

**MONTGOMERY-PRINCE GEORGES CHAPTER
OF THE
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS**

On June 11, 1993, the Montgomery-Prince Georges Chapter will turn 25 years old! However its history really began in 1967. For those of you who don't remember (or weren't around to remember), 1967 was a time when Lyndon B. Johnson was President, the concept of Planning, Programming, Budgeting, Systems (PPBS) was THE THING in government, the "Beatles" were at the height of their popularity with songs about "Revolution" and turning on "With a Little Help From My Friends," the Tet offensive had not yet occurred to escalate the war in Viet Nam and an "Inspector General" was a rarity in Government.

In 1967, the Federal Government Accountants Association (as the Association of Government Accountants was then known) had less than 6000 members world-wide and the D.C. area had only the Washington Chapter (the founding chapter of the Association).

At that time, George Penick (DCAA-Philadelphia) was National President and Harry Levine (DCAA-Philadelphia) was one of five Regional Vice Presidents elected for the first time that same year. George Penick believed that the time was right to establish several new chapters in the rapidly expanding Washington suburban area. His belief would become reality before his term as President expired.

In July 1967, under the principal leadership of Willis M. Connor, Silver Spring Branch Manager, DCAA and the able assistance of Charles J. Stratton, HEW (M-PG's first President) and Richard J. Griffin, Jr., AEC (M-PG's second President), a drive began to recruit signers for a petition to establish a new chapter in the Maryland suburbs. On August 29, 1967, a petition package was submitted to Arthur Schoenhaut, Chairman of the National Chapters Committee (and who later transferred to M-PG and served as National President during 1978-79) signed by the following fifty new members and eight transferees:

William M. Beck, DCAA
Albert A. Bindle, DCAA
John P. Blaine, DCAA
Joseph J. Bohan, DCAA
John Boisseau, HEW
Cross C. Boyd, DCAA
Ralph C. Boyer, AEC
C.M. Brincefield, Jr., DCAA
Joseph P. Bennett, DCAA
Charles J. Buffington, DCAA
Willis M. Connor, DCAA
Clyde DeHoff, Jr., DCAA
Ralph Flaherty, HEW
Ralph A. Forrester, HEW
Carl B. Frantz, DCAA
Charles R. Gorsage, DCAA
R.J. Griffin, Jr., AEC
William B. Hansell, Jr., HEW
Robert L. Harper, DCAA
Etheldred A. Hill, DCAA
Henry K. Holland, Jr., DCAA
William L. Jackson, DCAA
Charles E. Jones, AEC
Paul E. Jones, DCAA
Gene E. Kennedy, DCAA
E.C. Kogok, NASA
Arnold S. Light, DCAA
Stuart R. Lloyd, DCAA
Joseph P. Machione, DCAA

Fred T. Madison, DCAA
Sonia R. Maged, DCAA
C.W. McKee, DCAA
Henry J. Miller, Jr., DCAA
Kenneth Mitchell, Jr., HEW
William E. Mulligan, DCAA
Joseph J. Neary, DCAA
Adeline J. Obot, HEW
Alan Pearl, DCAA
Frank B. Poh, HEW
Philip D. Reed, DCAA
James H. Reynolds, HEW
Nathan H. Rosenstein, DCAA
James H. Schuchardt, DCAA
Charles R. Stackhouse, HEW
Charles J. Stratton, HEW
Donald F. Thomas, DCAA
Thomas M. Twohey, DCAA
William R. Waugh, AEC
Bernard E. Wills, HEW
Ernest J. Zinser, DCAA
George Abbott, HEW*
Joseph P. Gerdes, AEC*
Lester M. Johnson, HEW*
John P. Kresky, AEC*
Edward E. Marsh, DCAA*
Lyndon L. Scates, DCAA*
Jacob Seidenberg, HEW*
George C. Smith, AEC*

*Transferees

Their petition to establish a new FGAA chapter in the Maryland suburbs was not received with enthusiasm from all quarters. Just as in 1952, when there was strong opposition to the enlargement of the Association through the affiliation of chapters, there was similarly strong opposition to creating new chapters in the Washington area.

