

May 2024

NEWSLETTER

Presidents Message

Christine Blair

Hello Shenandoah Valley AGA Members

It is almost Summertime! For me, this is a time of energy and connection. With connection in mind, I want to thank you for your continued support with the AGA Shenandoah Valley Chapter. I hope you have enjoyed all the events and opportunities that were offered this year.

This year a few of our members attended the 27th Annual AGA Commonwealth of Virginia Professional Development Training in Williamsburg, VA this past December. Aleasha and Saira attended LEAD 2024 in Baltimore, MD this past April. Their attendance helped provide us with some ideas for the upcoming year. I am also excited to announce that the chapter obtained two CGFM proclamations, one in Martinsburg, WV and one in Winchester, VA this past March for CGFM month.

Please remember this year the annual PDT will be held in Denver, Colorado. This is a great opportunity to enhance your professional development and network with over 3,000 of your peers from across the industry. Registration is now open!

I would like to wish you all a happy and prosperous Summer, see you in September! **Advance. Grow. Accelerate.**

Christine Blair



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Winchester, VA 22604

[www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/
ShenandoahValley/Home.aspx](http://www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/ShenandoahValley/Home.aspx)

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Upcoming Events

AGA Professional Development Training Discovering Possibilities Denver, Colorado July 14-17, 2024

Register for AGA's 2024 Professional Development Training on July 14-17 in Denver and gain valuable insights from leading government financial management professionals and industry experts. With over 3,000 attendees, PDT offers three and a half days of educational sessions designed to equip federal, state and local government, and private sector financial professionals with the skills and knowledge needed to enhance leadership, improve performance in cost-constrained environments, and address shared challenges using best practices.

Don't miss this opportunity to enhance your professional development and network with peers from across the industry.

Registration and Fees

Early bird deadline – Jun. 14, 2024

	Online	All Other
AGA Members		
Early Bird	\$ 925	\$ 950
Standard	\$1,025	\$1,050
Non-members		
Early Bird	\$1,125	\$1,150
Standard	\$1,225	\$1,250



Discovering Possibilities

Professional Development Training 2024

Denver, Colorado or virtual ✦ July 14-17

ERM Workshop

June 6, 2024

Ronald Reagan Building, Washington, D.C.

5.5 CPEs

This event provides participants with practical insight from Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) leaders. The workshop includes presentations as well as facilitated table discussions, where we moved from academic discussions to "how-to" explanations and examples. The small, facilitated groups enhanced opportunities for both hands-on work and Q&A.



Wake Up Wednesday Coffee Chat

June 12, 2024, 8-9:00am

Webinar—1 CPE

Free for AGA Members



Internal Control & Fraud Prevention Training

September 19-20, 2024

Washington, D.C.—14 CPE



Free for Students!

January 16-19, 2025

Datathon 2025

We look forward to hosting the 2025 Datathon that will kick off mid-January. The competition will be virtual and the finalist three teams will present their solutions during the [National Leadership Training](#) in Washington, D.C.

The Datathon will take your data science skills to new heights. Similar to hackathons, a datathon is an event where participants gather to solve practical problems through the application of data science tools and techniques, by working together in teams to generate potential solutions.

Participation in this event is open to college/university students in teams of at least two individuals to a maximum of five individuals (no cost). **There will be a range of exciting incentives, including cash prizes and networking opportunities!**

Tell Us What Training You Want

As we begin planning for our 2024-2025 AGA year, please share your ideas for training topics and potential speakers. This is your Chapter and we want to deliver training/topics that interest you. Please reach out to any of your Chapter Officers and we will do our best to find a speaker to address your request or invite a speaker you identify.

Join Our Chapter Executive Committee

We are recruiting members to join our Chapter Executive Committee for the upcoming Chapter 2024-25 year, which begins July 1. Are you interested in becoming more involved in AGA and your Chapter? Please reach out to any Chapter Officer and let us know. We would love for you to join our Executive Committee or one of our various committees and help out. We are always looking for new faces and new ideas. Take time to get involved; it will be worth your efforts to learn and grow!

Listen to the latest episode!

Accountability Talks



<https://www.agacgfm.org/Resources/AccountabilityTalks.aspx>



<https://www.agacgfm.org/JobBoard.aspx>

Did You Know?

AGA members are dedicated professionals.

AGA supports 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.

AGA 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.

Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM)

CGFM is a professional certification awarded by [AGA](#), who is *the* member organization for financial professionals in government.

Benefits of Becoming a **CGFM**:

- Increases knowledge of government financial management
- Increases confidence on the job
- Provides better understanding of 'big picture' of government
- Indicator of experience and knowledge
- Enhanced marketability throughout all levels of government



City of Winchester, Virginia

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Certified Government Financial Manager Month P R O C L A M A T I O N March 2024

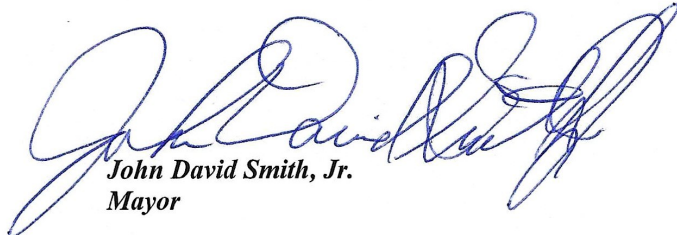
WHEREAS, the AGA Shenandoah Valley Chapter is a professional organization, part of AGA, which has a network of about 12,000 members in 84 chapters in the United States and around the world and approximately 22 active members representing state, federal, municipal and private sector accountants, auditors, and financial managers in Winchester, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, AGA Shenandoah Valley Chapter members have responded to AGA's mission of advancing government accountability, as it continues its broad educational efforts, with emphasis on high standards of conduct, honor, and character in its Code of Ethics, and are making significant advances both in professional ability and in service to the citizens of Winchester, Virginia by mastering increasingly technical and complex requirements, and

