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Dear AGA Members:

I welcome you to our Spring issue of the newsletter. Our members are actively working on exciting events to learn from others, encourage collaboration, and make new acquaintances. We continue to hold our monthly Chapter meetings. For May, we have the privilege of learning from Mr. Jeffery Steinhoff, Senior Advisor at KPMG, a past National AGA President, and an Elected Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration and Mr.

Ricardo Aguilera, CFO and Director of the Division of Financial Management at the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve . Both are giants in our chosen profession.

Our Annual Gala is scheduled for June where we will be awarding the Jeffrey Steinhoff Award for Excellence in Federal Financial Management; Federal Financial Partnership Award; and The Pentagon Memorial Service Award to highlight accomplishments over the past year. The nomination sheet and description of each award is found in this newsletter.

In addition, our training efforts are in full swing. We have been hosting Certified Government Financial Manager® trainings monthly to help our members obtain their CGFM certification. In addition, we will provide our annual Ethics training this summer to help our CPAs maintain their continuing professional education requirements. I would be remised not to commend the hard work performed by Kevin Love, our Education Chair, for coordinating the recent May Spring Workshop. The attendees learned about updated accounting and auditing information from experts within Treasury, U.S. Government Accountability Office, and the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. We are always looking for opportunities to improve and grow the Chapter.

Thanks for the opportunity to serve you.

Marc

Marc Hebert
President, 2020-2021, Northern Virginia Chapter

CONNECT WITH US



Upcoming NOVAGA Meetings & Events

May 2021

Su	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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29	30	31				

June 2021

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July 2021

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24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS

May 13, 2021

NOVAGA Chapter Meeting | Virtual | 1 CPE

Gain insight across a wide-range of financial management and leadership issues through a discussion with Mr. Ricardo Aguilera led by Mr. Jeffrey Steinhoff, Senior Advisor at KPMG. Mr. Aguilera serves as the CFO and Director of the Division of Financial Management at the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.



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Check our website and watch your email for details on these upcoming events:

June 3, 2021
NOVAGA CGFM Study Group: Exam 2, Part 2 | Virtual | CPEs TBD

June, 2021
Annual Northern Virginia AGA Awards Gala | Virtual | No CPE

Summer, 2021
Ethics Workshop for Virginia CPAs (with VSCPA) | Virtual | CPEs TBD

Upcoming AGA Meetings & Events

May 2021

Su	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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June 2021

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July 2021

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24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

UPCOMING NATIONAL EVENTS AND TRAININGS

May 5, 2021

2021 Artificial Intelligence & Advanced Analytics Summit | Virtual | 6.5 CPEs

Explore how data analytics and artificial intelligence (AI) will change our work environment. Government and industry experts will discuss current challenges, best practices, use cases and emerging technologies related to AI and data analytics in the public sector. Opening keynote speakers for this event include Anil 'Neil' Chaudhry (Director of Federal AI Implementations, AI Center of Excellence, GSA) and Tim Persons (Chief Scientist and Managing Director - Science, Technology Assessment and Analytics, GAO). Click [here](#) to learn more/register.

May 12, 2021

Fraud/Data Analytics; Data Analytics: Unlocking the Data to Find Hidden Patterns | Virtual | 2 CPEs

Discover how the use of data analytics supports government financial manager decision-makers. Attendees will learn about the science and art of analyzing patterns, identifying anomalies and finding the underlying meaning that may be hidden in large and complex data sets. New techniques and tools have evolved to allow government financial managers to model, visualize and query data to unlock previously unknown risks and trends. Click [here](#) to learn more/register.

May 19, 2021

2021 Performance Improvement Officer/Chief Financial Officer Summit (PIO/CFO) Summit | Virtual | 4 CPEs

Join other PIOs, CFOs, and other government officials, managers, and analysts to discuss policies that impact and call for greater collaboration between the federal financial management, evidence and performance communities. This year's Summit program includes discussions related to management challenges that put agencies and program performance at risk, performance management practices, an update from OMB, and Congress' role in driving performance improvement through the passage of the DATA Act and the FEPA Act. Click [here](#) to learn more/register.

