

# Greater Columbus AGA

## 2016-17 Member Centric Report



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### MISSION

*AGA is a professional association advancing accountability, transparency and leadership by promoting education, certification, innovation and collaboration across all levels of government and to stakeholders.*

### VISION

*To be the premiere association for advancing government accountability.*

### 2016-17 CHAPTER OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Ben Thayer  
PRESIDENT-ELECT: Will Kays  
SECRETARY: Cindy Shoe  
TREASURER: Matt Little

### From The President

We are pleased to welcome you to the annual Member Centric Report (MCR) for the Greater Columbus Chapter of the Association of Governmental Accountants. The MCR is an annual report that improves transparency by reporting our performance to our members and to the community. As we grow as a chapter, we strive to always improve our report, and our performance, each year.

The Greater Columbus Chapter, now in its 13th year as an independent chapter, has become a recognized source of quality continuing education and support to the local community. Our members are primarily Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) and Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) employees located on the Defense Supply Center, Columbus installation, but we also value and serve the interests of our non-federal members and partners.

As you review this overview of our history, achievements, financial condition, and future plans, we hope you will be inspired to join us in our mission to serve the government accountability community.

Thank you very much, and please share your thoughts on what you would like to see in future editions to improve service and transparency to our community.

Benjamin Thayer  
Chapter President, 2016-2017



### About the AGA Greater Columbus Chapter

The Greater Columbus Chapter of the Association of Governmental Accountants was formed in 2004, after it was determined a chapter with a federal focus was needed to compliment the already robust Central Ohio Chapter, which focused on state and local government. The chapter has grown from 26 founding members to 95 members as of the end of fiscal year 2016-17. Our chapter prides itself in offering opportunities related to professional development, education, community service, and leadership development for our members. In addition, the Greater Columbus chapter has achieved platinum status with the AGA most every year since 2006, which demonstrates our commitment to carrying out AGA's mission and vision.



For more information visit <https://www.agacgfm.org/greatercolumbus>

# Key Accomplishments



The Greater Columbus Chapter of AGA is proud of its many accomplishments throughout FY2016-17 related to community service, collaboration, strategic partnerships, leadership development, and social involvement.



## **Community Service & Scholarships**

Greater Columbus AGA members have been integral parts of a variety of community service projects that have significantly impacted the Columbus area. In February 2017, chapter members partnered with the Central Ohio United Way in preparing more than 180 free tax returns for low-income individuals at two Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites within Franklin County, Ohio.

The Greater Columbus AGA awarded two \$1,000 scholarships to local college students in June and July 2017. This is a great way for the chapter to give back to the local community and develop future financial leaders in government!



Members of the Greater Columbus AGA helped plan and launch a Crayon & Coloring Book Drive to benefit Nationwide Children's Hospital. Community Service remains an important part of how our chapter gives back to the Columbus Community.

Our chapter's Toys for Tots drive was a great success! Members and non-members alike donated a carload of toys for children in the Columbus area, which was delivered in December 2016.



**Toys For Tots Collections**

## **Collaboration and Strategic Partnership**

The Greater Columbus AGA Chapter has developed connections with the American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC) Buckeye Chapter in hosting luncheons, professional development training, and community service activities.

## **Leadership Development**

Members are annually elected to the fifteen positions within the Greater Columbus Chapter. The chapter is continuously seeking out methods in further gaining and developing chapter leaders!

## **Social Involvement**

The Greater Columbus Chapter prides itself on organizing opportunities for members to socialize in both professional and casual settings. In the past year, the chapter has organized two social events at local chapter events.

## **Educational Opportunities**

Members of the AGA Greater Columbus chapter were provided with many educational and professional development opportunities throughout the year:

### **Luncheons**

AGA Greater Columbus hosted six luncheons, providing members the opportunity to learn from engaging speakers on finance and accounting topics. The luncheons averaged 20 attendees and offered continuing education credits.

### **AGA Webinars**

Chapter members were offered the opportunity to obtain 24 CPE by attending AGA's informational webinars, providing education on topics related to accounting, financial management, internal controls, ethics, and more.

### **Fall and Spring PDT**

The Greater Columbus Chapter of AGA held our chapter Professional Development Training on 10/26/2016 at Ohio Dominican University. The chapter partnered with the American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC) Buckeye Chapter in holding a second joint PDT on 3/30/2017. Notable speakers included Mr. Michael Hepler, Department of Defense – Office of Inspector General, Mr. Brian Mosier, AGA Great Lakes Regional Vice President and Dr. David Freel, Ohio State University. Over 200 attendees attended the two events.

### **Certifications**

Chapter members have been successful in obtaining and maintaining professional certifications, including the CGFM, offered by AGA.



## Fundraising Spotlight: Where Does Our Chapter Get Its Funding?

Because all of the dues paid by members are submitted directly to AGA National and we do not charge individual chapter dues, it is necessary for the Greater Columbus AGA chapter to obtain funding from other sources. One of the biggest ways we accomplish this is by having our members volunteer at Ohio State University football games selling OSU merchandise. Our chapter receives a percentage of sales which in the most recent year amounted to approximately \$5,186! Not only are the volunteer opportunities fun for members but our connection with OSU has helped fund our organization without requiring additional dues from our members.

