



Volume 16-02 October 2016



President's Message

AGA President's Message - October 2016

It was a pleasure to kick off the chapter program year on September 13 with an inspiring presentation to our group from Sandra Starnes, AGA's Regional Vice President Elect (Northwest Region). Sandra, who also serves as Secretary for the Seattle AGA Chapter, has a long history with AGA at the local and national levels. In her new Regional VP Elect role was able to share with our luncheon participants a huge slate of leadership and volunteer opportunities just waiting for AGA members like you. Whether your interests lie in accounting and auditing research, public speaking, or community service, AGA needs your expertise and can help you realize your professional potential along



the way. Our Seattle chapter also has lots of opportunities to serve in a leadership capacity, including open board positions for President-Elect and Education Chair, so please contact me at hardym@gao.gov if you are ready to take the next step in your AGA membership. I am looking forward to seeing you all at our next membership meeting on October 18, 2016, so mark your calendars now.

Mary Ann Hardy, Chapter President

Welcome New Member

We are pleased to welcome to the Seattle Chapter:

Ms. Karen L. Code, HHS Lead Grants Management Specialist, Administration for Children and Families

Upcoming Events

October 13-14

CGFM Intensive Review Course & Exams (Details Pg. 6)

October 18

The U.S. Department of Justice's Response to State Marijuana Legalization GAO 37th Floor Training Facility, Columbia Center (Details Pg. 4)

October 27

UW Government Career Fair (Details Pg. 5)

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AGA Seattle Chapter's Monthly Meeting Schedule for Program Year 2016-2017

Save the dates for our monthly education events for program year 2016-2017! Please join us at these luncheon and brown bag events and help us make this program year a success.

Tuesday, September 13, 2016 - GAO 37th Floor Training Facility, Columbia Center.
Financial Manager Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe **AGA: Service, Certification & Empowerment"**

Tuesday, October 18, 2016 - GAO 37th Floor Training Facility, Columbia Center.
Berman, Senior Analyst, and Steve Komandina, Analyst, Government Accountability Office
The U.S. Department of Justice's Response to State Marijuana Legalization

Tuesday, November 15, 2016 - GAO 37th Floor Training Facility, Columbia Center.
Michael Jacobson, Deputy Director - **Performance & Strategy King County Office of Performance, Strategy & Budget.**

Tuesday, December 13, 2016 - GAO 37th Floor Training Facility, Columbia Center.
Dean Ritz, Director of IP strategy for Workiva, Inc on **DATA Act**

Tuesday, January 10, 2017 - GAO 37th Floor Training Facility, Columbia Center.
Annual Tax Update

Monday, February 13, 2017 - GAO 37th Floor Training Facility, Columbia Center.
Grants and Contracts

Wednesday, March 8, 2017 - GAO 37th Floor Training Facility, Columbia Center.
AGA webinar on Uniform Guidance

Monday, April 10, 2017 - Columbia Tower Club
Emerald Award Presentation

Monday-Tuesday, May 1-2, 2017
2017 Government Accounting and Auditing Conference professional development training, Location to be determined.

September 2016 Luncheon Topic

AGA SERVICE, CERTIFICATION,

On September 13, Sandra Starnes, Children & Family Service Financial Manager at Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe, and our Chapter Secretary as well as AGA Regional Vice President-Elect for the Northwest Region, presented a review of the reasons the AGA exists and why we owe it to ourselves, our profession and our civic communities to actively participate in the AGA at the local, regional, and national levels.

Sandra's enthusiasm for her subject was evidenced by her presentation and the PowerPoint slides used to hammer home her main points:

AGA Vision, Mission, and Core Values

Our vision is to be the premier association for advancing government accountability. Our mission, then, is to foster learning, certification, leadership and collaboration for professionals and stakeholders committed to advancing government accountability. Our core values are Service, Accountability, Integrity, and Leadership.

To accomplish the vision and mission, AGA must first be a credible organization with sufficient active members that represent our profession. With a current membership of nearly 15,000 professionals working in all levels of government, and representing individuals specializing in accounting, auditing, academia, and analytics, the AGA does have the numbers to justify representing the accountability profession before government organizations as well as standard setting boards.

