



## FEATURES

Member News ..... 3  
PDC Recap ..... 7

## COLUMNS

President's Message ..... 1  
Treasurer's Report ..... 2  
Education Corner..... 2  
But I Digress..... 4  
The Bottom Line..... 5

## OTHER

Chapter Officers..... 2  
Join a Committee ..... 2  
Quote of the Month ..... 2  
AGA Fundraiser..... 3  
Certifications..... 3  
Chapter Calendar ..... 4  
CEC Minutes ..... 11

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Wow! It's July already! I really enjoy July. In addition to being the month that we celebrate the birth of our great nation it is also the month that we celebrate our chapter; more importantly our members.

Once a year the chapter leadership takes the opportunity to express our gratitude to all those who help to make our chapter great. The AGA is a volunteer organization, without the participation of the membership we would not exist as a chapter and we would not be able to accomplish all that we do.

Last program year we provided the opportunity to earn nearly 50 CPEs thanks to those who are involved in our Educational Programs. Our Community Service Efforts grew from the year before in that we taught more children about the basics of Accounting and we helped more people complete their tax returns through our VITA efforts. We also held several fund raising and socializing events.

Additionally, at the National Level we were awarded the recognition of being a Platinum Level Chapter. Our web site won Honorable Mention in the National web site competition. And our chapter was recognized for having the highest overall growth for our size group. All of this would not have been possible but for the time, effort, and energy of our chapter membership.

I hope everyone took advantage of the opportunity to attend the Member Appreciation Luncheon. If not please try to attend next year. For those who have been involved in our chapter activities thank you. For those who have not been involved, please get involved. There is a lot of work to be done and a lot more that could be done with your help.

If you're interested in becoming more involved in the chapter, please feel free to contact me or one of the other officers. Let us know how you'd like to become involved and we'll do what we can to make that happen. Also, if you have any ideas on how to make the chapter better please share those with an officer; we're always looking to better meet the needs of our membership. Thanks again for everything.

*Ken*

# Committee Opportunities

## Community Service

The Community Service Committee is in need of a few members.

Contact Kortney Whiteman, 693-0553 or Beth Winsor, 693-8340 if you are interested.

## Communications

The Communications Committee is looking for someone interested in writing short recaps of the monthly AGA Luncheons (writer receives free luncheon tickets!).

Contact Amy Mobley if you are interested at 614-693-0841.

# Education Corner

*journalCPEonline*

Too busy for continuing education classes right now?

Need a few more CPE's?

Take advantage of a low-cost, self-study method of earning continuing professional education – *CPE Online*.

Offered through the AGA website, you can read specific articles in the quarterly *Journal of Government Financial Management* (i.e. the AGA magazine you receive as part of your membership), take a quiz on what you've learned, and earn up to 12 CPEs per year.

4 Easy Steps:

1. Register online for a single quiz (\$30 each for members) or subscribe to take any 4 quizzes at a discounted price (\$109 for members).
2. Print the quizzes, read the articles, and research your answers off-line.
3. Take the 25-question quiz and submit on-line.
4. Print your Certificate and earn 3 CPEs for each completed quiz.

Action is eloquence.

~William Shakespeare

## Chapter Officers

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## AGA Fundraiser

AGA is currently selling Donatos Dough Books for \$5 each. These booklets contain 13 total coupons that are worth over \$30 in savings! Purchasing one of these is a great way to support AGA while enjoying great food from Donatos for a great price!

You can purchase these booklets from either Tara Bruns (5A-231) or Kevin Bruns (7C-033). Hurry and get yours while supplies last!

