

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members and Friends:

Wow, it's hard to believe it is already November! I want to thank everyone who assisted in making the Fall Seminar a success. It seemed as if everyone went away with a great feeling about the information they received from the seminar. We may have received an unintended boost when one of our speakers asked "why aren't more people in my organization here?" took information from the tables hopefully with the intent of letting more people know about us.

Our organization's success is a reflection of our membership, and of the core group of administrative leadership team. We, all of us together, and each of us individually pulled together to make the Seminar a successful educational event. We can only hope to make our next event better.

Hope to see you all at our meeting on 11/12/15 at Tessara's. The meeting has been changed to a Thursday for this month only. Dr Ben Dworkin from Rider University will give us his unique take on the upcoming political landscape and how the recent local elections will influence the political atmosphere in our state. Dr. Dworkin is not only informational, but also highly entertaining in his presentations.

Wednesday, November 11th, is Veteran's Day. A day we remember those who gave of themselves for our freedoms. Please take a moment to remember.

AGA Trenton Chapter is on Facebook! Please do not forget to "like" us on Facebook.

Sincerely,

*Audrey Tyndall-Hoyle
Trenton Chapter President*



MEET THE SPEAKER: NOVEMBER 12, 2015 MONTHLY DINNER MEETING



Ben Dworkin was named the Director of the Rebovich Institute for New Jersey Politics and Adjunct Assistant Professor of Political Science at Rider University in July 2008. The Institute's name honors its founder, the late Dr. David Rebovich (1949–2007).

As Director, Professor Dworkin oversees the Institute's day-to-day operations, organizes programming, provides internship, academic and professional guidance to students, and has built a reputation as one of New Jersey's most insightful political analysts. He has appeared on numerous network and cable news shows, and is frequently quoted by all of New Jersey's major newspapers, as well as *The New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal* and *USA Today*. In his position, he brings together experience in academia, public relations, government, and political parties and campaigns. When announcing his appointment, Rider University cited Professor Dworkin's "combination of political savvy, media knowledge and student-centered focus."

Professor Dworkin is currently completing his Ph.D. in political science at Rutgers University, where he has taught classes in "Political Campaigning" and "New Jersey Politics." At Rider, he continues to teach "New Jersey Politics" along with "Interest Groups and Lobbying," "Public Administration" and Honors courses to undergraduates. In addition, he has presented his research and analysis at several academic conferences across the country.

Prior to academia, Professor Dworkin spent several years in the private sector. He served as President & CEO of Dworkin Strategic Communications, and before then, as vice president at Robinson Lerer & Montgomery, a leading New York-based corporate public relations firm. His clients have included several leading Fortune 500 companies, such as WebMD, Time-Warner, Texaco, Maidenform and Hollywood Video. His primary areas were media relations, strategic communications development and crisis management.

Before his work in New York, Professor Dworkin was deputy research director for the New Jersey Assembly Minority office in Trenton. He helped oversee a staff of several other policy analysts and developed expertise in insurance, law, health care, public safety and veterans' issues. In this position, he wrote and edited legislation, policy analyses, floor speeches, talking points for use in debates and media interviews, as well as overall strategy.

Professor Dworkin has also worked as Legislative Aide to the late state Senator Matthew Feldman (D-Teaneyck), chairman of the Senate Higher Education Committee. He had primary responsibility for speechwriting, constituent relations, and legislative monitoring.

Through much of his career, Professor Dworkin worked on political campaigns, focusing on message development, press relations, advertising development, debate preparation and field operations. An award-winning journalist for his work with the *New Jersey Jewish Standard*, New Jersey's oldest Anglo-Jewish newspaper, Professor Dworkin has also been published in local newspapers throughout the state and is recognized as a leading political observer and freelance film critic. Miramax featured Professor Dworkin on the DVD of the Oscar-winning film *Life is Beautiful*. Professor Dworkin is a graduate of Princeton University and received his master's degree from Rutgers University, where he is currently pursuing his doctorate.

