


The Richmond Chapter Newsletter



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President's Message

Greetings and Happy New Year AGA Members and Friends,

I hope this message finds you and your loved ones safe and healthy as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact our lives, our communities, and our nation in ways none of us could have ever imagined.

Yes, these are very challenging times with limited personal contact, sheltering in place, social distancing, working from home, remote learning and navigating and embracing a virtual environment. Nonetheless, our chapter has persevered and has been busy since my last communication with you. Here are some of our accomplishments:

- AGA National updated their governance structure and requested that chapters adopt new Bylaws for consistency throughout the organization. Our Chapter's CEC reviewed, updated, and approved the Chapter's Bylaws. The revised Bylaws require the approval of the membership and will be presented to our members for approval soon.

- The Chapter successfully presented its first virtual event in chapter history; (the ever so popular Fraud and Technology seminar) on October 28, 2020 for 7 CPE's.



·The PDT Planning Committee, comprised of AGA members from the Richmond, Roanoke, Shenandoah Valley and Virginia Peninsula Chapters successfully collaborated and presented the first virtual PDT in chapter history; the 25th Annual Joint Commonwealth PDT - (2-day conference) on Thursday, December 10th and Friday, December 11th, 2020 for 16 CPE's.

·The Chapter purchased updated AGA CGFM Study Guides 1, 2 and 3. The study guides are available for use. Please contact our CGFM Chair, Ramona Howell for more information.

·The Winter Seminar on Wednesday, February 17, 2021 for 7 CPE's

Our upcoming Chapter events for the remainder of this program year are:

·Spring Seminar & Awards Program - Wednesday, May 19, 2021 for 7 CPE's.

We really appreciate your support and hope that you will take advantage of this virtual training event.

As a reminder, our chapter's goals are transparency, maintaining an efficient governance structure, providing diverse virtual training and educational opportunities, promoting the value of AGA to increase membership, professionalism, CGFM designations and sponsorships and to recruit students and young professionals to ensure that this association remains relevant and provides opportunities for leadership and growth.

Lastly, I invite you to take advantage of the opportunity to enhance your leadership skills and become more involved with the chapter by joining the CEC. We have several open positions and could always use your help! Please contact me, visit our website, or reach out to any of the CEC members listed on the chapter website for more information.

In closing, please know that I value and appreciate you and look forward to continuing to work with you and learn from you as we strive to promote and advance the AGA Richmond Chapter.

Warmest Regards,

Danita R. Barnes

AGA Richmond Chapter President 2020-2021

Upcoming Events

AGA Charleston WV Chapter

Online Ethics Training (1 hour) Approved - Andy Herrick, Staff Attorney for WV Ethics Commission

Free for AGA Members \$10 for Non-Members

February 23, 2021 - Virtual (*Opportunity to earn 1 CPE*)

Visit the AGA Charleston WV Chapter for more details.

AGA Roanoke Chapter

GASB Update - Erin McKenzie - Governmental Accounting Standards Board

11:50am - 1pm - Free for AGA Members \$10 for Non-Members

February 25, 2021 - Virtual (*Opportunity to earn 1 CPE*)

AGA Richmond Chapter May 2021 Spring Seminar

All Day Seminar

May 19, 2021

Virtual (7 CPEs)

NOTE: More upcoming event information can be found at the National AGA website.



Highlighting an AGA Richmond Chapter CEC Member - Lisa Spurgeon

Lisa is a 1986 graduate of Averett University earning a Bachelor of Science degree in both Accounting and Secretarial Administration - yes, that was a thing in 1986! She began her career in August 1986 in Richmond working in the private industry as an Accountant at Convenient Food Mart and later as a Cost Accountant at General Medical Corporation. She began her State career in 1990 at the Department of Accounts. She worked in various roles during her 14 year tenure at DOA including Financial Reporting Analyst, Comptroller's Debt Setoff Coordinator and Line of Duty Coordinator. In 2004, she transferred to the Department of Labor and Industry where she remains today as an Administrative and Financial Services Manager with Payroll, Accounts Payable and Travel processing as her primary areas of responsibility. Lisa is happily married to her husband of 11 years, Charlie, and has five grandchildren.