Next, AGA must offer ways of furthering the development of our profession. This is accomplished by

- ⇒ Sponsoring a Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) credential
- ⇒ Hosting continuing educational events
- ⇒ Encouraging local chapters to make available continuing professional education opportunities
- ⇒ Developing and monitoring a Citizen-Centric Reporting Program
- ⇒ Producing publications containing news and trends affecting the profession

Finally, the AGA encourages its members to give back to our communities through active engagement with charitable and academic organizations.



Chapter President Mary Ann Hardy (L)
Introducing speaker Sandra Starnes



THE ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS

October 18, 2016 Monthly Luncheon Meeting

Speaker

Jay Berman, Senior Analyst, and Steve Komandina, Analyst, Government Accountability Office

Topic/ Time

The U.S. Department of Justice's Response to State Marijuana Legalization

12:00 p.m. – 12:50 p.m.

Please join us at 11:30 a.m. for lunch and networking prior to the presentation.

Place

Government Accountability Office
Columbia Center - 37th Floor – Elliott Bay Room
701 5th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104

Cost

AGA MEMBERS – Free NON-MEMBERS - \$5

Menu Choices

Bring your own lunch, or purchase a meal from Ingallina's Box Lunch for \$15.00. Choose from the following meal options:

Ham and Swiss Sandwich

Classic Cobb Salad

Pear and Bleu Cheese Salad (vegetarian)

RSVP Required

Please **RSVP** to attend by **Friday, October 14, 2016** to Mary Ann Hardy, hardym@gao.gov.

CPE

1 CPE awarded

The University of Washington Career & Internship Center is thrilled to announce a new collaboration with the Evans School of Public Policy and Governance Career Development Office, in bringing together over 50 public service employers to the 2016 UW GOVERNMENT CAREER FAIR. UW undergraduate and graduate students, and alumni from all three campuses with a variety of academic backgrounds, as well as over 400 MPA graduate students from the Evans School are invited to attend. This is a great opportunity for you to connect with and recruit the next generation of talented public servants. Registration is now OPEN!!

2016 UW Government Career Fair

Thursday, October 27th, 2016 2:00-5:00pm | Mary Gates Hall, Commons \$150 per booth

Registration Link: <https://www.regonline.com/2016governmentcareerfair>.

We encourage for you to register early to secure a booth as space is limited.

Questions: Please contact Donna Chen via email at ccsevent@uw.edu or call 206-543-0535. We look forward to receiving your registration and having you on our campus!

Seattle Chapter will be represented at the Fair by Sam Lord and Diane MaKaeli

2016-2017 Webinars

AGA has scheduled the following webinars for the 2016-2017 Program Year.

See [<https://www.agacgfm.org/Training-and-Events/Learn-Online/Webinars/2016-2017-Offerings.aspx>] for more information about participating in these events.

Cyber Security, The New Norm
Oct. 12, 2016

Fraud Toolkit Case Studies
Nov. 16, 2016

Ethics | Dec. 7, 2016

Getting Your Dollars to Work Harder: Blended and Braided Funding | Jan. 18, 2017

GASB | Feb. 8, 2017

Fraud/Risk | Feb. 22, 2017

Uniform Guidance | March 8, 2017

CFO/CIO Collaboration | March 29, 2017

Ethics | April 12, 2017

DATA Act | May 17, 2017

Fraud/Data Analytics | June 14, 2017

2016-2017 Member-Only Webinar Free Learning Events

Networking Up
Nov. 1 | 2-3 p.m. | 1 CPE | FOS: PD

The Fraud Tools: Case Studies
Feb. 23 | 2-3 p.m. | 1 CPE | FOS: AUD

PROFESSIONAL ETHICS AND REGULATIONS IN WASHINGTON STATE

SPONSORED BY



PRESENTER

Scott Woelfle,
CPA,
State Auditor's Office

WHEN

November 16, 2016
8am - 12pm

WHERE

Pellegrino's Event
Center

5757 Littlerock Rd
SW, Tumwater

[http://
pellegrinoseventcente
r.com/directions/](http://pellegrinoseventcenter.com/directions/)

Register

[http://aga-
olympia.org/
CPEEvent.aspx](http://aga-olympia.org/CPEEvent.aspx)

CPE 4 HOURS

COST

\$100 AGA/IIA
Members · \$150 Non-
members

Training qualifies for
Washington State
Ethics

Proceeds go to support
local scholarships and
audio conferences

Learn to Prepare Taxes by Becoming a Tax Volunteer

The IRS is looking for people to provide free tax help in 2017. Become a [tax volunteer](#) and make a difference in your community.