He lives with his wife and daughter in East Brunswick, N.J.



AGA president creates new Enterprise Risk Management task force

John Homan explains what the task force will do, who will lead it and why it matters to him, AGA and the U.S. economy as a whole. [Read more](#)

Ethics in the Workplace

Dec. 2 | 2–3:50 p.m. ET | 2 CPEs

Learn to adjust your procedures to shift from process to performance and explore new rules on procurement, travel and audits/monitoring. [Learn more](#)

CGFM® candidates — *spring* into action!

Participate in our March 2016 CGFM Intensive Review Course and your exams are on us! Space is limited—register today! [Learn more](#)

Do you know a student leader?

Encourage them to [apply](#) by Dec. 7 for the National Collegiate Leadership program. Open to full-time undergraduates.

Attention all CGFM applicants!

The Trenton AGA Chapter will be offering the CGFM Achievement Scholarship, an award for CGFM applicants that will reimburse the scholarship winner for the cost of study materials and exam fees for CGFM exams (maximum of \$250). Requirements for this scholarship are as follows:

- Must be an AGA Trenton Chapter member in good standing
- Must be a government employee
- Must have passed 2 of 3 parts prior to applying
- Must fill out application before taking the final exam in order to establish commitment from the Chapter for the scholarship
- Scholarship will be paid only if all 3 exams are passed within the timeline established by the AGA to achieve the certification

Please, see the next page for the application.

If you would like more information about this scholarship, please contact Margarita Stanislavskaya at mstanislavskaya@mercercounty.org.

For more information on the CGFM certification, please visit
<http://agacgfm.org/cgfm/>.





CGFM Achievement Award Application

Name _____

Member ID # _____

Mailing Address:

Telephone # _____

Email address _____

Current Employer:

Position/Title:

Did you pass 2 of 3 exams for the CGFM certification?
(Attach Proof)

Yes

No

I certify that the information provided on this application is true and correct.

Applicant _____
(Signature)

Date _____

For AGA Trenton Use Only

AGA-Trenton Board

Approval _____
(Authorized representative name and
signature)

Date _____

Please, complete this form and email to:

Margarita Stanislavskaya

mstanislavskaya@mercercounty.org

AGA Important Dates

| Meeting Date | Event Name | Location | CPEs |
|--------------|--|--|------|
| 11/12/2015 | <u>Dinner Meeting @ 5:30 pm</u> Topic: Upcoming Local, State, and Federal Elections Speaker: Ben Dworkin | Tessara Restaurant 812 Rt.33 Hamilton, NJ 08619 | 1 |
| 12/2/2015 | <u>Audio Conference (2:00 - 3:50 pm)</u> Topic: Ethics Speaker: N/A Webinar | Office of State Comptroller 20 West State Street, 12th Floor Trenton, NJ 08619 | 2 |
| 1/13/2016 | <u>Dinner Meeting @ 5:30 pm</u> Topic: TBD Speaker: TBD | Tessara Restaurant 812 Rt.33 Hamilton, NJ 08619 | 1 |
| 1/27/2016 | <u>Audio Conference (2:00 - 3:50 pm)</u> Topic: Ethics Speaker: N/A Webinar | Department of Labor 1 J. Fitch Plaza, 13th Fl Auditorium Trenton, NJ 08611 | 2 |
| 2/5/2016 | <u>2nd Annual Bowling/Networking Event (4:30 - 6:30pm)</u> Fee: FREE for students & recruits | Slocum's Bowling, Bar, & Grille 1675 Pennington Road Ewing, NJ 08618 | - |

AGA's 2nd Annual Bowling/Networking Event

Save this Date: Friday, February 5th, 2016 from 4:30-6:30pm!

