

President's Message



**J. Michael Winston, CGFM,
Chapter President**

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 27, 2019 — Cybersecurity

April 1, 2019 — Luncheon at DoubleTree

**April 22, 2019 — Spring Breakfast at TN
Tower, TN Room 1**

**July 21-24, 2019 — National Professional
Development Training
New Orleans**

Inside...

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- ◇ Save the Dates
- ◇ Membership Incentive
- ◇ Community Service Highlights
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Hello Nashville AGA Members! Welcome to our monthly newsletter for March. We have a lot of interesting news and features in this month's issue, and I want to highlight a few items as we go into an important time of year for AGA and our chapter.

Membership Renewal – As I mentioned last month, it is time to renew your AGA membership for 2019. The deadline is only days away - March 31! As of this writing, we have 200 members who still need to renew. Please take a few minutes today to renew online or to go ahead and put your renewal payment in the mail. AGA membership is your ticket to all the resources and information that keeps you current in government financial management. It gets you access to free and discounted opportunities to enhance your learning, maintain your CGFM, and network with other professionals from Nashville and beyond.

Membership Incentives – Speaking of timely membership renewal, you will need to get renewed if you want to participate in our membership incentive opportunities coming up in the next couple of months. The Nashville Chapter wants to recognize and reward our members for being active contributors to our chapter activities. Through our member points program, we provide the opportunity to earn a \$45 rebate on your membership fee and chances to be entered into a drawing for a free trip to the PDT this July in New Orleans. Check out your point status on the chapter website and take advantage of opportunities to earn more points – attending luncheons and the Spring Breakfast, writing an article for this newsletter, participating in a community service event, and more!

Chapter Bylaws Update – We will be updating our bylaws soon to account for the national governance changes and to tweak a few provisions relative to when we nominate leaders and how we conduct business. Detailed information will be sent to our members soon, and there will be ample time to comment before we ask our membership to vote at an upcoming luncheon meeting.

Chapter Leadership Change – At their meeting on March 6, the Chapter Executive Committee confirmed the nomination of Drew Sadler to fill a vacancy as a Chapter Director. The vacancy opened up when Susan Slaton resigned her position as she moved away from Nashville. We will miss Susan and her contributions to our chapter over the years, and we wish her well on her future endeavors. Drew is currently serving as our CGFM Committee Chair, and we are excited he agreed to take on this role until the term expires in June 2020.

Thank you for reading and thank you for being a member of AGA! If there is anything the Nashville Chapter can do to help our members, please contact me.

Best,

Michael

SAVE THE DATE!

2019 Remaining Luncheon Meeting Dates

April 1, 2019 — DoubleTree

May 6, 2019 — DoubleTree

2019 Webinar Dates

March 27, 2019 — Cybersecurity

April 24, 2019 — DATA Act

May 15, 2019 — Fraud/Data Analytics

June 12, 2019 — Leadership

2019 Remining CEC Meeting Dates

March 27, 2019

May 1, 2019

2018-2019 Conference Dates

April 22, 2019 — Spring Breakfast at TN
Tower, TN Room 1

July 21-24, 2019 — National Professional
Development Training —
New Orleans

Congratulations Mike Corricelli!



Mike Corricelli, Tennessee's Chief of Accounts, was awarded the AGA's 2019 William R. Snodgrass Distinguished Leadership Award at the AGA National Leadership Training in Washington, D.C. The award honors state government professionals who exemplify and promote excellence in government financial management and who have demonstrated outstanding leadership in enhancing sound financial management legislation, regulations, practices, policies, and systems.

The division of accounts processes and records all accounting entries in the state's centralized accounting system; prepares and distributes the state payroll; provides cash management advisory services; establishes of state accounting policy and prepares the state's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

"Mike is an exceptional accounting professional with a keen vision for efficient operations and the practical leadership skills to operationalize best policies," F&A Commissioner Stuart McWhorter said. "His professional commitment to the state is exemplary, as attested by his public service career accomplishments."

NASHVILLE NOTES

Membership Recruiting New Members

As of our March luncheon, our membership count was 360. Currently, we have 11 members in the running for the \$100 Prize in our local recruiting competition to sponsor the most people between January 1 and April 30! That means everyone is still in the running! Continue to share the benefits of AGA membership with your coworkers and acquaintances. Sponsors receive three points and a \$10 gift card! Also, remember to renew your AGA membership by March 31, 2019, to be included in the \$50 incentive drawing at the awards luncheon in May.

