



## President's Message

So this is the farewell message from your soon-to-be immediate past President. As I look back on this year, I marvel at what we were all able to accomplish. I'm so proud of all of the Officers and Directors that made the CEC so successful. I also want to recognize and thank all our members who participated in any of our monthly meetings, our webinars or our community service events. We truly had an amazing and extremely successful year with great participation in our meetings and webinars, great speakers, and the generosity in our community service events was second to none. I would like to, on behalf of the CEC board, thank all of you for making this past year so great.



As I finished up my time as President, I had time to not only reflect on this past year, but also look forward to the following year. I'm so happy to see so many new faces participating in the CEC, and so many new people coming out to see what the AGA is about and subsequently becoming members. This upcoming year looks to be another great year as we look to continue the success from past years, as well as find new avenues to grow the Chapter and our footprint in the community through our generosity.



I hope you all have a wonderful Spring and Summer and the Chapter Executive Committee looks forward to seeing you all again in September.

Respectively,  
Phillip A. Platt, CGFM

VOLUME 2014-2015

ISSUE 9, MAY—JUNE 2015

## In This Issue

CEC Meeting Notes	11
CGFM	9
Chapter Officers	11
Community Service	6
Finances / Recognition	10
Member News	4
News / Trivia	2
Past Meeting Recap	12
Training & Education	7-8
What's Next	13

## ATTENTION!

*Have a great summer!*

Are you using social media? The Maine Chapter AGA invites to you like us on

Facebook



Chapter Website:

<http://www.agamainechapter.org/>



## NOTICES...

- Are you interested in joining the CEC? Voting for new positions is quickly approaching. Contact a CEC member today or visit our website for more details.
- Need help studying for the CGFM exam? Contact a CEC member to see about a study-group.
- Do you have an idea for a speaker for next year? Please contact a CEC member. Your insight to help the Chapter is welcomed.

---

## TRIVIA

Which northern state was  
the first to observe  
Memorial Day?

## AGA Maine Chapter

Our Chapter would like to thank Terry Hayes, our Maine State Treasurer, for an enthusiastic and entertaining view of the State Treasurer's Office at our April meeting.

## New England Region AGA

The Aroostook Chapter holds CEC meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month. General meetings are held as necessary.

The Hartford Chapter meetings are generally held at 6:00pm on the third Wednesday of each month from September to may.

The Boston Chapter holds monthly meetings and trainings September through June.

## AGA National



AGA, in association with the National Grants Management Association, have created the Candidate Assessment Toolkit for Grants Management Professionals. This assessment was created to screen grants management professionals who must possess a broad cross-section of competencies.

For more information, please visit:

<http://secure.agacgfm.org/tools/candidateassessment/>



## ELECTION RESULTS!

Below is our new 2015-2016 CEC Board with **Derek Gorneau** leading the pack as **President**:



- ◇ **President – Elect** – Shirley Browne
- ◇ **Treasurer** – Kim Hall
- ◇ **Secretary** – Leanne Laverdiere
- ◇ **Director of Awards** – April Newman
- ◇ **Director of Bylaws** – Tony Gorneau
- ◇ **Director of Communications** – Angela Dickinson
- ◇ **Director of Education** – William Korth
- ◇ **Director of Early Careers** – Alesia Francis
- ◇ **Director of Professional Certification** – Margo White
- ◇ **Director of Membership** — Brittany Gaudet
- ◇ **Director of Community Service** — Kathy Godfrey
  
- ◇ **Director of Programs & Technical Meetings** — We are still looking for someone with enthusiasm to take on this role. Please contact a CEC member today if you are interested!

Please visit our website for further detail on duties of each position. <http://www.agamainechapter.org>



## Member Bio

Are you new to the Maine AGA Chapter? Why don't you tell us about yourself! Our Chapter is a friendly group and we love to hear about where you came from and how you are doing. Networking is always a good choice.

