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GUÅHAN GASETA

NUMBER 08 | FEBRUARY 2021



Merizo, Guam

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president's MESSAGE

Hafa Adai,

Thank you, Edmund Brobesong, Ernst & Young LLP Senior Tax Manager for continuing to be our guest speaker each year and updating us on the latest tax information for our personal and business lives. Many of us received or know someone who has received some COVID-19 relief funds and want to know how to report this for our taxes.

Thank you to all the applicants who applied for our scholarships. We will award two students from UOG for the Herminia Dierking Scholarships and two from GCC for the AGA Guam Chapter Scholarships at our February meeting.

Would you like to give back to your community? Then check out the suggestions offered by community service directors Margie and Vanessa. We can't get together to do our annual 5K, but there are other ways that you can give back. How about a letter writing or card making campaign to veterans or the elderly so you and your immediate family can spend quality time together? Another way to give back is to get involved. Develop your leadership skills -- we are seeking officers. If you are interested in office, please contact President-Elect Paz Perez or any of the nominating committee members Riza Roque, Frances Daneli, or Debbie Ngata.



PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE. CONTINUED

For a reminder, AGA’s Power of 7 Recruitment Challenge, we need your help! YOU are the best advocates for AGA membership. In as little as 7 minutes – with a quick call or email you can have an impact in recruitment. For our 50th anniversary, our goal is to recruit 50 new members. Remember we as a team can do it!!!

Stay safe, be kind and create a great day!



Best regards,
Pilar Pangelinan
Chapter President



"Never be limited by other people's limited imaginations."
—Dr. Mae Jemison, first African-American female astronaut [#BlackHistoryMonth](#)

"Never underestimate the power of dreams and the influence of the human spirit. We are all the same in this notion: The potential for greatness lives within each of us." — Wilma Rudolph [#BlackHistoryMonth](#)

"Life has two rules: number 1, never quit! Number 2, always remember rule number one." — Duke Ellington [#BlackHistoryMonth](#)

"There are still many causes worth sacrificing for, so much history yet to be made." — Michelle Obama [#BlackHistoryMonth](#)

"If they don't give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair." — Shirley Chisholm [#BlackHistoryMonth](#)

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." — Martin Luther King, Jr. [#BlackHistoryMonth](#)

"I had to make my own living and my own opportunity. But I made it! Don't sit down and wait for the opportunities to come. Get up and make them." — Madam C.J. Walker

"Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better." — Maya Angelou

"Character is power." — Booker T. Washington



UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

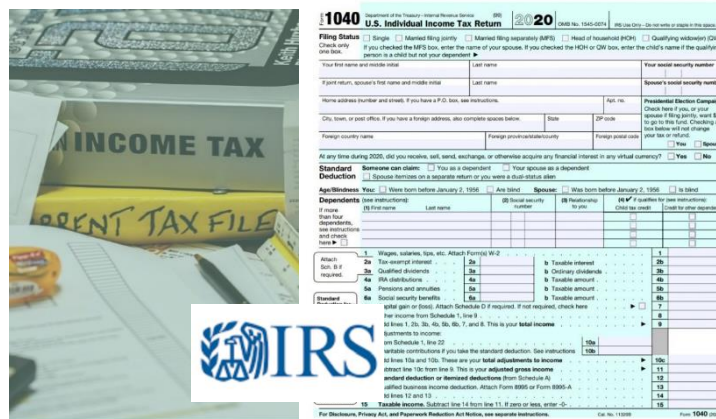
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

As the island continues to get through this pandemic safely, we will continue to host Zoom meetings to ensure safety of our members and speakers. **Meetings are held every fourth Wednesday of the month at 12:00 p.m.** Meeting invites will be sent to members at least two weeks in advance.

The AGA Guam Chapter will be holding its **February 2021 General Membership Meeting** on **Wednesday, February 24, 2021 via Zoom at 12:00 p.m.**

Our February Guest Speaker is **Ernst & Young Senior Tax Manager Mr. Edmund Brobesong** regarding **"Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and Tax Aspects of the Covid-19 Related Provisions."**

One (1) CPE will be provided for all attendees.



Presented are the dates of the upcoming General Membership Meetings and the tentative topics to be covered. Please note these are planned topics, subject to the availability of speakers, and may change.

Email reminders will be sent prior to the meetings and will indicate the confirmed speaker and subject matter to be covered.

Should you have any questions or have any recommendations, please contact Program Director Dr. Doreen Crisostomo or President Pilar Pangelinan. We welcome your feedback and look forward to hearing from you.

