



# AGA NEWSLETTER

MAINE  
CHAPTER

January 2008

## Upcoming Chapter Events

**February 12, 2008**

### Chapter Meeting

**Speaker: Paul Kando, Global  
Climate Change – What can we do  
about it?**

### Breakfast Meeting

**7:30 – 8:00am registration**

**8:00 – 9:30am meal & speaker**

**February 6, 2008**

### Audio Conference

**Internal Controls**

**March 5, 2008**

### Audio Conference

**Environmental Fraud**

**March 26, 2008**

### Audio Conference

**GASB Update**

## Welcome New Members!!

**Lisa Wilson, Natural Resources Service  
Center**



Winter is certainly here! The weather is cold and the Patriots are headed back to the Superbowl!

It has been my pleasure to serve as your President this year. Spring is not far off and that means it's time to start thinking about upcoming elections. Are you interested in becoming more active in the AGA? Do you have ideas on how to increase membership or meeting attendance? Are there great new training opportunities out there we should be aware of? Maybe you should run for office! In April, we will hold elections for: President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Director of Community Service, Director of Communications, Director of Education, and Director of Membership.

We had a successful meeting earlier this month. Patricia Quinn, Executive Director of the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority spoke to us about the growth, sustainability, and future of passenger rail service in the state. It was wonderful to hear about a topic entirely new to most of us. We received a lot of positive feedback from the group about the topic and the speaker. Ms. Quinn was an enthusiastic and engaging speaker.

Thank you for the continued support of our chapter. I look forward to seeing you at the February meeting.

Respectfully,

Jenny Boyden  
President

## Community Service Corner

Many thanks for your generous donations for our January/February community service event. We collected many magazines to be delivered to the area Veteran's Hospital.

Thank you!

### National Emerging Leaders Focus Group Established--Volunteers Needed!

Based on a recommendation by the Early Career Task Force, a National Emerging Leaders Focus Group has been established to assist AGA in appealing to future leaders. The task force noted that as America ages, AGA has the opportunity to transform its culture and reform its approach to recruiting, developing and maintaining members and leaders, which is paramount to our continued health and growth. AGA needs to consider the workplace habits, attitudes and values of various generations to make the Association attractive to current and future leaders. AGA is looking for members from Generation X (currently aged 27 to 42) and the Millennial generation (currently aged 27 or younger) to develop suggestions to help AGA evolve. If you are interested in joining the focus group, send an e-mail to [Jessica Jones](mailto:jessica.jones@aga.org) by Jan. 28. Members of the National Emerging Leaders Focus Group will serve for renewable one-year terms, meet periodically through conference calls, and be invited to their closest Sectional Leadership Meeting if the necessary funds are available. [Click here](#) to read the full text of the Early Careers Task Force report. [View the position description](#)

## Chapter Recognition Points As of December 31, 2007

The Chapter Recognition Program is designated to support, encourage, and promote accomplishments of AGA's mission and to provide flexible noncompetitive guidelines for a well-rounded chapter. The Chapter Recognition Program year begins on May 1 and ends on April 30.

	Section	Total Points	Max Points	% of Max
I.	Chapter Leadership, Planning & Participant	3,375	3,000	113%
II.	Education & Prof, Development	3,175	4,000	79%
III.	Certification	1000	4,000	25%
IV.	Communications	5,000	3,000	167%
V.	Membership	0	3,000	0%
VI.	Early Career & Student	800	2000	40%
VII.	Community Service	900	2,000	45%
VIII.	Awards	600	1,000	60%
	Grand Total	14,975	20,000	75%

