



Newsletter

VOLUME 2018, NUMBER 1

August 2018

Chapter Leadership 2018-2019 Program Year

Chapter President

Robert Rizzo, NJ Legislative Services - Office of the State Auditor
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Immediate Past President

Andrew C. Bishop, CPA, CGMA. Bishop and Bishop PC
abishop@BishopandBishoppc.com

Chapter Treasurer

Tyler T. Frounfelker, CPA, New Jersey Judiciary
tfrounfelker@gmail.com

Membership

Kiersten Marie Kokotajlo, CFE, CICA, NJ Office of the State Auditor
kkokotajlo@njleg.org

Administration

Christopher John Schwartz - NJ Dept of Human Services - Division of
Mental Health
christopher.schwartz@dhs.state.nj.us

Webmaster

Brian Larkin - NJ Office of the State Auditor
blarkin@njleg.org

Chapter President-Elect

Nikki Farrell, CICA - New Jersey Office of the State Auditor
nfarrell@njleg.org

Secretary

Michelle C. Blatt - New Jersey Office of the State Comptroller
michelle.blatt@outlook.com

Education

Nikki Farrell, CICA - New Jersey Office of the State Auditor
nfarrell@njleg.org

Programs

Christopher John Schwartz - NJ Dept of Human Services - Division of
Mental Health
christopher.schwartz@dhs.state.nj.us

Nominations

Andrew C. Bishop, CPA, CGMA - Bishop and Bishop PC
abishop@BishopandBishoppc.com

President's Message

Robert Rizzo

Welcome to the AGA Trenton Chapter 2018-2019 year. It's an honor and a privilege to serve as this year's Chapter President. I would like to thank last year's President, Andy Bishop, for his fantastic contribution and dedication to our Chapter. I have big (and colorful) shoes to fill and hopefully I will make everyone proud. Before I get started, I would like to give a little information about myself. I have worked in public accounting, corporate accounting, and for the past 12 years with the New Jersey Office of the State Auditor. I'm married, have 3 cats that don't get along, and a turtle who provides a nice balance to the cats since she doesn't talk back!

I think we have an exciting year planned which will include four dinner meetings: our Fall Seminar and Spring Symposium, eight webinars, our annual bowling event, and plenty of community service. Our program year will begin with a Happy Hour at Uno's Pizzeria and Grill in Hamilton, NJ on Thursday, September 6 at 4:30 pm. We will be providing appetizers and there will be drink specials as determined by Uno's. The event will be free for AGA members and \$5 for non-members who register by August 27. After August 27, it will be \$5 for AGA members and \$10 for non-members, so please register early.

Our first dinner meeting will be on Wednesday, September 19 at 5:30 at Tessara Restaurant in Hamilton. Our speaker will be an employee with the Unclaimed Property Administration.

We have also begun our preparations for the annual Fall Seminar which will be held on Friday, October 26 at Mercer County Community College.

For the latest information regarding AGA Events please visit and register online:

<https://www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/Trenton/Training-Events/Event-Calendar.aspx>

I am looking forward to a great program year and hearing from our members throughout the year. Please don't hesitate to reach out about anything! We value everyone's input! You are what makes our Chapter great!

Until next time.

Robert Rizzo
Trenton Chapter President



SAVE THE DATE

2018 AGA Fall Seminar

Earn up to 7 CPEs!

Friday, October 26, 2018

Mercer County Community College – Conference Room – 1200 Old Trenton Road, West Windsor, NJ 08550

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **AGA Happy Hour – Thursday, September 6, 2018**
 - Where: Unos Pizzeria, 225 Sloan Ave, Hamilton Township, NJ 08619
 - Time: 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM
 - RSVP by:
 - August 27, 2018 – Free for AGA members, \$5 for non-members
 - After August 27, 2018 (at the door)- \$5 for AGA members, \$10 for non-members
- **September 2018 Dinner Meeting – Wednesday, September 19, 2018**
 - Guest Speaker: Unclaimed Property Administration Representative
 - Where: Tessara Restaurant, 812 NJ-33, Trenton, NJ 08619
 - Time: Social Hour begins at 5:30 PM; Dinner and Presentation to Follow

To register for any of the events: <https://www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/Trenton/Training-Events/Event-Calendar.aspx>

COMMUNITY SERVICES

- **Trenton Area Soup Kitchen – Tuesday, November 6, 2018**

Eight AGA Trenton Chapter volunteers will assist the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen (TASK) in preparing and serving a meal for Trenton area's homeless. TASK provides hot meals everyday, as well as providing tutoring services for basic literacy, and medical services for the homeless and needy families.

