



Newsletter



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*Advancing
Government
Accountability*

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President's Message



**By Vincent Duenas
President
AGA Guam Chapter**

Happy New Year, AGA Guam Chapter! Welcome to 2012 and the second half of our chapter year. I hope this past holiday break allowed you some much needed rest and relaxation and prepared you for a prosperous 2012. If you have made New Year's resolutions, I wish you the best in achieving your goals in improving your health, wealth, and happiness.

As we continue the year by "Celebrating Our AGA Membership" this second half promises to be very exciting for our chapter as we lead up to two of our signature events in the summer, the 11th Annual 2K/5K Fun Run/Walk and the biennial 2012 Guam Professional Development Conference. Some of the highlights for this month include our community

service activities, the announcement of our inaugural high school essay contest winners, and our upcoming general membership meeting.

Community Service. As we exit the holiday season, I would like to sincerely thank each and every member, and their families, that participated in our many community service activities. Our recent community service events, i.e. Kusinan Kamalen Karidat feeding, Salvation Army Bell-Ringing, Typhoon Sendon Relief, etc. over the past couple of months has seen so many new and familiar faces volunteering their time and energy that there are just too many people to thank. Your selfless acts of volunteering over the past months have been outstanding. Thank you for all that you do to make our community a better place.

Early Careers. Congratulations to the winners of our inaugural AGA Guam Chapter High School Essay Contest. We presented our winners with a certificate of recognition and a monetary reward at the Guam Legislature's Hearing Room on January 17, 2012. In recog-

nition of their accomplishment and the message they presented, Speaker Judith Won Pat featured the winners in her Weekly Radio Address to the Citizens of Guam. It is available online at <http://www.kuam.com/story/16543031/2012/01/18/speaker-won-pats-radio-address>.

Membership Meetings. This month we have invited Jason Miyashita, Senior Investment Management Consultant and Second Vice-President of Wealth Management of Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, as our January guest speaker. Mr. Miyashita will give a presentation on the "Economic Outlook for 2012 and Investment Ideas to Consider for Investing in the Capital Markets" at the Onward Beach Resort, Le Premier Restaurant on Wednesday, January 25, 2012, 12:00PM. We will be offering one (1) CPE for this presentation. We look forward to seeing you there.

For more info. on AGA happenings, please visit <http://aga.guam.net>. If you're interested in joining any of our committees, please feel free to email me at vduenas@guamopa.org.

"Celebrating Our AGA Membership"

Last Meeting

Last month, we held our annual Christmas party at the Outrigger Guam Resort. There was a lot of good food, fun, games, and raffle prizes for all to enjoy. Thanks go out to Secretary Rachel Field and the Junior Accountant's Society for organizing and hosting this fun-filled event.

Right: Group picture on 12/2011



Right: Scholarship Raffle Winners for the GASB Updates training on January 2012.



Top: Most Christmas Spirit Contest

Next Meeting



This month we have invited Jason Miyashita, Senior Investment Management Consultant and Second Vice-President of Wealth Management of Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, as our January guest speaker.

As a partner on the Asia Pacific Group Team based on Guam, he provides a full range of investment services to institutions, corporations, foundations, endowments, high net-worth investors and business owners, focusing on wealth management, investment management, managed money, estate planning, and retirement and education planning.

Mr. Miyashita graduated from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania with concentrations in Accounting, Finance and Strategic Management.

He is currently a Chartered Retirement Plans Specialist (CRPS®), Accredited Investment Fiduciary Analyst (AIFA®) and Financial

Planning Specialist (FPS).

He is an active member of the Rotary Club of Tumon Bay Guam, Guam Chamber of Commerce, Saipan Chamber of Commerce and the Pacific Club in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Please join us for our January General Membership Meeting. There will be a free lunch raffle, but you must be present to win!

Lunch Raffle



Congratulations to **Melissa Faculo** for winning the free lunch raffle from the December 2011 General Membership Meeting!

