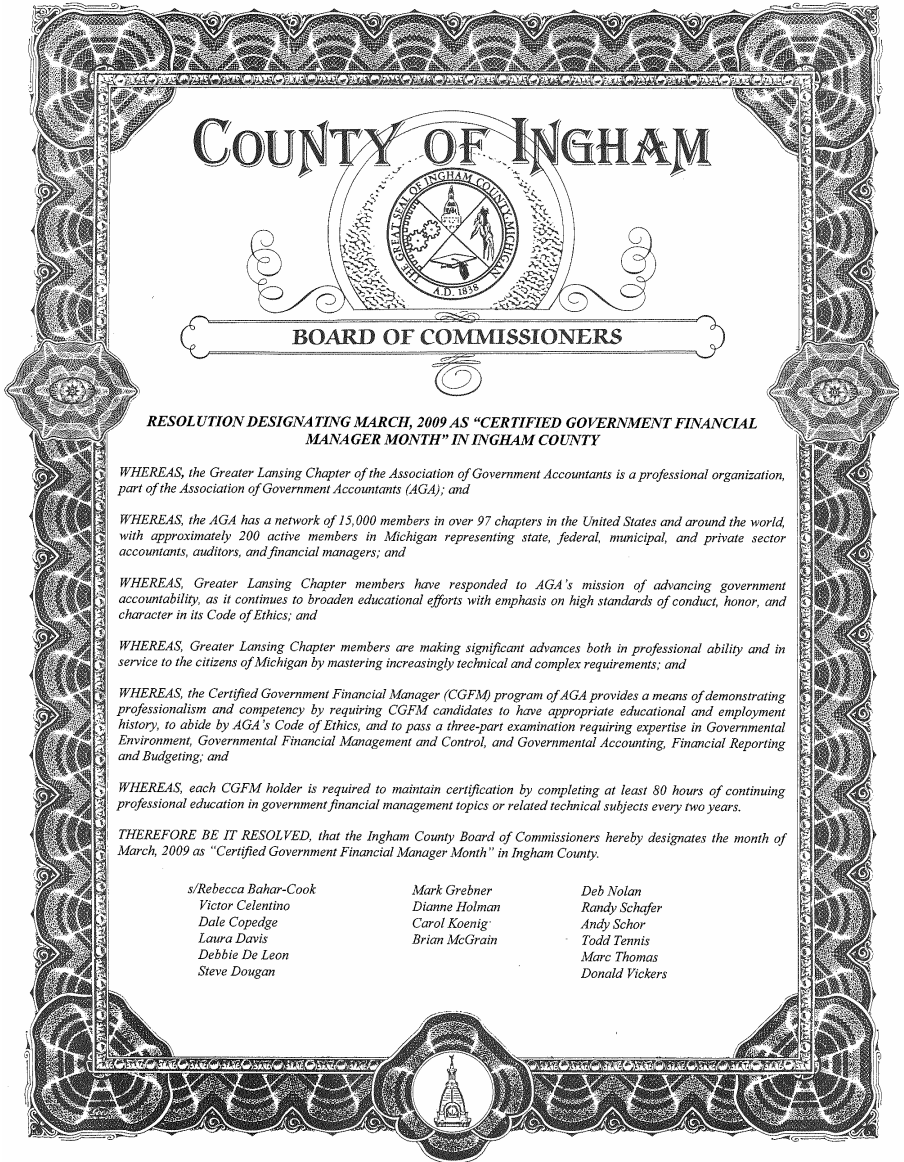
Given under my hand and seal this first day of March in the Year of Our Lord two thousand and nine.



