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## ATTENTION!

*Check out page 3 for a new member bio!*

Are you using social media? The Maine Chapter AGA invites to you like us on

Facebook



Chapter Website:

<http://www.agamainechapter.org/>

So unless you are an avid snowmobiler or skier, it appears as if we got more good news about the continuation of a very mild winter from our good friend Punxsutawney Phil. I think we all deserved a break after the winter we all experienced last year.



So even though I was under the weather and unfortunately missed our last meeting, I hear that our guest speaker, Michael Allen, gave a very intriguing presentation. I was sorry to miss it, but I'm glad to hear it was enjoyed by so many. Next week we have Ryan Neale, from the Maine Development Foundation, coming to speak to us about the Maine Economic Growth Council, the Maine Development Foundation, and the Measures of Growth Report. It should be a very interesting presentation and I hope to see many of you there!

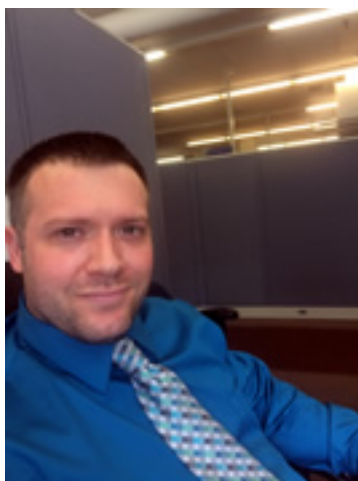
I do have a couple friendly reminders that I would like to mention:

- 1) AGA membership renewal is coming up shortly in the month of March. Please remember to renew your memberships and remain a member in good standing. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to speak to one of your CEC members and
- 2) As I mentioned in the newsletter last month, we have elections coming up in April and we'll be taking nominations for many positions in March. This is a wonderful opportunity to be a part of a great committee and a great organization to network.

Please visit the Maine AGA website, <http://agamainechapter.org/>, or speak with a current or past member of the CEC for more information on each position that is available. Again, this is a great opportunity to be a part of an excellent committee, represent your chapter, and network with some very special individuals who work very hard.

Regards and Best Regards,

Derek Gorneau



## AGA Maine Chapter

Our Chapter currently has two community service projects going; one collecting non-perishables for the Augusta Food Bank and the second is the collection of pet supplies for the Kennebec Valley Humane Society. Please contact our Community Service Director, Kathy Godfrey, with any donations.

## New England Region AGA

The Aroostook Chapter holds CEC meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month. General meetings are held as necessary.

The Hartford Chapter meetings are generally held at 6:00pm on the third Wednesday of each month from September to may.

The Boston Chapter holds monthly meetings and trainings September through June.

## AGA National

AGA National is providing a CGFM Intensive Review Course with Exams on March 2nd and 3rd of this year.

The exam fees are covered with cost of registration.

**Date:** March 2-3, 2016

**Location:** Arlington, VA

**CPE:** 18



To register:

<https://www.agacgfm.org/CGFM-Certification/Candidates/Preparing-for-Exams/CGFM-Intensive-Review-Course-Exams.aspx>



## NOTICES...

- Are you interested in joining the CEC? Voting for new positions is quickly approaching. Contact a CEC member today or visit our website for more details.
- Need help studying for the CGFM exam? Contact a CEC member to see about a study-group.
- Do you have an idea for a speaker? Please contact a CEC member. Your insight to help the Chapter is welcomed.

## TRIVIA

On February 4, 1826 Ford Motor Company purchased the Lincoln Motor Co. How much did Ford spend?