## Member Appreciation Luncheon

Topic:  
Member Appreciation

Date: 12 June 2007

Time: 11:30-1:00

Location:  
DSCC Red Pavilion

Menu:  
Hamburgers, Garden Burgers, Hot Dogs, Pasta Salad, Potato Chips, Fresh Fruit, Brownies and/or Cookies, and Assorted Beverages

## Certifications

Some Certifications for Accounting and Finance Professionals

[www.cbi.msstate.edu](http://www.cbi.msstate.edu)

### Certified Public Accountant (CPA)

All states have enacted laws establishing boards of accountancy which determine the education, experience and character requirements for those accountants taking the Uniform CPA examination in their respective states. This examination, which is prepared by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, tests the candidate's technical knowledge in accounting theory and practice, business law and auditing. The examination is given twice a year. Many states require an additional test, which is designed to evaluate an individual's exercise of judgement and understanding of professional responsibility. [C]onsult your local State Board of Accountancy for the requirements which they have established...

### Certified Management Accountant (CMA)

The CMA certificate is designed to give professional recognition to the management accountant. The CMA examination, administered by the Institute of Management Accountants and the National Association of Accountants, consists of five parts. It tests the candidate's knowledge of economics and business finance; organization and behavior; accounting: tax, auditing, and government reporting; accounting: internal and external reporting; decision analysis and information systems. This examination is administered twice a year. For further information you should contact the National Association of Accountants.

## Member News

Here's what's new with the AGA Greater Columbus membership:

### AGA Welcomes New Member

AGA Greater Columbus would like to welcome Lyndsey Foell to the Greater Columbus Chapter of the AGA. Lyndsey works in Accounts Maintenance and Control- DLA Fuels. Her supervisor is Eva Fields. She graduated from Wilmington College with an Accounting and Business Administration major and a concentration in management.

## Treasurer's Report

By Jason Haskins, Treasurer

<b>Checking</b>	
Beginning Balance	\$ 1,381.16
Adjustment	\$ 172.06
Deposits	\$ 5,959.43
Expenditures	\$ 1,600.33
Transfer to Savings	\$ -
Ending Balance	<u>\$ 5,912.32</u>

<b>Savings</b>	
Beginning Balance	\$ 8,438.46
Transfer from Checking	\$ -
Interest Earned	\$ -
Ending Balance	<u>\$ 8,438.46</u>

<b>Balance</b>	
	<u>\$14,350.78</u>

# Chapter Calendar

## JULY 2006

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 Member Appreciation Luncheon	13	14	15
16	17 Newsletter Submission Deadline	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 Historian: Quarterly Report Due					

## But I Digress

It was a beautiful day, so I thought I'd take the dog for a walk. I headed for the back door and on my way there, I noticed a pile of mail from the day before, so I took the mail to the office where I take care of that sort of thing. While in the office, I saw a letter from a friend whose cancer has returned, so I took a moment to send her a quick note. As I went to the pc to print off another sheet of address labels, I noticed I had several emails. I quickly answered my sister's missive, however catching my aunt up to date took a little longer. What was I going to do? Oh yes, the day was still lovely, I was going to walk the dog. Once again, I headed for the back door, and just as

I was reaching for the leash, I saw a pair of gloves, and my medium weight jacket on the hall tree. Winter is finally over, so I thought I'd put those away in the closet. As I opened the closet door, I saw where the kids had just tossed their winter things, so took a moment to straighten them out, but managed to take everything out to organize it. With the stuff out of the closet, it would just take a moment to run the sweeper around the baseboards. I found outgrown items to donate (pile), items to be laundered (pile) and items of unknown origin to be tossed (pile). I also found those comfortable walking shoes that I loved to wear when taking the dog for a walk. It was already dark. But I digress...

# The Bottom Line

GAO's Ronald Stroman exposes disparities in promotions and performance ratings.

By Karen Rutzick  
[www.govexec.com](http://www.govexec.com)

Ronald Stroman was hauled before a joint Senate-House hearing in May to explain why black analysts at the Government Accountability Office were receiving lower performance ratings than their white counterparts.

How did Congress know about the discrepancy? Stroman handed over the data himself - at least indirectly. And he's glad that he did.