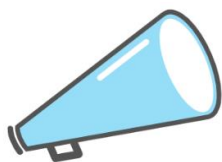
Date	Tentative Topic
07/22/2020	GGRF / My Total Retirement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
08/26/2020	Overview / Challenges in GovGuam's Procurement – <i>To be rescheduled</i>
09/23/2020	Government Accounting and Auditing Updates <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10/28/2020	Candidate Forum Senator / Congress <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
11/25/2020	ERP Computer Software and Application <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
12/23/2020	Recycling / Christmas Activities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
01/27/2021	Robotics Process Automation/Blockchain <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
02/24/2021	Tax Updates / What You Should Know for Tax Year 2020
03/24/2021	CGFM Month / Professional Development
04/28/2021	Economic Outlook / State of Our Island's Economy
05/26/2021	Ethics in Government / Increasing Trust in Our Government
06/23/2021	Oath of Office / End of Year Celebration

CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (CEC) MEETINGS

CEC Meetings are held **every second Wednesday of the month at 12:00 p.m.** If you are interested in joining discussions for Chapter events or joining a committee, feel free to contact President Pilar Pangelinan.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS. CONTINUED

ACCEPTING NOMINEES FOR NEXT YEAR'S OFFICERS ELECTIONS MOVED TO MARCH GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MTG.



Nominations are open!

FOR THE
AGA GUAM CHAPTER
PROGRAM YEAR
2021-2022

POSITIONS AVAILABLE:

PRESIDENT-ELECT
SECRETARY
TREASURER-ELECT



INTERESTED MEMBERS SHOULD CONTACT THE NOMINATION COMMITTEE OR EMAIL US AT AGAGUAMCHAPTER@GMAIL.COM

Are you interested in leading? Do you want opportunities to work with professionals in your field? Are you open for a challenge? Then...

WE NEED YOU!

We are looking for nominees for officers for next Program Year (July 2021-June 2020), to serve alongside Maripaz Perez (as President), Llewelyn Terlaje (as Treasurer), and Pilar Pangelinan (as Immediate Past-President).

Nominations should be emailed to AGAGUAMCHAPTER@GMAIL.COM by **March 17, 2021**. Nominations received will be reviewed by the Nomination Committee and elections will take place during the **March 24th General Membership meeting**.

The open positions are:

President-Elect – Will serve as President-Elect during PY21-22, President during PY22-23, and Immediate Past President during PY23-24. The President-Elect will attend LEAD! 2022 and PDT 2022.

Secretary – Will serve during PY21-22.

Treasurer-Elect – Will serve as Treasurer-Elect during PY21-22 and Treasurer during PY22-23. The Treasurer-Elect will attend LEAD! 2022.

SAVE THE DATE: 2021 VIRTUAL GUAM PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE (GPDC)



MAY 24-28 2021

Planning committee meetings are held every two weeks with our next planning meeting **on Saturday, March 6, 2021 at 2PM via Zoom** (link to be emailed to those interested). For more information, please contact [Rodalyn Gerardo](#), Education Director.



UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS. CONTINUED

50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION ACTIVITIES

As part of its 50th-anniversary celebration and in light of the pandemic considerations, the AGA Guam Chapter announces in lieu of a commemorative gala, the following signature activities have been planned for program year 2020-2021 that will honor our past, recognize our present, and prepare for our future.

Honoring Our Past

2020 Prof. John M. Phillips Excellence in Government Accountability Award (September 2020) ✓

Legacy of the AGA Guam Publication (April 2021)

Recognizing Our Present

Who's Who in Government Accountability (*moved to May 2021, during the GPDC*)

Recognition of entities for their Citizen-Centric Reports (CCRs) ✓

Recognition of AGA Guam Chapter's Certified Government Financial Managers (CGFMs) (March 2021)

Preparing For Our Future

GovGuam 50 Under 40: Emerging Leaders in the Government of Guam (October 2020) ✓

Awarding recipients of the Herminia Dierking Scholarship (UOG) and the AGA Guam Chapter Scholarship (GCC) (October 2020 ✓ and February 2021)

Hosting the 2021 Virtual Guam Professional Development Conference (May 2021)

Professor John M. Phillips
Excellence in Government Accountability Award –
Carmen Kwek Santos, VP
GCC



Click [here](#) to view the 50 Under 40: Emerging Leaders in the Government Of Guam publication.



Fall 2020 Scholarship Recipient

“ The Herminia Dierking Scholarship will assist me by reducing my tuition costs, which is extremely helpful towards attaining my Accounting degree and would grant me a chance to sit for the CPA exam. ”



NOLI SANCHEZ, SENIOR - UOG

Citizen-Centric Report Winners



For CCRs submitted to AGA National click [here](#).



MEMBERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

congratulations
FEBRUARY
ANNIVERSARIES

28 YEARS

ANTHONY A. MENO, CGFM

RETIRED

23 YEARS

TIMOTHY J.W. FUNG, CGFM

RETIRED

17 YEARS

MARIPAZ NOGOY PEREZ, CGFM, CGAP,

CICA, CIA, CFE

GUAM POWER AUTHORITY

13 YEARS

BARBARA TERESA M. MOLARTE

RESEARCH CORP. UNIVERSITY OF GUAM

GLORIA TRAVIS, CGFM

UNIVERSITY OF GUAM

10 YEARS

ZITA T. SAN AGUSTIN

GUAM POWER AUTHORITY

8 YEARS

ZENAIDA A. VALENCIA

UNIVERSITY OF GUAM BUSINESS OFFICE

5 YEARS

MARISOL M. ANDRADE, CGFM

GUAM OFFICE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY

16 YEARS

PAMELA R. AGUIGUI

GUAM POWER AUTHORITY

JORNA BALLON

GUAM POWER AUTHORITY

LUZ M. BURGOS

GUAM POWER AUTHORITY

BERNADETTE PANGELINAN CEPEDA

GUAM POWER AUTHORITY

ELENITA R. FLORENCIO

GUAM POWER AUTHORITY

DANILO TAYAG MAGDANGAL

GUAM POWER AUTHORITY

RUBY SANTOS MANIBUSAN

GUAM POWER AUTHORITY

CORAZON R. MONTELLANO

CONSULTANT

FELISA ARELLANO REGALADO

GUAM POWER AUTHORITY

PATRICIA M. SABLAN

GUAM POWER AUTHORITY

LEILANI B. VILLEGAS

GUAM POWER AUTHORITY

congratulations

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

4 YEARS

MARGIE LORENZE Y. FRANCISCO

ERNST & YOUNG LLP

FREDERICK D. JONES

GUAM OFFICE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY

2 YEARS

RACHEL BONGATO

DELOITTE AND TOUCHE LLP

JC PEARL MM DANIEL

DELOITTE AND TOUCHE LLP

AL JOHN L. MANLUCU

DELOITTE AND TOUCHE LLP

NEW MEMBERS

KENNELLE DENISE M. CAMACHO

E-MEMBER

METELLEKLANG K. IYECAD

GUAM REGIONAL MEDICAL CITY

DANIELLE S. LEE

E-MEMBER

1 YEAR

JULIE ANNE A. AMBUNAN

DELOITTE AND TOUCHE LLP

JANESSA RC BLAS

GUAM WATERWORKS AUTHORITY

JORIZAIRA R. BORJA

GUAM POWER AUTHORITY

MARY JANE G. CAMACHO

PORT AUTHORITY OF GUAM

LOEDA DALMACIO

CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF THE DIOCESE OF AGANA

SEMJELEH REW D. DAVIS

PORT AUTHORITY OF GUAM

JERRICHO C. GARCIA

GUAM HOUSING & URBAN RENEWAL AUTHORITY

SAMUEL J.O. MANTANONA

BURGER COMER MAGLIARI

MARK C. NATIVIDAD

E-MEMBER

DORIANNE B. REYES

GUAM WATERWORKS AUTHORITY

GLADYS JEAN OCAMPO SAZON

DELOITTE AND TOUCHE LLP

KOLEENA FAYE D. SOTO

GUAM WATERWORKS AUTHORITY

MARDAVE JOSE L. TOLEDO

JUDICIARY OF GUAM



MEMBERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

ALEXANDER M. DUENAS

ACCOUNTING MANAGER
AMERICAN MEDICAL CENTER
MEMBER SINCE JANUARY 2021



1. Name, nickname, designations:

Alexander (Alex) M. Duenas

2. Why did you join AGA?

I joined the AGA for several reasons. I think it is important to network with other professional in the field, to stay current about the trends and practices within accounting, and to learn from others.

3. What do you like most about being in AGA?

I like the fact that there are frequent seminars, meetings, announcements, and updates. It gives me, as well as the membership a whole slew of resources to grow our professional knowledge and skill base.

4. Tell us a bit about yourself?

I was born and raised in Guam. I have two younger brothers. Both of my parents are teachers at George Washington High School, where I also graduated from in 2010. I then attended the University of Guam where I graduated with a dual B.A. degrees in accounting and economics in 2015. After graduation, I started as an accountant with the American Medical Center, where I am now the accounting manager. I am currently pursuing my M.S. in Management Information Systems at the University of Arizona.

5. What do you like most about what you do?

What I like most about what I do is that I am able to feel like an active part of a company's decision making, culture, and direction. Whether it be performing analysis to determine the suitability of business opportunities or taking to coworkers about general work issues, I find it rewarding and satisfying that I am able to assist the organization in its overall growth and development.

6. Interesting fact about yourself...

I am an avid power and Olympic style weightlifter.

7. Three words to describe yourself...

I would describe myself as friendly, resourceful, and versatile.

8. If you didn't get into accounting, what job would you have done?

If I did not get into accounting, I would have probably gone off-island to law school and become an attorney.