Lisa has been a member of the AGA Richmond Chapter since February 1996 and has served on the AGA Richmond Chapter since 2006. Lisa serves on the Programs and Education committee negotiating contracts with local and regional conference venues, arranging food and beverages, as well as serving on the Personal Development Training (PDT) committee for the annual PDT conference normally held in Williamsburg, VA.

**FEATURE
PRESENTATION****Highlighting an AGA Richmond Chapter
CEC Member - Sylvia Aryeh**

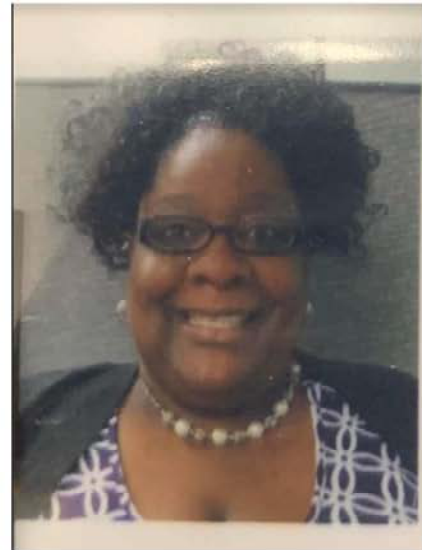
Sylvia Aryeh is a Business professional with experience and knowledge in investment accounting, inventory accounting, fixed assets, accounts payable and accounts receivable in both a public and privately traded company. She has an emphasis on building reports to analyze trends and identifying significant variances. Sylvia possesses strong analytical skills, performs due diligence, practices problem solving skills with the ability to make well thought out decisions. She is efficient in the completion of projects, meeting deadlines and multi-tasking. Highly trustworthy, discreet and ethical. Always challenging the status quo and looking for more efficient and effective processes.

Sylvia Aryeh is a Senior Investment Accountant at Virginia Retirement Systems where she is a liaison between the Investment Accounting Department and the Custodian Bank. Sylvia is responsible for reconciling on a quarterly basis the capital account statements for approximately 40 managers, calculating management fees for accuracy per the contract agreement and processing capital calls, legal fees and miscellaneous tasks in a timely and accurate manner.

Sylvia obtained her Bachelor of Science in Accounting in August 2007 from Virginia Commonwealth University. She also has an MBA, with concentration in Decision Analytics from Virginia Commonwealth University.

In her spare time, Sylvia enjoys spending time with her family, reading and or talking with her friends.

Role at CEC - Sylvia is the Vice Chair for the membership committee. She is responsible for recruiting and most importantly retaining the current members. Sylvia also serves on the education board and she is responsible for contacting and scheduling speakers for the various events held at the Richmond Chapter.

**FEATURE
PRESENTATION**

Highlighting an AGA Richmond Chapter CEC Member -- Tyhisha Pittman

Born in New Jersey and moved to Virginia in 2001 seeking a change in scenery and life. It's been one of my boldest moves which I have absolutely no regrets. God has been by my side before, during, and after every decision I made.

State Experience:

I started my State career in April 2002 at the Science Museum of Virginia as the Accounts Receivables Accountant. Throughout my career in State Government, I've worked at several Agencies progressing my career along the way.

Today I am the Assistant Director of Finance at the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

Some of my duties include, but not limited to:

Performance Management through leadership, management, and supervision of the Finance Office staff; provide accounting and internal controls over the agency financial transactions in compliance with the applicable agency, state, and federal accounting policies and procedures.

Special Interest:

Hobbies: Collecting angels, travel anywhere w/ a beach, binge watching crime shows, and playing cards

Favorite Sport: Football NY Giants

Association of Government Accountants – Richmond Chapter

AGA – Joined 2012 and became a part of the CEC in 2020

Currently serve as the: Chair for Young Professionals and Bylaws and Procedures

Goals: Build relationships with young professionals and college students while promoting public awareness and confidence in the integrity, competence and professionalism of government accountability professionals. Also, ensure Chapter's Bylaws and Procedures conforms to National standards, maintaining uniform guidelines and structure with integrity of the overall Chapter membership.

Most rewarding part of AGA and CEC: Developing professional bonds with others.

Motto: Do not become complacent in life, push yourself outside of your comfort zone and explore other opportunities. Aim for the moon, if you fail, you'll always land amongst the stars. Get back up and try again.