Virg Bernero  
Mayor of Lansing



# CGFM Proclamation by County of Ingham



## COUNTY OF INGHAM

### BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

#### **RESOLUTION DESIGNATING MARCH, 2009 AS "CERTIFIED GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL MANAGER MONTH" IN INGHAM COUNTY**

*WHEREAS, the Greater Lansing Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants is a professional organization, part of the Association of Government Accountants (AGA); and*

*WHEREAS, the AGA has a network of 15,000 members in over 97 chapters in the United States and around the world, with approximately 200 active members in Michigan representing state, federal, municipal, and private sector accountants, auditors, and financial managers; and*

*WHEREAS, Greater Lansing Chapter members have responded to AGA's mission of advancing government accountability, as it continues to broaden educational efforts with emphasis on high standards of conduct, honor, and character in its Code of Ethics; and*

*WHEREAS, Greater Lansing Chapter members are making significant advances both in professional ability and in service to the citizens of Michigan by mastering increasingly technical and complex requirements; and*

*WHEREAS, the Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) program of AGA provides a means of demonstrating professionalism and competency by requiring CGFM candidates to have appropriate educational and employment history, to abide by AGA's Code of Ethics, and to pass a three-part examination requiring expertise in Governmental Environment, Governmental Financial Management and Control, and Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting; and*

*WHEREAS, each CGFM holder is required to maintain certification by completing at least 80 hours of continuing professional education in government financial management topics or related technical subjects every two years.*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ingham County Board of Commissioners hereby designates the month of March, 2009 as "Certified Government Financial Manager Month" in Ingham County.*

*s/Rebecca Bahar-Cook  
Victor Celentino  
Dale Copedge  
Laura Davis  
Debbie De Leon  
Steve Dougan*

*Mark Grebner  
Dianne Holman  
Carol Koenig  
Brian McGrain*

*Deb Nolan  
Randy Schafer  
Andy Schor  
Todd Tennis  
Marc Thomas  
Donald Vickers*

# CGFM Proclamation by Charter Township of Delta

## Certified Government Financial Manager Month

**Whereas**, The Association of Government Accountants (AGA) has a network of 15,000 members in 90 chapters in the United States and around the world, with approximately 200 active members in Michigan representing state, municipal, and private sector accountants, auditors, and financial managers; and,

**Whereas**, Members of the Greater Lansing Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants have responded to AGA's mission of advancing government accountability, and its educational efforts emphasizing high standards of conduct, honor, and character in its Code of Ethics; and,

**Whereas**, Greater Lansing Chapter members are making significant advances both in professional ability and in service to the citizens of Michigan by mastering increasingly technical and complex requirements; and,

**Whereas**, The Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) program of AGA provides a means of demonstrating professionalism and competency by requiring CGFM candidates to have appropriate educational and employment history, to abide by AGA's Code of Ethics, and to pass a three-part examination requiring expertise in Governmental Environment, Governmental Financial Management and Control, and Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting, and requires each CGFM holder to maintain certification by completing at least 80 hours of continuing professional education in government financial management topics or related technical subjects every two years; and now therefore be it,

**Resolved**, That the Township Board of the Charter Township of Delta does hereby proclaim March 2009, as Certified Government Financial Manger Month in Delta Township, Michigan.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kenneth Fletcher, Supervisor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Howard Pizzo, Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Janice Vedder, Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jan Cunningham, Trustee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Hicks, Trustee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Poma, Trustee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cara Spagnuolo, Trustee

## CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

### Spring 2009 Professional Development Conference March 31, 2009 Lansing Community College West Campus

On Tuesday, March 31, 2009 86 people attended the AGA/IIA Spring Professional Development Conference, “***Future Outlook for Accountability and Economic Recovery***”. The conference was held at Lansing Community College’s West Campus. The conference provided participants with 7 hours of continuing professional education.

Fred Headen and Suzanne Schafer, Michigan Department of Treasury presented an enlightening review of the State’s role in local governments. Erin Skene-Pratt, Michigan Non-Profit Association and Wes Miller, Grand Valley State University shared the results of recent surveys of non-profit associations, and how they are being affected by recent changes in the economy. The group viewed the sobering video I.O.U.S.A. covering the serious financial issues facing the federal government. Uma Ire and Terri Koslowski, Deloitte LLP, presented XBRL information and how it can be used outside of financial reporting.



Dan Lohrmann, Michigan Department of Information Technology, gave a spirited presentation on eReputation. Jeff Guilfoyle, Department of Treasury and Colleen Gossman, Office of the State Budget presented the impact of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act on Michigan. The final presentation of the day was a report on the benchmarking of financial services presented by Dave Quigley, State Budget Office.