9. Give three favorites (song, food, and movie; or show, color, holiday; or any mix of favorites):

Food – Kofta with saffron rice, and pomegranate salad

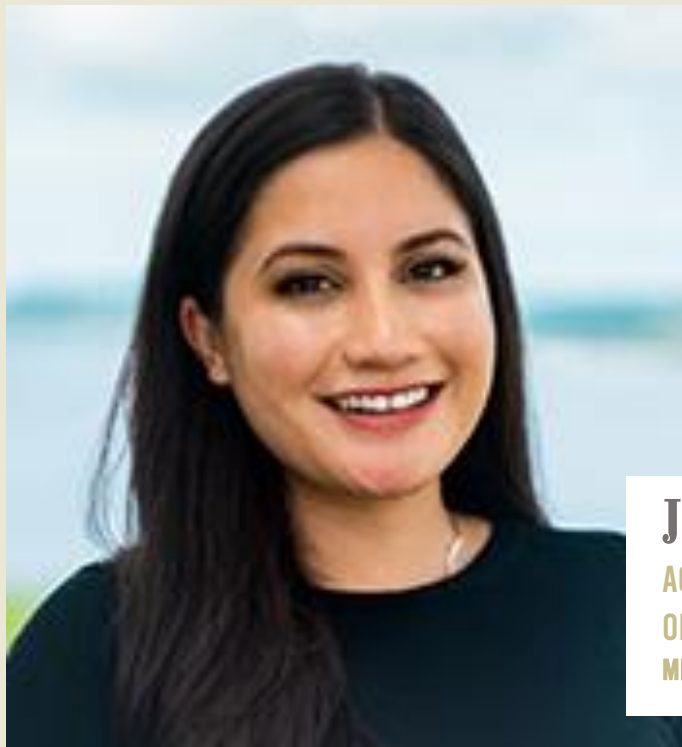
Holiday – Thanksgiving

Movie – The Shawshank Redemption

10. Advice to members to get the most out of their membership.

Meet as many people as you can, network, and ask questions. There are a lot of knowledgeable and experienced individuals in the organization from whom you can learn about your profession, latest practices and strategies.

MEMBERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

**JOHANNA PANGELINAN**

ACCOUNTABILITY AUDITOR I

OFFICE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY – GUAM

MEMBER SINCE JANUARY 2021

1. Name, nickname, designations:

Johanna Pangelinan

2. Why did you join AGA?

Network and professional growth

3. What do you like most about being in AGA?

I particularly like how inspiring AGA is.

4. Tell us a bit about yourself?

I graduated from Academy of Our Lady of Guam.**Soon after, I graduated from the University of Guam with a BBA in Accounting.****I currently work as an Accountability Auditor I at the Office of Public Accountability.**

5. What do you like most about what you do?

What is most satisfying for me is knowing that my work contributes to the betterment of our island.

6. Interesting fact about yourself...

I once walked 6 miles in the NYC Metropolitan Museum of Art because I was lost.

7. Three words to describe yourself...

Kind | Resourceful | Fashionable

8. If you didn't get into accounting, what job would you have done?

I probably would have done something that involves working with animals.

9. Give three favorites (song, food, and movie; or show, color, holiday; or any mix of favorites):

Holiday: Christmas | Food: Chalakilis | Movie: Harry Potter

10. Advice to members to get the most out of their membership.

As a new member, I believe attending the meetings is a good first step and I look forward to them.**WE WANT TO MEET YOU TOO...**

Email agaguamchapter@gmail.com your responses and a picture and we can feature you in our future issue.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Highlighting member achievements and contributions

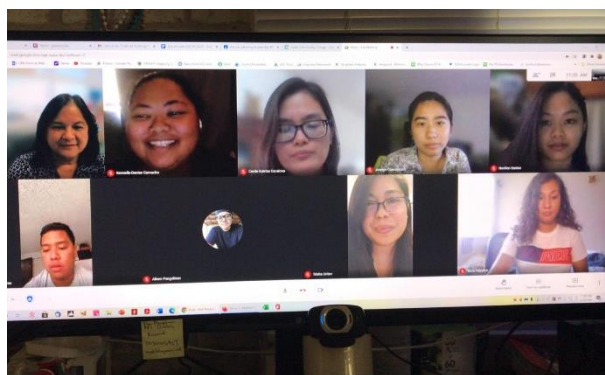


JUSTIN B. CASTRO, CFE

Member since January 2017

Castro served as a guest speaker for the November Association of Junior Accountants (AJA) meeting. The meeting was on "Pros and Benefits of the Accounting Profession". Castro talked about job security, developing a business mindset, understanding financial literacy, and the many different fields in accounting.

AJA is an organization for Guam Community College students.



LENORA M. SANZ

Member since March 2007

Sanz, who is a Controller at the Guam Power Authority, served as a guest speaker during the February AJA meeting. Sanz gave an overview of the adjusting and closing procedures performed.

Thank you!
FOR SHARING YOUR EXPERIENCE

ICYDK

In case you didn't know... as part of our mission to advance our profession, the Guam Chapter provides speakers to assist in and contribute to discussions with college and university students via their organization meetings or classes. If you are interested in participating in a presentation, feel free to contact our Young Professionals Directors, Rachel Cubacub or Jun-Patrick Salalila for the next opportunity.

OPEN CALL

Give the recognition they deserve. If you or your agency/company would like to share the spotlight on an outstanding Member, send us a picture and a write-up. We can feature promotions, achievements (certifications earned, completed trainings, etc.), and other highlights.



MEMBERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

DON'T FORGET IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Invoices are now available on your membership profile and will be mailed out by National. Be sure to renew prior to March 31 to ensure your membership does not get suspended*.

* Failure to renew on time will restart your Join Date. AGA recognizes members who have demonstrated distinguished service and dedication throughout the years. *Lifetime membership is conferred upon individuals who have maintained active member status for at least 40 consecutive years.*

Friendly Reminder!

**UPDATE YOUR
MEMBERSHIP
PROFILE
ON AGACGFM.ORG**

Be sure to update your member profile for any changes in personal, work, and contact information. This will ensure you receive all your benefits and notifications.

I renewed early, have you?

