



Charleston  
Chapter



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### Message from the President



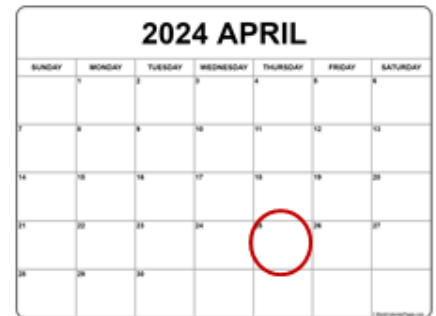
Spring is just around the corner. We have more hours of light and spring is just such an exciting time of year! It is a time of renewal with flowers blooming, birds chirping and my favorite time of year. March is also the month for renewing our memberships and it is also CGFM month. I love this program and love that our local chapter supports it whole heartedly! We provide everything you need to get this certification including the materials, we facilitate study groups and even reimburse exam fees to our members. It is truly near and dear to my heart! I look forward to working with each and every one of you the rest of this year and wish everyone the best in the months to come!

# WE ARE READY FOR SPRING!



Mark your calendar! The AGA's Annual Spring Conference is coming Soon!!

We are hard at work planning the Spring Conference. The conference will be held on  
**Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup>.**  
More details coming soon.



## CGFM – 30 years and going strong

In 1994, the Certified Governmental Financial Manager (CGFM) program launched. Thirty years later the program is still going strong and continues to help governmental financial managers in obtaining an overall understanding of our profession. The CGFM is a three-part exam that covers governmental accounting, auditing, internal controls, budgeting, and financial reporting at all levels of government. The content provides a foundation to help us be effective and efficient in our public service duties.

## Governor's Proclamation of CGFM Month

We are honored that Governor Jim Justice has recognized March as Certified Government Financial Manager® (CGFM®) Month in the state of wonderful West Virginia.

Thank you to the Mid-Ohio Valley AGA Chapter in Parkersburg for partnering with us in seeking this proclamation.







Our Charleston AGA  
Chapter celebrates  
16 years!



Our Charleston WV Chapter was formed on 2/15/2008. We would like to thank our founding members for taking the initiative to form this Chapter. It provides us a professional organization where we can learn, network, and grow.

We continue to be committed to promoting education, certification, innovations, and collaboration across all levels of government and to stakeholders.

## Recap: 2023 Fall Conference



Our annual fall conference was held on November 1-2. It offered 14 hours of CPE and provided useful information to our 68 attendees. We would like to extend a special thank you to those who put in the time to make the conference possible, our speakers, and our attendees.

## Community Service

During the fall conference, our chapter collected money for the Shriner's Children Hospital and the Putnam County Animal Shelter. During our two-day event, \$277 was collected, \$150 for the Hospital and \$127 for the Animal Shelter. We would like to thank our generous members for helping support these great causes.

## **Nominations for Awards & Recognition**

Let us recognize those who are working hard to make a difference.

We all have different reasons for working hard. Some want to leave things better than they found them, some hope to have financial rewards, some just want to help others. No matter the motivation, taking a moment out to say thank you to those who put in the hard work to make things a little better lets them know their efforts are appreciated. The National AGA gives us a mechanism to show our appreciation.

The 2024 Professional Development Training (PDT) Awards nominations opened on March 1st, 2024!!! There are nine different awards to recognize leadership, hard work, and dedication. Some of these awards are specifically for AGA members, but others are not. What a better way to say thank you for all you do than by nominating them for an award.

Learn more on National's website at

<https://www.agacgfm.org/About/Recognition/PDTAwards.aspx>

In addition to the PDT Awards, National has multiple other awards, such as Volunteer of the year. Find out more at

<https://www.agacgfm.org/About/Recognition/OtherAwards.aspx>

## Scholarships

Don't forget, National offers scholarships! The 2024 National Academic Scholarships opened March 8th, 2024 and will close on June 11th, 2024. Each scholarship is \$3,000.