The IRS sponsors the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) programs. These two programs offer free tax help across the country for people with low-to-moderate incomes. This year, [VITA and TCE](#) (volunteers prepared more than 3.7 million federal tax returns at no cost to families across the country.

Here are five good reasons why you should consider becoming a VITA or TCE volunteer.

1. **Flexible hours.** Volunteers generally serve an average of three to five hours per week. The programs are usually open from mid-January through the tax filing deadline in April. A few sites are open all year.
2. **VITA and TCE sites are often nearby and need your help.** Nearly 12,000 sites were set up in neighborhoods all over the country for this past filing season. They are often set up in community centers, libraries, schools, shopping malls and similar places. Chances are good that you can volunteer at a site near you.
3. **No prior experience needed.** You'll receive specialized training and can serve in a variety of roles. If you are fluent in another language, you may be able to help those who speak that language.
4. **Free tax law training and materials.** Learn how to prepare basic tax returns and learn about all the tax deductions and credits that benefit eligible taxpayers.

Continuing education credits for tax pros. Enrolled Agents and non-credentialed tax return preparers can earn credits when volunteering as a VITA/TCE instructor, quality reviewer or tax return preparer. See the [IRS fact sheet](#) for more information on Continuing Education Credits.

As a volunteer, you'll join a program that's helped millions of people file tax returns at no charge for more than 40 years. Your help will make a difference. It's people helping people. It's that simple.

To find out more, visit IRS.gov and type "tax volunteer" in the search box. If you'd like to become a volunteer, you will need to submit your volunteer interest information on IRS.gov at [IRS Tax Volunteers](#).

AGA Board Members Sandra Starnes and Tim Dobler participated as tax volunteers during last year's tax season. This is a great opportunity to give something back to the community and demonstrate our chapter's commitment to volunteerism. Please feel free to give Sandra or Tim a call if you would like further details. Contact information is on Page 10.

PHOTOS WANTED

We like to decorate the first page of The Sounder with a local photo each month.

If you have a picture to contribute, please send it to Tim Dobler at

DOBLER5@MSN.COM. When we use your photo, we will acknowledge you in our credits section.

Financial Condition as of August 31, 2016

Checking	\$ 2,914.74
Savings	\$ 4,061.92
12 Month Certificate of Deposit	<u>\$ 4,649.14</u>
Total Assets	\$11,625.80
Liabilities	\$ 0.00
Members' Equity	<u>\$ 11,625.80</u>
Liabilities & Members' Equity	\$11,625.80

Cash Flow Report, as of August 31, 2016

Beginning Cash Balance		<u>\$11,551.09</u>
Board Dinner Costs		
Subtotal Cash Expended		<u>0.00</u>
Cash Deposits		
AGA Dues Received	\$ 0.00	
Board Dinner Reimbursements	\$ 72.73	
Interest Income	\$ 1.98	
Subtotal Cash Deposits		<u>\$ 74.71</u>
Net Cash Change		<u>\$ 74.71</u>
Ending Cash Balance		<u>\$11,625.80</u>

AGA Seattle Chapter Recognition Program Points

Chapter Recognition Program categories	Points to Date
Section I - Chapter Leadership, Planning, & Participation	1,925
Section II - Education & Professional Development	650
Section III - Certification	0
Section IV - Communications	1,624
Section V - Membership with a Focus on Early Career and Student Members	1,825
Section VI - Accountability	0
Section VII - Community Service	400
Section VIII - Awards	100
Total as of September 2016	6,524

Recognition Levels:

A **Bronze Chapter Designation** will be presented to any chapter that attains between 10,000 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 22,000 credits for the year. The chapter president's plaque will include recognition that the chapter has achieved Platinum status.



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 2016-2017 Board Members

President

Mary Ann Hardy, U.S. GAO
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President-Elect

Open

Immediate Past President

Diane MaKaeli
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Treasurer, Webmaster and Early Careers Chair

Sam Lord, HHS OIG
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Open

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This newsletter was produced by board member Tim Dobler, with the assistance of Karyn Angulo. Thanks to chapter members who contributed articles and photos for this issue. Masthead Photo by Diane MaKaeli.