 - Where: 72 Escher St, Trenton, NJ 08609
 - Time: 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM

WEBINARS

- | | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Internal Control – Wednesday, October 10, 2018• Where: 12th Floor Conference Room, Office of the State Comptroller• Time: 2:00PM-3:50 PM• 2 CPEs• Field of Study: AUD | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ethics – Wednesday, November 28, 2018• Where: 13th Floor Auditorium, Department of Labor and Workforce Development• Time: 2:00PM-3:50 PM• 2 CPEs• Field of Study: BETH |
|--|---|

[Register Online](#)

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Members' Spotlight

Congratulations!

Derek Bongiovanni for passing the CGFM exam and for being selected as the CGFM Achievement Scholarship awardee! We congratulate you on your accomplishment and are very proud to have you as a member of the AGA – Trenton Chapter.

*Lifetime Achievement
Recognition*

Congratulations!

**Robert J. Alu, CGFM, Ret.
Betty Jane Eddowes, CGFM, Ret.
Janet Gregorovic, CGFM, ReT.**

We congratulate all of you for reaching this milestone. Thank you for your lifetime commitment and dedication to the AGA, Trenton Chapter.

AGA's National Professional Development Training - Orlando, Florida, July 22-25, 2018



AGA - Trenton Chapter was awarded "Chapter Recognition Award – Platinum Chapter". On the right are fellow chapter members (left to right): Tyler Frounfelder, Brian Larkin, Andy Bishop, Jessica Lippincott, Robert Rizzo, and Guy Tassi.



ABOUT THE PAUL VIDUNAS MEMORIAL FUND



The Paul Vidunas Memorial Fund was established in 1998 shortly after the death of then Trenton Chapter President Paul Vidunas. During his lifetime, Paul was as an enthusiastic volunteer for various community based organizations. The establishment of a fund that would support a variety of community service groups seemed a fitting tribute to this memory.

Each year, a different recipient is selected to receive funds collected throughout the program year. The local area charity for this year's Paul Vidunas Fund is Signal 22 Canteen.

Signal 22 Canteen's mission is to respond to any man-made or natural disaster, and to provide proper nourishment for police officers, fire fighters, EMS, and any other agency personnel assigned to any disaster. In furtherance of this mission, the organization also provides sustenance to the victims of disaster.

Signal 22 Canteen responds to such disasters within a 30 mile radius of Trenton, New Jersey, and when called upon, to events outside of the 30 mile radius. The area currently covered has a population of over 1.2 million residents, which can grow to over 1.5 million people during a normal work day. The organization provides assorted beverages, cold lunchmeat, hot sandwiches, and hot platters to those assisting during a disaster.

Signal 22 Canteen is a non-denominational, independent organization, and all services are open to everyone needing assistance. For information about the organization: <http://signal22canteen.blogspot.com/>

The Trenton Chapter AGA holds drawings at monthly meetings and educational events to raise funds for the Paul Vidunas Memorial Fund. For more information on how you can contribute to this worthy cause, contact the AGA Trenton local chapter at agatrentoninfo@agatrenton.com.



CGFM Intensive Review Course & Exams

CGFM candidates, make fall your “Season of Success”! For each exam taken between August 1 and September 30, you will receive a promo code for 50 percent off another exam taken by December 31!

For more information: [Season of Success](#)

AGA's Intensive Review Course (IRC) with CGFM examinations *included* is a great opportunity to review the course material with a knowledgeable instructor and complete your CGFM!

The next IRC, offering up to 18 CPEs, will be held in Alexandria, Virginia, October 8-9, 2018. The class will run 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. both days. The cost of the course for qualified participants is as follows:

- \$375 for AGA members
- \$425 for nonmembers

The CGFM examinations are offered at no additional cost to course attendees — a \$375 savings!

The CGFM examinations can be taken by appointment only at [Pearson Professional Testing Centers](#) from October 10, 2018 – January 31, 2019, using vouchers provided by AGA.

