

*AGA is the premier association for advancing government accountability.*



**THE SOUNDER Vol. 19 - 5 Jan./Feb. 2020**

## President's Message

February has come to a close, and it's hard to believe we're already halfway through the 2019-2020 AGA program year! Which means it is time again for us to identify people interested in serving on our AGA Seattle Chapter board, and to line up participants for our remaining panel discussions with students at local area colleges and universities. We need your help with both.

There are numerous ways that you can participate as a member on our board, from a named role such as secretary or president-elect, to a position on one of our committees. We will send out a separate email with more details, but I encourage everyone to think about helping us put together our programs for the next program year, and introduce some new activities moving forward.

Each year we put on a number of student panels at local colleges and universities to promote government accounting, finance, and accountability careers. At many schools, there are few, if any, opportunities to learn about these career paths in government. We typically bring 4 to 5 people representing area government employers at the local, State, and



Sam Lord, Chapter President

Federal level. Each person talks about what they do, what it's like to work for the government, and some background on how they got to their current position. We then open it up to questions from the students. It is an easy way to connect with students, and we encourage participants to highlight jobs openings they may have available for interested students.

This year, we have dates in February and March arranged, and would love to get some additional participants. Please let us know if you might be interested in participating.

In January, we had our annual tax update with Valerie

### Welcome New Members

We are pleased to welcome three new members who joined the Seattle Chapter in January and February:

**Mr. Alec Chandler**

Fiscal Specialist III, King County Int'l Airport

**Ms. Carrie Williams**

Auditor/Accountant, Environmental Protection Agency

**Mr. Trevor Jordan**

Supervisory Emergency Management Specialist, Federal Emergency Management Agency

### Upcoming Training Event

The annual Governmental Accounting & Auditing Conference, is scheduled for April 29 and 30 at SeaTac.

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## AGA Seattle Chapter's Monthly Meeting Schedule for Program Year 2019-2020

Save the dates for our monthly education events for program year 2019-2020! Please join us at these brown bag events and help us make this program year a success. Unless otherwise stated, all meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of the month at the GAO Training Facility on the 37th floor of Columbia Center in downtown Seattle.

## AGA Seattle Continuing Professional Education Calendar 2019-2020

~~Tuesday, March 10, Emily Hayes, Moss Adams, *Enterprise Risk Assessments: Best Practices for Maximum Insights.*~~ **[Note: This event has been postponed. We plan to reschedule for May 2020.]**

Wednesday, April 29, and Thursday, April 30, *Governmental Accounting & Auditing Conference* co-sponsored with the Washington Society of Certified Public Accountants, SeaTac Airport Conference Center

May 2020, Reschedule Moss Adams presentation, date TBD



## Past Events for the 2019-2020 Program Year

Tuesday, September 10, Lisa DeLaVergne, Washington State Health Care Authority, *Medicaid Program Integrity & Fraud Prevention*

Tuesday, October 8, Lynn McKiernan Ngari, CGMS, CPA, King County Washington, *Grants Management*

Tuesday, November 12, Kate Reynolds, Washington State Executive Ethics Board, *Government Ethics in Washington State*

Wednesday, December 11, Elena G. Huizar, Washington State Attorney General's Office, *I Didn't Know the Attorney General's Office Did That + Public Record Requests*

Tuesday, January 14, 2020, Valerie Moseley, CPA, *Annual Tax Update*

Wednesday, February 19, 2020, Gina Steiner, Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe (PGST), *Interactions between Tribes & Other Governments: Successes and Stumbling Blocks*

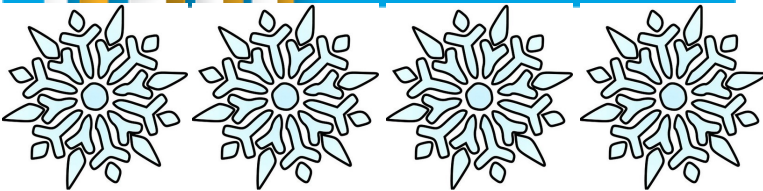
AGA has two training events coming up in April: the 2020 PIO/CFO Summit on April 7 and the 2020 Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) Workshop on April 29.



AGA is hosting the Performance Improvement Officer/Chief Financial Officer Summit (PIO/CFO Summit) in Washington. Join us for this free\* educational event and listen to an insightful dialogue on the emerging policies that impact and call for greater collaboration between the federal financial management, evidence and performance communities.

\*Free registration for AGA members who work for government. Private-sector participation is available via [sponsorship](#) only.