Topic:
Economic Outlook for 2012 and Investment Ideas to Consider for Investing in the Capital Markets (1 CPE)

Date & Location:
Wednesday, January 25, 2012
12:00 PM – 1:30 PM
Le Premier Restaurant
Onward Beach Resort, Tamuning

Lunch Fee:
Members: \$12
Non-members: \$17

Treasurer's Report

Association of Government Accountants - Guam Chapter
Condensed Financial Statements
As of and for year ending December 31, 2011

	Chapter	Community Svc.	Prof. Develop.	Memo	6 months ending 12/31/2011
Assets	\$ (1,271)	\$ 8,473	\$ 64,739	\$ 71,942	
Liabilities	-	-	7,730	7,730	
Net Assets					
Earmarked	-	5,853	33,119	38,972	
Unrestricted	(1,271)	2,621	23,890	25,239	
Revenues	\$ 651	\$ 227	\$ 29,910	\$ 30,788	\$ 40,181
Expenses	<u>2,357</u>	<u>101</u>	<u>15,821</u>	<u>18,279</u>	<u>23,805</u>
Increase (decrease) in net assets	<u>(1,705)</u>	<u>126</u>	<u>14,089</u>	<u>12,509</u>	<u>16,377</u>
Beginning net assets	434	8,347	42,920	51,701	47,835
Ending net assets	\$ (1,271)	\$ 8,473	\$ 57,009	\$ 64,211	\$ 64,211

Excerpts from High School Essay Winners

“Watching the Watch-Guard.”

1st Place
Jeremiah Gallego
12th Grade
Southern Christian Academy

Government is a necessity. It is a structure that needs to be well-established. Government is needed because it maintains order, protects the innocent, and punishes those who do wrong. However, what happens when the appointed “watchdogs” become bigger and not necessarily for the better? Our elected leaders are supposed to be the vigilant watchmen in our nation and our island. They should be a benefit for the good and a punishment for the wicked. So the question is who keeps the government in check when it decides to overstep its boundaries and interfere with its citizen’s freedoms? Who watches the watchmen? We do.

Today, one major concern on Guam is the military buildup and the transfer of Marines from Okinawa. Concerned citizens are asking questions. Will Guam’s infrastructure be able to ab-

sorb the increase in population? Is the federal government being transparent about the buildup?

The U.S. government has released information but it seems like there is not a present line of communication between the three parties involved. It would really help if all of the governments were more transparent about an issue that will affect Guam entirely. Their decisions will affect my generation for years to come.

According to The American Heritage College Dictionary, accountability is defined as, “liable to being called to account; answerable.” A government can be more efficient when it is answerable and transparent to its citizens. The public should know more about existing policies and the how and why those decisions were made. Informed citizens will be able to communicate more effectively and better policies will be created.

Media is a tool that can be used to keep the government accountable and transparent. Cable television and radio are mediums that should

be used to keep the public informed. Probably the most powerful medium, the internet, should be fully utilized. My generation spends several hours online and usually form their ideas from sources found online. The Official Portal of Guam, guam.gov, is a fairly good site. However, it is still a work in progress; its last news update was in 2008! [...] Technologies to Increase Government Transparency, a webinar hosted by the National League of Cities and the Public Technology presented on May 4, 2010, featured government officials who felt that while it did come with a start-up cost and resulted in more tasks, their biggest regret was not being “transparent” sooner.

Government has incredible authority. It makes laws, determines policies, and enforces them. It is time to promote individual responsibility in our elected officials and in the public. The citizens need leaders and officials who will be transparent and make wise decisions. It is time to move our island forward. Who watches the watchmen? We will.

Excerpts from High School Essay Winners (Cont.)

“Government Accountability in the 21st Century: How my generation views government accountability and transparency on Guam and in the Pacific”

2nd Place

Noel Bien T. Carlos

10th Grade

Father Duenas Memorial School

A famous French writer by the name of Moliere once said, "It is not only what we do, but also what we do not do, for which we are accountable." I believe this should be the guiding principle of our government today. As a youth, we should get involved actively in the democratic process of promoting government accountability and transparency in order for our society to advance and prosper. We should look over the government's shoulder to ensure that the government officials are acting in the best interest of the public and not for

their own personal benefit.