Stroman is managing director of the Office of Opportunity and Inclusiveness at GAO. When Comptroller General David M. Walker hired him in 2001, he gave Stroman a mandate to promote diversity at the agency. Stroman responded with a controversial suggestion: publicize all the agency's promotions and performance ratings by race, gender, age, disability, veteran status, location and payband.

Senior GAO officials warned that this move would open the door to lawsuits and fuel unhappiness. But Walker approved the idea and Stroman began releasing the data annually on GAO's intranet. Sure enough, from 2002 to 2005, the data revealed a gap between performance appraisals of blacks and whites. It also showed that the gap widened the longer employees stayed at the agency.

"I have stood outside the Rayburn House Office Building wearing a suit and a tie during the middle of the day, trying to hail a cab, only to have that cab driver pass me by in order to pick up a white person standing less than five feet behind where I stood," Stroman told the committee. "Race, gender, ethnicity, disability, age and sexual orientation do matter."

Airing the data on the intranet was the first step to solving discrimination, according to Stroman. "What gets measured gets done," he says. "It becomes, I think, the linchpin to improving diversity."

Stroman believes GAO is the first and only federal agency to release diversity data to employees. In fact, a number of federal employee groups - including Federally Employed Women and the African American Federal Executive Association - went to Congress recently with a request for data. They want the Office of Personnel Management to offer more detailed information on how many minorities, women, people with disabilities and veterans each agency employs. They didn't go so far as to ask for

data by promotion or performance rating.

"Current OPM reports group all minorities in grades GS-14, 15 and [the Senior Executive Service] together," William A. Brown Sr., national president and founder of AAFEA and retired senior executive at the Army Corps of Engineers, told Congress in May. "This presents a distorted view of diversity. We need an accurate baseline to measure progress or lack thereof."

Brown and his group are asking GAO to conduct a detailed study of diversity across all agencies. He wants to know, for example, whether his suspicions are true that blacks who reach the Senior Executive Service are older than others in the SES, giving them a shorter turn in power.

Brown's urgency to get the data stems from the opportunity he sees to diversify the upper ranks of government as many retire in the coming decade. Stroman wants to protect employees from the new wave of pay for performance. He says such pay systems pave the way for discrimination by giving managers more room to be subjective.

More important than giving diversity data to Congress or even to advocacy groups is sharing it with middle managers, according to a new report from The Conference Board Inc., a nonprofit business research group in New York. Written by executives from corporations such as Avon Products Inc., Hewitt Associates, Merrill Lynch & Co. and Safeco Corp., among others, the report finds that middle managers are the biggest roadblock to diversity initiatives. Middle managers, they said, are the ones who actually handle the promotions and performance reviews that executives from on high analyze for diversity. "The middle management layer seemingly douses the spreading diversity fire, smothering it through inertia rather than outright opposition," according to the report.

To fan the fire, these executives say, give middle managers the data. The Conference Board recommends releasing diversity data four times a year. "A common and legitimate complaint on the part of middle managers is that they don't know the score," the report noted. "They're used to getting that data on a regular basis on inventory,

Continued on Page 6

productivity and response times and are expected to monitor these regularly and take necessary corrective action. Diversity should be no different."

In Stroman's discussions with GAO employees, he singled out a central reason for the discrepancies in performance scores: Managers were afraid to talk to their employees of color about their performance reviews. "When [employees of color] get their ratings back, it is a surprise to them oftentimes," Stroman says. "There is a different level of communication going on with regard to performance with staff of color than with white staff. I think that reflects the culture that we live in. Having difficult discussions at work is difficult in any setting, but when you overlay that with gender, race, sexual orientation, it becomes more difficult. That disadvantages the staff of color."

But as much as Stroman and Walker believe in their system, it has opened them up to congressional backlash.

Rep. Danny Davis, D-Ill., chairman of the House Subcommittee on the Federal Workforce, Postal Service and the District of Columbia, said at the hearing that members of GAO's Blacks in Government branch came to him with concerns about the disparity between black and white analysts. The performance ratings had greater consequences for employees since a pay restructuring took place at GAO gave some employees a chance at higher pay and capped others at a lower level.

