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Eugene H. Flegm, life member 1994

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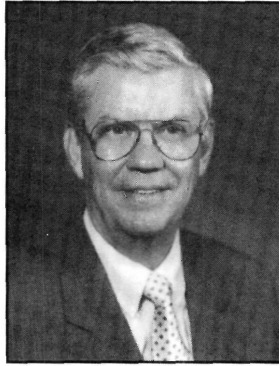
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Accounting Historians: Eugene H. Flegm, life member 1994
EUGENE H. FLEGM, LIFE MEMBER 1994

The Academy of Accounting Historians has awarded Life Membership to Eugene H. Flegm in recognition of his many years of contributions to the Academy. He retired from General Motors after twenty-eight years. At his retirement, Gene held the office of General Auditor and had served as Assistant Comptroller for General Motors Corporation with responsibility for financial accounting. He regularly served as the company's spokesman on matters regarding financial accounting and auditing, and testified on numerous occasions before the FASB and the SEC. Prior to joining General Motors, Gene was a Manager with Deloitte, Haskins and Sells in their Cleveland and Columbus, Ohio offices. He received his Bachelor of Science degree from Ohio State University.



Thus, it is no surprise that he encouraged the development of more accounting history seminars, established new committees on Endowment and Public Relations, and sought to increase membership in the Academy. His fund raising ability has been a mainstay in supporting the Academy's research conferences and other activities.

Gene has contributed much to the Academy and the profession through his published articles and book, *Accounting: How to Meet the Challenges of Relevance and Regulation*, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 1984. His memberships and service include Beta Alpha Psi, Beta Gamma Sigma, the American Institute of CPAs, the Ohio Society and Michigan Association of CPAs, the Institute of Management Accountants, American Accounting Association, the Institute of Internal Auditors, and the Financial Executives Institute.

During his tenure as President of the Academy in 1989, Gene emphasized the importance of accounting faculty possessing knowledge of accounting history and the study of accounting history in accounting curriculum. In reference to the issues surrounding financial fraud and the Treadway Commission, Gene stated: "I also believe that the belief that rules can resolve this problem is based on a lack of understanding of the nature of accrual-based accounting, its uses and limitations. Furthermore, this misunderstanding stems in no small part from the failure of accountants to understand their own history so that they can better explain accounting to non-accountants."

He has served on numerous committees, advisory boards, and task forces, including the Committee on Government Liaison and the Committee on Corporate Reporting of the Financial Executives Institute, Task Force on Other Means of Financial Reporting of Financial Accounting Standards Board, and the National Advisory Board of Beta Alpha Psi. He also serves on the editorial boards of *Accounting Horizons* and the *Journal of Cost Management*. Gene has now joined the academic ranks at Walsh College as an assistant professor in accounting.

A THOUGHT FROM THE PAST

"Let us be thankful that man is thankful for something"

—Dr. Samuel Johnson