The current existence of advanced information technology should make our government easily accountable and transparent to the eyes of each citizen. [...]

For the past 10 years since I have been living on Guam, I noticed that many people have little trust in the government. This is primarily due to their unpleasant experiences with the government operations, including its poor policy-making, financial mismanagement, corruption, and abuse of power. We need to cultivate back the trust of our community in our government. Although many government officials and employees are qualified and dedicated in doing their jobs, a few lack respect and values for their work. We need to encourage them to be proud of their job and to fulfill their responsibilities sincerely. They

must have the ultimate goal of serving the people and the government with honesty and integrity with all of these geared toward a productive and stable society.

[...]

The youth should advocate for a clean and transparent government. We need to develop, research, and create programs to alleviate corruption, increase transparency and advance government accountability. Those who are performing well should receive commendations while the inefficient ones should be liable for their wrongdoing. I strongly believe that the youth can perform a significant part in promoting accountability in our own local government as well as in the whole Pacific. Remember that the future of the youth should be accounted for.

“Government Accountability in the 21st Century: How my generation views government accountability and transparency on Guam and in the Pacific”

3rd Place

Erica Respicio

12th Grade

George Washington High School

In any government, it concerns itself with three main branches: public education, public health care, and public safety. [...] It affects the citizens of an area in one way or another, and for this reason it is necessary for the general public to be aware of the actions our government takes. Those in charge of these departments should therefore be accountable and transparent to the public. I have seen this in the case of public education.

[...]

When my school was put under the spot light because of overcrowding issues, governmental influence, in a way, hit home. Government officials were going to decide on a solution for the overcrowding problem within my school and that decision would directly impact certain aspects of my senior year. It was here that I was given the opportunity to step up and become a voice for my student body.

By doing so, I and others were able to arrange a meeting with Speaker Judi Won Pat. She shared information regarding the circumstances surrounding the situation and asked us for our perspective on the issue. During this meeting, we were able to discuss the main problem as well as other concerns we had regarding our school. I was generally pleased at the fact that she was receptive of our comments as well as informative.

A government committee also held a public meeting where other students were able to voice their opinions and again gather information. Then, at a meeting that took place at George Washington High School, Speaker Judi Won Pat was able to attend, which led to more parents and students becoming aware of the situation and receiving the right information.

[...] My participation was made possible through accountability and transparency. Without it, there would not have been meetings for me and others to attend or a chance for us to share our opinions, which is why these qualities are essential in our government. My recent experience proves to me that Guam has accountable leaders and those citizens concerned enough about issues are able to acquire information through various resources available to them and can be part of the decision making process.



To retain the CGFM certification, all CGFMs must adhere to the AGA's Code of Ethics.

In addition, to continue using the CGFM designation after their names, CGFMs must be in an active status. To maintain your CGFM certification in an active status, you must:

1. Pay the CGFM renewal fee by the due date every year;
2. Complete at least 80 hours of continuing professional education every two years in government financial management or related technical subjects (within the designated two-year CPE cycle); and
3. Maintain and, if requested by AGA, provide detailed information on CPE hours completed.

The 80 CPE hours must be completed within the CGFM's two-year CPE cycle. The first CPE cycle starts on Jan. 1 of the year following the one when the CGFM designation was earned. The CPE requirements apply to all active CGFMs, whether employed or not and whether employed full- or part-time by a government or other organization.

Active CGFMs must complete a minimum of 80 CPE hours every two years to maintain their CGFM certification. While there is no minimum number of hours required to be earned each year, CGFMs are encouraged to earn CPE hours throughout their two-year cycle. For more info on CPE requirements, visit http://www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/maintain/cpe_requirements.aspx

Need CGFM review material?

Please contact Jason Katigbak at Jason.katigbak@gu.ey.com for details on borrowing the Guam AGA Chapter's CGFM Review Materials.