**SPECIAL OFFER!**  
CGFM exams free  
for course attendees

**CGFM Intensive Review Course**  
March 2-3 | Arlington, Va. | 18 CPEs

**REGISTER NOW**





## Member Bio

CHRISTIE LABBE

DHHS Service Center, Staff Accountant

Hello everyone! I was born and raised here in central Maine. In middle school and high school, I always excelled at math, taking advanced classes and even taking Advanced Placement Calculus my junior year of high school (boy was that challenging!). Although, I was really good at all types of math, it was never my favorite class. In fact it was my least favorite (right along with physical education). :-)

I was, and still am, determined to be the next Howard Carter and discover a hidden Egyptian tomb or Heinrich Schliemann and uncover the fabled Troy of Homer's stories. For my undergraduate degree, I did a double major in History and Classical Humanities at the University of Southern Maine. I did an accelerated degree, and got both of my Bachelor's degree in just under 3 years. Because of this crazy fast pace, I needed a break. When I graduated college, the economy was not doing well and it was hard to find any job in History or the Classics, to find any job at all. I ended up taking a job at a credit union in southern Maine as a Teller. After a year in this position, I moved back to central Maine. I enjoyed banking a lot so I got a job in Waterville as a Customer Service Representative. After two years, I was promoted into the loan department as a Loan Processor.

At this time, I had decided to go back to school for my Master's degree. I decided to get my Master's degree in Accounting. After two long years of working full time and taking a full time course load, I did it! I received my Masters of Science in Accounting from Southern New Hampshire University. Less than six months later, I had started working for the State of Maine in the Accounts Receivable department for the Department of Health and Human Services Service Center as an Accounting Technician. After six months, I was promoted to Senior Staff Accountant in the Grants department. I have joined the AGA and hope to start studying to become a Certified Governmental Financial Manager.

When not at work, I still dream of discovering the lost city of Atlantis, have gotten past my aversion to physical activity; I actually enjoy running quite a bit. I enjoy spending time outside and enjoying all the seasons Maine has to offer.



## Seasons in Maine



## RECRUIT A MEMBER

As a valued member, you can impact the future of AGA by sharing your experience with your peers, your staff and others in your organization with an interest in government financial management. No one knows better how beneficial AGA membership is to advancing government accountability than current AGA members.

Did you know that a large percentage of new members join AGA simply because someone invited them? Consider sharing your AGA membership experience and get rewarded for doing so. Recruit a member today!

### Super Recruiters Club

Once you have recruited 10 members, you become part of the Super Recruiters Club! Super Recruiter status affords many exclusive rewards including recognition at a private reception at the annual PDT. Other rewards include: a lapel pin, certificate, VIP status at all national events and logo wear apparel.



End of Year Sponsor Achievement Awards and Recognition Awards are presented at the annual national training event, the PDT, each summer.

*Recruiter of the Year* (one winner)—The member who recruits the most new members from May 1 through April 30 will be presented with the Recruiter of the Year distinction and receive a complimentary AGA national meeting registration.

*Top Sponsor* (two winners)—The next two members who recruit the highest number of new members from May 1 through April 30 will each be bestowed with the Top Sponsor distinction and each will receive a complimentary AGA national meeting registration.

*Chapter Overall Growth* (six winning chapters)—Those six chapters achieving the highest overall growth percentage in their chapter size grouping for the membership year will each win a complimentary AGA national meeting registration. Chapters decide who receives the registration. Each chapter president and membership chair will be presented with an achievement plaque as well.

Start Recruiting Today!

[Download a membership application](#). You can also order applications by calling AGA at 800.AGA.7211 and/or emailing [agmembers@agacgfm.org](mailto:agmembers@agacgfm.org).

Tell your peers and co-workers about AGA. Simply encourage them to fill out AGA's membership application or apply online. Be sure to include your name in the sponsor's name category on the application to receive credit.





## Augusta Food Bank

### High Demand

- Single Serve Cold Cereal
- Canned Fruits
- Peanut Butter
- Tomato & Spaghetti Sauces
- Granola Bars for Kids Packs
- Quart size freezer bags



## Kennebec Valley Humane Society

- |                                                            |                             |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Kitten Food (Wet & Dry)                                    | prefer undyed brands        |
| Cat Food (Dry)                                             | adult cat undyed brands     |
| Dog Food (Wet & Dry)                                       | adult dog grain free brands |
| Shavings for the Rats, Gerbils, Guinea Pigs, Hamsters, etc |                             |



## Community Service Opportunity

The Maine Chapter will be collecting supplies for both the Augusta Food Bank and the KV Humane Society.