Each year, National AGA awards two scholarships to freshmen, four for undergrad, and three to graduate students. Apply on National's website at:  
<https://www.agacgfm.org/About/Recognition/Scholarships.aspx>

## Community Service – Volunteer Opportunities and Donations

Our local chapter is exploring three community services projects for the coming months. We encourage you to get involved!

1. Easter and hygiene drive for the Children's Home Society – AGA will be collecting hygiene products for the Children's Home Society for Easter
2. Adopt-a-Stream – more information coming soon
3. Kanawha State Forest Race Series – our chapter will be teaming up with AP Timing to pass out water to participants of the Kanawha State Forest Race Trail Series. AP Timing will be providing the water and any supplies. They just need volunteers to come out to pass out water and encourage the participants. This is a great way to get out and enjoy nature, and help support and encourage the racer. For more information or to participate, please contact Beth Farley at [bfarley@suttlecpas.com](mailto:bfarley@suttlecpas.com). Dates for these races are:
  - Saturday, May 25 (8AM Start) - Honor our Heroes 5K (Dunlop)
  - Saturday, July 6 (8AM Start) - Big Timber Trot 10K (Gift Shop)
  - Saturday, August 17 (8AM Start) - Dog Days of Summer 15K (Dunlop)
  - Sunday, October 20 (9AM Start) - Fall Classic Trail Half Marathon (Shelter #4)

**Look for more information in April about this opportunity**

Do you have a great idea for a community service project? Let us know about it! Contact our Community Service Chair, Beth Farley [bfarley@suttlecpas.com](mailto:bfarley@suttlecpas.com) at and let her know the details. She will present it to the Board for consideration and vote.



## Upcoming Events

Spring Conference – April 25, 2024

Community Service/Volunteer opportunity – May 25, 2024 – 5k  
at Kanawha State Forest

Membership Drive – March 1, 2024 – June 1, 2024

New Program Year – July 1, 2024

Community Service/Volunteer opportunity – July 6, 2024 – 10k  
at Kanawha State Forest

Community Service/Volunteer opportunity – August 17, 2024 –  
15k at Kanawha State Forest

Community Service/Volunteer opportunity – October 20, 2024  
– Half-Marathon at Kanawha State Forest

## Benefits of Membership

There are so many reasons to get involved with the AGA. Here are just a few benefits to consider:

- Networking
- National's mentorship program
  - Volunteer activities
  - National and Local Chapter Boards/Committee
- Community Service Activities
- Scholarships
- Resources and tools
- Chapter CGFM Reimbursement Program

Membership also provides significant cost savings to our members for CPE events and for members pursuing the CGFM designation.

Membership Cost:	
Government Member Dues	100.00
Charleston WV Chapter	10.00
Total Membership Cost (excluding CGFM renewal)	110.00
Potential Cost Benefits:	
National Complementary CPE training - up to 15 hours	451.00
Chapter luncheon discounts - 6 @ \$5	30.00
Membership discount at spring/fall conference - 2 @ \$25	50.00
Total Potential Cost Benefits	531.00
Members Potential Gain	421.00

Membership Cost:	
Government Member Dues	100.00
Charleston WV Chapter	10.00
CGFM application fee	80.00
Total Membership Cost	190.00
Potential Cost Benefits:	
National Complementary CPE training - up to 15 hours	451.00
Chapter luncheon discounts - 6 @ \$5	30.00
Membership discount at spring/fall conference - 2 @ \$25	50.00
Savings with borrowing study guides	320.00
CGFM Reimbursement - 3 @ \$135	405.00
Total Potential Cost Benefits	1,256.00
Members Potential Gain	1,066.00

Chapter CGFM Exam Reimbursement is awarded to members who successfully pass a section of the CGFM exam and the employer is not paying for the exam. Limit one reimbursement per section. Reimbursements are contingent on funding availability.