Speaker's Radio Address January 19

Posted: Jan 18, 2012 9:45 PM

Updated: Jan 19, 2012 8:54 AM

Guam - Yesterday, the Guam Legislature had the privilege of participating in a scholarship award ceremony sponsored by the Guam Chapter Association of Government Accountants.

The association sponsored an essay contest meant to encourage active participation and awareness, at the high school level, on accountability and transparency in the government. The essay contest was titled: Government Accountability in the 21st Century: How my generation views government accountability and transparency on Guam and in the Pacific."

Congratulations to Jeremia Gallego of Southern Christian Academy for winning 1st place; Noel Bien Carlos, Jr. of Father Duenas on winning second place and Erica Respicio of GW High School for your winning third place.

It was refreshing to be there because as a policy maker I was able to take note of some of the ideas that the students had about improving government efficiency, accountability, and transparency. It was refreshing because I was reminded that our youth often bring out the purest of intentions, without the influences of party line or other biases (professional or personal) unrelated to the matter at hand.

These young minds were able to understand that a fundamental component to efficient government is open and consistent communication.

I can't reiterate this point enough: in all that we do, it is important to maintain an open and respectful line of communication for one another.

You see, it is ok to disagree. As a

matter of fact, to openly debate matters is the nature of a free and open democracy. But while we may disagree, it is important that we not be 'disagreeable.' While we may not see eye-to-eye nor share the same philosophies about public policy, let us argue over genuine differences. However heated a discussion let us debate about those things that are important.

Let us have open discussions with an open mind and with the commitment to emerge from it all with a decision that is in the best interest of the People of Guam.

This year we will have to make hard decisions about how to control our debt without sacrificing critical public services, we will continue to work on growing the economy without further damage to our environment and strain to our infrastructure, and on improving education on Guam... in a well thought out manner.

And as we proceed in carrying out the will of the People of Guam, let us do so responsibly, professionally, and selflessly. Governor Calvo, as an appeal to you and members of the administration, the 31st Guam Legislature has remained true to its commitment to work in the spirit of Ina' famaolek. And it is in this spirit that I admonish any public ridicule of persons who believe that scoring points is more important than solving problems.

I agree with President Obama that: "Whether we are Democrats or Republicans, we've got an obligation that goes beyond caring about the next election. We have an obligation to care for the next generation."

I extend an open invitation to you, Governor Calvo, to have coffee with me, as Speaker of the Guam Legislature, to keep the lines of communication open. Governor, I will give you a call!

AGA National News



AGA Research Report: Using Performance Information to Drive Performance Improvement

This project explores the federal government's use of performance information to drive performance improvement, a program that was established within the last two years and is still evolving. It describes the status of the process within the 24 Chief Financial Officers (CFO) Act agencies and selected components. The main purpose of the project, however is to provide recommendations and other ideas for how to process, also known as data-driven performance reviews, can be extended deeper into the agencies, across all their programs and most important, beyond changes in personnel and administrations. Read more at <http://www.agacgfm.org/research/downloads/CPAGNo29.pdf>.

Register Now for An AGA Audio Conference!

→ **Jan. 25, 2012.** Jumpstart Your Entity's Performance and Processes with an Extreme Government Makeover (<http://www.agacgfm.org/education/audioconferences/makeover012512.aspx>)

→ **Feb. 8, 2012.** The New Stewardship Imperative—Federal Financial Management at the Crossroads (http://www.agacgfm.org/education/audioconferences/federal_020812.aspx)

→ **Mar. 7, 2012.** Data Mining to Prioritize Investigations of Contract Fraud (http://www.agacgfm.org/education/audioconferences/fraud_030712.aspx)

AGA, CGFM Annual Renewals Now Available Online

Excerpt from AGA Topics (01.23.12)

Thank you for your support of AGA over the past year. Get your 2012 started right by renewing! Don't risk letting your membership or CGFM certification lapse. Get ahead of the pack by renewing online now.

Electronic renewals will be e-mailed later this week. Paper copy renewals will be mailed in early February. The due date for renewal payments is March 31, 2012. Whether you're involved in local, state, federal government or private industry, we are getting the word out to financial professionals everywhere on the issues that matter in financial management.