"It would appear that African-Americans at GAO have been harmed by the restructuring, and this brings into question the fairness and credibility of GAO's performance management system," Davis said at the hearing. Other critics complain that the raison d'être for GAO's diversity office - dealing with discrimination complaints - languishes. Janice Reece, general counsel for the GAO's Personnel Appeals Board from 1999 to 2005, told lawmakers that GAO was underfunding Stroman's office. "The lack of resources for the operation of the civil rights office, or the office of opportunity and inclusiveness, has created substantial delays of processing in [Equal Employment Opportunity] complaints," Reece said. "The delays caused many employees to inform me that they wanted to forgo their claims of discrimination completely."

Stroman's controversial approach of airing diversity statistics is starting to pay off. When GAO first started disseminating promotions and performance review data, employees who worked at the Washington headquarters were shown to have higher marks than their counterparts in field offices such as Atlanta, Dallas and San Francisco. After the disparity was revealed, ratings and promotions nationwide leveled out almost immediately. This shift gives Stroman hope that parity can prevail.

# AGA PDC Recap

## Monday, June 25

### PDC Begins with Snodgrass Tribute & Kansas City Mayor Mark Funkhouser



AGA's 56th Annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition (PDC) began Monday morning in Nashville with some good old Southern hospitality. The more than 1,800 attendees were treated to bluegrass music and a tribute to legendary Tennessee Comptroller of the Treasury William R. Snodgrass (pictured to the right with his wife, Faye), who retired in 1999 after 44 years in the job. Now Comptroller Emeritus, Snodgrass and his family, as well as his successor, Comptroller John G. Morgan, were on hand for Monday's opening ceremony.

### Audits, Audacity and Accountability



In a session entitled "Audits, Audacity and Accountability," newly elected Kansas City Mayor **Mark Funkhouser, Ph.D., CIA**, delivered the conference's first keynote address and gave credit to Snodgrass and the late **Frank L. Greathouse**, former director of state audit under Snodgrass. Both men influenced Funkhouser's career during his 10-year stint in the comptroller's office.

Funkhouser said all his ideas about how government should be run were "set in stone by what I learned here" in Nashville. With a background in political science and social work and a longhaired, bearded appearance that reminded Greathouse of a rabbi, Funkhouser said he was a "nontraditional" hire. "They took a big chance on me and I've never looked back."

Under the tutelage of Greathouse and Snodgrass, Funkhouser said he learned that auditing is about evidence and that people were relying upon his answers. "I needed to be right. I couldn't afford to be wrong. That lesson has stuck in my head for the rest of my life."

From both men he also learned an enormous respect for auditing, "one of the most important and vital ways I could spend my professional life," said Funkhouser, who did 18 years as the city auditor in Kansas City before he retired and ran for mayor. "Audit is central to a democratic government. It is how citizens maintain control of their governments. That has been a central idea of my career that I took from Bill Snodgrass and Frank Greathouse."

As an auditor in Tennessee, Funkhouser said he developed enormous confidence in what he calls 'grounded judgment.' "Mr. Greathouse would say, 'it is what it is' and we'd just forge ahead limited only by our will, our skill and our imagination." In his role, he "got used to talking to people who were more powerful than me and telling them very unpleasant things that they did not want to hear." He also found that both of his legendary bosses had a tremendous tolerance for mistakes because they believed mistakes were learning opportunities.

After one particularly galling mistake, Funkhouser said, "I didn't have the sense to resign and no one thought to fire me."

So why did Funkhouser run for mayor after a long career as a government auditor? "I saw poor decisions being made by my government that had a real impact for regular people, and being a good city auditor wasn't getting it done." As city auditor, he had regularly surveyed the citizens and knew going into the campaign that there was a huge gap between the government and the governed.