## Chapter Executive Committee Meeting Minutes January 8, 2008

Due to a conflict, Crystal Canney may not be able to speak at our February breakfast chapter meeting. The distribution of January's newsletter may be postponed slightly so that we can confirm the availability of CC for the February meeting and update the speaker schedule as has been done in previous newsletters. If Associate Commissioner Canney is unable to speak, alternative speakers discussed included the State Treasurer, who is slated to speak later in the year, Ellen Schneiter, State Budget Officer (with or without various Department management) to discuss the painstaking process undertaken across the state to fill the \$95MM revenue shortfall. Or we could conduct the Chapter's first brainstorming meeting, where the membership could network and discuss common current issues such as the transition to AdvantageMe, the budget shortfall, turnover and the restructuring necessitated by it, etc. It was also enquired whether there is anyone else within the Service Centers who could speak on Crystal's behalf. The National AGA President has not yet confirmed for March, but we expect to hear from him soon. We may have to move our March meeting, which is currently scheduled for Tuesday the 11th. Perhaps the new Aroostook County Chapter president could speak in the future? CEC members decided that we will distribute a questionnaire, perhaps at the door of the May meeting, asking for membership opinions on breakfast vs. lunch meetings. If luncheon meetings are preferred by a large margin, would the

membership be willing to pay more to cover costs? Currently, the difference in costs of breakfast versus lunch meetings allows the chapter to break even overall. Jody Breton has received potential interest in the Regional vice president position for AGA. We should begin recruiting interested parties for Fiscal Year 2008-09 Chapter Executive Committee members/officers at the February meeting so that we can have sufficient interest and a ballot printed for the May meeting.

Katharine Wiltuck has been nominated as the member profile for the next newsletter; Katharine, our Chapter Treasurer, was one of several people displaced by the Slate's Restaurant fire in Hallowell last February. Drummond Kahn, the internal auditor from Oregon, remains available to conduct internal audit training, but due to the current budget environment, the Chapter has found it difficult to find other organizations to co-sponsor the event. Walter Carlow will continue to research whether adequate participation would be present to cover the cost of this all-day training should the Chapter need to sponsor it alone.

**Submitted by Mark Toulouse, Secretary**



## AGA Priority Topics Impacting Maine

**How timely! Maine State employees have just begun to receive training on our responsibility to preserve State email records and this week's national AGA newsletter has a comprehensive article on the subject:**

### **Delete at Your Own Risk; Few Governments Have a System for Managing E-mail**

For several months last fall, the St. Louis media had a field day with Missouri Governor Matt Blunt's office for doing the equivalent of crumpling up important office correspondence and tossing it away. Employees weren't using a wastebasket, though. They were tossing out messages by clicking "delete" on their computers. Staff members insisted there was no written policy in their office on saving and deleting the e-mails. They said they routinely erased the messages because they didn't view them as part of the public record. In the ensuing controversy, Blunt announced a "permanent" e-mail retention system would be created, and employees would no longer be able to make case-by-case decisions on what to save. Missouri's is not the only government that has been stumbling over vague or non-existent e-mail policy. Millions of state and local employees in jurisdictions all over the country correspond by e-mail every day without giving much thought to what should happen to the product. They may come to regret that behavior. Not only are records, and history, being lost, but many government lawsuits now turn on what is buried in old e-mail messages. Government policy simply has not kept up with the evolving technology. --Ellen Perlman, *Governing*.

#### **Full article at**

<http://www.agacgfm.org/publications/agatoday/011408/index.aspx>



#### **Monthly Meetings are held at the Senator Inn, Augusta**

\$13 members / \$15 non-members

##### *Breakfast Meetings:*

7:30 – 8:00am Registration

8:00 – 9:30am Breakfast & Speaker

##### *Lunch Meetings:*

11:00 – 11:30am Registration

11:30 – 1:00pm Lunch & Speaker

#### **February 12, 2008**

##### *Breakfast Meeting*

Paul Kando, Global Climate Change –  
What can we do about it?

#### **March 11, 2008**

##### *Lunch Meeting*

AGA National President

#### **April 8, 2008**

##### *Breakfast Meeting*

What are Bonds all about?

