



Newsletter — January 2012

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Hi, all:

We had a wonderful session on December 13th. Brian Miller, the Inspector General of the General Services Administration, discussed the work of his organization, particularly in regard to investigating and addressing fraud in GSA programs.

We had the best turnout since we revived the Chapter, about 40 attendees! And nobody left early. There were plenty of questions during the session, and we had a hard time extricating him at the end from all the attendees who wanted to discuss issues with him.

At the December meeting, we allowed people who did not want the lunch to attend at a \$5 discount from the regular price. We will try extending that offer for some months, hoping that it will encourage attendance by persons who are not interested in lunch, but want to hear the speaker. Therefore, non-members who don't want lunch will be able to attend for \$10, and members who don't want lunch can attend for just \$5. It will be hard to find quality CPA at a lower price than that.

We'll continue the fraud theme in January. Bill Buchanan, Vice-President of Cannon Street, Inc., a private investigative company, will provide us with "A Private Investigator's Perspective on Corporate Fraud." Bill, a long-time colleague of mine is a former FBI investigator, so he knows the government environment very well. I'm sure you'll all find his talk interesting. Hope to see many of you there on January 17th.

Lastly, due to popular request, we are going to repeat the Yellow Book training on February 8th. Same location and price as the last time. The announcement is included as the last item in this newsletter.

Have a wonderful holiday season, and come back refreshed and ready for 2012. See you at a Chapter meeting soon.

Sefton

Meeting Notice – January 2012

The San Francisco Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants will hold its next monthly luncheon meeting on January 17, 2012. At the luncheon, Bill Buchanan, Vice-President of Cannon Street, Inc., will discuss “A Private Investigator’s Perspective on Corporate Fraud.”

After Bill left the Marines in 1968 (if anyone *really* leaves the Marines), he became a special agent for the FBI. He remained with them for about 27 years, serving in many locations, on general criminal matters, counter-terrorism and counter-intelligence. He also investigated white collar crime and participated in the Unabomber case.

After retiring from the FBI, he co-founded Cannon Street, a private investigation firm that offers a multitude of investigation services. I, for one, am looking forward to his presentation.

Our luncheon meetings, always a real bargain, have become even better. Members still pay just \$10 per meeting. For that they receive a sandwich, a soda and a cookie! In addition, they obtain one hour of CPE and chance to network with colleagues. For non-members, the rate is \$15. In both cases, the meeting costs are substantially below any other professional association I’m aware of. If you don’t want the lunch we provide, you may attend the meeting for \$5 less than the usual fee: \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members.

If you paid to attend a meeting in September, October or November, you can attend this meeting for free!!! That applies to members and nonmembers. And they say there’s no free lunch.

Place: SF Federal Building, on 7th Street between Market and Mission Streets — Suite 4-400, Fourth Floor Annex

Date: January 17, 2012

Time: 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Price: \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members

RSVP: Linda.Gee@CMS.hhs.gov

Please RSVP with Linda by January 14, 2012 so that we can order a lunch for you.

Important!

If you register for the meeting, but find that you cannot make it, please call Linda Gee at 415-744-2976 by the close of business, January 16, 2012.

Low-cost Training Opportunity!

The San Francisco Chapter of AGA Presents Government Audit Standards — 2011 Internet Version

The San Francisco Chapter of the AGA continues its practice of providing high-quality low-cost training sessions for the Bay Area audit community. On **February 8, 2012**, we will sponsor a one-day training session on the **Government Audit Standards — 2011 Internet Version**, presented by Sefton Boyars.

We will hold the session on the 18th floor of 201 Mission Street, San Francisco. The Department of Transportation OIG has graciously allowed us to use its conference room for the class.

Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m. and the class will start at 8:30 a.m. We plan to finish by 4:30 p.m. The AGA chapter will provide lunch (sandwiches and sodas) and morning coffee.

The fee for the one-day course is only \$125 for AGA-members, \$150 for non-members.

Participants will receive two extra benefits for attending:

- Each participant will be able to attend one Chapter luncheon meeting **for free** within six months of attending the class.
- Participants who are not members of AGA will receive a **rebate of \$25** if they can show they joined AGA within six months of attending the class.

To register:

To attend *Government Audit Standards — 2011 Internet Version*, please register with Charles Hester via e-mail at CharlesHester@msn.com no later than February 3, 2012. Space is limited and spots will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. So if you want to attend the session, be sure to register early. We sponsored this class in November 2011 and had to turn away a number of attendees because the room will comfortably accommodate only 30 people.

Government Audit Standards — 2011 Internet Version

In August 2011, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) issued a complete revision to the 2007 version of the Government Auditing Standards, commonly referred to as the Yellow Book. The revision makes a number of changes to the current version, but probably the most significant is the presentation of a conceptual framework approach to independence. The GAO intends to issue a final version of the standards when the AICPA completes its clarity revisions; however, any modifications should be minor.

During the day, we will go through the requirements of the new Yellow Book and the changes from the prior version. The session will include lecture, discussion and questions and answers. The course will be directed to all levels of individuals who conduct government audits (basic/intermediate/advanced).

Sefton Boyars, CPA, CGFM

Until his retirement in October 1996, Sefton Boyars had been the Department of Education's Regional Inspector General for Audit in Regions IX and X for sixteen years. During his 35-year career, Sefton worked for a variety of federal government audit agencies and a California county.

Sefton served on the Qualifications Committee of the California State Board of Accountancy for three years. He is a Certified Public Accountant, a Certified Government Financial Manager, and a Certified Fraud Specialist. He is currently a member of the California statewide Government Auditing and Accounting Committee.

He is the author of the Association of Government Accountants' study guide for Course 3 of the *Certified Government Financial Manager: Governmental Financial Management and Control*. The revised study guide was issued in the summer of 2008. He is also co-author of *Cost Principles for State and Local Governments and Non-Profit Organizations*, issued in 2010.