July 19-21, 2021

Professional Development Training (PDT) 2021 | Virtual | Up to 21 CPEs

AGA's PDT conference offers educational sessions over three days where participants gain skills and knowledge toward more effective leadership, performance in a cost-constrained environment, solutions to shared challenges, and best practices. This year's PDT plenary speakers list includes Josh Linkner (Tech Entrepreneur, Venture Capitalist, and New York Times Best-Selling Author), Erica Dhawan (Leading Authority on Collaboration and Innovation, Bestselling Author, Named "Oprah of Management Thinkers"), and Alex Sheen (TEDxTalk Speaker, Author, Internationally-recognized Humanitarian and Founder of the because I said I would movement). Click [here](#) to learn more/register.

See AGA's website at <https://www.agacgm.org/Training-and-Events.aspx> for additional trainings and events.

past events

February 2021 Luncheon with Mr. John Lynskey, Controller and Deputy Division Director for Financial Management, U.S. National Science Foundation

NOVAGA hosted a luncheon meeting on February 18th, welcoming our keynote speaker Mr. John Lynskey. Mr. Lynskey's virtual presentation focused on the importance of resiliency in the professional and personal realms.

March 2021 Luncheon with Mr. Joshua Williams, FASAB

On March 18th, NOVAGA hosted a luncheon meeting, welcoming our keynote speaker Mr. Joshua Williams. Mr. Williams presented FASAB's FY 2021 updates, including the agency's response to COVID-19 and its methodology for translating user needs into accounting standards. Mr. Williams also provided a brief update of on FASAB's Three-Year Plan and other ongoing research topics and active projects.

April 2021 Luncheon with Ms. Mobola Kadiri, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial Operations)

NOVAGA hosted a luncheon meeting on February 18th, welcoming our keynote speaker Ms. Mobola Kadiri. Ms. Kadiri's virtual presentation included a discussion on how the Navy and the Department of Defense are adjusting their accounting and financial management operations and practices in meeting their financial statement audit requirements.

May 2021 NOVAGA Annual Spring Workshop

NOVAGA hosted representatives from Treasury, Bureau of Fiscal Service, GAO, and FASAB on May 4th to provide accounting and auditing guidance updates, including using blockchain to increase efficiencies in the federal government, technical updates to GAO's Yellow Book, and other new management techniques.

For more information about these presentations and keynote speaker biographies, please view the [Chapter News](#) section of our new website.



CGFM® Study Group Session

The NOVAGA Chapter held a second virtual CGFM® Study Group April 8, 2021. Fourteen members earned 3 CPEs by attending the webinar and received instruction from current CGFMs Robert Reigle, Kevin Shers, CGFM® Chair, and former USDA Senior Executive Donald Bice, on material from Examination Two, *Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting*.

Examination Two covers the following topics:

- ◆ Governmental Financial Accounting, Reporting and Budgeting
- ◆ Demonstrate an Understanding of State and Local Financial Accounting and Reporting
- ◆ Demonstrate an Understanding of Federal Financial Accounting and Reporting



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processes, and administer change. We continue to perform at a high-level without sacrificing quality.

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New NOVAGA Members

We are excited to welcome new members to the Northern Virginia Chapter; these new members joined our chapter since the last newsletter (Spring 2021).

<u>March 2021</u>			
Gerald Litzler Jeremy Miller Richard Greer Zouhir Jalal Elle Uh	Mekala Ravichandran Kimberly Wright Mavis Owusu-Ansah Laura Long	Sara Tolpa Veronica Shelley Ahmed Salem Patricia Hanback	Sara Short Anitra Morrison Geoffrey Weber J. Sean Hoffman
<u>April 2021</u>			
Christine Guevara Scott Bradford William Morris Silas York	Edward Rojas Stephanie Sahagun Adrian Alexandrino Christina Anderson	Colleen James Joseph Klimavicz Anny Guo Kalai Selvan	Steve Wong D'Marcus Lewis Andrew Schatz



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

It's that time again!