Sponsor

Dixon Hughes Goodman - Richmond strives to be a trusted advisor to their clients by utilizing deep industry experience and resources to help clients reach their goals and solve their challenges. In addition to traditional audit, accounting, and tax services, DHG offers value-added services such as transaction advisory, international tax advisory, business valuation, IT risk assessments, loan staffing and tax incentive reviews.

DHG Richmond Accounting and Advisory professionals serve clients in the following industries:

Banking, Construction, Financial Services, Healthcare, Insurance, Manufacturing & Distribution, Not-For-Profit, Private Equity, Professional Services, Public Sector & Government, Real Estate, and Transportation & Logistics.

Credit: Dixon Hughes Goodman LLP

<https://www.dhg.com/about/locations/virginia/richmond>

Big Thank You!

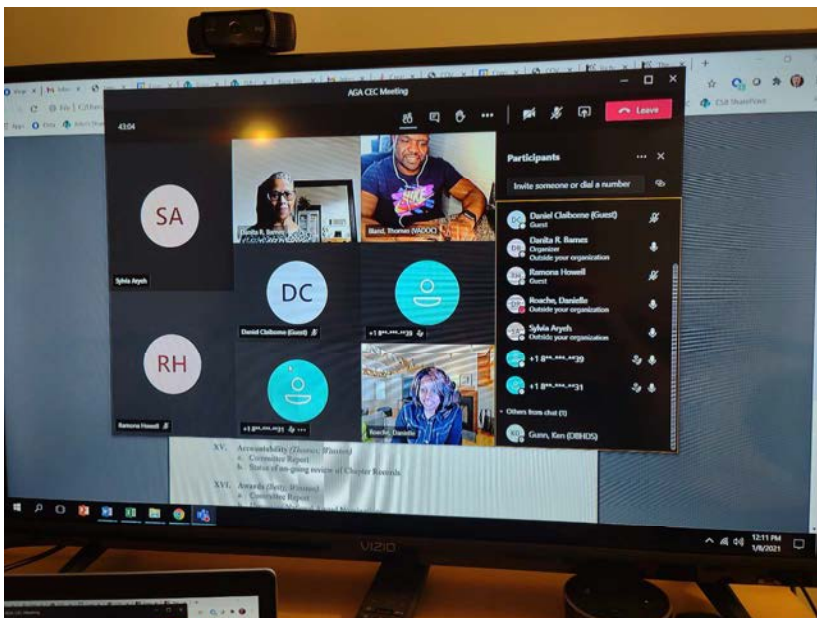


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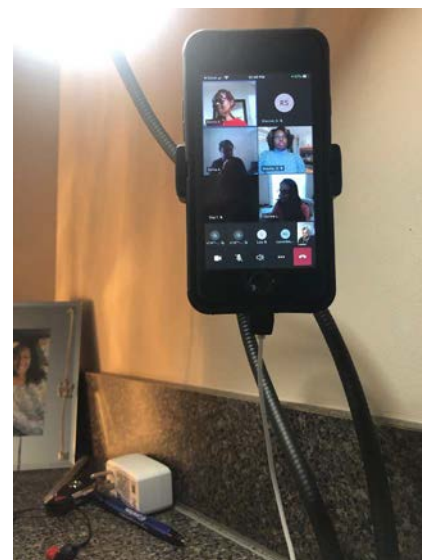
AGA Richmond could not have had such a great year without you!!! DHG you are amazing!!!! Thank you for being a PREMIERE sponsor!