For more information, go to: <https://www.agacgfm.org/PIOCFO/PIO-CFO-Home.aspx>.



The purpose of the 2020 Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) Workshop is to provide participants with practical insight and tools to help to continue to build out ERM and to use ERM to drive real and sustainable organizational value.

The workshop will include presentations as well as facilitated table group work, where participants move from academic discussions to "how to" explanations and examples. The small, facilitated groups will enhance opportunities for both hands-on work and Q&A.

This event is co-hosted by AGA and the Association for Federal Enterprise Risk Management (AFERM). Cost is \$125 for individuals in government. For more information, go to: <https://www.agacgfm.org/ERM-Workshop/Home.aspx>.

### Leveraging ERM to Drive Organizational Value

April 29 in Washington, DC — 5 CPE



Note that these events are still planned as of March 8, 2020, but AGA is actively monitoring the corona virus situation. Please email any questions to [meetings@agacgfm.org](mailto:meetings@agacgfm.org).

## AGA Training Webinars

AGA National provides webinars throughout the year to make earning CPE hours easy. All of the webinars, unless denoted with a members-only icon, are open to anyone. They feature experts speaking on emerging issues to help you stay informed on topics including auditing, ethics, governmental accounting, internal controls and performance. [Group registration](#) options are available to those who would like to attend together in one location. Otherwise, [individuals](#) are able to register and attend from their own device.

AGA members enjoy multiple free learning opportunities throughout the year via AGA members-only webinars. Group registration is not available for members-only webinars. Learn more about [members-only webinar registration](#) and CPE credit.

Below is the webinar schedule through April 2020:

- ◆ March 25, 2020, 2–3:50 p.m. Eastern Time (2 CPE) — Cybersecurity: Mitigating Threats and Hacks
- ◆ April 8, 2020, 2–3:50 p.m. Eastern Time (2 CPE) — Ethics: The Spy’s Among Us!
- ◆ April 22, 2020, 2–3:50 p.m. Eastern Time (2 CPE) — DATA Act: Exploring Your DATA Act data for Fraud, Waste, and Abuse

Members-only Professional Development webinars through June 2020 are:

- ◆ March 18, 2020, 1–2:50 p.m. Eastern Time (2 CPE) — AGA Annual Women's Leadership Webinar
- ◆ June 26, 2020, 1–2 p.m. Eastern Time (1 CPE) – Understanding the Multi-Generational Workplace

If you have questions about this training, you can send any questions to AGA at [email AGA](#).



*President’s Message, continued from page 1*

Moseley, CPA. We covered a wide range of related topics, and she was able to answer numerous questions from the audience before we had to end the session. In February, we were fortunate to have Gina Steiner, tribal attorney from the Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe, speaking on the topic of interactions between tribes and other governments – successes and stumbling blocks. For March, we had arranged to have Emily Hayes, from Moss Adams, speak on "Enterprise Risk Assessments: Best Practices for Maximum Insights." However, we have postponed this training event until May. We will send you the new date once it is confirmed, and we hope you’ll be able to join us then for this event. Please see our upcoming email and flyer for more information.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to seeing and hearing from you as our 2019-2020 program year continues.

## AGA News and Updates

### Membership

It's time to log in and renew your AGA membership and/or CGFM certification! The continued success of AGA is possible through member support and dedication. AGA remains relevant by offering tailored benefits to enhance and grow members' careers through training, webinars, networking and certification.

AGA's renewal year is April 1 – March 31, and the renewal deadline for both AGA membership and CGFM is **March 31**.

You should have received a renewal form in the mail, but you may also renew online by going to: [agacgfm.org/renew](http://agacgfm.org/renew).

**Important renewal information:** By submitting their AGA membership renewal payment, AGA members affirm their agreement and compliance with AGA's Code of Ethics. By submitting their CGFM renewal payment, CGFMs affirm their agreement and compliance with AGA's Code of Ethics and CGFM CPE Requirements ([www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/maintain](http://www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/maintain)).

**Important Reminder:** The AGA Seattle Chapter uses the most recent chapter membership roster from AGA National to target communications to our members about upcoming training and community service events, nominations for awards and our annual election, and other chapter activities. Please be sure to include a valid email address in your member profile. Thank you!



Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) is a professional certification awarded by AGA to individuals demonstrating competency in governmental accounting, auditing, financial reporting, internal controls and budgeting at the federal, state and local levels. It is a respected credential that recognizes the specialized knowledge and experience needed to be an effective government financial manager.