AGA's program year is coming to an end, with our gala coming up in the next month. This means it is time to renew your membership.

Your AGA membership gives you many benefits, including education and networking opportunities, discounts on training and events, and access to many resources. In fact, each year, AGA members receive at least 14 hours of complementary training / CPE credit on a variety of topics - for FREE!! Membership in the NOVAGA chapter, this benefit is only increased!

To renew, sign into your account at agacgfm.org and renew today!

NOVAGA Membership Anniversaries

Below NOVAGA Chapter recognizes and congratulates our chapter members on their milestone anniversaries as of April 2021.

Thank you for your continued support!

Lifetime Members

(40+ Years)

Rex A. Baggett	Harold R. Gill	Philip D. Lavietes	James C. Stewart
Christine Baughman	Edward C. Gillen	Thomas F. McCarty	Harold L. Stugart
David W. Bieritz	Frederic A. Heim, Jr.	Edward J. Migliore	Richard W. Sucher
Dennis K. Black	Charles M. Hicks	Thomas J. Muldoon	B. Anthony Turner
Karl L. Boetcher	Richard L. Jackson	Robert B. Peterson	Dale C. Williams
Joseph C. Brown, Jr.	Ronald H. Johnson	Michael Slachta, Jr.	Shelton R. Young
Charles L. Cipolla	N. Carl Jordahl	Douglas R. Smith	Thomas E. Young
Sheila B. Clark	William J. Keating	George H. Stalcup	
Jack Fawsett	Raymond D. Kidd	Hal I. Steinberg	
Geoffrey B. Frank	Laura L. Koschny	Jeffrey C. Steinhoff	

30 Years

Allison H. Vetter

25 Years

Nauri D. Ahmed	David C. Merrill	James R. Rivera
John M. Chadwick	Michael B. Minnehan	

15 Years

Jaheda H. Guliwala	Ily E. Soares
Karen L. Oberst	

10 Years

Daniel Featherly	Gregory Hammett	Lacey L. Doran	William Fava
Curtis Gordon	Jamila D. Webb	Ndeye T. Gning	Zelda Z. Woods
Eric Tamy	Jessica Anne Sharp	Tracy Schnarrs	
Francisco A. Estevez			

5 Years

Brett O. Champion	Matthew R. Martinez	Sarah Mirzakhani	Gale S. Stone
Dylan J. Erickson	Trevor L. McNamara	Heather L. Moreland	Gail L. Williams
Osman M. Fateh	Roy Wesley Mills	DeChanta D. Porter	Lisa Yoo
Thomas E. Francisco, II			

1 Year

Jennifer Adamson	Kara E. Dileo	Esther Kim	Alexander Ries
Olu Adebo	Robert Durand	Brian M. Klishis	Krista Rosenblatt
William M. Appelquist	Jermicka A. Evans	Noah Mazur	William J. Russell, III
Paola A. Barrera	Ruth Everiss	Jane Monica Nesca	Leigh A. Searight
Lisa N. Buhler	Nancy Faila	Patrice Netus	Ryan Slamka
John R.P. Charters	Chen Fang	Ngoc-Dieu T. Nguyen	Emma C. Thompson
Bruce Corfield	Ruth George	Tatyana Nosenko	D Christine Tompkins
Dawn D. Coulter	Sadaf Huque	Lukas L. O'Donnell	Anne P. Twist
Christine Daoud	Milka Julmice	Peter Peters	Robert Wendell
Colby J. Dawson	John M. Keller	Keidy Ramos	Clyde T. Willis, Jr.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Annual Survey

Each year, NOVAGA’s Membership Committee is responsible for planning the various chapter-level events that occur alongside of the educational and awards events. In prior years, we’ve planned and executed events varying in scope, such as happy hours, sporting events, fundraisers, and even a local ski/snowboard trip. 2020 saw in-person social and networking events being cancelled due to COVID safety concerns, but now that Virginia is relaxing some of those restrictions, we are going to plan some additional social and networking events. In fact, a group of NOVAGA members went skiing in March!

