

October 2023

# NEWSLETTER

## Presidents Message

Christine Blair

Hello Shenandoah Valley AGA Members

Welcome back, I hope everybody had a wonderful Summer! One of my favorite months is back - October! To me this month is the start of the holidays and a time to look forward to gathering with family and friends.

This year will be filled with great events and networking opportunities. Coming up this month, the Shenandoah Valley Chapter will host a webinar, *"How to Apply for a Business Loan and Why Your Credit Report and Personal Finance Statement is Important to that Process"* with Kevin Starliper, Senior Vice President/Chief Lending Officer for CNB Bank. In November we will host a webinar *"Mindset in the Workplace"* with Dr. Dee Lucombe, who is currently the Director of Field Education and Assistant Professor for the Master of Social Work Program at Virginia State University. Then, in December you are invited to join us for the 28th Annual AGA Commonwealth of VA Professional Development Training on Thursday, December 7 and Friday, December 8. This is a great opportunity to network and get 16 CPEs!!

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and this month we ask you to consider donating to help those in need. Please see our flyer, which includes other great charities in case you are interested in donating.

I am looking forward to a great year. Keep your eye out for our upcoming events!

*Christine Blair*



[AGACCR2021-2022-08-04-22.pdf.aspx \(agacgfm.org\)](https://www.agacgfm.org/AGACCR2021-2022-08-04-22.pdf.aspx)

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

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## Upcoming Event



Richmond  
Chapter



Shenandoah  
Valley Chapter



Virginia Peninsula  
Chapter



Southwest Virginia  
Chapter

### 28th Annual AGA Commonwealth of Virginia Professional Development Training

December 7 & 8, 2023

8 a.m.- 5 p.m. EST

### Emerging Issues in Government Accountability

Enjoy the comradery, networking, and fellowship as we are back in person at the Great Wolf Lodge, or you can attend virtually. Earn up to 16 CPEs, including an opportunity to fulfill the annual ethics required of CPAs in VA. Register at [Personal Information - 28th Annual AGA Commonwealth of VA Professional Development Training \(cvent.com\)](https://www.cvent.com/event/28th-annual-aga-commonwealth-of-virginia-professional-development-training)

Premier Sponsor: **FI·CONSULTING**

Event Sponsors:



Gold Sponsors:



## Membership Challenge

Now through February 9, 2024, play along with AGA chapters across the country to grow our organization and build our membership to draw from the full diversity of the nation. AGA challenges each chapter to increase their membership by 10% over the next six months.

Please help our chapter grow. Recruit your friends, coworkers, etc.

Individual AGA members will be eligible for Top Recruiter by recruiting a minimum of 10 members between April 2023—March 2024. The Top Recruiter will receive free in-person registration and five nights hotel room for PDT '24! The second and third place recruiters will receive free in-person registration for PDT '24! PDT '24 will be in Denver, Colorado.

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## Technology Transformation Summit

**November 16, 2023**

**Washington, D.C.**

**Free for AGA Members**

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## Free for AGA Members!

**Wednesday, October 11, 2023**

**It's All In Your Head: Psychology, Money and the Economies of our Lives**

**1.5 CPE**

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## Free for Students and Young Professionals!

**Monday, October 16, and 29-30, 2023**

**Datathon 2023**

Calling all college students and young professionals with a passion for data! Join AGA in Washington, D.C., for AGA's Datathon, to test your data skills and make a difference. This challenges participants to use publicly available data to develop innovative solutions for issues related to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility. Each member of the winning team will receive \$1,000!

## Tell Us What Training You Want

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 2023-24 year, which began 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!



### Upcoming Events

#### National Leadership Training 2024

February 26-29, 2024

Washington, DC

National Leadership Training (NLT) is the essential event for developing and training government financial professionals to excel as leaders in today's competitive market. Don't miss this opportunity to share best practices, find new solutions to challenges, network with peers and learn from the top financial management leaders and industry experts.

#### Professional Development Training (PDT)

July 14-17, 2024

Denver, Colorado

AGA's Professional Development Training (PDT) brings together a broad audience of federal, state and local government financial professionals. PDT offers educational sessions over four days of training.

#### Accountability Talks

<https://www.agacgfm.org/Tools-Resources/Accountability-Talks-Podcast.aspx>

## *Chapter Events*

### **Chapter Webinar**

**Thursday, October 19, 2023**

**12 to 1pm ET**

**How to Apply for a Business Loan and Why Your Credit Report and  
Personal Finance Statement is Important**

**Kevin Starliper, Senior Vice President/Chief Lending Officer  
for CNB Bank**

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### **Chapter Webinar**

**Thursday, November 16, 2023**

**12 to 1pm ET**

**Mindset in the Work Environment**

**Dr. Denise M. Lucombe, MSW, MA, DSW**

**Assistant Professor, Social Work Department**

**Virginia State University**

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### **Land's End AGA Apparel Store**

With AGA's recent rebranding, new merchandise is now available at Land's End. Whether you're looking for something special to commemorate a membership event, present a gift to a speaker or show your AGA spirit, our **one-stop shop** has what you need! See merchandise at <https://business.landsend.com/store/agamembership>.





Many of you have been affected directly or indirectly by breast cancer. Research and medical advancements are made everyday to help fight the fight. Comfort packages are sent out nationwide to help patients. Organizations have been founded to help support the families affected. These things cannot happen without charities, fundraising, and support.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and this month the AGA wanted to highlight some organizations that are trying to make a difference in the fight.

Below are links to different charities in case you are interested in donating. Your gift provides hope and help to families whose lives have been turned upside down because of breast cancer. And you're supporting those in need today, while searching for tomorrow's cures.

[Good Wishes | A Hug for Your Head \(goodwishesscarves.org\)](http://goodwishesscarves.org)

[Breast Cancer Research Foundation | BCRF](#)

[Breast Cancer Foundation | Susan G. Komen®](#)

[Katie's Comfort House – Making a house feel like a home for where families can spend their last moments with their loved ones \(katiescomforthouse.com\)](http://katiescomforthouse.com)

This is the link to the Valley Health Breast Cancer in case you or someone you love needs to schedule a mammogram.

[Breast Cancer | Valley Health Cancer Care \(valleyhealthlink.com\)](http://valleyhealthlink.com)



## 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

## 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-Sia Sankoh

Chapter Services Manager-Kristi Miller/Lauren Walters

CGFM Retention Manager-Crystal Robison

Director of Meetings & Events-Jerome Bruce

Senior Manager, Mtgs & Exhibits-Monica Cordova

Chief Operating Officer-Susan Fritzlen

Senior PM, CGFM & Education-Kimberly Jones

Field Representative-Bobby Derrick

Membership Manager-Meredith Newman

Director of Professional Certification-Katya Silver

Editor/Copywriter-Mary Margaret Yodzis