To earn the CGFM, individuals must fill out an online application and meet the following requirements:

- ◆ Read and agree to abide by AGA's *Code of Ethics*
- ◆ Have a bachelor's degree in any subject area from an accredited U.S. college or university
- ◆ Pass three comprehensive CGFM examinations
- ◆ Have at least two years of professional-level experience in government financial management

To learn more about the value of CGFM, please visit: <https://www.agacgfm.org/CGFM-Certification.aspx>. We will include more information on AGA's *Code of Ethics* in an upcoming issue of *The Sounder*.

## AGA Seattle Chapter Updates

### NCC News

By Karyn Angulo

AGA's National Council of Chapters representatives held their second conference call on Tuesday, February 4. NCC representatives are asked to provide suggestions for meeting discussions beforehand, and we share best practices and ask each other for advice regarding challenges our chapters are facing. At the February meeting, we discussed the finalized AGA Elevator Speech (see below) and the draft AGA Diversity & Inclusion statement. Participants shared best practices surrounding college and university partnerships as well as visits by national officers to AGA chapters. We also discussed revisions to our Chapter Recognition Program (see our current chapter points summary on p.9) and draft procedures compiled by the Criteria for Opening and Closing AGA Chapters Working Group. I'll provide further updates as these policies and procedures are approved. As always, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or any concerns you'd like me to bring to the chapter board or to AGA National.

### AGA Elevator Speech

Word of mouth is one of the most persuasive and compelling marketing tools, and the National Governing Board and the NCC collaborated on a new elevator speech that highlights the benefits of AGA membership. Members can use this elevator speech in interactions with potential members, such as coworkers and other peers in the field, to convey the importance of AGA membership.

*AGA members are dedicated professionals.*

*We support government at all levels and work in all areas of financial management, accounting, auditing, IT, and other business operations areas to help government work more efficiently and effectively.*

*As members, we're able to boost our careers through AGA education and the CGFM certification, and through opportunities to network, share ideas and solutions.*

*Our training events are fantastic; they highlight innovations, best practices and research and lead to positive change in government that benefits our society.*

*You can make a difference when you join AGA.*



### Articles and Photos Wanted

We are always looking for articles to include in *THE SOUNDER*. Please submit items for inclusion and attribution. We also like to decorate the first page of The Sounder with a local photo each month.

If you have an article or picture to contribute, please send it to Karyn Angulo, Newsletter Editor, at [newsletter.agaseattle@gmail.com](mailto:newsletter.agaseattle@gmail.com).

When we use your photo, we will acknowledge you in our credits section.

## AGA Seattle Chapter Call for Nominations

This is your opportunity to help shape the Seattle Chapter's programs, advance your profession, and represent members' interests. **We are seeking members to serve on our Board of Directors for the 2020-2021 program year.**

**Term:** Those elected will take office on July 1, 2020, for a one-year term of office.

**Benefits of Service:** As a volunteer leader, you are rewarded with unparalleled opportunities to:

Expand Your Leadership Skills

Enhance Your Career

Exchange Ideas and Perspectives with Board Members

Expand Your Network of Personal and Professional Contacts.

**What Does the Job Entail?:** The board meets once a month (generally the fourth Wednesday of the month) for about an hour and 15 minutes from August through May. **We currently have openings for Secretary, Treasurer, and President-Elect.**

We are also looking for members to serve on the board by serving on various committees. These committees include: **Chapter Recognition, Membership, Awards, Education, Newsletter, Community Service, CGFM, Research, Young Professionals, Historian, Webmaster, Accountability Outreach, and Professional Development.**

Please read below for a brief description of each position and what you can expect. If you would like to learn more about joining the Seattle Chapter board, please contact Karen Murphy (Secretary) at [joujie@comcast.net](mailto:joujie@comcast.net) or Sam Lord (President) at [sam.lord@oig.hhs.gov](mailto:sam.lord@oig.hhs.gov).

We look forward to hearing from you. Nominations can be submitted for yourself or on another's behalf and are due by 4:00 p.m. on *Friday, March 13, 2020.*

*Elections will be held from April 1 - April 10, 2020.*

## AGA Seattle Chapter Summary of Positions & Responsibilities – 2020-2021

All board members are expected to participate in a monthly board meeting, either in person or by phone. Meetings are typically held the fourth Wednesday of each month from 11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

### OFFICER DUTIES

**President** leads and directs the chapter. Keep the membership informed about the Association's activities and motivate the membership to take an active part in AGA's programs. All Chapter Presidents are members of the National Board of Directors and participate in policy decisions affecting AGA. Chapter Presidents receive information about the goals of AGA through association communications and subsequently plan programs at the local level to attain these goals.