That knowledge gave him an edge the other candidates didn't have. "I knew I could win," he said. "No one else in the city thought I could, but I did. You get on the stump and say, 'here's how it is, here's how it should be, and here's how we fix it.'" He said he spent about \$6 per vote while some of his competitors spent more than \$250 and lost. With his wife serving as his campaign manager, Funkhouser's low-budget effort took advantage of resources such as YouTube to mount free advertising videos, one of which included his toy poodle Maria endorsing him—an ad that garnered national attention and drove 12,000 hits to his website where all the pertinent information about his campaign was housed.

"I had the image of a humorless curmudgeon so I played off of that and made people laugh," he said. He also used the results of audits he had conducted in the city to issue press releases and generate attention for his campaign. It worked. Funkhouser beat out 11 other candidates in the primary and won the general election with a slim 1.1 percent margin, the city's closest election in 70 years.

"There's a myth in this country that voters are apathetic," he said. "They're not apathetic, but they do crave authenticity."

After two months on the job, he says being mayor is "fun" but enormously time consuming. "I spend all my time talking and listening to people and have virtually no time to read" the mountain of correspondence that floods into his office. He equates it to trying to "drink from a fire hose."

To keep his priorities in focus, he had them printed on the back of his business card. Another thing he has quickly realized is that, "If I spend my four years answering all the questions (from the media), I won't get a damned thing done."

As mayor he also has a new appreciation for the city auditor. Because of the time constraints of his new job, "I need the auditor to be quick, brief and specific. I need them to tell me important things I do not know, to point out significant opportunities to improve and pending disasters before the cameras show up."

Does it take audacity? "Yeah," he said. "It does. And I learned how to do what I'm doing right here in Nashville in state audit. Thank you, Mr. Snodgrass."

## Enron's Spectacular Collapse Chronicled



Bethany McLean, author and senior editor of *Fortune*, gave the audience a perspective of the Enron story five years after its spectacular collapse into scandal and bankruptcy. While McLean was one of the first journalists to write critically about the high-flying company's financial statements and business model in 2001, she now says she was naïve.

She did not write about the questionable outside partnerships that were used to prop up earnings, nor did she conceive of the level of deception at the company. Not only did Enron executives deceive investors, but they deceived themselves. They thought they were creative, they thought they were creating a new way of doing business, but many of them did not see how all the pieces added up.

"You can't always see outside of your narrow slice of the world," she said. In the late 1990s, the energy giant's culture was free-spending and self-deluding, McLean said. "Enron was not a good company brought down by a crooked CFO." In fact, it was a bad business with a large cast of characters contributing to its demise, from the top executives to the accountants, lawyers and others who did not raise enough questions and helped the company stretch the rules.

Almost every aspect of the business was twisted to meet Wall Street earnings expectations, she said, and almost everyone failed to do the right thing. "If anyone had said no, the whole course of events would have been different," she said.

The Sarbanes-Oxley Act, passed in response to corporate scandals, seems to be a deterrent to fraud in that CFOs

now have to sign off on financial statements, attesting to their truthfulness, she said, but at the same time, it's "not the ultimate fix by a long shot."

In Enron's case, more rules may have created more possibilities for wrongdoing because in many cases, its financials did follow the letter of accounting rules while violating their spirit. "I am suspicious of rules and how far they can go in fixing the problem."

## Tuesday, June 26



Entrepreneur and technology expert Scott Klososky exhorted attendees to find new ways to use technology to make data more useful at the second day of AGA's 56th Annual Professional Development Conference & Exposition in Nashville.

Klososky said that we all have the same workplace tools: servers, routers, firewalls and laptops. "Some people do magic things with these tools, and some people don't have a clue."

The people who do have a clue are those who are now entering the work force. They have lived with the Internet since they were about 6 years old and have used cell phones since they were teenagers.

This sets up a "big clash" in the workplace between the younger generation and the older executives who fear technological change and "don't know what goes on in the IT department."