Our chapter also receives funding from the Kroger Community Rewards, and our sponsor Becker Education.

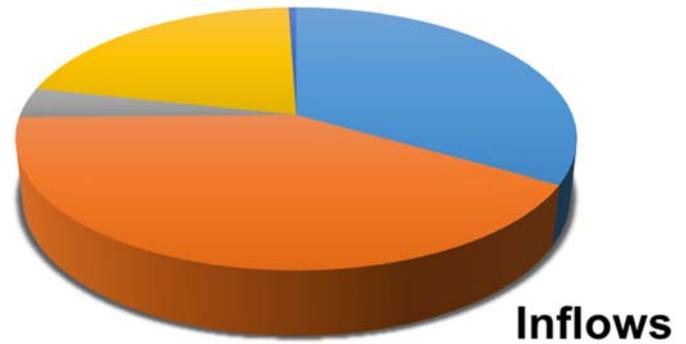


## Clean Audit Opinion

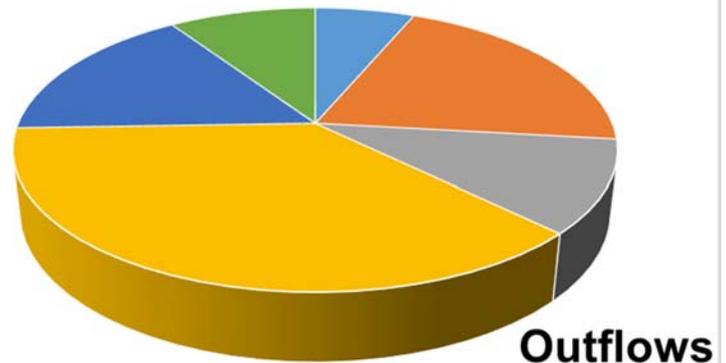
The Greater Columbus AGA Chapter received its sixth consecutive clean audit opinion for the Treasurer's Report for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2017.



| Inflow Breakout        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Ohio State Fundraising | \$5,186.63         |
| Fall/Spring PDT Inflow | \$6,441.36         |
| Luncheon Inflow        | \$575.70           |
| Miscellaneous Revenue  | \$3,277.50         |
| Interest Revenue       | \$80.99            |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>\$15,697.18</b> |



| Outflow Breakout        |                    |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Reimbursements          | \$1,025.00         |
| Scholarships/Donations  | \$3,300.00         |
| Lunch/Social Outflows   | \$1,696.50         |
| Fall/Spring PDT Outflow | \$5,998.26         |
| AGA Webinar Expense     | \$2,605.00         |
| Miscellaneous Expenses  | \$1,515.26         |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>\$16,140.02</b> |



## **T** *Expand Membership*

The Greater Columbus Chapter's most active members are professionals within the field of Finance, many of who have taken active roles within the chapter. Expanding our membership to financial professionals who are not necessarily accountants is an important goal for our chapter. Our challenge is to fully demonstrate the benefits and value of membership at a time of declining federal employment in our area. Therefore, emphasizing that expanding membership is a key future goal.

## **O** *Expand Sources of Funding*

Our chapter is interested in further developing opportunities to fundraise in order to continue funding a scholarship program for deserving individuals and fund further educational and developmental opportunities for members. Additionally, we are seeking out further sponsors from local and national companies.

## **A** *Promote the CGFM and Professional Certification*

As of the end of Fiscal Year 2016-17, 24 AGA Greater Columbus Members hold the title of Certified Governmental Financial Manager. Our chapter continues to promote the designation as one that assists in enhancing governmental accountability and adds value for our members and their individual development

## **C** *Seek Opportunities for Collaboration*

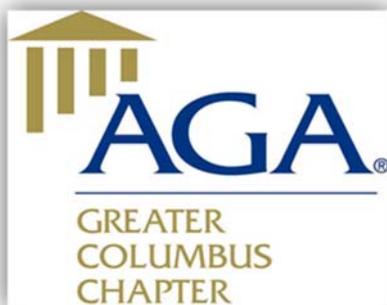
Continuing to develop our connection with other chapters through professional development opportunities is an important goal for the upcoming year. Collaborating with educational institutions such as Ohio Dominican University is important as well as it will provide opportunities for our members to promote our association with college students and promote the field of governmental accounting.

## **T** *Improve Community Involvement*

The Greater Columbus AGA Chapter supports many volunteer activities in the Central Ohio community, but finds it important to continue seeking out new opportunities to serve.

## **T** *Better Connecting With Our Members*

The chapter is currently in the process of improving our website, and is in the process of further developing our Monthly Newsletter and develop a social media presence. Keeping our members engaged is one of our highest priorities!



### **Your Feedback**

We are excited to hear your feedback on our Member Centric Report. What did you like about it? Is there any additional information that you would like to see included next year? Please let us know by contacting Cindy Shoe at [cynthia.a.shoe.civ@mail.mil](mailto:cynthia.a.shoe.civ@mail.mil) or 614-701-2445. Your input is greatly valued!

