

Newsletter

VOLUME LIV NUMBER 8

September, 2020



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President's Message

By: Tiffani M. Dorsa, CPA



I am pleased to serve as your Chapter President this year. I am honored to follow such an amazing leader, Marella Houghton, CPA. Her leadership, commitment and focus to our Chapter earned our Chapter a "Platinum" award as part of the National Chapter Recognition program which continued our legacy of excellence despite the impact of the global pandemic to the latter three months of our prior fiscal year.

As a CPA in public practice, I have spent a large percentage of my 25-year career auditing and providing accounting services to local governments. These governments are a diverse group from large cities, school districts, retirement systems, to smaller taxing districts. Each is unique, from their people, their operations, to their financial challenges. As such, I am reminded that diversity is so important and that it impacts every aspect of our lives. It is what makes our workplace, our communities, and our families all different.

Diversity means understanding that each individual is unique and also recognizing our individual differences. This will serve as our Chapter's 2020-2021 theme. We need diversity in our leadership and our members to provide different perspectives and ideas to continue to move our chapter forward especially now in a time of such transformation. We will try to encourage more local government participation and we will continue to make student and young professionals a priority.

No one could have predicted the impact of the global pandemic in every aspect of our lives. In a blink of an eye, we experienced changes to our work environment, our educational environment and adapting to a "new normal" in everyday activities. As such, we had to really learn what it meant to embrace change. As a result of the pandemic, we are unable to do things the same way we have done them in the past. We are pivoting to a virtual environment and must think outside of the box to be able to educate and engage all of our members. We will look to facilitate collaboration with National AGA, other chapters, our membership, and others for ideas in order to move our chapter forward.

This year AGA celebrates its 70th anniversary. We are reminded of those who have paved the path to where we are today. To our members who have spent countless volunteer hours moving our chapter forward, thank you! We appreciate your legacy and leadership.

To my current Chapter Executive Committee our goals are not achievable without your continued support and commitment to our Chapter. I am thankful for each of you.

To our members, I am looking forward to meeting each of you, albeit may be virtually this year. With the support of each of you, I am confident we can achieve our goals.

Remember: No one can do everything, but everyone can do something.
[attributed to Max Lucado]

Treasurer's Report

BALANCE SHEET

August 31, 2020



TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 19,275.07
TOTAL LIABILITIES	0.00
TOTAL FUND EQUITY	19,275.07
TOTAL LIABILITY & FUND EQUITY	\$19,275.07

Chapter Recognition 2019 — 2020

Recognition Categories	Maximum Cr Per Category	Credits Claimed	Percentage
Chapter Leadership, Planning &	5,000	5,075	102%
Education & Professional Development	4,000	3,050	76%
Certification	4,000	2,300	58%
Communications	3,000	4000	133%
Membership	4,000	5950	149%
Accountability	2,000	750	38%
Community Service	2,000	1,400	70%
Awards	1,000	1,200	120%
Totals	25,000	23,725	95%

Announcements

CEC Meetings - October 14, 2020 Zoom Meeting and begin at 5:30 pm *(members are invited to attend)* Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://louisianaofss.zoom.us/j/97939358635?pwd=SS9sSUFYbWprSFM4ZXh4Q3VxbXBFUT09> Password: mT32Nr

The Chapter **History Report** can be reviewed at <https://www.agacgm.org/Chapters/Baton-Rouge-Chapter/Our-Chapter/Chapter-History.aspx>

Community Service Events

Alzheimer's Walk to Remember – Saturday, October 10, 2020 a Virtual Event starting at 9:00 am. Live on Facebook. Participate by clicking [here](#).

To search for our team, use the information below:

BR Assoc Govt Accountants

Team Captain: Jackson, Judith

Company Affiliation: BR Assoc Govt Accountants

Members will receive an email reminder before the event date.



UPCOMING WEBINARS – EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES



Looking for convenient and affordable training? AGA National webinars make earning CPE hours easy. All of the webinars, unless denoted with a members-only icon, are open to anyone. They feature experts speaking on emerging issues to help you stay informed on topics including auditing, ethics, governmental accounting, internal controls and performance. AGA members pay just \$49, while non-members pay \$69. Group registration options are available. For more information, please visit the following site:

<https://www.agacgm.org/webinars.aspx>

Internal Control

Internal Control/Improper Payments

October 7 | 2–3:50 PM ET | 2 CPEs | 2 PDUs | FOS: AUDG

Program Level: Overview

Prerequisite: None

Advance Preparation: None required

Field of Study: Auditing—Governmental (AUDG)

COVID-19 Series

Free for AGA members!

October 13 | 2–3:15 PM ET | 1.5 CPEs | 1.5 PDUs | FOS: AUDG

Program Level: Overview

Prerequisite: None

Advance Preparation: None required

Field of Study: Auditing—Governmental (AUDG)

Ethics

Becoming A Person of Influence

November 4 | 2–3:50 PM ET | 2 CPEs | 2 PDUs | FOS: BETH

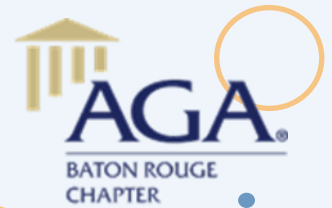
Program Level: Overview

Prerequisite: None

Advance Preparation: None required

Field of Study: Behavioral Ethics (BETH)

CGFM® Certification



What is CGFM?