New Members

Mrs. Erica Bradshaw

Mrs. Reba J. Carleton

Miss Kelly Cochran

Ms. Nekesha Shawn Joy

Mr. Chrisvonta Smith

Mrs. JoAnn M. Stewart

Mr. Mark Daniel White



\$45 Dollar Chapter Reimbursement!

Earn 30 points throughout the 2018-2019 AGA year from participation in activities such as meetings, educational events, community service participation, and sponsorship of new members AND renew your full membership (not Student or Early Career) by March 31, 2019, and the Nashville Chapter will reimburse you \$45.

Deadline March 31, 2019!

Chapter Scholarships

William R. Snodgrass Scholarship: Two \$1,000 scholarships awarded to a Middle or West Tennessee, Southern Kentucky, or Northern Alabama high school senior or college student with a business-related major such as accounting, economics, finance, information systems, management or marketing.

Fawn W. Ellis Scholarship: Two \$1,000 scholarships awarded to an AGA Nashville area chapter member, member's spouse, or member's child or grandchild (any school and any major may apply.)

Scholarship applications are on the chapter website at <https://www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/Nashville/Membership/Scholarships.aspx>

Please email questions or completed applications to awards@nashvilleaga.org

The deadline to submit applications for this year is 3/31/19.



NASHVILLE NOTES

Ed Burr's Retirement Reception

March 28, 2019

1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Video Conference Center
Cordell Hull Bldg., 2nd Floor

After serving with the State of Tennessee for over 38 years, Ed Burr has announced he will retire on March 29, 2019. Ed joined the Comptroller's Office in 1980 and has spent his entire career within the Division of State Audit. He joined AGA on December 1, 1981 and has been an active member in the chapter.

A reception will be held in Ed's honor on March 28, 2019. RSVP to Donna Jewell Donna.Jewell@cot.tn.gov or Robyn Probus Robyn.Probus@cot.tn.gov



March is CGFM Month!!

To celebrate the Nashville AGA has hosted a CGFM Exam 2 Review Course! 25 years of CGFM and 25 individuals participated in the course. National AGA is celebrating the month by reducing the CGFM application fee for AGA members to \$25 from \$70!! If you have considered taking the CGFM designation journey March is the PERFECT month to begin! Keep in mind, Nashville AGA has a study guide library program for members to rent a study guide at no cost to you! Contact drew.sadler@cot.tn.gov for details!

Our CGFM committee is obtaining a proclamation from the legislature of TN and mayor of Nashville declaring March CGFM month for the state and city!





Citizen-Centric Reporting (CCR)

By Gerry Boaz, CGFM, CPA, CGMA

No, I am not talking about Creedence Clearwater Revival (CCR). Instead, it's another kind of CCR about which we need to inform our colleagues and especially our fellow citizens. Most, if not all, of us do not have time to read a government's annual financial report or a comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR), which could be as voluminous as 250 pages with no plot, irony, tragedy, or comedy. The only tragedy is having to read through the complex maze of the basic financial statements, management's discussion and analysis, notes to the financial statements, required supplementary information, and supplementary information. According to a 2010 AGA survey, the current state of governmental reporting has resulted in dissatisfied citizens, a distrust in government, and technical reporting the citizens cannot understand. Citizens believe they are entitled to transparent financial information, and governments have an obligation to provide the information. Fortunately, AGA has the solution with a CCR because it is short, understandable, easy to read, and informative.

According to AGA's website,

"Governments at all levels — federal, state, local and tribal — seek to be transparent with their spending, yet many transparency websites only provide access to complex financial reports that require an accounting degree to understand! Some government sites also provide query capabilities and graphical depiction of data, but not a comprehensive look into their mission, spending, performance and outlook."

I remember back in 2009 when Congress passed and the President signed the Accountability Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) into law. As a direct result, the TN Department of Finance and Administration (F&A), as well as other state Controller offices, developed transparency websites since they were the primary recipients of the ARRA federal financial assistance. This was a good baby step but was more of a data dump than a presentation in a form that provided decision-useful information.

AGA's CCR initiative is intended to simplify communication between governments and its citizens. With accurate government financial information in a simple and understandable format, citizens can assess how government is spending their taxpayer dollars and what the outcomes were. AGA made preparing a CCR easy for preparer governments by describing what content should be presented on each CCR page. In addition, AGA posted a standard template format on its website to make it easier for preparers to complete in a timely manner.