Virtual Craze

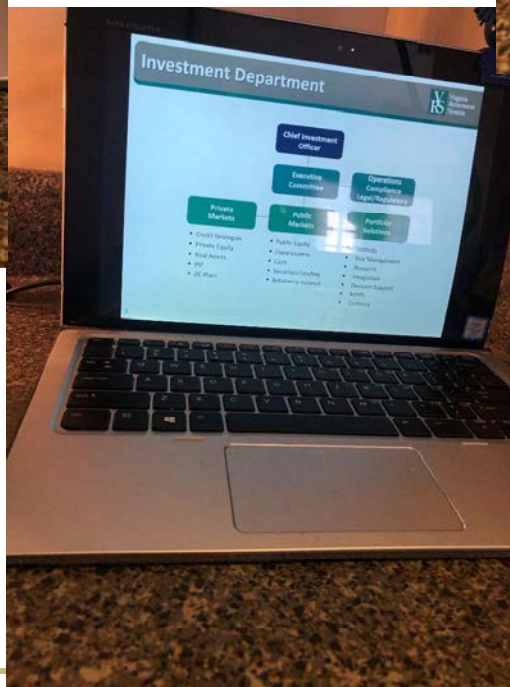
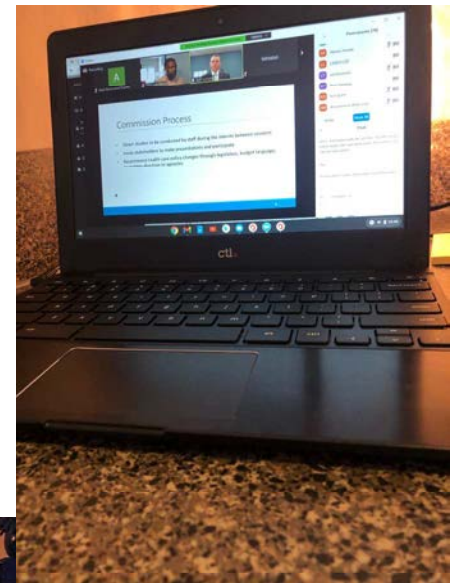
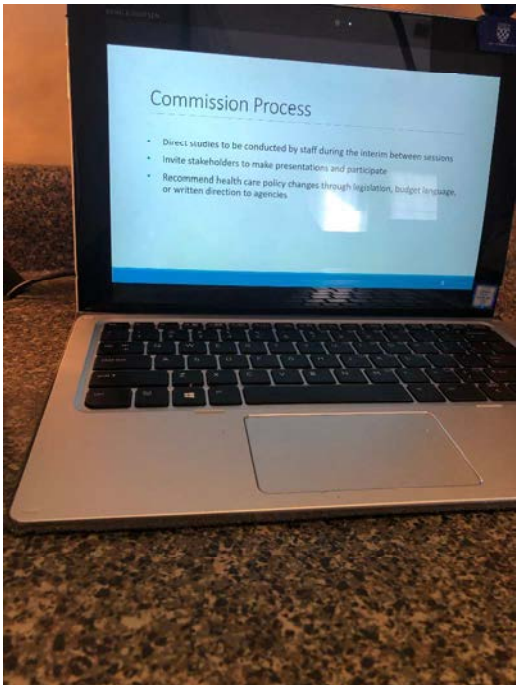
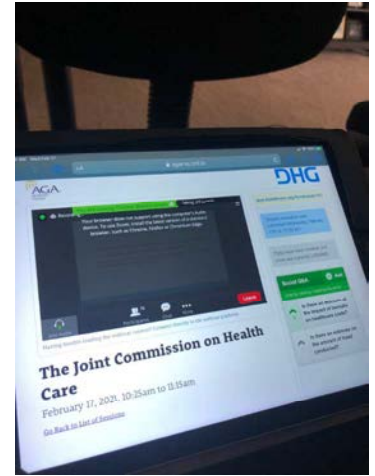
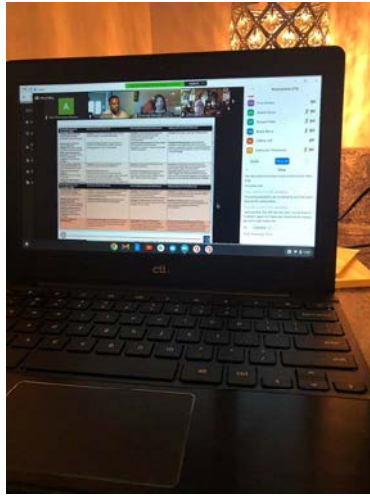
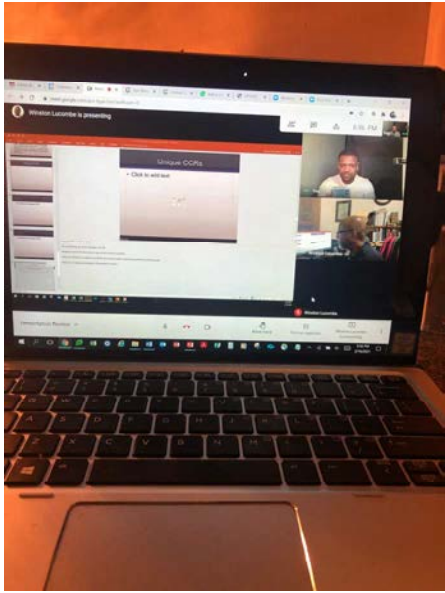
Although we are virtual, the AGA Richmond Chapter continues to work to bring you quality and affordable CPEs!



cvent



Virtual Craze - 2021 February Winter Seminar



AGA Richmond Chapter Happenings..