It takes only minutes to renew online at www.agacgfm.org. Your AGA ID number is the login, and your password is your first initial immediately followed by your last name, unless you have changed it. Once you log in, you will see your AGA profile. Press the billing button to renew with a credit card on our secured server. While you are logged in, please take a moment to review your membership information and update any incorrect items. You may also print your membership card online. If you need assistance, please call the AGA Customer Satisfaction Center at 800.AGA.7211.

Special note to chapter leaders: Please send applications to the National Office quickly so new members can receive their valuable benefits right away. All that's needed to process the applications is the new member's name, mailing address and e-mail address. Questions? Contact Jill Murphy at jmurphy@agacgfm.org.

Apply for 2012 National Academic Scholarships AGA National

Excerpt from AGA Topics (12.12.11)

Are you or a family member pursuing undergraduate or graduate studies in disciplines such as accounting, auditing, budgeting, economics, finance, information technology, public administration, etc.? If so, consider applying for an AGA National Academic Scholarship today!

Each year, AGA National awards:

- Up to four \$3,000 full-time merit scholarships to AGA members and their family members,
- Up to two \$1,000 part-time merit scholarships to AGA members and their family members, and
- One \$3,000 community service scholarship

The deadline for receipt of applications is Friday, March 30, 2012. Download a copy of the application, or contact Louise Kapelewski.

AGA Pacific Rim



Congratulations to **Randall V. Wiegand** on becoming the Regional Vice-President-Elect for the Pacific Rim for Program Year 2012-2013. Mr. Wiegand will become the RVP-Elect in July 2012 and will assist the incoming Regional Vice-President in providing general assistance and resolving chapter problems for the Guam, Hawaii, Japan, and Northern Marianas Chapters. He is currently the Chief Financial Officer for the Guam Power Authority, past president of the AGA Guam Chapter, and staunch supporter of our organization. This appointment is well deserved. Great job!

Community

Event:
11th Annual AGA 5k Run/Walk

Date:
June 2012

Please contact Lou Perez at 483-3350 or guamperezlou@gmail.com or Jocelyn Untalan at 475-0390 ext. 218 or juntalan@guamopa.org if you are interested in joining the organization efforts.

The Community Service Committee held two events for January. The committee sought clothing, toys, and monetary donations for Typhoon Sendong victims on January 13, 2012. The committee also sought volunteers for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program. Training

for volunteers of the program was held on January 16 and 17, 2012 at the University of Guam.

Past Event

Here are some of the Salvation Army Bell-Ringing pictures held on December 2011.



Group 1: Ernst & Young, LLP, Deloitte & Touche, LLP, and Guam Power Authority



Group 2: Guam Waterworks Authority and Port Authority of Guam



Group 3: University of Guam and Office of Public Accountability

Training

2012 Guam Professional Development Conference

Theme:
The Future of Accountability

Instructors:
Various

Date & Location:
July 17 to 19, 2012
Nikko Hotel, Tumon

Planning continues for our biennial 2012 Guam Professional Development Conference. Our conference chairperson, Rodalyn Marquez, and co-chairperson, Jason Katigbak, have held several organizational meetings for this event.

If you would like to help organize or if you have any ideas you would like to share with the committee, please e-mail Rodalyn at rmarquez@guamopa.org or Jason at jason.katigbak@gu.ey.com.

This past December, we held a successful three-day training with Drummond Kahn, the Association of Local Government Auditors National President-Elect, and his presentation on "Performance Measurement and Budgeting." There were 77 participants from the public and private sectors that joined us for this training. Thank you to our sponsors, Deloitte & Touche, Ernst & Young, Bank of Guam, and Coast 360 Federal Credit Union, as well as our Education Chairperson Jason Katigbak for all your assistance in putting this workshop together.



From L-R: President-Elect Jason Katigbak, Drummond Khan, President Vincent Duenas, and Past President Jojo Guevara, CGFM



Accountability Chairperson Mari-paz Perez made a presentation regarding Citizen-Centric Report.