So, what content goes on each page of a CCR? Luckily, AGA has numerous examples of governmental and AGA Chapter CCRs on its website to give preparers good, creative ideas.

The following provides specific guidance to help the preparer get started:

Page 1	Page 2
<p>What is the government chartered to do?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vision Statement • Strategic Goals • How the government is organized • Demographics • Table to Contents 	<p>Performance Information on Key Missions and Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain input from citizens on what measures they would like to see included • Report on non-financial outcomes for 3 or 4 key missions or services (public safety, public health, roads, parks and recreation, schools)
Page 3	Page 4
<p>Revenues and Expenditures/Expenses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include revenue and cost data for major areas • Use pie charts • Reference audit conducted • Reference website for detailed financial information 	<p>Future Challenges and Economic Outlook</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include items specific to the community that will have future effects (economic changes, tax cuts or increases, major new employer, employer leaving, unemployment, technological improvements, infrastructure improvements, education, environmental aspects, being transparent, etc.) • Ask for feedback by including a contact name and contact information

In conclusion, is a CCR worth it? Clearly, the answer is YES. The government and citizens both benefit from a simpler, more understandable CCR communication. A more-informed citizenry is better able to assess that limited resources have to be prioritized, and the prioritized spending has specific outcomes. If we view preparation of a CCR from the perspective of what we government employees would want to know if we did not have access to the internal information, what should we present on the four pages? More transparent information communicated to citizens improves their decisions-making capabilities. CCRs can help citizens become more active and better-informed voters.

National Council of Chapters (NCC)

Penny Austin

Interviewer Michael Winston



As most of our members are aware, AGA has embarked on some exciting new governance changes in the last year. The goal of the changes is to re-shape and modernize how our organization works at the highest levels. This includes addressing chapter representation and re-working the regional structure we have operated under for many years. Specific changes include restructuring the National Board of Directors and creating the National Council of Chapters (NCC), which will have one representative from each AGA chapter. With these changes set to start July 1, we wanted to take a minute to introduce our inaugural representative to the NCC – Penny Austin! Penny is an Assistant Director with Local Government Audit in the Tennessee Comptroller's Office, and she has served in numerous leadership roles with AGA, including Chapter President and Southeast Region Vice President. We sat down for a conversation with Penny to discuss AGA and this exciting new role.

Question: Many of our members feel like we know you really well either from working with you in the Comptroller's Office or from your time as Chapter President. But what is something new, interesting, or exciting going on in the life and career of Penny Austin?

Answer: I am happy to report that there is not too much drama in my life at the moment. The only major undertaking my husband and I have planned is the construction of a workshop to be used for woodworking projects and the like. (His projects – not mine.) My creative outlet lately has been crocheting. I have made several baby blankets as well as a few lapghans. The baby blankets have been given as gifts or donated to a local pregnancy care center. I am using one of the lapghans as well as a pair of fingerless gloves I made to keep warm in my office. While I am by no means an expert on the subject, I also enjoy reading books and watching documentaries about War World II.

Q: You have served AGA and the Nashville Chapter in so many ways (luncheon speaker, CEC, Chapter President, RVP). What is it about AGA and/or the Nashville Chapter that keeps you saying “yes” to serving in leadership roles?

A: AGA is obviously a wonderful organization that gives back to the members through training and community service opportunities as well as other offerings. But to speak from a somewhat selfish perspective, I have used my involvement in AGA leadership to really “stretch” myself. AGA has given me opportunities to gain more experience working closely with others to achieve specific goals and to improve my public speaking and organizational skills. I have applied these enhanced skills to my day job at the Comptroller's Office. Also while serving as RVP this year, I have enjoyed meeting people from the other chapters and have made some great contacts. But most of all, I have had fun working with the great people that make up the Nashville Chapter!

Q: What are your expectations or hopes for the new NCC representative role?

A: I am excited about having someone at the chapter level whose primary focus is on communication with the representatives from other chapters and those at the national level. Prior to the creation of this position, this task would usually fall indirectly to the president who already had many responsibilities and whose focus was more inward facing to the chapter as it should be. By having an individual dedicated solely for this purpose, more time can be given to sharing ideas and learning from the other chapters as well as expressing concerns to those at the national level.

Q: Thanks for chatting with us! Is there anything else you would like to say to our readers?