**Dan Lohrmann presenting on eReputation**

## **CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS**

### **Autumn 2009 Professional Development Conference September 29, 2009 General Office Building**

Our fall 2009 Professional Development Conference (PDC) was held at the General Office Building on September 29, 2009. Thirty-seven people attended, which was down from the 58 attending the previous fall. Those attending rated the speakers, the topics, the location, and the overall seminar highly.

Topics included the Medici Effect presented by Holly Grandy-Miller and Nikki Wetherbee, MI Business One Stop presented by James Hogan and Paul Perla, Transparency Focus of ARRA presented by Beth Bingham, and GASB updates presented by Laura Mester. Special thanks to Plante & Moran for their sponsorship of the conference.

## PROGRAM REPORT

### 2007-2008

October 16, 2007  
*Budget Update*  
Gary Olson  
Senate Fiscal Agency

December 6, 2007  
*Lansing 2008 & Beyond*  
Bob Johnson  
City of Lansing

January 15, 2008  
*Michigan Business Tax*  
Cynthia Knoll  
Rehmann Robson

February 7, 2008  
*Renewable Energy Initiatives*  
John Sarver  
DLEG

March 12, 2008  
*PDC (joint with IIA)*  
LCC West Campus

April 24, 2008  
*The Elections of 2008*  
Rick Pluta  
Michigan Public Radio Network

May 15, 2008  
*Retirement Plans Update*  
Heidi Schiller  
ING

### 2008-2009

October 21, 2008  
*Budget Update*  
Colleen Gossman  
State Budget Office

November 13, 2008  
*2008 Election Review*  
Chris Christoff, Lansing Bureau  
Chief, Detroit Free Press

January 27, 2009  
*Film Industry Credit Impact*  
Tony Wenson  
MEDC

February 26, 2009  
*Advanced Investing Strategies*  
Eddie Carrington  
ING

March 31, 2009  
*PDC (joint with IIA)*  
LCC West Campus

April 22, 2009  
*Workforce Succession Planning*  
Donna Wilson  
Michigan Civil Service Commission

May 28, 2009  
*Michigan Tourism*  
David Lorenz  
Travel Michigan



# COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT

Communication, education, and networking ranked high as objectives when the original AGA was established. That still holds true today. The AGA Greater Lansing chapter communicates by publishing Disclosures, a monthly newsletter. We report chapter events, educational opportunities, membership news, and members' achievements.

You can help make our chapter and its newsletter a more valuable resource to our members, by sharing ideas and information:

- Training opportunities, including informative and interesting speakers we can use for our monthly luncheons or annual professional development conference.
- Useful websites that address issues of interest to our membership.
- Finance and accounting related legislation or news
- Job opportunities
- Events in your life – whether personal news (weddings, births, graduations, etc.), or business news (new position, new responsibilities, membership in other organizations, awards, recognition, etc.). You can write an article yourself or send us the information and we will write it. Send your news to us at [DSmiley@audgen.michigan.gov](mailto:DSmiley@audgen.michigan.gov).

Please make sure your e-mail address is up to date. As a cost savings measure, we no longer mail out our newsletter. A PDF version of Disclosures is posted monthly to our website. Membership access to Disclosures is provided by a link that is sent each month via email. To update your e-mail address, go to the "Members Only" section of the National AGA website ([www.agacgfm.org](http://www.agacgfm.org)), or you may contact our Chapter Membership Chair Hollie Dietz at [DietzH@michigan.gov](mailto:DietzH@michigan.gov) and provide her with your current email address.

Help us get the word out about the AGA. Tell friends and associates about what we're doing to increase accountability in government. Invite them to visit our website ([www.lansing-aga.org](http://www.lansing-aga.org)) and peruse Disclosures.

Are you willing to help out? Become a committee member, volunteer for one or all of our charity or community events, or simply share your ideas and suggestions via an e-mail or a telephone call. Contact any board member; we would love to hear from you.

Susan C. Saari and Duane Smiley  
Communications/Public Relations Co-Chairs

## TREASURER'S REPORT

The Greater Lansing Chapter of AGA ended the fiscal year on June 30, 2009 with assets of \$14,319, approximately \$1,906 less than the previous year. Seminar rates continued to be somewhat lower to accommodate the needs of both members and non-members. We ended the year with \$2,377 of accounts payable. We invested in new web site technology at a higher cost in 2009.