WE ARE ON SOCIAL MEDIA TOO!!!!

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/agarichmond>
- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/agarichmond>
- Twitter: https://twitter.com/aga_richmond
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/agarichmond>

 **New Chapter Members!!!!**
WELCOME!!!!

- Samantha Firesheets, Student Member -
Christopher Newport
- Jacob Sumner , County of Hanover
- Liosha Miles of Richmond, VA
- Monical Radcliffe, Grant Thornton

The Richmond Chapter of AGA wants to help you be the best CGFM you can be. With CGFM month quickly approaching, we are offering the following:

- We are asking current CGFMs to be open to receiving questions from CGFM prospects. You can help these individuals be at ease during the CGFM process.
- CGFM Study Groups? Are you interested?
- We are looking forward to the day where we can come together and celebrate the CGFM.

If interested in any of the above, feel free to contact Delphine Johnson at delphine.johnson@vadoc.virginia.gov.

CGFM Month is March 2021! More to come...



January Meeting CEC Minutes

-Attendees: Tyhisha Pittman, John Moore, Randy Sherrod, Ramona Howell, Ken Gunn, Danita Barnes, Sylvia Aryeh, Danielle Roache, Daniel Claiborne

-Meeting called to order at 11:33am by President and minutes accepted appropriately

Community Service

-Solicited for ideas for the charity to reach out to for the upcoming February seminar

CGFM

-Proclamation time and discussions took place surrounding this area.

Programs & Education

-Commonwealth PDT went well
 -Speakers requested for February full day seminar
 -Speaker suggestions encouraged
 -Great Wolf Lodge discussion took place

Membership

-Report provided and shared exciting news about us having 303 members.
 -Had 2nd meeting with Cvent - AGA's new platform
 -Discuss CPE tracking for virtual events

Communications

-Newsletter is on the way and kudos given for information on different social media sites.
 -MyAGAPortal is back

Financials

-Good standing right now with surplus generated from Commonwealth PDT.

Awards

-Reminders made upcoming National Award deadlines.

Chapter Recognition (ACE Awards)

-No report but next ACE Pulse Check deadline is February 28, 2021 (Period December 2020 - February 2021)

Young Professionals

-Nothing to report.

Sponsorship

-Nothing to report but discussions took place with an emphasis on the importance of this committee.

Accountability

Nothing to report.

New Business

No New Business.

-Meeting adjourned at 12:35pm



Chapter Executive Committee (CEC)

Danita Barnes, President, Membership Chair

John Moore, President-Elect

Danielle Roache, Immediate Past President, Asst. Treasurer, Communications, Membership, National Council of Chapters

Winston Lucombe, Sponsorship Chair, Accountability Vice Chair, Awards Vice Chair, Past President 2018-2019

Corrine Loudon, Secretary, Past President 2015-2016

Ken Gunn, Treasurer, Past President 2000-2001

Randy Sherrod, Programs & Education Chair, Past President 2013-2014, 2016-2017

Lisa Spurgeon, Programs & Education Vice Chair

Betty Akins, Awards Chair, Community Service Chair, Past President 1994-1995

Delphine Johnson, Communications Chair, CGFM Vice Chair

Thomas Bland, Accountability Chair, Young Professionals, Communications Vice Chair, Membership, Past President 2017-2018

June Jennings, Programs & Education

Tyhisha Pittman, Young Professionals Chair, Bylaws and Procedures Chair

Sylvia Aryeh, Membership Vice Chair

Ramona Williams-Howell, CGFM Chair

Tina Turner, Young Professionals Vice Chair

Daniel Claiborne, Membership

Vacant Positions: Parliamentarian, Sponsorship Vice Chair, Community Service Vice Chair and Bylaws and Procedures Vice Chair