- What is the IRC? It is a special, limited enrollment opportunity for individuals who have already been studying for the CGFM examinations and want extra reinforcement of the material. It is a review of the main topics covered on the CGFM examinations, led by a knowledgeable instructor.
- The IRC is not a shortcut. It is not a prep course with strategies on how to pass the exams, and it is not a substitute for the three AGA instructor-led training courses. The IRC is usually not enough, by itself, to prepare for the CGFM examinations — advance preparation is strongly recommended.

To participate in this event, individuals must:

1. First apply and be accepted into the CGFM program (see [CGFM process](#) for more information).
2. [Pre-register for the IRC.](#)

AGA Trenton Chapter – Member Recruitment

As treasured members, we can influence the the future of AGA by sharing our experiences with peers, colleagues, and others in our organizations with any interest in in government financial management. Membership in AGA has many benefits, including education and networking opportunities, awards and scholarship programs, discounts for training, exclusive CPE opportunities and access to our resources. Members join a local chapter through which they gain additional networking, leadership and education experiences. Start recruiting today.

Provide the following information to our prospective members:

- Online application – <https://www.agacgfm.org/Membership.aspx>
- E-mail - agamembers@agacgfm.org
- Telephone – (800)-AGA-7211 or (703)-684-693



Thank you to our newsletter sponsors!



The mission of the MCIA is to serve the needs of Mercer County improving the quality of life for the residents by providing programs and services for the County, Municipalities, school and fire districts, and not-for-profits in the areas of financing, project management, redevelopment, solid waste and recycling.



KPMG LLP, the U.S. audit, tax, and advisory services firm, operates from 87 offices with more than 23,000 employees and partners throughout the U.S. The firm’s purpose is to turn knowledge into value for the benefit of their clients, people, and capital markets.



Today, Mercadien’s focuses on four primary service areas: Accounting, Consulting, Technology and Wealth Management; work with a wide range of clients throughout the U.S. and in Europe; have a diverse team of dedicated associates, and invest in the most cutting-edge technology and office facilities to ensure Mercadien remains a firm of the future. The firm’s leadership team consists of 18 managing directors. Sought-after experts in their practice areas, they are seasoned when it comes to owning and running businesses, solving industry and economic challenges, and building partnerships. The firm

Statement of Financial Position

ASSETS:		LIABILITIES AND EQUITY:	
Cash (BOA)- Savings	\$12,182.71	Accounts Payable	\$1,507.16
Cash(BOA) Checking	\$13,788.62	Deferred Income	\$0.00
Accts. Rec. - Symp/mtg/Sem	\$0.00	Fund Balance	\$25,718.99
PrePaid Expenses	\$1,000.00	TOTAL L&E	\$27,226.15
TOTAL ASSETS	\$26,971.33		



Chapter Directors - 2018-2019 Program Year

President - Robert Rizzo

President Elect/VP of Education - Nikki Farrell

Immediate Past President/Nominating Committee Chair- Andy Bishop

VP of Membership - Kiersten Kokotajlo

VP of Finance/Administration/Programs - Christopher Schwartz

Treasurer - Tyler Frounfelker

Secretary - Michelle Blatt

Fall Seminar – Co-chairs: Robert Rizzo/Jessica Lippincott + Fall Seminar Committee includes but not limited to Rene Gervasoni, Andy Bishop, Brian Larkin, Tyler Frounfelker, and Marie Samson

Spring Symposium – Co-chairs: Robert Rizzo/Chrissy Brennan + Spring Symposium Committee includes but not limited to Meghan Ellis and Mike Salberta

Audio Conferences - Michelle Blatt/Thalia Treby

Sponsorship - Guy Tassi

Chapter Recognition - Brian Larkin

CGFM Chairperson - Margarita Stanislavskaya

Community Service - Stephanie Rybak/Chris Fuccello

Awards - Christopher Schwartz

Early Career - Taylor Leavy

Budget/Finance - Dave Illuminate

Newsletter - Marie Samson

Meeting Chair - Rene Gervasoni

Paul Vidunas Coordinator - Jennifer Suchan

Historian - Rose Todaro

By-Laws – David Kaschak

Accountability Outreach Chair - Kiersten Kokotajlo

Webmaster/Communications - Brian Larkin

Contact us

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E-mail: agatrentoninfo@agatrenton.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AGATrentonNJ/>

Internet: <https://www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/Trenton/Home.aspx>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/trenton-aga>