Please donate to one of the many boxes that have been placed or bring your donations to the next two Chapter meetings

“It's not how much we give but how much love we put into giving.”

~Mother Teresa



## UPCOMING TRAINING

AGA is pleased to announce its latest web conference on **Data Analytics & Fraud Prevention**.

At many federal agencies, lawyers and OIG senior management are turning to auditors and investigators with analytics skills in order to save time and reduce costs in conducting fraud investigations. Join our panel as they discuss analytics tools and techniques used at various federal agencies to deter fraud and strengthen internal controls.

**Speaker:** Panel TBD

**Moderator:** Bill Kelley, Senior Advisor, ACL Services Ltd.

**Learning Objective:** Participants will learn about the role of analytics in detecting fraud in governmental agencies and offices. Through the use of case studies, participants will gain an understanding about analytics tools and techniques that can be applied to their place of employment.

**Prerequisite:** None

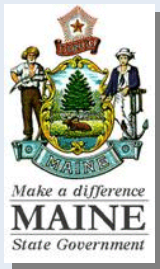
**Date:** Wednesday, February 17, 2016

**Time:** 2—3:50p.m. Eastern Time

**CPE:** Two credit hours

**Field of Study:** AUDG (Governmental Auditing)





<http://www.maine.gov/nrsc>

Public Service	Career Diversity
Retirement	Promotional Opportunities
Benefits	Over 10,000 Employees
Paid Holidays	Statewide Locations
Training	Seasonal Jobs
Full Time	Part Time

**HOW TO APPLY:** Interested applicants need to submit a cover letter, detailed resume, copy of official college transcript and complete and submit a State of Maine Direct Hire Application.

**SEND COMPLETED APPLICATIONS TO:**  
Natural Resources Service Center  
Thomas Cotnoir, HR Generalist  
155 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333

**OR email your application material to:**  
[NRSCdirecthireapplications@maine.gov](mailto:NRSCdirecthireapplications@maine.gov)

Phone: 207-624-6396

Fax: 207-287-2216

*Direct Hire Application forms can be obtained by contacting the NRSC Human Resource Office at 624-6370 or by accessing the NRSC website at <http://www.maine.gov/nrsc/jobs/application.shtml>*

#### **BENEFITS:**

**Value of State's share of Employee's Retirement:** 15.3% of pay, **Employee Pays:** 7.65% of pay

**Value of State-paid Dental Insurance:** \$13.13 biweekly

**Value of State-paid Health Insurance\*:**  
**Level 1:** 100% State Contribution = \$397.61 biweekly (employee pays nothing)

**Level 2:** 95% State Contribution = \$377.73 biweekly (Employee pays: 5%)

**Level 3:** 90% State Contribution = \$357.85 biweekly (Employee pays: 10%)

**Level 4:** 85% State Contribution = \$337.97 biweekly (Employee pays: 15%)

\*The level of actual value of state paid Health Insurance will be based on employee's wage rate and status with regard to the health credit premium program.

## **Direct Hire Career Opportunity Bulletin**

### **DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE & FINANCIAL SERVICES**

#### **Division of Financial and Personnel Services**

## **SENIOR STAFF ACCOUNTANT – 2 Vacancies**

**Opening Date:** January 13, 2016

**Closing Date:** February 19, 2016

**Location:** Augusta – Security & Employment Service Center, Natural Resources Service Center

**Position Type:** Permanent Full Time

**Class Code:** 0330

**Grade/Salary:** 23 \$38,812.80 – \$52,998.40

*The Department of Administrative & Financial Services is an innovative organization that coordinates a number of central services for agencies within Maine State Government. The Division of Financial and Personnel Services provides financial and budgetary management services to several cabinet level agencies in the Executive Branch of state government. These positions provide leadership to financial management professionals and provide critical federal financial grant management resources to various executive branch agencies of the State. The Security and Employment Service Center and the Natural Resources Service Center are teaming to post two vacancies in this job classification. Indicate a Service Center preference in your cover letter.*