He urged the attendees to listen to their younger workers because they are so savvy about technology that they have good ideas on how to use it to improve efficiency.

Klososky said many businesses today do not gather the correct data, nor do they use the data that they have very well. Banks and hospitals, which often require their customers to fill out multiple forms with the same information, are likely using separate computer systems for various services that do not connect with one another. One way to apply data in a more useful way is through mashups, he said.

He said information from Google Earth, which allows users to zoom in on a map and see an aerial view of the area, has been overlaid with apartment rental information from Craigslist. This kind of mashup lets users see which apartments are for rent in one part of San Francisco, for example. He said 50,000 applications have been built on top of Google Earth. Think about your own organizations, he said. It would be fairly easy to set up real-time dashboards of statistics that can be used to run the organization.

Customized toolbars for Internet Explorer can be created for free through Conduit.com. A search engine called ChaCha.com uses real people, communicating by instant message, who are paid on their ability to conduct searches for you quickly.

Klososky ended his talk with a number of statistics that illustrate how rapidly technology is evolving and he urged attendees to think about new ways to use technology to transform raw data into useful information to effectively communicate financial information to the public.

"Geek is the new chic," he said. Other innovative websites:

- Zamzar.com – Converts files for you and quickly e-mails you with a link to your converted file.
- Newsatseven.com – Allows you to configure a news feed to your own specifications, delivering the news through an animated spokesperson.
- Innocentive.com – Asks users to solve research and development problems for large organizations and pays large "bounties" for solutions.
- Visitorville.com – Turns statistics that track web traffic and converts it into a real-time graphical representation of

city buildings (your web pages) and people traveling between the popular buildings, or pages.



**Natwar M. Gandhi, Ph.D., CGFM**, Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia, said the district has lost population and therefore the tax base has shrunk. The people who are left in the city are poor, with 19 percent of adults and 34 percent of children living in poverty. The average age of school buildings in the district is 56 years old. The needs are profound, he said. Nevertheless, the city went from a \$500 million deficit in the mid-1990s to a \$1.43 billion surplus today. Irving urged the audience to think about solutions to these tough problems. "What this means is we have to stop hiding our heads

in the sand."

## Wednesday , June 27

### Admiral Thad W. Allen Offers Strategies to PDC Attendees to Transform and Create Exceptional Value



Coast Guard Commandant Admiral Thad W. Allen got the final day of AGA's 56th Annual PDC started by sharing his vision for a 21st century Coast Guard that is clean, green and lean.

Sworn in as the service's 23rd commandant in May of 2006, Allen, a 1971 Coast Guard Academy graduate, grew up with a father who was in the Coast Guard. Now as head of the agency credited with one of the few success stories following Hurricane Katrina, in which 22,000 New Orleans residents were rescued from flooded homes by Coast Guard personnel, Allen said in his State of the Coast Guard address in February that the practices of the last century are not adequate for the next century.

Beginning his talk on Wednesday by saying he was nervous about addressing a group of accountants since he isn't one himself, Allen joked that talking to the AGA audience was like speaking to a support group.



Over the next hour, however, Allen demonstrated that while he may not hold a degree in accounting, he more than speaks the language of internal control, activity-based costing and enterprise resource planning. "This is an organization you want your children to join," he said. "The Coast Guard is largely loved, admired and respected, but quite frankly, we're an accountant's worst nightmare." Allen said the service has counted on its operational genius and its commitment to duty for years but they've discovered those things "don't count as

internal controls."

While he acknowledges the need for centralized systems and practices, he continues to support the idea of decentralized leaders in the field with the resources and empowerment needed to get their jobs done without having to "call home and ask for permission." The Coast Guard, he said, needs to establish financial controls without losing the nimble on-scene response capability that was a hallmark of its success in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

By the same token, Allen believes the people on the front lines have to be cognizant of the need for financial controls and accountability. He said he tells people within the service that the Coast Guard does only two things—execute the mission or support the mission. In light of that, he is in the process of establishing two deputy commandant positions to oversee both sides.