**President-Elect** is responsible for assisting the president with specific functions, such as the preparation of the Chapter Recognition Program quarterly submissions, and chairing meetings when the chapter president is not available. It is expected that the President-Elect will serve as President the following year.

**Secretary** is responsible for preparing and sending out the agenda for all board meetings and taking the minutes of those board meetings, which are then sent to National upon board approval and posted on the chapter website. The Secretary is also responsible for sending out the annual request for nominations and election ballots and for providing the updated chapter officer directory and plans to AGA National by the annual deadlines.

**Treasurer** is responsible for preparing the chapter's annual consolidated budget and a monthly financial report. The Treasurer will deposit all chapter receipts in a bank account maintained in the name of the chapter and make disbursements on behalf of the chapter with appropriate documentation. The Treasurer will also prepare financial reports required by federal, state, or local government jurisdictions in a timely manner, submitting these reports to the chapter president prior to transmitting them to the agency involved.

### **CHAIRPERSON DUTIES**

**Professional Development Chair** is responsible for researching meeting topics with the help of other board members, getting commitment from speakers to present educational content at chapter meetings, issuing Continuing Professional Education certificates to meeting participants, and maintaining records of the CPEs awarded to participants for each event. The Seattle chapter hosts approximately 7-8 educational meetings per year. Additional duties that support the educational events include preparing promotional flyers for chapter meetings and coordinating reservations for meeting participants.

**CGFM Chair** is responsible for promoting the Certified Government Financial Manager certification, supporting individuals striving to maintain the CGFM, answering questions raised by current and potential CGFMs, and promoting the recognition of March as CGFM month in the State.

**Community Service Chair** is responsible for developing, promoting, and finding volunteers for community service projects that allow members to contribute their skills, time, or funds to community-based activities. The chair prepares an annual community service plan to National and organizes the chapter's participation in community service projects.

**Young Professionals Chair** is responsible for attracting and assisting members new to the profession in obtaining and receiving the services they require. The chair will plan and attend college events as well as career fairs for the promotion of the AGA to students.

**Newsletter Editor** is responsible for preparing a monthly newsletter from September through May, following guidelines established by AGA National. The Editor maintains a mailing list of members and other interested recipients and assigns volunteers to take photos and prepare summaries of educational events and other chapter activities.

**Membership Chair** is responsible for welcoming new members and contacting all members to encourage their renewal during the annual renewal period. The chair prepares a monthly membership report and announces new members during meetings, in the newsletter, and on the chapter website.

**Webmaster Chair** is responsible for maintaining a functional and attractive website to communicate with members and potential new members, working closely with board members to ensure that the information on the website is timely and accurate, and submitting website information for the annual AGA National chapter website contest.

**Accountability Outreach Coordinator** is responsible for preparing the chapter's annual citizen-centric report (CCR), establishing a chapter accountability outreach plan to assist and encourage governments and agencies in producing CCRs, and promoting accountability at chapter events.



## Financial Condition as of December 31, 2019

Checking - .00% interest	\$ 3,501.87
Savings -.05% interest	<u>\$ 6,685.74</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 10,187.61</b>
Liabilities	\$ 0.00
Members' Equity	<u>\$ 10,187.61</u>
<b>Liabilities &amp; Members' Equity</b>	<b>\$ 10,187.61</b>

### Cash Flow Report, Month Ending December 2019

<b>Beginning Cash Balances</b>		\$ 10,187.33
Lunch Meals, Speaker Costs (incl. parking), & Name Tags	\$ 0.00	
<b>Cash Expended</b>		<b>\$ 0.00</b>
AGA Dues Received	\$ 0.00	
Interest Income	\$ 0.28	
<b>Subtotal Cash Deposits</b>		<u>\$ 0.28</u>
<b>Net Cash Change</b>		<u>\$ 0.28</u>
<b>Ending Cash Balance</b>		<u>\$ 10,187.61</u>

## Financial Condition as of January 31, 2020

Checking - .00% interest	\$ 3,516.87
Savings -.05% interest	<u>\$ 6,686.02</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 10,202.89</b>
Liabilities	\$ 0.00
Members' Equity	<u>\$ 10,202.89</u>
<b>Liabilities &amp; Members' Equity</b>	<b>\$ 10,202.89</b>