**JOB DUTIES:** The incumbent will be a critical member of the team managing the financial resources of various executive branch agencies. As a Senior Staff Accountant, you will develop and initiate business and internal controls to ensure proper accountability of fiscal operations. You will interpret and apply accounting theory and principles and adapt procedures and reporting techniques in order to ensure compliance with governing laws, rules, regulations, policies, and procedures. The incumbent will prepare required financial statements, federal financial status reports and related notes and disclosures in order to communicate relevant financial information to concerned parties and federal granting agencies. In this position, you will consult with agency program managers and internal/external financial staff in order to identify business needs, compliance issues, and reporting requirements and ensure compliance with state/federal fiscal policies or other special requirements. You will review and analyze financial and operational reports in accordance with GAAP & GASB standards and provide leadership and technical guidance to Staff Accountants and other paraprofessional staff. Successful candidates will be knowledgeable of GAAP and GASB and skilled in the use of standard desktop technology, particularly spreadsheets. These positions are located in Augusta.

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:** Certification as a CPA, CIA, or CGFM ; OR a Master Degree from an accredited educational institution in Business Administration; OR a Bachelor Degree from an accredited educational institution in Accounting (or any Bachelor Degree from an accredited educational institution which includes 18 semester hours of accounting coursework) and 3 years of professional accounting experience\*; OR an Associate Degree from an accredited educational institution in Accounting and 5 years of practical, progressively responsible accounting experience (3 years of which must be at the professional level\*); OR 8 years of practical, progressively responsible accounting experience (4 years of which must be at the professional level\*). It is important to submit a copy of your transcript with your application materials highlighting applicable courses completed.

\* Experience must demonstrate comprehension and application of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and Governmental Accounting Standards Board guidelines and must demonstrate the ability to (1) analyze and reconcile financial data and records for the purpose of business financial planning; (2) design, recommend, and implement modifications of accounting methods, procedures, forms, and records; (3) prepare financial statements and reports such as balance sheets and other operating statements; (4) analyze and interpret laws, regulations, codes and ordinances to ensure appropriateness of financial transactions and accounting structure; and (5) analyze complex accounts and accounting relationships that result in complex accounting entries.

The cover letter you submit with your application materials should address how your background demonstrates the following competencies:

1. A thorough and mature comprehension of Maine state laws, rules, regulations, policies and other directives from central control agencies that directly impact program operations and management at the agency level.
2. A proven ability to effectively communicate with diverse group dynamics.
3. Demonstrated skill in fostering positive teamwork in a collaborative spirit to resolve difficult matters.
4. A proven and demonstrated ability to recognize potential issues and proactively work to address concerns and take appropriate action.





## Celebrating 20 Years of Excellence



CGFM is a professional certification recognizing the unique skills and special knowledge required of today's government financial managers. It covers governmental accounting, auditing, financial reporting, internal controls and budgeting at the federal, state and local levels.

### How Do I Obtain My CGFM?

#### Initial Certification Requirements

To earn the CGFM, candidates must apply for the CGFM Program and meet the following requirements:

- ◆ **Ethics**—read and agree to abide by AGA's Code of Ethics.
- ◆ **Education**—have a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university and have completed at least 24 credit hours in financial management or related topics.
- ◆ **Examinations**—pass three comprehensive CGFM Examinations.
- ◆ **Experience**—have at least two years of professional-level experience in government financial management.

[Learn more about the process of earning the CGFM designation.](#)

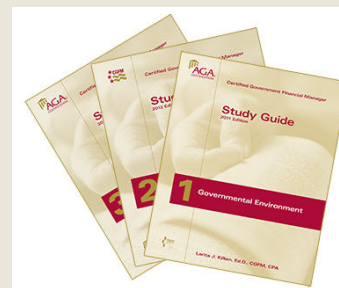
**CGFM Application**—If you are ready to start the process of earning your CGFM, [click here](#) to apply for the CGFM Program.