To help the Membership Committee plan future events, we’d like to hear from you. Please click the below link and take the 2021-2022 Membership Survey. As an incentive to complete the survey, we are offering two lucky NOVAGA members who complete the survey a chance to win one of two \$25.00 Amazon gift cards! For a chance to win one of the gift cards, provide your contact information at the end of the survey.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DBRH7YZ>



Speaking of that Ski Trip to Liberty Mountain . . .

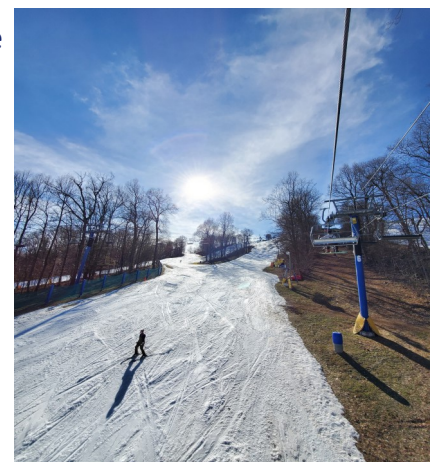
Jacob MacDonald, Chair, Membership Committee

Our chapter took a pause on hosting in-person social events and networking events in the past year because of safety concerns caused by COVID-19; however, we decided to begin organizing outdoor events that offered a chance to socialize with a safe experience and some social distancing.



The 2021 AGA Ski / Snowboard Event was our first in-person event since the start of COVID in early 2020. As such, we endured a few challenges during event planning and execution – one of which was a venue change from Whitetail to Liberty. This year, we did not meet as a large group for a photo; however, I enjoyed meeting a few folks that were willing to stop by the lodge area during my break and do some in-person networking. It was a beautiful day and everyone had a great time!

Finally, if you took any pictures (or selfies!), and are willing to share them, please forward your picture to our Membership Committee Chair, Jacob MacDonald (Jacob.MacDonald@ey.com), with a brief description of the event and who is in the picture.