Please contact Angela with your submissions at:

[Angela.L.Dickinson@maine.gov](mailto:Angela.L.Dickinson@maine.gov)



## NEW MEMBERS

*We would like to welcome  
some new members to  
our Chapter:*

*Krystal-Lee Chang*

*From*

*DAFS Security and  
Employment Service Center*

*AND*

*Heather Dutton &*

*Pauline Sirois*

*From the*

*General Government  
Service Center*

## From the Editor

Do you know someone in the Maine Chapter who recently received a promotion, accepted a new position, retired or won an award? Would you like to share the good news with fellow AGA members? Or maybe you're interested in writing a technical article for an upcoming issue?

Please forward submissions for the next newsletter to:

[Angela.L.Dickinson@maine.gov](mailto:Angela.L.Dickinson@maine.gov)

**WELCOME!**



## RECRUIT A MEMBER

As a valued member, you can impact the future of AGA by sharing your experience with your peers, your staff and others in your organization with an interest in government financial management. No one knows better how beneficial AGA membership is to advancing government accountability than current AGA members.

Did you know that a large percentage of new members join AGA simply because someone invited them? Consider sharing your AGA membership experience and get rewarded for doing so. Recruit a member today!

### Super Recruiters Club

Once you have recruited 10 members, you become part of the Super Recruiters Club! Super Recruiter status affords many exclusive rewards including recognition at a private reception at the annual PDT. Other rewards include: a lapel pin, certificate, VIP status at all national events and logo wear apparel.



End of Year Sponsor Achievement Awards and Recognition Awards are presented at the annual national training event, the PDT, each summer.

*Recruiter of the Year* (one winner)—The member who recruits the most new members from May 1 through April 30 will be presented with the Recruiter of the Year distinction and receive a complimentary AGA national meeting registration.

*Top Sponsor* (two winners)—The next two members who recruit the highest number of new members from May 1 through April 30 will each be bestowed with the Top Sponsor distinction and each will receive a complimentary AGA national meeting registration.

*Chapter Overall Growth* (six winning chapters)—Those six chapters achieving the highest overall growth percentage in their chapter size grouping for the membership year will each win a complimentary AGA national meeting registration. Chapters decide who receives the registration. Each chapter president and membership chair will be presented with an achievement plaque as well.

Start Recruiting Today!

[Download a membership application](#). You can also order applications by calling AGA at 800.AGA.7211 and/or emailing [agamembers@agacgfm.org](mailto:agamembers@agacgfm.org).

Tell your peers and co-workers about AGA. Simply encourage them to fill out AGA's membership application or apply online. Be sure to include your name in the sponsor's name category on the application to receive credit.



# Community Service



---

“Giving is the key to all  
success in all applications  
of human life.”

~Bryant McGill

---



AGA Community Service for 2014-2015 was  
**AMAZING!!!**

Thanks to all who participated. It was a pleasure working with you all. We helped organizations that could really use it and they were grateful to receive the items donated. Below is a recap of what was accomplished this year.

**August – September:**

13 boxes of school supplies and backpacks for the Domestic Violence Shelter

**October- December:**

3 boxes and a trash bag of socks, hats, gloves and scarves for the Bread of Life Homeless Shelter: Corrections department delivered much needed bedding to the Shelter

**January – February:**

6 boxes and 3 bags of non-perishable food and toiletries for the Augusta Food Bank

**March – April:**

3 AGA teams were formed and bowled for Big Brothers/ Big Sisters and they raised a total of \$545.

**May:**

We received a request for used suitcases for the Corrections Reentry Program and we collected 4 suitcases and a backpack.

Have a great summer and we look forward to another great year in the fall.

Thank you all,

Kathy Godfrey—Community Service Director

## UPCOMING TRAINING

AGA is pleased to announce its latest web conference on **Beyond the Code: Ethical Decision Making in the Real World.**

Ethical thinking and behavior, so critical to our reputation and in our lives and organizations, has been studied as a vague and intangible subject. Ethical models have been translated into “rules-based” codes, failing time and time again and leaving us wondering how we can address ethics in a meaningful way. Indeed, new research shows that some ethics education courses leave students making less ethical decisions than before the class. Ethical decisions are not simply a discussion of right or wrong, but skilled critical thinking on a continuum of complicated choices studied by behavioral science. These decisions can be heavily influenced by unconscious biases and poorly framed perceptions. This innovative and interactive presentation uses compelling real-world events and the latest behavioral research to examine ethical thinking in a real-world context, giving attendees new thinking tools and a new perspective on what ethical thinking really is and how to practice it.