"I am a transition commandant," he said. "And my one goal is to position the Coast Guard for the next century."

# AGA CEC Meeting

Date: Monday, June 18, 2007

Time: 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Room B317

**Attendees:** Nancy Zmyslinski, Lori Mikesell, Ken George, Jason Haskins, Justin Sponseller, Diana Kaufman, Rachel Bosch, Kortney Whitman, Beth Winsor, Barb Bail, Kate Alfera, Merle Robinson, Amy Mobley, Yulonte Merrell, Aubrey Martin, Heather Drake, HenriAnn Franklin

<i><b>DISCUSSION TOPIC</b></i>
<p><b>AGA's Incentives for Participation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Topic was tabled for discussion at the July offsite</li></ul>
<p><b>AGA Audio Conference Purchase – 8 Conferences \$1,593.60</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discussed the idea of purchasing an entire audio conference package for roughly \$1600 vs. purchasing a partial package with only minimal cost differentials<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The general consensus of the CEC was to purchase the entire audio conference package</li></ul></li></ul>
<p><b>New Member Recruitment Process</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The CEC discussed various methods to consider for membership enticement. Potential ideas include the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Continue to distribute AGA coffee mugs to new members. Cost to purchase is \$3.80 per mug (no shipping costs)</li><li>○ Solicit corporate sponsors for complimentary items/goods</li><li>○ Membership rebates</li></ul></li><li>• EC/Membership to formalize a plan and will discuss at the July off-site</li></ul>
<p><b>July Offsite</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Annual planning session for the 2007-2008 year of scheduled events</li><li>• Proposed date for the July off-site is for Friday, July 20</li></ul> <p>* <b>Reminder:</b> CEC members must notify Ken and Ben of their availability NLT Friday, June 22</p>
<p><b>AGA PDC Gift Basket</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chapter to donate a Longaberger basket filled with \$125 worth in gift cards and miscellaneous items<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Total value approximately \$200-\$250</li></ul></li></ul>

### **AGA Best Practices**

- EC discussed the need to establish a formal means of recognition for the new members at the monthly luncheons:
  - Designate a CEC member to greet the new member upon entrance
  - Reserve table for new members and assign 1 EC/Membership Committee member to each table
  - Welcome new members during preliminary announcements
- EC and Membership to coordinate and implement

### **Dreamweaver Software Purchase**

- Merle Robinson updated the CEC with various software applications that could be used for maintaining the chapter web-site
  - Identified Dreamweaver software as the most compatible
  - Lowest quote obtained from reputable vendor: \$234
  - Discussed need for a web-site master to download the software and provide the required maintenance
  - Consensus of the CEC was to purchase the Dreamweaver software

### **Committee Updates:**

- Communications
  - Amy has identified a potential person to design the membership brochures as well as someone to write the newsletter articles for the monthly luncheons
- Community Service
  - Discussed plan to poll the AGA community for summer activities
  - Beth/Kortney to develop survey via email with voting capabilities
- Education
  - Beth/Katie redesigned luncheon survey to better serve the AGA chapter members
  - Discussed status of luncheon speakers (good through August)
    - Nancy to solicit Mary Brun from OSD for the December PDC
- Certification (Shawn not in attendance)
- Membership/Early Careers (EC) – Multicultural Day
  - Volunteers still needed to man booth on Thursday, June 21 from 10AM-3PM
  - 8 slots available - ½ hr increments each
  - CEC members to notify Justin of their availability
- Programs – July Members Appreciation Luncheon
  - July luncheon tickets printed for publication
  - Cost: \$0 for members; \$5 for non-members
- Ways and Means - Update on recent fundraising activities (Tara and Kevin not in attendance)
- Treasury Report
  - \$2000.00 Savings
  - \$12,500.00 Checking

### **Wrap-up**