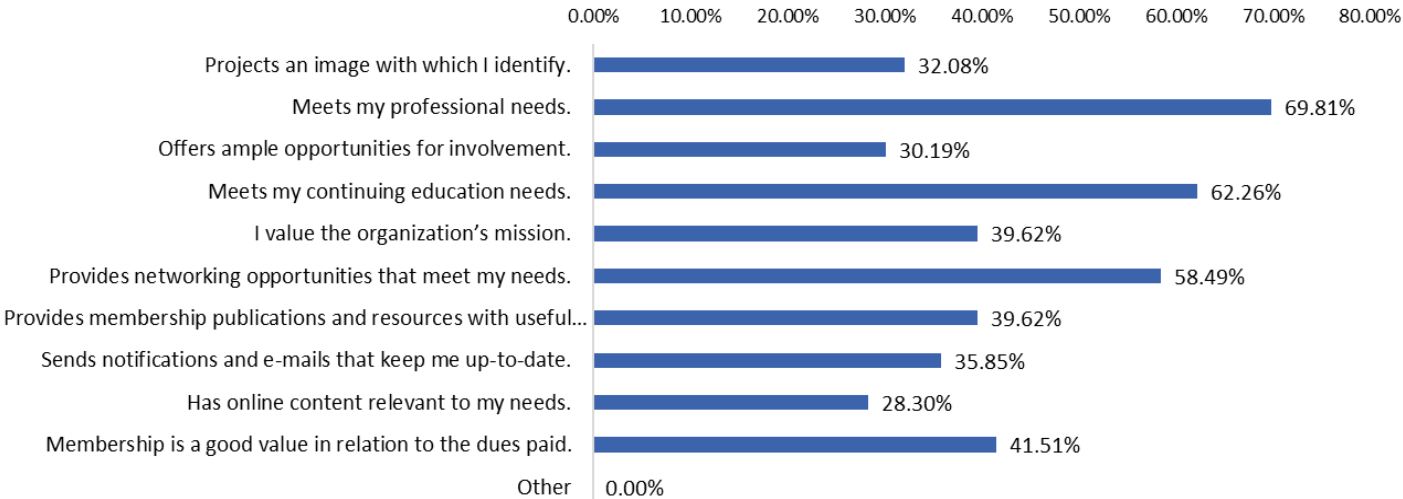


MEMBERSHIP NEWS

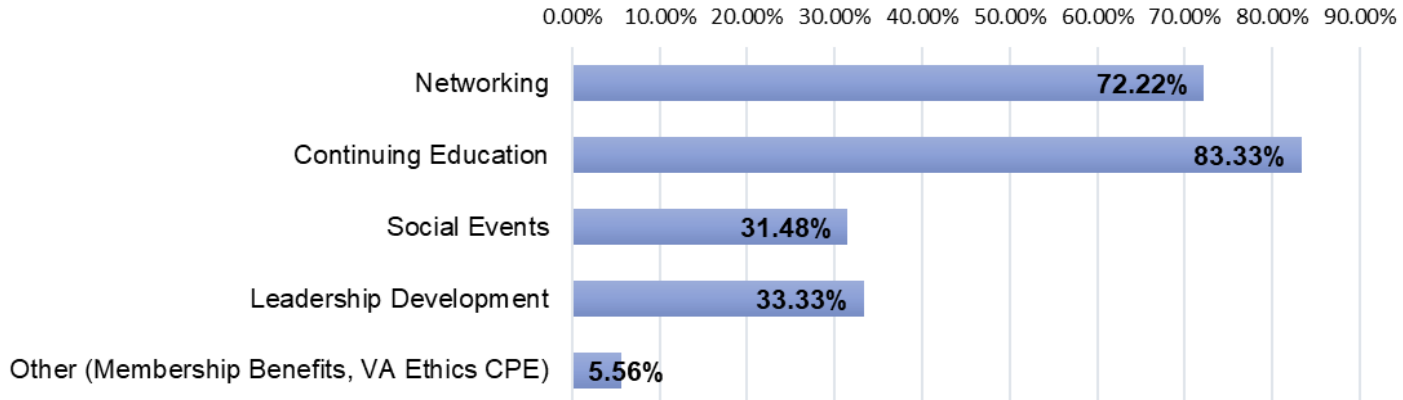
2020 Survey Results

Have you ever wondered what happens to all of those survey results each year? Starting with this newsletter, we will share some of prior program year’s survey results. In this issue, we are sharing the results for two questions regarding why our members decide to join or renew membership in a professional organization and what our members are looking for in NOVAGA.

Q7: Which areas are most important to you when deciding to join or renew membership in a professional organization?



Q9: What are you looking for from NOVAGA?



Don’t Forget to Take This Year’s Survey!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DBRH7YZ>

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The Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM®) certification demonstrates competency in governmental accounting, auditing, financial reporting, internal controls and budgeting at the federal, state, and local levels. The CGFM® is unique because it not only encompasses a specialized focus on government financial management, but it also has broad coverage of various aspects of financial management at all levels of government.

NOVAGA recognizes and applauds our chapter members who have obtained their CGFM® certification since the last publication of the chapter's newsletter.



William M. Appelquist, December 2020

Ahmad Fahad Khawaja, January 2021

Adelaide A. Feukam-Reid, February 2021

Tip of the Month:

If you're unsuccessful on a CGFM exam, you will receive a report showing your performance by content area. Use this report to prepare for the next time.

NOVAGA Annual Gala



It's Award Season!

The NOVAGA chapter sponsors three awards to recognize public and private individuals for their exemplary work in the field of federal financial management. If you work with or know someone who should be recognized for their outstanding leadership in government financial management, consider nominating them for a NOVAGA chapter award (self nominations are welcome).

The Chapter is soliciting nominations for the following three awards. Please forward your nominations to our Award Chair, Raymond Urias at ruriasrivera@kpmg.com. Include who you are nominating, the agency or firm where the nominee is employed, and a brief description of why the nominee embodies the spirit and skill of the noted award.