### Highlights:

- ◆ What “Tone at the Top” is and why we misunderstand how it works
- ◆ How to use critical thinking in ethical situations
- ◆ Why ethical decisions rely on "situational awareness"
- ◆ The science behind decision-making under pressure
- ◆ How and why we should eliminate outcome-based thinking
- ◆ How a “model” code of ethics can fail
- ◆ Recognizing our own sub-conscious thinking biases..



Speaker: **Toby Groves**, President, Groves Research and Consulting

**Learning Objectives:** Identify and understand concepts of critical thinking and apply them to professional judgment in auditing, accounting and governance situations.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Date:** Wednesday, May 13, 2015

**Time:** 2 – 3:50 p.m. Eastern Time

**CPE:** Two credit hours

**Field of Study:** Ethics



## UPCOMING TRAINING

AGA is pleased to announce its latest web conference on **Update and Implications of DATA (Digital Accountability & Transparency) Act: “Beyond the Beltway”**

Building and maintaining public trust and confidence is one of the most important goals for all those that work for and with government agencies. USASpending.gov was a tremendous first step after the 2009 financial crisis, to capture federal spending information for the American taxpayer – and provide accountability and transparency for protecting public funds from fraud and abuse. The DATA ACT builds upon this foundation, to ensure enhanced availability, accuracy, and usefulness of federal spending information to help ensure government program effectiveness and mission accomplishment, which contributes to building public trust and confidence in government. This web conference will present:



- ◇ Brief recap on current status of DATA ACT, including intentions of Congress in passing Pub.L.113-101
- ◇ Efforts underway to improve Federal spending information, across all business areas, to include financial data standards government-wide (Federal, State, Local);
- ◇ Implications at State and Local levels – the ripple effect
- ◇ What’s happening in the Financial Services/Regulatory community?

Speakers:

- ◇ **Christina Ho**, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Accounting Policy and Financial Transparency – U. S. Department of the Treasury
- ◇ **Hudson Hollister**, Executive Director – Data Transparency Coalition
- ◇ **LeAntha Sumpter**, Deputy Director, Program Development and Implementation, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense

Moderator: **Debra Delmar**, Managing Partner - Vanguard Advisors LLC – and Vice Chair, Defense – AGA Corporate-Partner Financial Systems & Technology Committee

**Learning Objectives:** Understand current approaches and actions underway, and their implications, to improve availability, accuracy, and usefulness of Federal spending information of the DATA Act. Transparency of information is across all business areas [acquisition/procurement, financial, human capital, logistics, IT, etc] . Of particular interest is the State and Local communities [trickle down affect] and the Department of Defense’s operationalizing of therequirement, given they are 50% of the Federal Government’s annual discretionary spending

**Prerequisite:** None

**Date:** Wednesday, June 3, 2015

**Time:** 2 – 3:50 p.m. Eastern Time

**CPE:** Two credit hours

**Field of Study:** Accounting (Governmental)







## Celebrating 20 Years of Excellence



CGFM is a professional certification recognizing the unique skills and special knowledge required of today's government financial managers. It covers governmental accounting, auditing, financial reporting, internal controls and budgeting at the federal, state and local levels.

### How Do I Obtain My CGFM?

#### Initial Certification Requirements

To earn the CGFM, candidates must apply for the CGFM Program and meet the following requirements:

- ◆ **Ethics**—read and agree to abide by AGA's Code of Ethics.
- ◆ **Education**—have a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university and have completed at least 24 credit hours in financial management or related topics.
- ◆ **Examinations**—pass three comprehensive CGFM Examinations.
- ◆ **Experience**—have at least two years of professional-level experience in government financial management.

[Learn more about the process of earning the CGFM designation.](#)

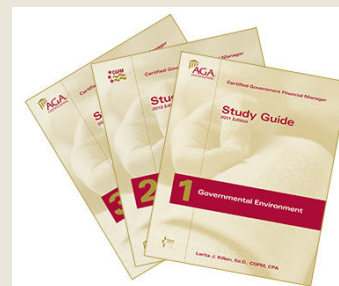
**CGFM Application**—If you are ready to start the process of earning your CGFM, [click here](#) to apply for the CGFM Program.