#### AGA CGFM Study Guides— ONLINE!

New from AGA! You can access the CGFM Study Guides on the go!

Read, search and review the study guide content on your laptop, tablet or phone — a convenient way to prepare for the CGFM Examinations. Upon purchasing the online version of each guide, you'll have immediate access to the entire publication for a period of 12 months. In



addition, if a newer version of this study guide is published within this period, you'll also have access to the new version! As with the printed version, the online study guides feature textbook-like format with learning objectives, a chapter summary and a reinforcement quiz for each chapter. In addition to the relevant resources, the appendices contain a glossary of terms, a list of reference materials, answers to reinforcement quizzes with explanations and end-of-course review questions. Those ordering the study guides can purchase the option of earning Continuing Professional Education (CPE) hours upon passing an online CPE examination.



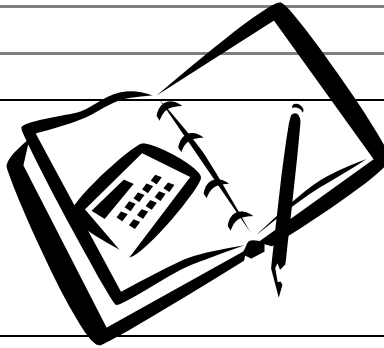
February



## TREASURER'S REPORTS

### Maine Chapter AGA Balance Sheet as of 01/31/2016

<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and Bank Accounts	AGA Cash	\$40.00
	AGA Checking	\$42.08
	AGA Savings-Share Account	\$7,068.64
Total Cash and Bank Accounts		\$7,150.72
Other Assets	Customer Invoices	\$528.00
Total Other Assets		\$528.00
Total Assets		\$7,678.72
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Other Liabilities	Sales Tax & Business Bills	\$0.00
Total Other Liabilities		\$0.00
Total Liabilities		<u>\$0.00</u>
Overall Total		<u><b>\$7,678.72</b></u>



### Maine Chapter AGA Income Statement as of 01/31/2016

<b>INCOME</b>	
Dividend Income	\$5.87
Education—Web/Audio Conferences	\$3,350.00
Gifts Received	\$20.00
Membership Income from National	\$322.03
Monthly Meetings	\$3,500.00
Other Income—50/50	\$60.50
TOTAL INCOME	\$7,258.40
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Charity	\$20.00
Education	\$2,080.00
Gifts Given	\$185.90
Monthly Meetings	\$4,235.40
Utilities—Internet	\$33.98
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$6,555.28
<b>NET INCOME/LOSS</b>	
<u><b>\$703.12</b></u>	

## CHAPTER RECOGNITION PROGRAM - 2nd Quarter Points—Great job!

The Chapter Recognition Program is designed to support, encourage, and promote the accomplishment of AGA's mission and to provide flexible non-competitive guidelines for a well-rounded chapter. The Chapter Recognition Program year begins on June 1st and concludes May 31st.

SECTION	MAX POINTS	TOTAL POINTS	% OF POINTS
Chapter Leadership, Planning & Participation	3000	1900	63%
Education & Professional Development	4000	1550	39%
Certification	4000	1300	33%
Communications	3000	3192	106%
Membership	4000	925	23%
Accountability	2000	1050	53%
Community Service	2000	850	43%
Awards	1000	0	0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23000</b>	<b>10767</b>	<b>47%</b>
<b>GOAL TOTAL</b>	<b>10000</b>	<b>8541</b>	<b>85.41%</b>
<b>CURRENT GOAL STANDING</b>	<b>10000</b>	<b>10767</b>	<b>108%</b>