Jeffery Steinhoff Award for Excellence in Federal Financial Management

In 2003 the Northern Virginia Chapter of AGA instituted the Jeffery Steinhoff Award to formally recognize federal professionals who exemplify and promote excellence in government, outstanding leadership, high ethical standards and innovative management procedures. The award recognizes the cumulative achievements of federal professionals who throughout their career have served as a role model for others and who have consistently exhibited the highest personal and professional standards. Nominees must be employed by the federal government, however, do not have to be members of AGA.

The first recipient of this award was Jeffery Steinhoff, GAO; in 2019, it was awarded to Thomas Harker, U.S. Navy.

Federal Financial Partnership Award

In 2003 the Northern Virginia Chapter of AGA instituted the Federal Financial partnership Award to formally recognize private sector individuals who exemplify and promote excellent through outstanding leadership, high ethical standards, innovative management procedures and partnering with the Federal Government. The award recognizes the cumulative achievement of private sector professionals who throughout their career have served as a role model for others and who have consistently exhibited the highest personal and professional standards. Nominees must be employed by the private sector, however do not have to be members of AGA.

The first recipient of this award was John. H. Hummel; in 2019, it was awarded to Mike Frederickson, RMA Associates.

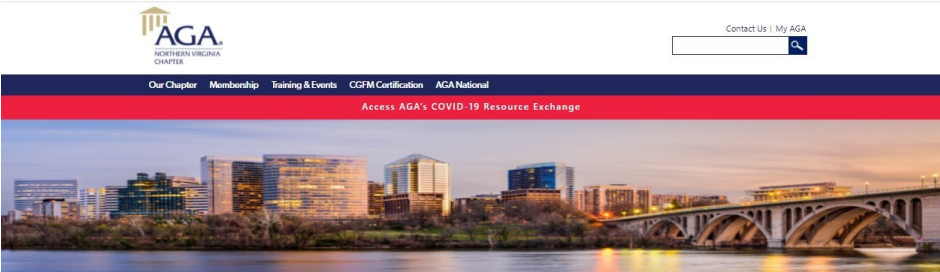
The Pentagon Memorial Service Award

The award was established in 2002 in memory of the victims of the September 11, 2001 attack on the Pentagon. The award formally recognizes public service to our nation in the field of financial management. The award recognizes dedication and commitment to improved government operations, financial stewardship and accountability through public service to our nation. Nominees must be a civil servant (federal employee) or a member of the Armed Forces, however, nominees do not have to be members of AGA.

The first recipient of this award was LTC Christopher Keefer, U.S. Air Force; in 2019, it was awarded to Shawn Sparks.

NOVAGA Has a New Website!

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



Our new **Home Page** presents our chapter — who NOVAGA is and what NOVAGA does — along with

- ✓ Upcoming Events
- ✓ Chapter News
- ✓ Latest Newsletter Issue
- ✓ Our Chapter’s Sponsors

Upcoming Events
NOVAGA’s Annual Spring Workshop
 Date: May 4, 2021
 Location: Virtual
 Join us Tuesday, May 4th from 8:30 - 12:30 am for NOVAGA’s Annual Spring Workshop.

Chapter News
April 2021 Luncheon with Ms. Mobola Kadiri, DASN (FO)
 The Northern Virginia AGA Chapter was honored to host our April 2021 Luncheon speaker, Ms. Mobola Kadiri, DASN (FO).

March 2021 Luncheon with Mr. Joshua Williams, FASAB
 The Northern Virginia AGA Chapter was honored to host our March 2021 Luncheon speaker, Mr. Joshua Williams, CPA, FASAB (senior analyst).

February 2021 Luncheon with Mr. John Lynskey, U.S. National Science Foundation
 NOVAGA CGFM Study Group

Chapter Newsletter
 View the Latest Newsletter

NOVAGA Supports Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia!