WHEREAS, the Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) program of AGA provides a means of demonstrating professionalism and competency by requiring CGFM candidates to have appropriate educational and employment history, to abide by AGA's Code of Ethics and to pass three examinations requiring expertise in Governmental Environment, Governmental Financial Management and Control, and Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting, and requires each CGFM holder to maintain certification by completing at least 80 hours of continuing professional education in government financial management topics or related technical subjects every two years.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John David Smith, Jr., Mayor of the City of Winchester, in recognition of our community servants, do hereby proclaim March 2024, as Certified Government Financial Manager Month in the City of Winchester, Virginia.




John David Smith, Jr.
Mayor

"To provide a safe, vibrant, sustainable community while striving to constantly improve the quality of life for our citizens and economic partners."

PROCLAMATION
Certified Government Financial Manager Month
March 2024

WHEREAS, the AGA Shenandoah Valley Chapter is a professional organization, part of AGA, which has a network for about 12,000 members in 84 chapters in the United States and around the world, and approximately three active members representing state, federal, municipal, and private sector accountants, auditors, and financial managers in Martinsburg, West Virginia; and

WHEREAS, AGA Shenandoah Valley Chapter members have responded to AGA's mission of advancing government accountability, as it continues its broad educational efforts, with emphasis on high standards of conduct, honor, and character in its Code of Ethics, and are making significant advances both in professional ability and in service to the citizens of the City of Martinsburg; and

WHEREAS, the Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) program of AGA provides a means of demonstrating professionalism and competency by requiring CGFM candidates to have appropriate educational and employment history, to abide by AGA's Code of Ethics and pass three examinations requiring expertise in Governmental Environment, Governmental Financial Management and Control, and Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting, and requires each CGFM holder to maintain certification by completing, at least, eighty hours of continuing professional education in government financial management topics or related technical subjects every two years;

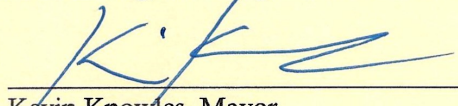
WHEREAS, the CGFM program celebrates its 30th year in 2024, established in 1994 to fill a need in the government financial management community through preparation and exams encompassing all facets of government financing at all levels of government; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kevin Knowles, Mayor of Martinsburg, West Virginia do hereby proclaim March 2024 as

"Certified Government Financial Manager Month"

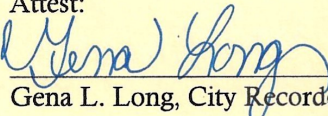
in the City of Martinsburg and we do urge all citizens to join in celebrating the diligence of these professionals dedicated to public service and financial integrity.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, Kevin Knowles, Mayor of Martinsburg have hereunto affixed my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Martinsburg, West Virginia to be affixed the 14th day of March, 2024



Kevin Knowles, Mayor

Attest:



Gena L. Long, City Recorder



Community Service Corner

December 14, 2024

National Wreaths Across America Day

Help Shenandoah Valley AGA honor local heroes!

Sponsor a wreath today to be placed on a veteran's grave this December at Arlington National Cemetery.

Scan the QR code to make a donation online or visit www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org/VA0054P



Chapter Officers 2023-2024

President-Christine Blair

President-Elect-Vacant

Treasurer-Aleasha Jeffries

Secretary-Vacant

Membership Chair-Megan Judd

Newsletter Editor-Gina Smith Moss

Education Chair-Brooke Pennington

Achievement in Excellence (ACE) Chair-Gina Smith Moss

Accountability Chair-Vacant

Community Service Chair-Danielle Unger

CGFM Chair-Vacant

Young Professionals Chair-Saira Blair

Webmaster/Social Media-Aleasha Jeffries

NCC Representative-Michael Townsend

AGA National Governing Board 2023-2024

National President-Gwendolyn Sykes

National Treasurer-Michael Pearson

Director Area 1-Samuel Lord

Director Area 3-Tim Baker

Director Area 5-Andrew Stovich

Director Area 7-Shelly Taleporos

Director (at-Large)-Rachelle Cabading

Prof. Certification Board-Carter Vick

National President-Elect-Frank E Peterson, III

National Treasurer-Elect-Michelle Yanok

Director Area 2-Pilar Pangelinan

Director Area 4-Nicole Boswell

Director Area 6-Holly Wormsley

Director Area 8-Nicholas Garrard

Director (at-Large)-Tony Scardino

CPAG Chair-David Zavada

AGA National Office

Chief Executive Officer-Ann Ebberts

Executive Assistant-Romelo Vandyke

Chapter Services Manager-Kristi Miller/Dana Mark

Membership Manager-Meredith Newman

Director of Professional Certification-Katya Silver

Editor/Copywriter-Mary Margaret Yodzis

Chief Operating Officer-Susan Fritzlen

Senior PM, CGFM & Education-Kimberly Jones

CGFM Retention Manager-Crystal Robison

Director of Meetings & Events-Jerome Bruce

Senior Manager, Mtgs & Exhibits-Monica Cordova

Certification Manager-Kimberly Cocuzzi