Renewing online is quick and easy — just follow these steps:

1. Log in to **My AGA** with your username and password. Forgot your password? **You can reset it here.**
2. Click "Proceed to Checkout" and verify your AGA membership dues.
3. Click "Check Out" and enter credit card payment.
4. Click "Submit Payment".

That's it! **All members who renew before March 15 will be entered into a drawing for a complimentary virtual registration to PDT 2021, a \$500 value!*** Three winners will be chosen!

*Drawing is held by AGA National.

Did you know... While AGA's Program Year is from July 1 to June 30, AGA's membership period is from April 1 to March 31. As such, if you join AGA at interim, you will pay the full rate on Year 1, have a prorated rate upon renewal on Year 2, and be on the regular annual renewal by Year 3.

MEMBERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS



AGA National's Power of 7 Recruitment Challenge

As we celebrate AGA National's 70th year, National President Wendy Morton-Huddleston, CGFM, challenges all members to commit to the Power of 7! Her call to action is for all members to recruit 7 new AGA members during the 2020–2021 year!

AGA membership is more important than ever. It is a key link to our profession, an opportunity to learn from others, invest in ourselves and make our profession stronger.

As members, YOU are the best advocates for AGA membership! Only you know how AGA membership has impacted you and your professional career and can easily convey it to others. Tell them *what AGA means to you!* By recruiting new members, you can help strengthen your Association and impact the future of your profession!

In as little as 7 minutes — with a quick call, a Zoom chat, or an email, you can have a tremendous impact!

Just think about it.

- 24 hours in a day
- 1440 minutes in a day
- *7 minutes is less than 1 percent of your day!*

Plus, by encouraging your friends and colleagues to elevate their professional potential via AGA membership can lead to awards and rewards for you!

Step 1: Reach to Colleagues and Friends

Step 2: Share What AGA Means to You

Step 3: Invite Them to Join AGA

Step 4: Receive Awards and Rewards!

The Fine Print

- All AGA members in good standing are eligible to participate.
- Recruiting free electronic members (students and professors), retired and suspended members do not qualify for campaign awards and rewards.
- The 2020–2021 Power of 7 Recruitment Challenge runs for 7 months! October 1, 2020 through **April 30, 2021**.



CGFM CORNER

Get started on your
CGFM
today!

Learn more about the value and benefits of **Certified Government Financial Manager** through a short video here.

Get started today!

www.agacgfm.org/CGFM

Visit the agacgfm.org or click [here](#) to read up on important Continuing Profession Education (CPE) Requirements. The CGFM CPE policies have been updated to include changes and clarifications to current policies. Changes are effective for all CPE cycles that start after December 31, 2020.

Did You Know... CGFM EDITION 6 OF 10

How long do I wait before I retake the CGFM exams? In the event that you fail a CGFM Examination, you must wait 30 days before you can retake this examination. Additional retakes require a 60-day wait.

How much is the exams for retake? The retake fee is the same as the original exam fee - \$125 per exam.

Where can I take the CGFM exams? The CGFM exams can be scheduled through Pearson VUE. In addition, candidates may now take the CGFM exams conveniently from home through OnVUE online proctoring. NOTE: Guam's Pearson VUE is located in the UIU Building 267 South Marine Drive Suite 209 Tamuning and the Testing Center is located on the 2nd floor.

What is OnVue online? OnVUE online proctored exams allow you to conveniently take an exam in the comfort of your home or office while being monitored by an offsite proctor through your webcam. All communication with the proctor is done in English.

What are the system requirements to use the OnVue platform? Operating Systems required to use OnVue are: Windows 10; Windows 8.1; and Mac OS 10.13 and above. Visit the AGA online proctoring page (and review information on exam policies and procedures, system requirements, and the System Test. In order to take the exam in an online environment, you must agree to the Pearson online proctored policies (<https://home.pearsonvue.com/aga/onvue>).



CGFM CORNER



Planned Activities

CGFM GOVERNOR PROCLAMATIONS & LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

Thursday, February 25, 2021 | Please wear **RED**

- 10:00AM | CGFM Legislative Resolution Presented by Senator Joe San Agustin
Face-to-Face Presentation at the Congress Building
- 11:30AM | CGFM Month Proclamation Presented by Governor Lou Leon Guerrero
Virtual Presentation

COFFEE KLATCH FOR OUR FUTURE CGFMS

Saturday, February 27, 2021

- 10:00AM | Virtual Meeting
Topic: Updates by members on their progress: test appointments and study tips

LETTERS TO AGENCY HEADS RECOGNIZING CGFMS

Monday, March 1, 2021

- Letters to be emailed to all agency heads requesting them to recognize CGFMs within their organization

PRESENTATION/GUEST SPEAKERS - UOG'S JAS* MEETING

Tuesday, March 2, 2021

- 3:30PM | Virtual Meeting
Topic: Membership, AGA Benefits, and CGFM

PRESENTATION/GUEST SPEAKERS – GCC'S AJA** MEETING

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

- 11:00AM | Virtual Meeting

TRAINING: "HOW TO PREVENT BULLYING IN THE WORKPLACE"

