

Association of Government Accountants (AGA) Jackson Chapter 2010-2011 Fiscal Year

ABOUT AGA

AGA is the premier association for government accountability professionals. The mission of AGA is to serve these accountability professionals by providing quality education, fostering professional development and certification, and supporting standards and research to advance government accountability. The Jackson Chapter is a component of this international organization that has the following themes:

ACCOUNTABILITY—Promote and advance accountability in government.

CERTIFICATION—Make the CGFM the preferred professional designation in the government accounting community.

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH—Provide comprehensive education and research to meet the changing needs of the government accountability profession.

SERVICE—Provide members and customers with quality programs, products and services.

MEMBERSHIP YEAR May 1-April 30
2010

Number of current members
15,313

Overall retention rate
86%

Number of AGA Chapters
100



ABOUT THE JACKSON CHAPTER

2010-2011 OFFICERS

- **President**—Sue Hunt, CPA, CGFM
- **President-elect**—Linda Davis, CPA
- **Secretary**—Elaine Canterbury, CPA, CGFM
- **Treasurer**—Tina Carter
- **Immediate Past President**—Lynda Dutton, CPA



The Jackson Chapter was formed on November 6, 1987. Most members are Mississippi state government employees, however CPA firms, city, county and federal governmental agencies are also represented. As of April 4, 2011 the Chapter had 133 members in good standing. Many of our members are certified in various specialties:

41 Certified Government Financial Managers (CGFM), 40 Certified Public Accountants (CPA), 3 Certified Internal Auditors (CIA), 3 Certified Fraud Examiners (CFE).

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The Jackson Chapter's main goal for fiscal year 2010-2011 was to provide quality education and training. Two approaches were used: guest speakers and audio conferences. Over 350 members and guests attended our meetings, audio conferences and annual tax seminar. Topics covered included federal and state tax law, state budget and economic conditions, fraud, internal controls over technology and international accounting. A total of 28 Continuing Professional Education Hours (CPE) were made available to attendees.

Each year a \$1,000 scholarship is awarded to a student majoring in accounting or another business-related subject at one of Mississippi's colleges or universities. The various institutions of higher learning are contacted to be certain that they are aware of this program and applications are accepted. Selection is then made from among the applicants by a Scholarship Committee specially formed from Chapter members. This year's scholarship went to Margaret Cummins a junior at the University of Mississippi.

INTERACTION WITH AGA NATIONAL

Dr. William Morehead is a Past National President.

Dr. Annette Pridgen is on AGA's Award Committee.

Lynda Dutton Attended AGA's Professional Development Conference in July 2010.

Incoming Officers for the 2011-2012 fiscal year, Linda Davis, Liz Jackson, Dr. William Johnston, and Jeff Wheeler, attended the Sectional Leadership Conference in May of 2011 in Dallas, Texas.

CGFM CERTIFICATION

The Jackson Chapter is committed to making the CGFM the preferred professional designation for the government accountability community. The Chapter plans to purchase two sets of the CGFM Study Guides when current revisions are complete. One set will be available to loan to members wishing to begin preparation for the CGFM examinations. The rules for borrowing this set of guides has been developed and can be found on the Chapter's website. The other set will be used to develop a cooperative study program to be initiated in the fall of 2011.

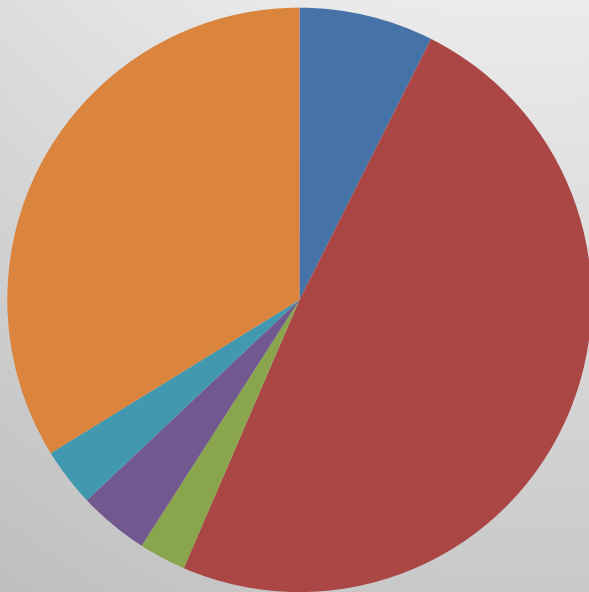
COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Chapter also strives to foster public service. In October members tabulated donations to the Alzheimer's Walk. April saw Chapter members manning water stations at the Susan B. Komen Breast Cancer Walk.