University of Guam students presented "Government of Guam's FY 2010 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)"

Training (Cont.)

We also had a 3-CPE training with Lelean Miller, CPA, Partner, Eide Bailly, LLP on "GASB Updates." The training was held on January 20, 2012 at the University of Guam (UOG)'s School of Business and Public Administration (SBPA) Building, IT&E Lecture Hall from 8:30 am to 12:00 pm. The training consisted of: Proposed Standards, Research Agenda and GASB Statements.

We welcomed 47 participants from various Government of Guam departments and agencies, as well as private audit firms. Thank you to those who participated and to the UOG SBPA for allowing us to use the IT&E Lecture Hall for our training.



Aga Guam Chapter

Participants of the AGA Guam Chapter training on GASB Updates listen to presenter Lee Miller at the University of Guam on January 20, 2012.



Like · Comment · Share · January 20 at 2:21pm via mobile · 2

Billy Morehead likes this.



Billy Morehead Yea Lee and Guam AGA! Proud of y'all!

January 21 at 2:32am · Like

Write a comment

Scholarships Available!

The Association of Government Accountants (AGA) Guam Chapter is pleased to offer the 2012 Herminia Dierking and AGA Guam Chapter Scholarships. The scholarships are sponsored and funded jointly by the chapter and private sector contributors.

The Herminia Dierking Scholarship provides a total of \$6,000 in scholarship funds to four (4) undergraduate students (\$1,500 for each recipient, two recipients for Spring 2012 and two recipients for Fall 2012 semesters) at the University of Guam (UOG) who exhibits academic excellence in Accounting, Business Administration, Finance and Economics or Public Administration disciplines.

Meanwhile, the AGA Guam Chapter Scholarship provides a total of \$4,000 in scholarship funds to four (4) undergraduate students (\$1,000 for each recipient, two recipients for Spring 2012 and two recipients for

Fall 2012 semesters) at the Guam Community College (GCC) who has exhibited academic excellence in the Accounting discipline.

Scholarship applicants must complete the Scholarship Application Form with the:

- UOG Financial Aid Office located at the Field House for the Herminia Dierking Scholarship **OR**
- GCC Financial Aid Office located at the Student Services & Administration Building for the AGA Guam Chapter Scholarship,

to include all supporting documents for eligibility on or before January 31, 2012 for Spring and Fall 2012.

Application forms are available in the following websites:

<http://www.uog.edu> **OR**
<http://www.guamcc.net> and
<http://aga.guam.net>

Join AGA!

In a competitive government financial management community, accountability professionals can't go it alone. Membership in AGA will give you the tools and support you need to make your mark on the profession.

If your field is financial management –no matter what your specialization is or where you work – membership in AGA is indispensable. AGA is the only association supporting more than 15,000 professionals working in federal, state and local governments as well as the private sector and academia.

Become a member and experience what AGA can offer you at every stage of your career. Discover what AGA membership is and what it can do for you by viewing this webpage: <http://www.agacgfm.org/membership/benefits.aspx>.

To join AGA, visit <http://www.agacgfm.org/membership/joinnow.aspx>

From The Editor

Happy New Year everyone! Gung hay fat choy! Xin nian yu kuai! The birth of a new year brings time for reflection as well as new beginnings. It's a time to be thankful for how far we've come, and to look with joyful anticipation towards the future.

As always, we would like to hear from you! If you have any questions, comments, suggestions, concerns or interesting topics you would like to share to our AGA Guam Chapter community, please let us know. You may e-mail me, Joy Bulatao, at joy.bulatao@gmail.com or my Co-Editor, Matt Quinata at agaguamchapter@yahoo.com.

Chapter Executive Committee Directory

Position	Name	Email
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Treasurer	Yukari B. Hechanova, CPA, CIA, CGFM, CGAP	yuka@guamwaterworks.org
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Job Announcement: Miteco Pacific is seeking a full-time General Accounting Clerk with a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting and 1-2 years of experience in accounts payable. For inquiries please contact Jay Quito at 646-1785 or e-mail jay.quito@mitecopac.com