## Welcome to our new members!!!

Name	Join Date
Vinutha Vishnu	4/13/2023
Cindy A. Williams	4/28/2023
Joshua W. Amos	7/25/2023
Kelli Herr	9/28/2023
Jacob Casto	10/25/2023
Katherine Hodge	11/8/2023
Samantha Woods	12/30/2023
Brandy Arthur	2/9/2024
Angela Boyd	2/9/2024
Christy Crowder	2/9/2024
Rebecca Mckenzie	2/12/2024
Mason Burdette	2/15/2024
Yelena Carlson	2/15/2024
Daniel Mashayekhi	2/15/2024
Brandy Humphrey	2/22/2024
Lakyn Miller	2/22/2024
Jennie Walker	2/22/2024

## CGFM Study Group News and Updates

**Our chapter rocks!** Did you know that 28% of our members are CGFMs? That's right, 25 of our 89 members, and we are still growing!

The CGFM study group for CGFM Examination (Book) 1, Governmental Environment (GE), started in February. Heather Gillenwater is facilitating the study group. Our chapter currently has 24 copies of the study guide for Book 1, of which 22 copies are currently being used by the participants of the study group.

### Examination 1: Governmental Environment

- Organization, Structure and Authority of Government
- Legally-Based Implications of the Government Financial Environment
- Demonstrate an Understanding of the Government Management System (Cycle)
- Governmental Financing Process
- Identify the Concepts, Definitions and Notions of Public Accountability
- Demonstrate an Understanding of Ethics as Applied to the Government Environment
- Demonstrate an Understanding of Electronic Services in Government



[www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/exams](http://www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/exams)



We anticipate starting with Book 2, Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting (GAFRB) in May. Jamie Chambers will facilitate the Book 2 study group.

### Examination 2: Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting

- Governmental Financial Accounting, Reporting and Budgeting: General Knowledge
- Demonstrate an Understanding of State and Local Financial Accounting and Reporting
- Demonstrate an Understanding of Federal Financial Accounting and Reporting



[www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/exams](http://www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/exams)



## Our CGFM's

1. Ms. Kathy J. Anderson, CGFM
2. Ms. Tenna K. Bell, CGFM
3. Mrs. Jane S. Caswell, CGFM
4. Mrs. Jamie L. Chambers, MS, CGFM, CIA, CGAP
5. Mrs. Betsy Chapman, CGFM
6. Ms. Samantha J. Chapman, CGFM
7. Ms. Elizabeth A. Farley, CGFM
8. Mr. John D. Galloway, CGFM
9. Mrs. Heather N. Gillenwater, CGFM
10. Mrs. Judy Gonzales Ney, CGFM
11. Ms. Janet M. Gunther, CGFM
12. Ms. Cheri Ann Harpold, CGFM
13. Mrs. Karla G. Harris, CGFM
14. Ms. Shellie D. Humphrey, CGFM
15. Ms. Susan E. Kuhn, CGFM
16. Ms. Angela Dawn Leshon, CGFM
17. Mrs. Melissa D. Mullins, CGFM, CPA
18. Mrs. Londa Mae Sabatino, CGFM, CPA
19. Mrs. Jennifer Leann Snow, CGFM, CPA
20. Mr. Robert W. Stewart, CGFM
21. Mr. Roger L. Townsend, CGFM
22. Mr. Corey D. Wade, CGFM
23. Ms. Kay D. Walden, CGFM
24. Mrs. Cristine D. Watson, CGFM
25. Ms. Brandy M. Whittington, CGFM



## **AGA Board**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>
<b>Chapter President</b>	Betsy Chapman, CGFM
<b>Chapter President-Elect</b>	Heather N. Gillenwater, CGFM
<b>Secretary</b>	Jamie Lenore Chambers, MS, CGFM, CIA, CGAP
<b>National Council of Chapters Representative</b>	Jamie Lenore Chambers, MS, CGFM, CIA, CGAP
<b>Chapter Treasurer</b>	Angela Dawn Leshon, CGFM
<b>Accountability</b>	Marie Long, CPA
<b>ACE Reporting</b>	Lisa A. Rutherford, CIA, ISA, CRCM
<b>CGFM/Professional Certification</b>	Heather N. Gillenwater, CGFM
<b>Community Service</b>	Elizabeth A. Farley, CPA, CGFM
<b>Communications</b>	Taylor S. Cole
<b>Membership</b>	Betsy Chapman, CGFM
<b>Webmaster</b>	Kelli Herr