Respectfully submitted

Tim Martin – Treasurer

### STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS June 30, 2009 and 2008

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash in Checking – Variable APY	\$ 6,237	\$ 3,069
Short-term Time Deposits	5,182	10,272
Accounts Receivable	2,900	916
Prepaid Expense	<u>0</u>	<u>1,968</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	14,319	16,225
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
Accounts Payable	\$ 2,377	\$ 0
Unrestricted Net Assets	<u>11,942</u>	<u>16,225</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$14,319</u>	<u>\$16,225</u>

# TREASURER'S REPORT

## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES For the Years Ended June 30, 2009 and 2008

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
REVENUES		
Seminar Fees	\$15,490	\$11,030
Teleconferences	1,655	1,765
Interest Income	62	405
Membership Dues	1,410	923
Program Luncheons	1,792	2,408
Sponsorships	1,000	0
Miscellaneous	<u>0</u>	<u>23</u>
TOTAL REVENUES	21,409	16,554
EXPENSES		
Program Services:		
Awards and Nominations	\$ 516	\$ 434
CGFM Scholarships/Promotion	255	0
Seminars and Teleconferences	13,824	9,934
Program Luncheons	2,499	3,252
Public Service	161	116
Membership Development	467	1,233
Website	<u>2,613</u>	<u>727</u>
Total Program Services	20,335	15,696
Supporting Services		
Management and General	<u>\$ 5,357</u>	<u>\$ 952</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	25,692	16,648
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	<u>(4,283)</u>	<u>(94)</u>
BEGINNING NET ASSETS	<u>16,225</u>	<u>16,319</u>
ENDING NET ASSETS	<u>\$11,942</u>	<u>\$ 16,225</u>

# AGA GREATER LANSING CHAPTER WEBSITE REPORT

[www.lansing-aga.org](http://www.lansing-aga.org)

In 2004-05 the Greater Lansing Chapter of AGA modified its definition of the board position of Webmaster. Previously, the webmaster was responsible for the posting of information such as the monthly newsletter and the by-laws. In 2004, the chapter started the process of bringing our website into the 21st century.

The primary purpose of the revised Webmaster position is to maintain an up-to-date, informative, and useful website for the Chapter members and other site visitors. In 2009, the chapter continued to pursue the goal of improving our website by enhancing the website software. This update has expanded the functionality of our website and the ability to communicate with our membership. In addition, several technical improvements were made including:

- 1) The ability for board members to manage information on the website in real time.
- 2) The ability to send flyers in email messages.
- 3) The ability to accept payment by credit card.
- 4) The ability to perform electronic surveys.

The board believes that the website and related technology are useful tools for the chapter to communicate to members and non-members. Please bookmark <http://www.lansing-aga.org/> and check back frequently to see what's new in our Chapter!

Debbie Brady, Webmaster



## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

For the year ended December 2009, we have 129 members in the Greater Lansing Chapter of AGA. We welcomed 9 new members in 2009.

We continue to work on increasing our membership in the government and private sectors through recruitment incentive programs and advertising. A diverse membership is beneficial to all members in the Chapter.

Details of our current membership –

Most members have been involved with the chapter for 10 -14 years:

- 6 - 25+ years
- 12 - 20-24 years
- 12 - 15-19 years
- 48 - 10-14 years
- 18 - 5-9 years
- 33 - less than 5 years

Most members are employed by a state agency:

- 87 - State
- 13 - Private
- 11 - Retired
- 4 - City
- 6 - County
- 4 - Federal
- 2 - Student
- 1 - Academia
- 1 - Independent

For more information, contact any Board member or check out the national web site at <http://www.agacgm.org>, or the Chapter's web site at <http://www.lansing-aga.org>.

