



Quarterly Newsletter

The Power of Networking

In today's professional world, being actively involved in networking and professional development is essential. Building connections not only helps us grow our skills but also opens doors to new opportunities that we may not encounter otherwise.

Getting involved in professional groups like AGA and community networks can make a huge difference in our careers and personal growth. Whether you're just starting out or have years of experience, connecting with others helps us learn new skills, discover fresh perspectives, and find new opportunities.

Getting involved can be easy! Start by joining us at events, signing up for a committee, or even taking on a volunteer role. These are great ways to learn, share, and make connections that go beyond the professional benefits. Mentorship is another valuable way to engage—whether you're looking to mentor or be mentored, it's a chance to gain and give insight. We highly encourage individuals pursuing their CGFM certification to connect with experienced members who are familiar with the process and can provide valuable guidance throughout the journey.

By actively engaging in networking and professional development, we strengthen our community, making it more connected, supportive, and professional. Let's take full advantage of the opportunities at AGA Charleston to support each other's growth and achieve success together.

Upcoming Events

[WEBINAR: INTERNAL
CONTROL - 2 CPE
DEC 4](#)

[FREE MEMBERS-ONLY
WEBINAR - 1.5 CPE
DEC 11](#)

[WEBINAR: AI
UNDERSTANDING
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE -
2CPE
JAN 15](#)

[WEBINAR: WAKE UP
WEDNESDAY COFFEE CHAT -
FREE! 1CPE
JAN 29](#)

[WEBINAR: GASB UPDATE
2CPE
FEB 05](#)

Community Corner

Charleston Animal Society

We recently teamed up with the Charleston Animal Society to collect donations for NC hurricane relief victims. Our volunteers also made homemade treats for the furry friends at the shelter, spreading joy to the animals that are awaiting adoption. Thank you to everyone who contributed — your generosity makes a real difference!



Sullivan's Island Beach Clean-up

Sullivan's Island Beach Clean-up

In September, a group of AGA volunteers participated in a beach clean-up on nearby Sullivan's Island. We rolled up our sleeves and picked up trash and debris. We're very proud to be a part of ongoing efforts to help keep our beaches and waterways clean.



Mary Ford Educational Center

Our Reading Buddy program at Mary Ford Early Learning and Family Center is in full swing! Each week, our volunteers visit the school to help students improve their reading skills and develop a love for learning. It's been amazing to see the growth of these young readers, and we're excited to continue supporting them throughout the year.

In October, our very own Cowboy Shea (Hester) saddled up on his horse, Trigger, and paid a special visit to the school that day. Shea even let his reading buddy, Carter, wear his cowboy hat throughout their reading session. The kids were absolutely thrilled to see a "real" cowboy at their school that day.

Looking Ahead: Christmas Volunteer & Donation Event

As we approach the holiday season, we're excited to announce our upcoming Christmas Volunteer & Donation Event in December. We're planning something special for our community, and we'll be sharing more details soon. We will be sending out communications on ways to get involved and help us spread some holiday cheer!

Thank You!

A heartfelt thank you to all our volunteers and supporters. Your dedication and generosity are making a real impact, and we're excited to continue this journey with you. Please stay tuned for more exciting volunteer opportunities.

AGA Charleston Partners with Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce

This September, the AGA Charleston chapter proudly joined the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce (CMCC), embarking on an exciting partnership to strengthen our mission and broaden our impact in the community.

Our membership unlocks numerous opportunities to collaborate with CMCC's Government Relations team. Together, we aim to deliver educational programs that align with local and state priorities, emphasizing how these initiatives support the business community.

We are also excited about the opportunity to participate in the CMCC's Military Advisory Committee. This platform connects us with Federal and Military leaders in the Charleston area, enabling joint initiatives that align with AGA's mission of advancing government accountability and leadership.

Leadership development is another vital aspect of this partnership. By engaging with initiatives like Charleston Young Professionals, our chapter can help foster the next generation of leaders, sharing our values with emerging talent in the Lowcountry.

Through networking events and workforce programs, we're building connections with local businesses to expand our sponsorship and membership base. Additionally, we're eager to contribute to the Career & Education Coalition, which bridges the gap between business and education to identify qualified talent for Charleston's industries.

This partnership is a significant step forward, and we look forward to a successful collaboration that will elevate our chapter and enhance the community we serve.



Message from the President

VICTORIA CLARK, CHAPTER PRESIDENT

We're already halfway through our chapter year, and I can't thank you all enough for the energy, time, and commitment you've put in to make our chapter a success! To our amazing members and dedicated CEC leaders—you bring a spark to everything we do, and it truly shows. From projects to networking events, you have helped us build a stronger, more vibrant chapter.

As we look toward the second half of the year, I'm thrilled to share that our biggest event yet,

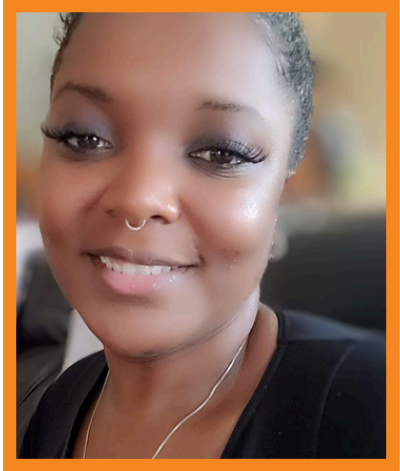
our Charleston PDT, is on the horizon for March 2025! This will be an incredible opportunity to learn, connect, and grow together, and I can't wait to see all of you there making it one of our best yet. Keep an eye out for more details and ways to get involved!

Wishing each of you a joyful and safe holiday season with family and friends. Thank you again for all you do, and let's keep the momentum rolling into 2025!

New Member Spotlight

Shellee Myers

As a Haynes contract employee for the past two and a half years, Shellee has been providing top-notch support to Department of State customers.



In Her Own Words

"I joined AGA because it is a great opportunity to network with like-minded individuals in my field." Shellee's also excited "to attend training sessions that expand my knowledge and skill set and keep me up-to-date with our industry trends and best practices."

"As a member, I look forward to attending different training sessions and learning something new. I love to learn! I would like to complete other certifications that will help me advance my career and tackle more complex tasks."

"I love hanging with my family and friends at festivals. Good food, good music, and good people, always equals a great time."

Steven Colman



Steven was recently hired as an IFAS contract employee to provide support to the Department of State.

In His Own Words

"I am excited to join AGA because I made a big change into a new industry and AGA has a great reputation as an organization where I can meet great mentors in this field, take world class trainings, and give back to my local community."

Holiday Wishes

We truly hope that you all enjoy the upcoming holiday season especially spending time with family and friends. In addition to our volunteering opportunities, please also be on the lookout for communications regarding another social gathering / networking event in January!

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IFAS is a proud sponsor of the AGA Charleston Chapter



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