Wednesday, March 24, 2021

- 12:00PM | Virtual Presentation during the monthly General Membership Meeting (1 CPE)
Speaker: Mr. Vincent C. Camacho

Acknowledgment and Recognition of our CGFMs Wednesday, March 24, 2021

- 12:00PM | Virtual Presentation during General Membership Meeting on March 24, 2021

* Junior Accountant's Society (JAS)

** Association of Junior Accountants (AJA)

The AGA GUAM CHAPTER *supports its members with their* **CGFM** *goals!*

The AGA Guam Chapter Certification Committee has various initiatives to promote the CGFM designation. This includes the following:

- CGFM Scholarship Reimbursement,
- CGFM Review Exam Questions Scholarship Reimbursement,
- Study Guides Loan Program,
- CGFM E-Book Study Guides Scholarship Reimbursement, and
- CGFM Mentorship Program

For more information, visit our website and view the section on CGFM Initiatives (or click [HERE](#)). You may also review our updated [SOP-3: CGFM Certification Programs, Testing, and Reimbursement Scholarships](#) on the Chapter By-Laws section (or click [Here](#)).

You can also contact our Certification Directors Maripaz Perez at mperez@gpagwa.com or Mercedes Poliarco at mpoliarco@guamwaterworks.com.



On March 12, 2020, the Guam Chapter obtained a Legislative Resolution and Governor Proclamation recognizing and commending Guam's CGFM's and declaring March 2020 as "CGFM Month." Seated are Governor Lou Leon Guerrero, Lt. Gov. Josh Tenorio, Sen. Joe San Agustin, and fellow AGA members.

Why be a CGFM?

The Certified Government Financial Manager® (CGFM®) credential exemplifies experience and proficiency, distinguishing individuals who have made a significant commitment to their professional development. A CGFM has:

Increased knowledge of government financial management: CGFMs must pass three rigorous examinations, covering key topics including federal, state and local accounting and reporting; financial management functions; performance measurement; internal controls and auditing.

Better understanding of the big picture of government: CGFMs recognize how the different components of government financial management fit together, and they understand their role in the process.

Greater confidence on the job: The CGFM certification is directly applicable to the everyday duties of government financial professionals, at every level. It can help a new employee hit the ground running, while enhancing the performance of existing employees.





and other member benefits

THE 2021 WINTER ISSUE IS OUT! [CLICK HERE TO READ.](#)



LINKS AND RESOURCES

The following is a summary of a few of the many helpful resources available on AGA National's website.

Free Members-Only Webinars

AGA members enjoy multiple free learning opportunities throughout the year. Members-only webinars are 75-minutes long and offer 1.5 CPEs.

March Members Only Webinar

March 17 | 2:00–3:15 PM ET | 1.5 CPEs | 1.5 PDU's | FOS: PD

Program Level: Overview

Prerequisite: None

Advance Preparation: None required

Field of Study: Personal Development (PD)

How to Register

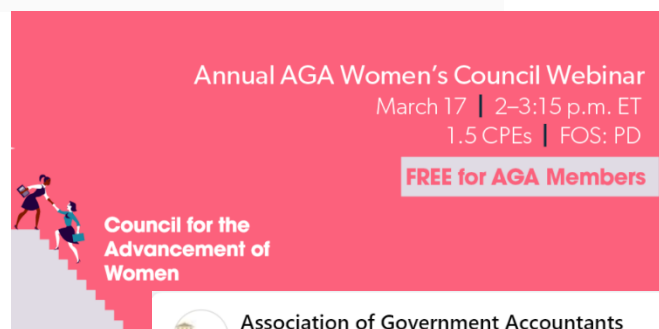
Online Registration Process

Online registrations are for this webinar only.



March Members Only Webinar

March 17 | 2:00–3:15 PM ET



Association of Government Accountants

February 18 at 2:26 AM · 🌐

Join us for AGA's Annual Women's Council Webinar sponsored by the Council for Advancement of Women! This annual panel hosts inspiring, accomplished, empowered women leaders from federal, state and local government financial sectors to offer leadership tools, insights and perspectives from their career journeys. <https://zcu.io/L5zv>

NEED CPES?

Aside from the free members-only webinars, AGA National offers at cost (discounted for members), the following:

- [Journal CPE Online Quizzes](#)
- [Self-Learning Training](#)
- Discounted CPEs from [Becker Professional Education Resources](#)
- [Webinars](#)
- Other in-person events

Refer to the [Trainings & Events](#) page on AGA National's website.



Association of Government Accountants

February 11 at 1:47 AM · 🌐

Webinar | March 3 | Using Data and Disruptive Technology to Reduce Improper Payments
Learn how data, machine learning, blockchain and AI are being used to combat fraud, waste and abuse and reduce improper payments.

Receive insights from government and industry leaders on technology solutions and best practices to identify and prevent improper payments.

Understand the profound impact of the pandemic on fraud, payment migration, exception handling and how the industry has responded. Register now: <https://zcu.io/lqw7>



LINKS AND RESOURCES



Just Released — RPA in Federal Financial Management Organizations Report

Facing limited budget resources and rising stakeholder expectations for better and faster financial and performance data, federal agencies are turning to new tools and tactics to fulfill their mission goals and improve operational efficiency. Agencies pivoted toward digital technology years ago to multiply resources, but the tempo of adopting technology accelerated with the introduction of many advanced applications.