The NOVAGA chapter of AGA is proud to partner with Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia in the month of April. For the last 30 years, Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia has helped low-to-moderate income families achieve the dream of affordable homeownership. Their mission is to ensure affordability and sustainability for the Habitat NOVA first-time homebuyer. Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia has built or rehabilitated more than 100 homes and improved the lives of hundreds of people living right here in our local communities. Please help Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia to continue providing affordable homeownership for low-to-moderate income families in the Northern Virginia region. NOVAGA members who make a donation can send their proof of donation to Katie Labadie to be entered into this month’s raffle.

Who We Are

The Northern Virginia Chapter of AGA (NOVAGA) was chartered on June 1, 1988 and includes over 1,000 professionals in the government financial management community. The NOVAGA chapter is primarily composed of members from Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax, and other surrounding Northern Virginia cities.

What We Do

NOVAGA supports the Association’s Core Values of Service, Accountability, Integrity, and Leadership. We serve our members by providing continuing education and professional networking meetings. We promote accountability and integrity by ensuring transparency of our association. NOVAGA promotes leaders groups to encourage the promotion and certification of Governmental Financial Managers (CGFMs).

Our Sponsors

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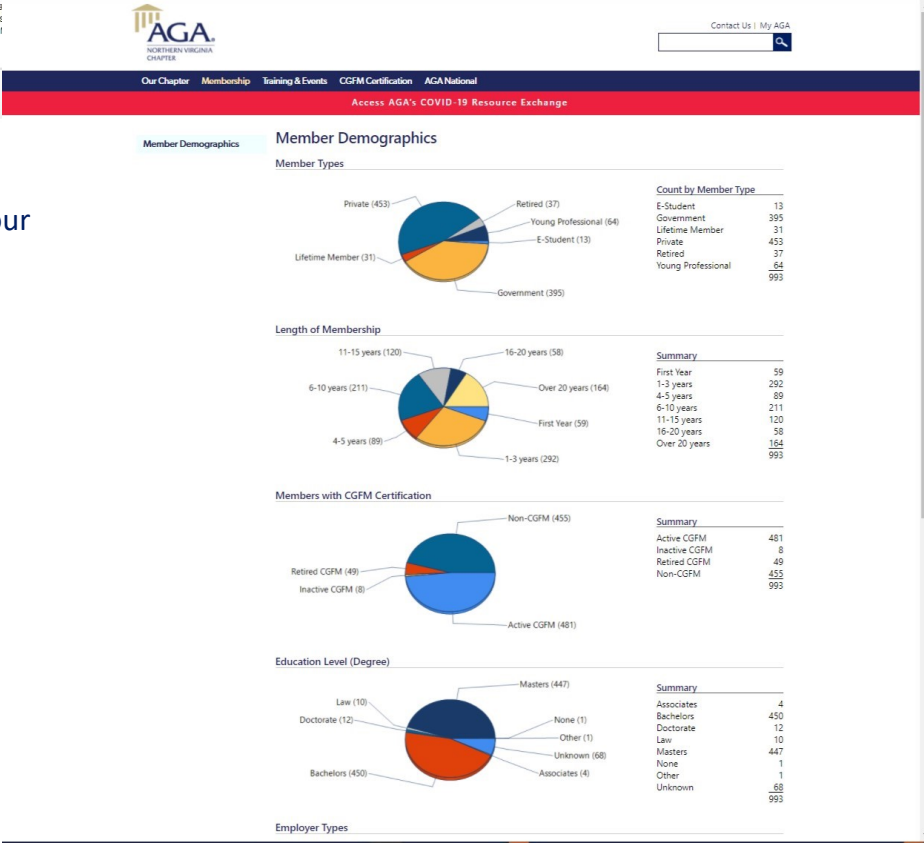
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Check out the **Membership Page** for our chapter’s demographics, showing our membership by

- ✓ Types of Members
- ✓ Length of Membership
- ✓ CGFM Certification
- ✓ Education Level / Degree
- ✓ Employer Type
- ✓ Field of Study



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Attention Chapter Members!