#### AGA CGFM Study Guides— ONLINE!

New from AGA! You can access the CGFM Study Guides on the go!

Read, search and review the study guide content on your laptop, tablet or phone — a convenient way to prepare for the CGFM Examinations. Upon purchasing the online version of each guide, you'll have immediate access to the entire publication for a period of 12 months. In



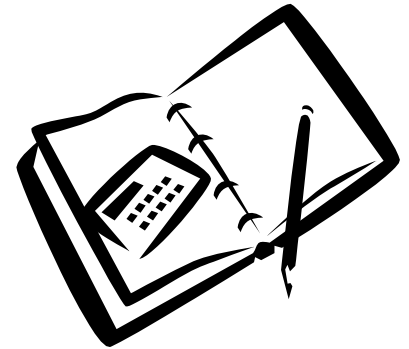
addition, if a newer version of this study guide is published within this period, you'll also have access to the new version! As with the printed version, the online study guides feature textbook-like format with learning objectives, a chapter summary and a reinforcement quiz for each chapter. In addition to the relevant resources, the appendices contain a glossary of terms, a list of reference materials, answers to reinforcement quizzes with explanations and end-of-course review questions. Those ordering the study guides can purchase the option of earning Continuing Professional Education (CPE) hours upon passing an online CPE examination.

**Enroll in the CGFM® program by  
May 31 and take Exam 1 for FREE!**



## TREASURER'S REPORT

Maine Chapter AGA Balance Sheet as of 04/30/2015		
ASSETS		
Cash and Bank Accounts	AGA Cash	\$40.00
	AGA Checking	\$984.04
	AGA Savings-Share Account	\$4,849.34
Total Cash and Bank Accounts		\$5,873.38
Other Assets	Customer Invoices	\$528.00
Total Other Assets		\$528.00
Total Assets		\$6,401.38
LIABILITIES		
Other Liabilities	Sales Tax & Business Bills	\$0.00
Total Other Liabilities		\$0.00
Total Liabilities		\$0.00
Overall Total		<b><u>\$6,401.38</u></b>



## CHAPTER RECOGNITION PROGRAM - Fourth Quarter Points—Great job!

The Chapter Recognition Program is designed to support, encourage, and promote the accomplishment of AGA's mission and to provide flexible non-competitive guidelines for a well-rounded chapter. The Chapter Recognition Program year begins on June 1st and concludes May 31st.

SECTION	MAX POINTS	TOTAL POINTS	% OF POINTS
Chapter Leadership, Planning & Participation	3000	3100	103%
Education & Professional Development	4000	4050	101%
Certification	4000	3050	76%
Communications	3000	6297	210%
Membership	4000	1200	30%
Accountability	2000	550	28%
Community Service	2000	800	40%
Awards	1000	600	60%
<b>TOTAL</b>	23000	19647	85%
<b>GOAL TOTAL</b>	10000	8541	85.41%
<b>CURRENT GOAL STANDING</b>	10000	19647	196%

## OUR CEC

Please let us know how you like this newsletter and if there are changes or additional information you would like to see by contacting any member of the Executive Committee. For more information on our services, visit our website at:

<http://www.agamainechapter.org>

### CHAPTER OFFICERS

#### President

Phillip A. Platt, CGFM  
phillip.platt@maine.gov

#### President-Elect

Derek Gorneau  
derek.gorneau@maine.gov

#### Secretary

Leanne Laverdiere  
leanne.laverdiere@maine.gov

#### Treasurer

Kimberly Hall  
kimberly.hall@maine.gov

### CHAPTER DIRECTORS

#### Bylaws & Procedures

April Newman, CPA  
april.d.newman@maine.gov

#### Communications

Angela Dickinson  
angela.l.dickinson@maine.gov

#### Community Service

Kathy Godfrey  
kathleen.godfrey@maine.gov

#### Early Careers

**Open (If interested, please  
contact Phillip Platt)**

#### Education

Katharine Wiltuck  
katharine.wiltuck@maine.gov

#### Membership

Derek Gorneau  
derek.gorneau@maine.gov

#### Professional Certification

Cheryl Libby  
cheryl.libby@maine.gov

#### Programs & Technical Meetings

Derek Gorneau  
derek.gorneau@maine.gov

## April 14, 2015

Meeting was held at the Senator Inn following Luncheon.