When the National Chapters Committee convened to consider the petitions for the formation of the M-PG and Northern Virginia (NOVA) Chapters, most of the opposition came from the officers of the Washington Chapter, who believed that the formation of the chapters would have an adverse effect on that chapter. The Committee believed that the impact on the Washington Chapter, if any, would be negligible, since over 1,100 of the Washington Chapter's 1,400 members did not attend any of the Chapter's meetings in fiscal year 1967. Therefore, the proposed chapters would add a significant number of new and active members to the rolls of FGAA, thus strengthening the organization. In a

memorandum dated September 11, 1967, the Committee reported to the FGAA National Executive Committee the results of its review of the two petitions and was unanimous in the view that two new chapters would strengthen FGAA with only nominal disadvantage to the Washington Chapter. The National Chapters Committee, which was comprised of: Art Schoenhaut, John Busardo (Army Audit Agency), James T. Hall, Jr. (GAO), Bernard Sacks (GAO), and Nelson Shapiro (HEW Audit Agency.) recommended immediate approval of the charters.

The recommendation was not met with enthusiasm by the National Executive Committee. After much debate in this committee, which is the Congress of the Organization, FGAA President George Penick appointed a "special review committee" to review the question of the formation of the new chapters in depth. The creation of this committee was considered akin to "a vote of no confidence" by the National Chapters Committee and the entire Committee membership resigned.

Subsequently, the Special Review Committee recommended acceptance of the petitions of the Montgomery-Prince Georges and Northern Virginia Chapters for the very same reasons that were reported by the National Chapters Committee. Thus, the members of the National Chapters Committee felt they had been completely vindicated.

Meanwhile, in the Maryland suburbs, several organizational meetings were being held to prepare for the eventual acceptance of the charter petition by the national organization. Harry Levine, National Membership Chairman, whom George Penick had assigned to advise and assist the prospective chapter, worked diligently with the temporary Executive Committee. On April 23, 1968, at the membership organization meeting held at Bish Thompson's Restaurant in Bethesda, Harry Levine conducted the election of the following temporary officers for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1968:

Officers: President
 Sec'y-Treasurer

C. Jack Stratton, NIH
Lyndon L. Scates, DCAA

Directors:

Richard J. Griffin, Jr., AEC
Clyde DeHoff, Jr., DCAA
Thomas Twohey, DCAA
Ralph Flaherty, NIH
Willis M. Connor, DCAA
John Blaine, DCAA
Ralph Forrester, NIH

Finally, the big day arrived. On June 11, 1968, at a joint meeting of the M-PG and NOVA Chapters, George Penick presented charters to C. Jack Stratton, President, M-PG and Joseph Welsch, President of our sister chapter NOVA. After short talks by Messrs. Penick, Stratton and Welsch, the principal speaker of the evening, Dr. Leo Herbert, Deputy Director for Staff Development, Office of Policies and Special Studies, GAO, spoke on "Continued Professional Development." The meeting was held in the Maryland

Room of American Legion Post #105, Bethesda, MD.

THE BEGINNING



C. Jack Stratton, our First President being presented our Charter by George Penick National President, FGAA, June 11, 1968



First Meeting-Don Scantlebury, NOVA, Dr. Herbert, GAO, Jack Stratton, Pres. M-PG, George Penick, Natl. Pres., Joe Welsch, Pres. NOVA, and Harry Levine, FGAA V.P.



First Anniversary-Dr. Wright, Univ. of Md., Harry Levine, V.P., FGAA, Jack Stratton, Pres., Nat Cutler, FGAA Pres. Elect, and Dick Griffin, M-PG Pres. Elect



M-PG's First Awardee- Dr. Wright receives plaque from Jack Stratton, Pres.