One new digital technology gaining attention in federal agencies is robotic process automation (RPA). Its relative simplicity in comparison to other emerging technologies, such as artificial intelligence, makes RPA an attractive option, because it is quicker to implement and it paves the way for more advanced digital labor tools in the future. AGA's Corporate Partner Advisory Group Technology Committee, noting growth in RPA adoption, launched a study of its use in the federal financial management (FM) community to assess its effectiveness.

Download the FREE report and learn more about RPA and its use in the federal FM community!

To download the report:

1. Log in to your [My AGA account](#).
2. Go to Research & Publications, then [Executive Reports](#) and click on [RPA in Federal Financial Management Organizations](#).

February 19, 2021 Email from AGA National Office
How is Your RPA Journey Going?



DID YOU KNOW, AGA HAS A PODCAST?

CLICK [HERE](#) TO LISTEN.

"Accountability Talks" is a podcast focused on the government accountability community. These conversations are intended to enlighten and inspire you as you navigate your career, provide fascinating insights from government thought leaders and encourage you to take part in this vibrant community.

About the host: Paul Marshall, CPA, CGFM, CIA, CICA, PMP is a Vice President at the MIL Corporation and avid AGA member. He has worked in the government accountability world for 20 years supporting audits, audit readiness, financial reporting, accounting operations, process improvement, software implementation, enterprise risk management and pretty much anything else you can think of. Paul has also served on AGA boards at the Northern Virginia Chapter and National level and is passionate about sharing best practices in government accounting.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The AGA Guam Chapter provides academic scholarships for students who intend to pursue degrees in business administration or public administration disciplines. These scholarships are as follows:

Herminia Dierking Scholarship Program

The Herminia Dierking Scholarship program is offered in recognition of the achievements of the late Herminia H. Dierking, a Legislator, Educator, Humanitarian, Past President of AGA Guam Chapter, Past Regional Vice President of AGA Pacific Rim, and a past recipient of the AGA National Chapter Service award. This Scholarship is open to students who intend to pursue a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, Business Administration, Finance and Economics, or Public Administration at the University of Guam (UOG).

AGA Guam Chapter Scholarships

The AGA Guam Chapter Scholarship program is offered in order to “advance government accountability” and transparency in all government levels by reaching out to all accountability professionals from Accounting Technicians to Accountants. This Scholarship is open to students who intend to pursue an Associate's Degree in Accounting at the Guam Community College (GCC).

We are pleased to announce our Spring 2021 awardees are as follows:

Herminia Dierking Scholarship - \$1,000 each

- **Steve Terlaje**
- **Beato Manglona**

AGA Guam Chapter Scholarship - \$500 each

- **Desarie Mallari**
- **McEllie Garcia**

Congratulations scholarship recipients!

Applicants for the 2020 scholarships were asked to write a 500-word essay. This year's topic was: ***“As the AGA Guam Chapter celebrates 50 years of serving professionals in the government financial management community, describe what changes you would like to see in government accountability in the next 50 years.”*** The following are excerpts from this year's awardees.



SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

STEVE TERLAJE

UOG

BUSINESS – FINANCE & ECONOMICS



"Government accountability is one of the tenets of good governance and which in turn affects the quality of life for our island's citizens. Therefore, it is very important that the government of Guam continue to strive in improving the principles of accountability. One major aspect of accountability entails that measures are in place to determine whether governments are taking action in the best of interest of its citizens. However, how can we hold government officials accountable without having established a strategic plan for the island that can carry us through the next 5, 10, or even 50 years?"

I believe that currently, our citizens are unaware of the government's vision to enhance the livelihood of our people or provide a better future for the island. For example, a Guam Strategic Plan will provide a framework of what we can expect the island to achieve or aim for economically, socially, and environmentally. In turn, it will provide the citizens the ability to measure the commitment of elected officials to reach those intended goals when they make policy decisions and funding priorities. A prime example is how Hawaii has developed its comprehensive statewide plan called, the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan. This plan solicited input from citizens and was submitted to its State Legislature."

BEATO MANGLONA

UOG

BUSINESS ADMIN. IN ACCOUNTING



"Over the next fifty years, I would like to see the government create a report that conveys information the average citizen would be concerned with and in a format that is easily understandable by anyone. The Government of Guam prepares financial statements that anyone could access. These statements give total breakdowns of how much the government and the departments spent and made throughout the year, but only in aggregate totals, which does not provide much information to the average person. Additionally, the presentation of the statements can be confusing to anyone without an understanding of financial language....

Without context explaining the government's operations, the average person cannot assess whether the government is servicing the people. To address this issue, the government should make a report that describes expenditures made throughout the period so that the average person can understand what the government is doing and how it is getting the money to do those things. The government's main purpose is to provide for the needs of the people, and by revealing their operations in more detail, the people can hold the government accountable for their purpose."



SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

DESARIE MALLARI

GCC

ACCOUNTING | MARKETING



"In this contemporary world, there are various ways to maximize the resources and projects AGA has in order to promote government accountability. They may use widely used platforms such as Facebook and Instagram as avenues for posting member spotlights, infographics, updates, and CCR's. Social media will serve as a documentation platform that can be easily accessed by a wider range of stakeholders and general audience as opposed to individual websites citizens may not know about...."

Posts may be published on Instagram or Facebook and may acknowledge the people involved and disclose basic financial information in regards to the projects. These steps may ensure full transparency and give citizens a snapshot of what is in store as well as clarify what people get for their contributions in society. Accountants and other facilitators involved will be less inclined to commit any fraudulent activities."



MCELLIE GARCIA

GCC

ACCOUNTING



"The principle of transparency requires that all decisions and actions of those in the government are in the best interest of the public. In our highly technological environment today, there is still a lack of information regarding government organizations' performance and the inability to access this information for the public. In the next 50 years, I would like to see the following in government accountability: more transparency, technological integration, and full automation of systems. The principle of accountability has two components: answerability - the ability to provide information and justification for how one's actions align with expectations; and enforcement - being subject to and accepting the consequences of failing to meet expectations. In [other] words, accountability gives clarity about who is accountable to whom, why, and how...."

Government organizations are transparent when they provide information for others to see and understand how daily operations are conducted in an honest way. This also includes the production, usage, and purpose of funds. There needs to be more clarity and readily available information in terms of purpose, origin, and announcement of decision-making in order to achieve accountability. In addition, transparency in government entities are needed to eradicate barriers containing information, prevent corruption, and enable public access to government procedures, performance, and rules and regulations. In the end, accountability and transparency are two building pillars for the government to become successful."



RESEARCH AND STANDARDS

GASB NEWS



On February 23, 2021, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) published on its website a Fact Sheet about its proposed Statement, *Financial Reporting Model Improvements*. The public comment period ends **February 26**, after which the Board will conduct public hearings and user forums to gather additional feedback from stakeholders.

The Fact Sheet and a one-page executive summary are available on the GASB website, www.gasb.org. Or click below for direct links to the pdfs:

- **FACT SHEET: FINANCIAL REPORTING MODEL IMPROVEMENTS [02/19/21] – [EXECUTIVE SUMMARY](#) | [FULL FACT SHEET](#)**

FOR QUARTERLY UPDATES, SUBSCRIBE TO...

GASB OUTLOOK. The [GASB Outlook](#) is a quarterly e-newsletter designed to keep stakeholders informed about key GASB projects and activities. It presents current accounting and financial reporting issues in a “plain-English” user-friendly format designed to provide quick access to stories of interest to the busy professional. [Click here to subscribe.](#)

ON THE HORIZON: A NUMBER OF NEW PROPOSALS ARE COMING SOON

Learn about Exposure Drafts the Board will be issuing in the coming months on compensated absences, risks and uncertainties disclosures, prior-period adjustments, and an implementation guidance update.

>> [More](#)



MEET GASB MEMBER DIANNE RAY: A BRIEF Q&A

Colorado State Auditor Dianne Ray recently joined the GASB. In this brief Q&A, she shares her perspective on what drew her to state government, key opportunities she sees for the Board, and more.

>> [More](#)



SHARE YOUR VIEWS: THREE GASB PROPOSALS ARE OUT FOR COMMENT

- [Financial Reporting Model Exposure Draft](#)
- [Revenue and Expense Recognition Preliminary Views](#)
- [Recognition of Elements of Financial Statements Exposure Draft](#)

GASB CALENDAR



MORE

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FASB OUTLOOK. The [FASB Outlook](#) is a quarterly e-newsletter designed to keep stakeholders informed about key FASB projects and activities. It presents current accounting and financial reporting issues in a “plain-English” user-friendly format designed to provide quick access to stories of interest to the busy professional. [Click here to subscribe.](#)

ON THE HORIZON

What you need to know about an upcoming standard intended to improve financial reporting for convertible instruments and contracts in an entity's own equity.

>> [More](#)



MEET RICH JONES, THE NEW FASB CHAIR

Get to know incoming FASB Chair Richard R. Jones before he takes the reins on July 1, 2020.

>> [Play Video](#)



FASB CALENDAR



OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to the Judiciary of Guam on receiving AGA National's Certificate of Excellence in Citizen-Centric Reporting.

For CCRs submitted to National click [here](#).



COMMUNITY SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

In collaboration with the **AGA Guam Chapter's 50th Anniversary**, we are calling on our members to give back to the local community for at least 50 minutes. From now through April 30, 2021, members can do solo community service or collaborate on activities to earn service credit. Examples of service activities include:

- Participating in a beach cleanup;
- Preparing care packages for the homeless;
- Volunteering at the animal shelter;
- Tutoring;
- Presenting at a career day;
- Preparing Thank You cards for veterans; and
- Volunteering with a recycling program.

Members can self-certify their service credit by emailing a photo and the description, date, and time/duration of the activity to **Community Service Directors Margie Francisco (franciscomargie@outlook.com) and Vanessa Valencia (vdrvalencia@hotmail.com)**. Please let us know in your email if you're willing to allow us to share your community service efforts on our social media.



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