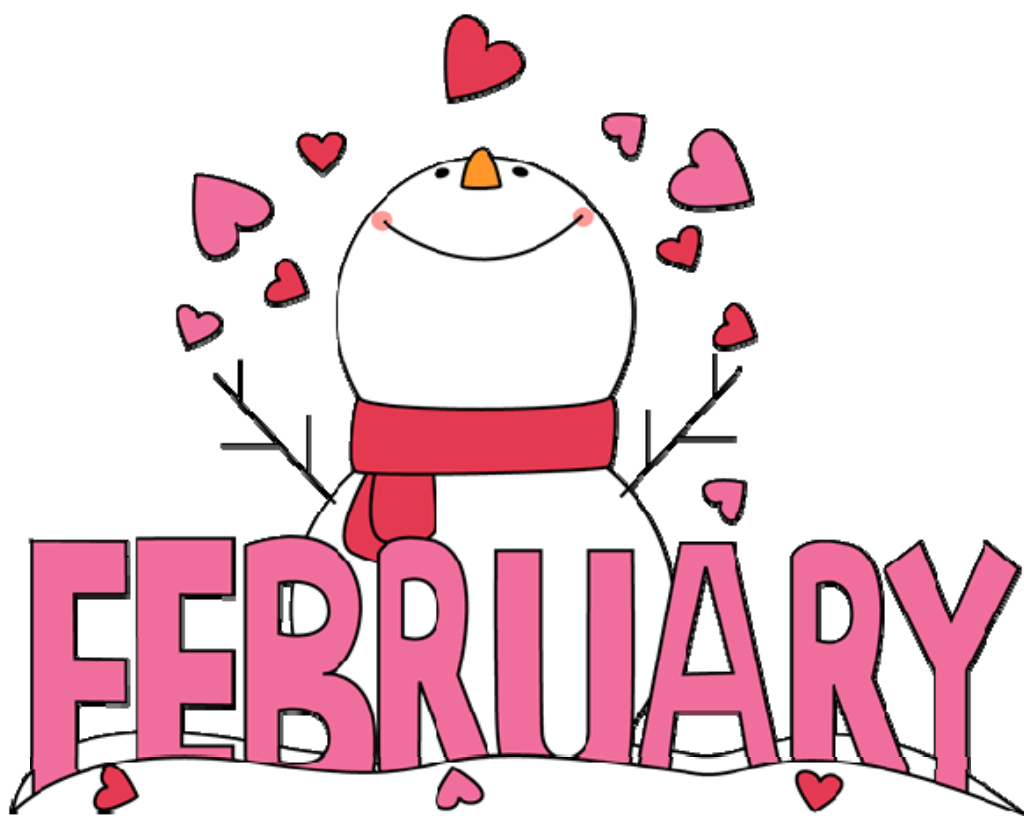
thankful appreciate  
willing morale performance  
recognition value  
morale grateful good  
positive behavior  
stand out above and beyond  
special pleased team  
connected

## January 12, 2016

Meeting was not held at the Senator Inn following Luncheon.

**Attendees:** N/A

- ◇ Speakers lined up: February speaker will be Ryan Neale, Topic TBD
- ◇ 50/50 Raffle Winner (\$20.00)—Brittany Bushey



## OUR CEC

For more information, visit our website:

<http://www.agamainechapter.org>

### CHAPTER OFFICERS

#### President

Derek Gorneau

derek.gorneau@maine.gov

#### Immediate-Past President

Phillip Platt

phillip.platt@maine.gov

#### President-Elect

Shirley A. Browne, CIA, MBA

shirley.browne@maine.gov

#### Secretary

Leanne Laverdiere

leanne.laverdiere@maine.gov

#### Treasurer

Kimberly Hall

kimberly.hall@maine.gov

### CHAPTER DIRECTORS

#### Awards

April Newman, CGFM

april.d.newman@maine.gov

#### Bylaws & Procedures

Tony Gorneau

james.a.gorneau@maine.gov

#### Communications

Angela Dickinson

angela.l.dickinson@maine.gov

#### Community Service

Kathy Godfrey

kathleen.godfrey@maine.gov

#### Early Careers

Andrea McKay

andrea.mckay@maine.gov

#### Education

Will Korth

will.korth@maine.gov

#### Membership

**Vacant—Please contact CEC, if interested**

#### Professional Certification

Will Korth

will.korth@maine.gov

#### Programs & Technical Meetings

**Vacant—Please contact CEC, if interested**



## *Past Meeting Recap*

On January 12, 2016, the Maine Chapter of the AGA met at the Senator Inn located in Augusta. Chapter President, Derek Gorneau, was unable to attend, so the Immediate Past President, Phillip Platt, welcomed the Chapter. He quickly mentioned the two Community Service events going on; collection of non-perishable items for the Augusta Food Bank and the collection of supplies and donations for the Kennebec Valley Humane Society. Please contact Kathy Godfrey with any donations.

Mr. Platt proceeded to introduce our speaker, Dr. Michael Allen, who currently holds the position of Acting Deputy Commissioner for DAFS. Dr. Allen was willing to discuss Revenue Forecasting once again. Better or worse, he always provides an overview of the State's position and where its heading. This year, he showed a presentation that also was being presented to the Governor. The information was compiled by the State Economist, Amanda Rector; the State Budget Officer, Melissa Gott along with himself.



## FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING

The Maine Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants' monthly meeting will be held on **Tuesday, February 9th**, at the Senator Inn.

Our speaker will be Ryan Neale from the Maine Development Foundation. He will be discussing "Measure of Growth".

On the menu for our luncheon will be:



**Garden Salad**

**Meatloaf**

**Mashed Potatoes & Veg**

**Strawberry Cheesecake**

### TRIVIA ANSWER:

"The Ford Motor Company acquired failing luxury automaker Lincoln Motor Co for 8 Million dollars".

### Websites of Interest

American Society for Public Admin (ASPA) .....[www.aspanet.org](http://www.aspanet.org)  
MA Chapter of ASPA.....[www.massaspa.org](http://www.massaspa.org)  
Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (CFE)..... [www.cfenet.com](http://www.cfenet.com)  
Greater Boston Chapter of CFE.....[www.acfe-boston.org](http://www.acfe-boston.org)  
Association of Government Accountants .....[www.agacgfm.org](http://www.agacgfm.org)  
AGA Boston Chapter.....[www.aga-boston-chapter.org](http://www.aga-boston-chapter.org)  
AGA Aroostook County Chapter.....[www.arostookcountyaga.org](http://www.arostookcountyaga.org)  
AGA Hartford Chapter .....[www.agahartford.org](http://www.agahartford.org)  
AGA Maine Chapter.....[www.agamainechapter.org](http://www.agamainechapter.org)  
COSO..... [www.coso.org](http://www.coso.org)  
First Gov ..... [www.firstgov.gov](http://www.firstgov.gov)  
Governmental Accounting Standards Board..... [www.gasb.org](http://www.gasb.org)  
Government Executive .....[www.govexec.com](http://www.govexec.com)  
Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) .....[www.theiia.org](http://www.theiia.org)  
Intergovernmental Audit Forum.....[www.auditforum.org](http://www.auditforum.org)  
International Accounts Payable Professionals (IAPP).....[www.iappnet.org](http://www.iappnet.org)  
National Assoc of State Auditors, Comptrollers & Treasurers.....[www.nasact.org](http://www.nasact.org)  
National Assoc of State Comptrollers.....[www.nasact.org/community/nasc.html](http://www.nasact.org/community/nasc.html)  
National Assoc of State Treasurers.....[www.nasact.org/community/nast.html](http://www.nasact.org/community/nast.html)  
National State Auditors Association.....[www.nasact.org/community/nsaa.html](http://www.nasact.org/community/nsaa.html)  
National Electronic Commerce Coordinating Council .....[www.ec3.org](http://www.ec3.org)

## FEBRUARY

**Brings**

**"The Great American Pie"  
month!**

**Delicious!**