**Attendees:** Phillip Platt, Derek Gorneau, Kim Hall, Angela Dickinson and April Newman

- ◇ Kim inquired if normal operating fees required a vote; which it did not
- ◇ April suggested that next year, as we missed the deadline, that we submit award nominations to National
- ◇ National Bylaws have not been updated at this time
- ◇ Derek expressed an interest in creating a bowling team for DHHS
- ◇ Angela collected ballots for new CEC board; will email results
- ◇ Discussed remaining items to obtain for awards ceremony
- ◇ 50/50 Raffle Winner was Martha Verhille

*Respectfully Submitted by,*

*Angela Dickinson*

*AGA Maine Chapter—Director of Communications*



## *Past Meeting Recap*

The past monthly meeting was held on April 14th at the Senator Inn in Augusta.

The meeting was called to order by Chapter President, Phillip Platt, who quickly went over the voting ballots for the new CEC board and reminded folks of the upcoming community service event, the “Bowl For Kids’ Sake”, which is to sponsor the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Mid-Maine. Derek Gorneau then introduced our speaker, Terry Hayes, who is Maine’s State Treasurer.

Treasurer Hayes brought with her an exciting way to discuss the duties within the Treasurer’s Office. A spinning wheel with duties notated at each spoke. As members of our Chapter rose the spin the wheel, whatever subject it landed on, the Treasurer would discuss. A very humorous and educational meeting.





## MAY MONTHLY MEETING

The Maine Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants' monthly meeting will be held on **Tuesday, May 12th** at the Senator Inn.

This is our Awards Ceremony! Prizes galore!

On the menu for our luncheon will be:



*House Salad*  
*Crispy Lemon Chicken*  
*Strawberry Shortcake*

### TRIVIA ANSWER:

“New York was the first state to observe Memorial Day.”

### Websites of Interest

American Society for Public Admin (ASPA) .....[www.aspanet.org](http://www.aspanet.org)  
MA Chapter of ASPA.....[www.massaspa.org](http://www.massaspa.org)  
Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (CFE)..... [www.cfenet.com](http://www.cfenet.com)  
Greater Boston Chapter of CFE.....[www.acfe-boston.org](http://www.acfe-boston.org)  
Association of Government Accountants .....[www.agacgfm.org](http://www.agacgfm.org)  
AGA Boston Chapter.....[www.aga-boston-chapter.org](http://www.aga-boston-chapter.org)  
AGA Aroostook County Chapter.....[www.arostookcountyaga.org](http://www.arostookcountyaga.org)  
AGA Hartford Chapter .....[www.agahartford.org](http://www.agahartford.org)  
AGA Maine Chapter.....[www.agamainechapter.org](http://www.agamainechapter.org)  
COSO..... [www.coso.org](http://www.coso.org)  
First Gov ..... [www.firstgov.gov](http://www.firstgov.gov)  
Governmental Accounting Standards Board..... [www.gasb.org](http://www.gasb.org)  
Government Executive .....[www.govexec.com](http://www.govexec.com)  
Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) .....[www.theiia.org](http://www.theiia.org)  
Intergovernmental Audit Forum.....[www.auditforum.org](http://www.auditforum.org)  
International Accounts Payable Professionals (IAPP).....[www.iappnet.org](http://www.iappnet.org)  
National Assoc of State Auditors, Comptrollers & Treasurers.....[www.nasact.org](http://www.nasact.org)  
National Assoc of State Comptrollers.....[www.nasact.org/community/nasc.html](http://www.nasact.org/community/nasc.html)  
National Assoc of State Treasurers.....[www.nasact.org/community/nast.html](http://www.nasact.org/community/nast.html)  
National State Auditors Association.....[www.nasact.org/community/nsaa.html](http://www.nasact.org/community/nsaa.html)  
National Electronic Commerce Coordinating Council .....[www.ec3.org](http://www.ec3.org)

**MAY**  
*brings not only*  
**Memorial Day, but**  
**National BBQ Month!**