#### **May 13, 2008**

Awards Luncheon



*Menu for February 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting  
Country Style Sit-down Breakfast*

- + Scrambled eggs
- + Home fried potatoes
- + Choice of sausage or bacon
- + Whole wheat & white toast
- + Jams & preserves
- + Fruit juice
- + Coffee, tea and milk



**It's Election Time!**

Are you interested in running for an AGA office? It is almost that time again. We are looking for candidates to fill the following positions:

- President – Elect
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Director of Community Services
- Director of Communications
- Director of Education
- Director of Membership



If you are interested in any of these please see a member of the CEC.

**Upcoming Educational Events**

Class (Audio Conference)	Date	# of CPEs
Internal Controls	February 6, 2008	2
Environmental Fraud	March 5, 2007	2
GASB Update	March 26, 2007	2
Ethics	May 7, 2008	2

**Cost per Audio Conference:** \$25 members / \$35 non-members

Interested in saving money??? AGA members can sign up for all 8 audio conferences for \$150.

Not a member? This is a great time and reason to sign up! The savings you achieve by registering for all 8 conferences will pay for your membership!

[Membership Information](#)

Time: 2:00 - 4:00PM

Location: Frances Perkins Room, Central Maine Commerce Center, 45 Commerce Drive (Department of Labor Building, off Civic Center Drive)

To register for audio conferences, please contact [Walter Carlow](#).

## 2007-08 Maine Chapter Officers and Directors

Jenny Boyden, CGFM  
President  
DHHS Service Center  
(207) 287-5270  
[Jenny.Boyden@maine.gov](mailto:Jenny.Boyden@maine.gov)

Jody Breton, CGFM  
Director of Community Service  
Natural Resources Service Ctr  
(207) 287-2215  
[Jody.L.Breton@maine.gov](mailto:Jody.L.Breton@maine.gov)

Walter Carlow  
Director of Education  
Dept. of Admin. & Financial Svcs  
(207) 624-7815  
[Walter.O.Carlow@maine.gov](mailto:Walter.O.Carlow@maine.gov)

Carol Elsemore, CIA  
Director of Communications  
Dept. of Admin. & Financial Svcs.  
(207) 624-7383  
[Carol.Elsemore@maine.gov](mailto:Carol.Elsemore@maine.gov)

Suzanne Hammer  
Director of Bylaws & Procedures  
Security & Employment Svc Ctr  
(207) 623-6747  
[Suzanne.Hammer@maine.gov](mailto:Suzanne.Hammer@maine.gov)

Bill Fox  
President-Elect  
Dept of Health & Human Services  
(207) 287-1868  
[Bill.Fox@maine.gov](mailto:Bill.Fox@maine.gov)

Dave Lachance, CGFM, CIA  
Director of Programs/Technical  
Meetings  
Secretary of State  
(207) 624-9009  
[Dave.lachance@maine.gov](mailto:Dave.lachance@maine.gov)

Heather Perrault, CPA  
Immediate Past President  
Bates College

Kimberly Smith  
Director of Membership  
Security & Employment Svc Ctr  
(207) 623-6740  
[Kimberly.A.Smith@Maine.gov](mailto:Kimberly.A.Smith@Maine.gov)

Darryl Stewart, CIA  
Director of Early Careers  
DHHS Service Center  
(207) 287-5499  
[Darryl.Stewart@maine.gov](mailto:Darryl.Stewart@maine.gov)

Jeff Toothaker, CGFM  
Director of Prof. Certification  
Dept. of Admin. & Financial Svcs  
(207) 624-6266  
[jeffrey.toothaker@Maine.gov](mailto:jeffrey.toothaker@Maine.gov)

Mark Toulouse  
Secretary  
DHHS Service Center  
(207) 287-1869  
[Mark.Toulouse@maine.gov](mailto:Mark.Toulouse@maine.gov)

Katharine Wiltuck, JD, CIA  
Treasurer  
DAFS Service Center  
(207) 624-7406  
[Katharine.Wiltuck@maine.gov](mailto:Katharine.Wiltuck@maine.gov)



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