As part of the Chapter's Holiday outreach money was collected in November and December for Stewpot Community Services a local charity that provides thousands of men, women and children with meals and other assistance.

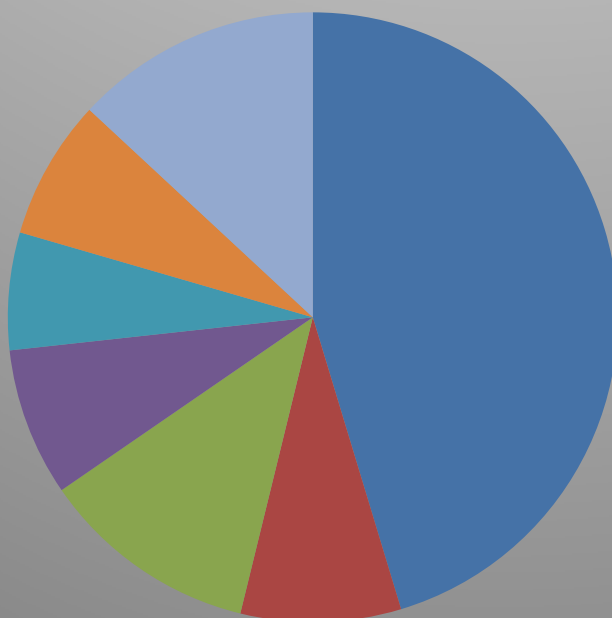
In April Eastern Mississippi was struck by an EF-5 tornado. Shortly thereafter the state experienced flooding due to record levels on the Mississippi River and its Western tributaries. The Jackson Chapter took up donations for the Red Cross to be used to assist fellow Mississippians during these tragedies.

Revenue



- Dues National \$1,083
- Meetings \$7,150
- Audio Conference \$380
- Joint ASWA Conference \$566
- CPE Programs \$473
- Other Revenue \$4,925

Expense



- Meetings/CPE \$6,108
- Audio Conference \$1,145
- Member Training \$1,561
- Joint ASWA Conference \$1,060
- General Chapter Expenses \$839
- Scholarship \$1,000
- Other Expenses \$1,763



HOW THE CHAPTER PERFORMED

The AGA National Office has developed a Chapter Recognition Program (CRP). This is a noncompetitive way of recognizing a chapter's performance in relation to a benchmark linked to AGA's mission. The Chapter's goal for the 2010-2011 year was to receive a Platinum designation which is awarded to chapters obtaining between 19,501 and 22,000 credits for the year. While this goal was not achieved, the Chapter went from Bronze in 2009-2010 to Gold for the current year. The sections and credits awarded are listed below.

SECTION I Leadership, Planning & Participation			
Maximum credits	3,000	Earned	3,000
SECTION II Education and Professional Development			
Maximum credits	4,000	Earned	3,900
SECTION III Certification			
Maximum credits	4,000	Earned	3,050
SECTION IV Communications			
Maximum credits	3,000	Earned	3,000
SECTION V Membership			
Maximum credits	3,000	Earned	2,225
SECTION VI Early Career and Student Members			
Maximum credits	2,000	Earned	200
SECTION VII Community Service			
Maximum credits	2,000	Earned	2,000
SECTION VIII Awards			
Maximum credits	1,000	Earned	400
CREDITS AVAILABLE	22,000	EARNED	17,775



CHALLENGES

The CRP provides an excellent overview of exactly where the chapter has opportunities for improvement. By comparing the credits attained to the maximum credits, the following areas were selected by the chapter for the current year..

- Early Career and Student Members-- AGA past national president, Dr. Billy Morehead is now teaching in the Jackson area. He has agreed to act as a liaison to colleges in the vicinity. The Jackson chapter intends to be part of the career fairs that are held at the colleges in an effort to recruit student and early career members.
- For the 2010-2011, Section VI has been changed to award credits for Accountability. Citizen centric reporting is an area that is virtually unheard of in the state of Mississippi. Chapter members will visit with state and local governmental entities to explain the concept and offer assistance in developing each agency's own citizen centric report. In addition, articles will be submitted to various publications informing the public and accounting professionals of the merits of citizen centric reporting. Also, a member of the chapter will volunteer to teach a session on citizen centric reporting at the state-wide conference of city clerks.
- See page 2 of this report for information on how the obtaining of the CGFM certification will be encouraged by the chapter this year.

For more about the CCR or the Jackson Chapter contact us at:
Aga_jackson_chapter@comcast.net