A: I encourage everyone to get involved in the leadership of this organization. Whether you only have time to make a short-term commitment or you can become an old timer like me, it will be well worth your efforts.

Speaker Bio



Jamie Wayman, CPA, CEBS

Assistant Director, Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System

"Funding of the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System"

Mr. Wayman is the Assistant Director of the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System and is responsible for the day to day operations of the System. Mr. Wayman has been employed with the Tennessee Treasury Department for 16 years in various capacities including the Manager of Financial Services responsible for an annual retired payroll of \$1.75 billion and as the Director of Internal Audit.

Mr. Wayman received his Master of Professional Accountancy and B.B.A. from Western Kentucky University and Austin Peay State University, respectively. Mr. Wayman is a Certified Public Accountant and Certified Employee Benefit Specialist.



Community Service Event

Second Harvest Food Bank

February 26th, Nashville Chapter members volunteered at the Second Harvest Food Bank, and a fun and productive time was had by all. Our group sorted 5,918 lbs. of food that will provide 4,932 meals helping 5,000 Tennesseans with needed food.



NPT Spring Membership Drive

AGA community service volunteers manned the phone bank for Nashville Public Television - Channel 8 spring membership drive on March 7, 2019. We took pledges during Michael Bublé and Blenko Glass: Behind the Scenes. Michael Bublé was popular and many donations were made for great seats to his upcoming concert in Nashville. In addition, shown below are some of the items that could be chosen as a thank you gift when donating for Blenko Glass. We raised \$5,966.00 for NPT.

Michael Winston did a fabulous job when interviewed by the host to describe what AGA stands for including the Nashville Chapter's mission and vision.



Nashville AGA Presents



SPRING BREAKFAST

Catered by Puckett's

Monday, April 22, 2019

8:00 A.M. - 10:30 AM

TN Tower TN Room 1

REGISTRATION FEES: \$20 MEMBERS \$30 NON-MEMBERS

Techniques for Combating Fraud

William Thorowgood, Metro Police Detective -

Investigative Division - Fraud Unit (2 hours CPE)

Register at <https://www.nashvilleaga.org/Education/Spring2019Breakfast.html> by April 15, 2019

Cancellation Policy

Any request for cancellation must be sent to: melissa.lahue@tn.gov no later than Monday, April 15, 2019. After that date, members and non-members who have a reservation but are not able to attend should find a replacement or be responsible for the registration fee.



News And Just The Facts

Awards Committee

The Awards Committee would like to share with you an update to the AGA Nashville Chapter Policies. The Community Service Committee requested changes to the Appendix of Policy 7 (the AGA Point Policy). On September 5, 2018, the Chapter Executive Committee (CEC) approved the changes to the community service points structure related to volunteer time and to sponsorship of donation boxes. The changes to the Appendix of Policy 7 are as follows:

	Former	New
Volunteer (in person)	3	<1 Hr Event – 1 pt 1-3 Hr Event – 2 pts 3+ Hr Event – 3 pts
Sponsoring a drop box	1	1-2 boxes – 1 pt 3-4 boxes – 2 pts 5+ boxes – 3 pts

The changes are effective as of the date of approval (9/5/18).

FINAL POINTS STANDING AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2018 , IS AS FOLLOWS:

<u>Chapter Recognition Section</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Chapter Leadership, Planning & Participation	4,975	5,000	100%
Education & Professional Development	2,750	4,000	69%
Certification	925	4,000	23%
Communications	3,325	3,000	111%
Membership	2100	4,000	53%
Accountability	150	2,000	8%
Community Service	800	2,000	40%
Awards	200	1,000	20%
TOTALS	15,225	25,000	61%

LUNCHEON / CEC MINUTES

To read the minutes from the most recent CEC and luncheon meeting, please visit the chapter website at www.nashvilleaga.org . The luncheon minutes will be presented for approval at the next business meeting scheduled for the next program year.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

From time to time departments forward job opportunities to the Website Committee, which are posted for members' convenience. If you are interested in new job offerings or know someone who is, go to this link for detailed information — <http://nashvilleaga.org/jobs.html>

Editor's Corner

We truly enjoy reading articles submitted from our membership. Please share your thoughts and ideas or interesting news with us by submitting your article to Britt.Wood@cot.tn.gov no later than April 15, 2019 for the next edition of our newsletter. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks!

2018-2019 AGA Chapter Leadership Directory

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