### Cash Flow Report, Month Ending January 2020

<b>Beginning Cash Balances</b>		\$ 10,187.61
Lunch Meals, Speaker Costs (incl. parking), & Name Tags	\$ 0.00	
<b>Cash Expended</b>		<b>\$ 0.00</b>
AGA Dues Received	\$ 15.00	
Interest Income	\$ 0.28	
<b>Subtotal Cash Deposits</b>		<b>\$ 15.28</b>
<b>Net Cash Change</b>		<b>\$ 15.28</b>
<b>Ending Cash Balance</b>		<b>\$ 10,202.89</b>

## 2nd Quarter AGA Seattle Chapter Recognition Program Points

### Chapter Goal: 19,501; Maximum Points: 25,000

Chapter Recognition Categories	June 2018- December 2019 Points	Points Available	Percent Earned
<b>Section I – Chapter Leadership, Planning, &amp; Participation</b>	2,925	5,000	56%
<b>Section II – Education &amp; Professional Development</b>	1,300	4,000	61%
<b>Section III – Certification</b>	525	4,000	46%
<b>Section IV – Communications</b>	3,900	3,000	100%
<b>Section V – Membership with a Focus on Young Professionals and Student Members</b>	1,900	4,000	49%
<b>Section VI – Accountability</b>	850	2,000	23%
<b>Section VII – Community Service</b>	1,000	2,000	40%
<b>Section VIII – Awards</b>	600	1,000	20%
<b>Total as of March 2019*</b>	<b>13,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>67%</b>

#### Recognition Levels:

A **Bronze Chapter Designation** will be presented to any chapter that attains between 12,000 and 14,500 credits for the year. The chapter president's plaque will include recognition that the chapter has achieved Bronze status.

A **Silver Chapter Designation** will be presented to any chapter that attains between 14,501 and 17,000 credits for the year. The chapter president's plaque will include recognition that the chapter has achieved Silver status.

A **Gold Chapter Designation** will be presented to any chapter that attains between 17,001 and 19,500 credits for the year. The chapter president's plaque will include recognition that the chapter has achieved Gold status.

The **Platinum Chapter Designation** will be presented to any chapter that attains between 19,501 and 25,000 credits for the year. The chapter president's plaque will include recognition that the chapter has achieved Platinum status.



**The Sounder**

WE'RE ON THE WEB:

[HTTPS://WWW.AGACGFM.ORG/  
CHAPTERS/SEATTLE/HOME.ASPX](https://www.agacgfm.org/chapters/seattle/home.aspx)

AGA serves government accountability professionals by providing quality education, fostering professional development and certification, and supporting standards and research to advance government accountability.

The purpose of the Association and the Chapter is to be an international, professional organization dedicated to the advancement of government financial management. The Association shall serve its members by providing or sponsoring appropriate educational programs, encouraging professional development, influencing governmental financial management policies and practices, and serving as an advocate for the profession. The Association shall serve government officials and the public by sponsoring efforts to ensure full and fair accountability for all public monies, and by providing a variety of pro bono services throughout the United States and its territories that support that end.

**AGA Seattle Chapter Board Members  
Program Year 2019-2020**

**President, Webmaster, and Young Professionals and Students Chair**

Sam Lord, CPA, CGFM  
HHS OIG  
[sam.lord@oig.hhs.gov](mailto:sam.lord@oig.hhs.gov)

**President-Elect**

Vacant

**Treasurer and Accountability Chair**

Katherine King  
King County  
[kking@kingcounty.gov](mailto:kking@kingcounty.gov)

**Secretary and Past President**

Karen Murphy  
[joujie@comcast.net](mailto:joujie@comcast.net)

**Education Chair**

Vacant

**CGFM and Community Service Co-Chairs**

Gabrielle Sivage, CGFM  
Seattle DOT  
[CGFM.agaseattle@gmail.com](mailto:CGFM.agaseattle@gmail.com);

Eddie Johnson  
U.S. EPA

**NCC Representative, Newsletter Editor, and Historian**

Karyn Angulo  
U.S. GAO  
[angulok@gao.gov](mailto:angulok@gao.gov)

**Membership Chair**

Tony Eayrs  
King County International Airport  
[tony.eayrs@kingcounty.gov](mailto:tony.eayrs@kingcounty.gov)

**Board Members**

John Kurpierz, Schulich School of Business, York University  
[JohnRKurpierz@gmail.com](mailto:JohnRKurpierz@gmail.com)

Ken Smith, PhD  
Central Washington University  
[Kenneth.Smith@CWU.edu](mailto:Kenneth.Smith@CWU.edu)

Sandra Starnes, CPA, CGFM  
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S'Klallam Tribe  
[sandra@pgst.nsn.us](mailto:sandra@pgst.nsn.us)