If you have taken any pictures at any NOVAGA events (virtual or in-person) or have information to included in a future newsletter edition, please email them to the Newsletter Editors (Naomi Martinez, Editor, at naomimartinez@kpmg.com, or Sonia Kessler at skessler@cottoncpa.com.



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- Nearly 1,000 hours of CPE through hundreds of courses and webcasts for accounting, auditing, and financial professionals
- Twice the amount of federal government-related courses than other online CPE providers
- A \$399 value for a flat cost of \$50 for one year

Once registered, access will be granted within the first week of the following calendar month. Registration is open until 12/23/21.

New User? Register [here](#).

Renewing? Register [here](#).

Visit NOVAGA's website [here](#) for more information.

NOVAGA Corporate Sponsors

Thank you to our corporate sponsors for supporting our chapter and members during the 2020-2021 program year. Through your continued support, we can continue to offer the Becker CPE program at a discounted rate, chapter meetings, and CGFM® study groups.

For information in becoming a corporate sponsor for the 2020-2021 program year, please contact our Corporate Sponsor Chair (Neda Haghighat at n.haghighat@ma.com).

PLATINUM



GOLD



BRONZE



NOVAGA Chapter Board Members

OFFICERS

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President-Elect	Justin Lang	j.lang@mafed.com
Immediate Past President	Mike Fredrickson	m.fredrickson@mafed.com
Regional Vice President	Christine Turner	Christine.turner@pcs.hhs.gov
Secretary/Historian	Sonia Kessler	skessler@cottoncpa.com
Treasurer	Tariq Mojadidi	t.mojadidi@mafed.com
Assistant Treasurer	Reza Mahbod	r.mahbod@mafed.com

COMMITTEES

Accountability/Outreach	Brian Grega, Chair	bgrega@kpmg.com
Awards	Raymond Urias, Chair	ruriasrivera@kpmg.com
CGFM®	Kevin Shers, Chair	kshers@bdo.com
Chapter Recognition	Vacant Chair Robin McCoy	Robin.McCoy@dodig.mil
Community Services	Fatima Zoury, Co-Chair April Leonard, Co-Chair	Fatima.zoury@morganfranklin.com aleonard@bdo.com
Corporate Sponsorship	Neda Haghighat, Chair Samrawit Yohannes	n.haghighat@rma.com s.yohannees@rma.com
Education	James Gould, Chair Kevin Love	jgould@kpmg.com klove@kpmg.com
Programs	Matt Menchi, Chair	mmenchi@cottoncpa.com
Membership	Jacob MacDonald, Chair Xiaolei Wang Irfan Satriadhi Christopher Choi April Leonard Stacy Ferris Haruto Kato	Jacob.Macdonald@ey.com xwang1@kpmg.com isatriadhi@kpmg.com christopherchoi@kpmg.com Aleonard@bdo.com sferris@guidhousefederal.com harutokato@kpmg.com
Early Careers	Jacob MacDonald, Chair Kris Samiley Gonzales Xiaolei Wang	Jacob.Macdonald@ey.com k.samiley@mafed.com xwang1@kpmg.com
Special Events	Katie Labadie, Chair Katrina Samiley	k.labadie@mafed.com k.samiley2@mafed.com
Newsletter	Naomi Martinez, Editor Sonia Kessler	naomimartinez@kpmg.com skessler@cottoncpa.com
Correspondence	Zak Kennedy, Chair	z.kennedy@mafed.com
Website Design	Zak Kennedy, Webmaster Neda Haghighat	z.kennedy@mafed.com n.haghighat@rma.com

If you are interested in serving on the NOVAGA Chapter Board, contact one of our officers above.

Contact Us

The Northern Virginia Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants (NOVAGA) is an association with almost 1,100 members from the federal, state, local, public and private practices, with a mission statement to serve professionals in the government financial management community by providing quality education, fostering professional development and certification and supporting standards and research to advance government accountability.

We would love to hear from you! Feel free to email one of our board members directly, connect with us on social media, or check out our home page at <https://www.agacqfm.org/Chapters/NOVAGA/Home.aspx>.