Respectfully submitted,

Hollie Dietz  
Membership Chair

## MEMBERS 2009

Tammie Anderson  
Joseph Asghodom, CGFM  
Cheryl Baker, CPA  
Amie Baugh  
Christopher Bayley, CPA  
Tim Becker, CPA  
David Benit  
Kathryn Benson  
Nicholas Bohac  
Debbie Brady  
Doreen Brown, CGFM  
John Buck, CGFM  
Ginger Burke-Miller  
Shirley Callahan  
Marilyn Carey  
Carol Carlson, CGFM  
Adam Christenson  
Deborah Christopherson, CGFM  
Beth Colosimo, CGFM  
Thomas Colosimo, CGFM  
David Craun, CGFM  
Vickie Crouch, CGFM, CPA  
Mary Cupp, CGFM  
Brian Curran  
John Daly, III, CGFM  
Linda DeBourbon  
Diane DeLuca  
Lilia Denney, CGFM  
Hollie Dietz  
Julie DiOrio  
Eleanor Ebright, CGFM  
Annette Eustice, CGFM  
Eric Formberg, CGFM  
Marian Frane, CPA  
Joseph Frick  
Catherine Funches  
Michael Gaffney, CGFM  
Matt Gardner  
Mary Elizabeth Gienapp, CGFM  
Julie Greenway  
Cheryl Grice  
Kenji Griffith  
Heather Hammond  
Marion Hart, CPA  
John Hayes, CGFM  
Shaun Hazen  
Russell Hecko, CGFM  
Jerome Herman  
Stephen Hilker, GFM, CPA  
Michelle Hilliker, CGFM  
Laura Hirst, CPA  
Marcy A. Hunt, CGFM  
Sherri Irwin  
Corrie Jameson  
James J. Jean  
Cynthia Johnson, CPA  
Vernon Johnson, CGFM  
Wanda R. Jones  
Cinda Lou Karlik, CGFM  
Susan Kattelus, CGFM  
Steven Kirinovic  
Calvin Lee Kladder, CGFM  
Leonard Krugel  
Jerry Kulka, CGFM  
Elden Lamb, CGFM  
Leo J. LaPorte, CGFM  
Lamonte T. Lator, CGFM, CPA  
Jackie Lawson, CGFM  
Dennis Lockhart  
Margaret Maday, CGFM  
Uday Malavia, CGFM  
Kelly Manning, CPA  
Rodney Markowski  
Bobbie Marr, CGFM  
Timothy L. Martin, CPA  
William Maxwell  
Lisa Mazure, CGFM  
Thomas McTavish, CGFM, CPA  
Cynthia Michels  
Minesh Mody  
Tracey Monohan  
Andrea Mowry  
Peggy Murphy, CPA  
Craig Murray, CPA  
Jasna Omerovic  
Cynthia Osga, CGFM

## MEMBERS 2009, continued

Cindy M. Peters  
Christine Pike  
Howard Pizzo, CGFM  
Allan Pohl, CGFM  
David Quigley  
MaBlanche B. Quirante  
Jean Ramsey, CGFM  
Joe Reeves  
Therese Ann Regner, CGFM  
Michael Regulski, CGFM  
Dairus Reynnet, CGFM  
Marcellette Reynolds, CGFM  
Angela Richards  
Charlotte Victoria Roper, CGFM  
Kelley M. Ryal  
Susan Saari  
Sonja Scheurer, CGFM  
Linda S. Schmidtman  
Brenda Seelman  
Smruti Shah, CPA  
Linda Shepard, CGFM  
Robert Simon

Duane Smiley, CPA  
Karen Spak, CGFM  
Corey Sparks, CPA  
John L. Stark  
Sandella Stephens, CGFM  
Karen Stout, CGFM  
John Thrush, CGFM  
Joseph Tomczyk, CGFM  
Elizabeth Torres, CGFM  
Pratin Trivedi, CGFM  
Brenda Vincent, CPA,CCM  
Valerie Wales-Beatty, CGFM  
Jane Wallin  
Damiel Wawiernia  
Fern Wilson  
Marna Wilson  
Jon Wise, CGFM, CPA  
Darlene Workman  
Margo Yaklin  
Jean M. Young, CPA  
Amy Zimmerman

## CONTACT US

### **To become a member or renew your membership:**

You can become a member in a variety of ways:

- Submit an electronic application at the National AGA website. (<http://www.agacqfm.org>)
- Print the PDF application at the above website and submit it by mail.
- Print the application from the Lansing Chapter's website (<http://www.lansing-aga.org>) and mail it to the local address shown on the form.
- Complete either of the applications above and return them to Membership Director Marilyn Williams by way of the chapter's address:

The Association of Government Accountants  
Greater Lansing Chapter

P.O. Box 12159  
Lansing, MI 48901-2159

### **To submit an item for the newsletter:**

Forward information for the newsletter to Duane Smiley at [DSmiley@audgen.michigan.gov](mailto:DSmiley@audgen.michigan.gov)

### **To run for the Board of Directors:**

We're always eager for new blood, new ideas! Contact President Corey Sparks at [sparksc1@michigan.gov](mailto:sparksc1@michigan.gov) or President-Elect Cindy Johnson at [johnsonc6@michigan.gov](mailto:johnsonc6@michigan.gov).

### **For more information on AGA:**

Contact any Board member listed in this report, or go to the national website at <http://www.agacqfm.org>, or the Chapter's website at <http://www.lansing-aga.org>.



## CONTACT US

### AGA – Greater Lansing Board Members Contact Information

<b>President:</b>	Corey Sparks; <a href="mailto:SparksC1@michigan.gov">SparksC1@michigan.gov</a> ; 241-5591
<b>President-Elect:</b>	Cindy Johnson; <a href="mailto:JohnsonC6@michigan.gov">JohnsonC6@michigan.gov</a> ; 241-1046
<b>Past President:</b>	Tim Becker, CPA; <a href="mailto:BeckerT1@michigan.gov">BeckerT1@michigan.gov</a> ; 241-0280
<b>Secretary:</b>	Deb Christopherson; <a href="mailto:ChristophersonD@michigan.gov">ChristophersonD@michigan.gov</a> ; 335-3730
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Tim Martin; <a href="mailto:MartinTI@michigan.gov">MartinTI@michigan.gov</a> ; 335-0374
<b>Education:</b>	Heather Hammond; <a href="mailto:HammondH@michigan.gov">HammondH@michigan.gov</a> ; 241-9405
<b>Programs:</b>	Dan Wawiernia; <a href="mailto:WawierniaD@michigan.gov">WawierniaD@michigan.gov</a> ; 241-2768 Susan Saari; <a href="mailto:SaariS@michigan.gov">SaariS@michigan.gov</a> ; 335-6712
<b>Communications:</b>	Duane Smiley, CPA; <a href="mailto:SmileyD1@audgen.michigan.gov">SmileyD1@audgen.michigan.gov</a> ; 334-8050
<b>Membership:</b>	Hollie Dietz; <a href="mailto:DietzH@michigan.gov">DietzH@michigan.gov</a> ; 335-0356
<b>Community Service:</b>	Jean Young; <a href="mailto:jean.young@plantemoran.com">jean.young@plantemoran.com</a> ; 336-7458
<b>Awards &amp; Nominations:</b>	Marian Frane; <a href="mailto:marian.frane@delhitownship.com">marian.frane@delhitownship.com</a> ; 699-3858
<b>Web Master:</b>	Debbie Brady; <a href="mailto:BradyD@michigan.gov">BradyD@michigan.gov</a> ; 241-1048
<b>CGFM Coordinator:</b>	Charlotte Roper; <a href="mailto:RoperC@michigan.gov">RoperC@michigan.gov</a> ; 636-0541 Marion Hart; <a href="mailto:HartM@michigan.gov">HartM@michigan.gov</a> ; 335-6982
<b>Historian:</b>	Cindy Osga; <a href="mailto:OsgaC@michigan.gov">OsgaC@michigan.gov</a> ; 335-4087





## **JOIN THE AGA TEAM**

For more than half a century, the Association of Government Accountants at the National level has been addressing the issues and challenges facing government financial managers. In keeping with that tradition, the Greater Lansing Chapter's primary objective is to contribute to the advancement of financial management principles and standards and, through educational events, promote appropriate utilization of financial management methods and techniques to improve management control and accountability to the public.

If you are interested in joining the AGA Greater Lansing Chapter or if you have any questions about membership we encourage you to contact any of the directors or chapter members listed in this report.



Association of Government Accountants  
Greater Lansing Chapter  
P.O. Box 12159  
Lansing, MI 48901-2159  
*<http://www.lansing-aga.org>*