Certified Government Financial Manager® (CGFM®) is a professional certification awarded by AGA, demonstrating competency in governmental accounting, auditing, financial reporting, internal controls and budgeting at the federal, state and local levels.

CGFM is a respected credential that recognizes the specialized knowledge and experience needed to be an effective government financial manager.

Being a CGFM allows you to expand your career opportunities and distinguishes you from others in your field.

How do you become a CGFM?

To earn the CGFM, you must fill out an online application and meet the following requirements:

Ethics — read and agree to abide by AGA's *Code of Ethics*

Education — have a bachelor's degree in any subject area from an accredited U.S. college or university

Examinations — pass three comprehensive CGFM examinations

Experience — have at least two years of professional-level experience in government financial management

For more information: <https://www.agacgfm.org/CGFM-Certification.aspx>

These are some of the benefits of being CGFM certified:

- *Enhanced marketability throughout all levels of government*
- *Provides networking opportunities with other government financial managers*
- *Increases confidence on the job*
- *Encourages employer incentives — raises, promotions, and bonus*
- *Provides increased employee value, both real and perceived*
- *Supports continued education to keep you informed of the latest developments and cutting edge technologies*

If you're interested contact our CGFM Director Jovan Haynes to get started today!

Happy Anniversary to our Members!

The following members are celebrating the following year anniversary:

Mr. Harry O. Mills, Jr., CGFM-Retired	47	Mr. Glenn Andrew Wilson, Jr.	8
Ms. Verda A. Christensen	42	Mr. John D. Murray, CGFM	7
Mr. Charles Burton Kolder, CGFM	34	Mrs. Rutha A. Cayette	7
Mr. Russell Patrick Smith	31	Ms. Tracy M. Garcia	7
Ms. Gwendolyn A. Bennett, CGFM	30	Mr. Anthony Hamilton	7
Mr. Guy Pitts, CGFM	29	Ms. Tammy A. Morgan	6
Mr. Bernard J. Zimlicki	27	Mr. Christopher R. Lewis, CPA	6
Mrs. Lesha C. Woods, CGFM	26	Natalya Besse	5
Mrs. Cheryl S. Tanner, CGFM	24	Mrs. A'shli Phillips	5
Mr. Paul J. Governale, CGFM, CPA	22	Mrs. Ramona K. Harris	4
Mr. J. David Stagni, CGFM	22	Miss Sarah R. Wade	4
Mr. J. Michael Inzina, CGFM	21	Mrs. Priscilla Hall	4
Ms. Alice M. Townsend, CGFM, CPA	15	Mr. Brent E. Manuel	4
Mrs. Vyki L. Thompson	14	Mrs. Bettina L. Camper	4
Mr. Tim Ward	14	Mrs. Vita R. Archie	3
Mrs. Toni McKnight	13	Mrs. Mary K. Drago	2
Ms. Lucille P. Guillot	12	Mr. Jeremy Waller	2
Mrs. Tara T. Pocorello	12	Mrs. Nikisha Garrett	2
Mrs. Kerri L. Horton	10	Ms. Kimberlyn Stewart	2
Ms. Carol B. Knott, CGFM	10	Ms. Jasnique N. Sims	2
Ms. Candace Reynolds Oby	10	Mr. Rodney D. Combs	1
Mrs. Carolyn Y. White	10	Mr. Jonathan Helis	1
Ms. Lauren Berthelot, CPA	10	Mrs. Sandra C. Williams	1
Mrs. Dollneccia D. Drexler	9	Ms. Rachel Thomas	1

New Members

We would like to welcome the following members who joined the Baton Rouge Chapter since March 31st:

Ms. Marcia D. Darville

Mrs. Stacey M. Lamb

Mrs. Dedria London

Ms. Mellisa Mayers

Ms. Juquada Roberson

Ms. Diane Allison, CPA, CGFO

Mr. Frank L. Roberts



Events

AGA Baton Rouge Chapter—July 2020 Platinum Chapter Recognition Award



*Accepting on behalf of the
Baton Rouge Chapter—
pictured on the left is Past-
President, Marella A. Hough-
ton, CPA.*



AGA Baton Rouge Chapter 2020-2021 Officers and Directors



Chapter President

Tiffani M. Dorsa, CPA
tdorsa@pncpa.com

Immediate Past President

Marella A. Houghton, CPA
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National Council of Chapters Representative

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Sponsorships

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Chapter Treasurer

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Chapter Recognition

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Student Relations

Sarah R. Wade
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For more information about the AGA Baton Rouge Chapter or if you are interested in becoming a member, please visit our website: <https://www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/BatonRouge/Home.aspx>