FREE for students & potential new members! \$6 for members

Location: Slocum's Bowling Bar & Grille, Ewing, NJ 08618

Casual attire & cash bar for those 21+

Registration is encouraged: <http://www.agatrenton.com/>



Get Social! AGA Trenton Chapter is on Facebook! Come join us in this cyber community, "Like" us now!

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/AGA-Trenton-Chapter/531861283584888>



AGA - November 2015

| Sun. | Mon. | Tue. | Wed. | Thu. | Fri. | Sat. |
|---|------|-------|------------------------|-------------------------------|------|------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 Audio Conference | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 Dinner Meeting | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 Happy Thanksgiving! | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | | | | | |
| Trenton AGA PO Box 536 Trenton, NJ 08603 | | | | | | |

notes

Audio Conference: Location - Office of State Comptroller

20 West State Street, 12th Floor

Trenton, NJ 08619 (Time: 2:00 - 3:50 pm)



AGA - December 2015

| Sun. | Mon. | Tue. | Wed. | Thu. | Fri. | Sat. |
|---|--|------|---|------|---|---|
| | | 1 | 2 Audio Conference  | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7  | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25  | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |
| Trenton AGA PO Box 536 Trenton, NJ 08603 | | | | | |  |

notes

Audio Conference: Location - Office of State Comptroller

20 West State Street, 12th Floor

Trenton, NJ 08619 (Time: 2:00 - 3:50 pm)



AGA - January 2016

| Sun. | Mon. | Tue. | Wed. | Thu. | Fri. | Sat. |
|------|---|------|--|------|--|---|
| | | | | | 1  | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 Dinner Meeting  | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 MLK Day  | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 Audio Conference  | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | | | | | |  |

notes

Audio Conference: Location – Dept. of Labor & Workforce Development

1 John Fitch Plaza, 13th floor Auditorium

Trenton, NJ 08611 (Time: 2:00 - 3:50 pm)

AGA—Trenton Chapter Balance Sheet as of 10/31/15

| ASSETS: | | LIABILITIES AND EQUITY: | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Cash - Savings | \$12,176.36 | Accounts Payable | \$6,572.00 |
| Cash - Checking | 11,340.84 | Deferred Income | 0.00 |
| Accts Rec. Symp/mtg/Sem | 6,265.00 | Fund Balance | <u>25,610.20</u> |
| PrePaid Expenses | <u>2,400.00</u> | | |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$32,182.20 | TOTAL L&E | \$32,182.20 |

2nd Annual - AGA Bowling Event

Feb. 5, 2016 (4:30–6:30 pm)

Slocum's Bowling, Bar, & Grille, Ewing, NJ



Registration is not required but encouraged:

<http://www.agatrenton.com/current-eventsseminars.html>

About the Paul Vidunas Memorial Fund



SEE WHAT A DREAM CAN DO...

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 very involved in community service 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 Chapter's program year. The charity for this year's Paul Vidunas fund is the Sunshine Foundation. For information about the charity: <http://sunshinefoundation.org/>

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 now at <http://www.agatrenton.com/contact.cfm>

Thank you to all our 2015-2016 season newsletter sponsors!



The mission of the Mercer County Improvement Authority (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. Our purpose is to turn knowledge into value for the benefit of our clients, our people, and the capital markets.



Today's Mercadien focuses on team work and effectively allocating resources to be responsive to each client's needs. The Mercadien Group is a family of distinct companies created to serve the diverse and sophisticated needs of our clients in a capacity far greater than any single organization can offer. The group is comprised of six individual companies situated in one location, providing accounting, auditing, tax planning and compliance, management consulting, technology, wealth management, outsourcing, and investment banking services. We are a group of trusted advisors working in one place, sharing a broad knowledge base, and creating seamless solutions to meet your personal and business objectives.

business.rutgers.edu/govmaccy

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Membership

AGA members form a diverse group of individuals--from students to entry-level employees to senior executives and elected officials--working for local and state governments, school districts and retirement systems, colleges and universities, federal agencies and public accounting firms.

Whatever your role in government financial management, AGA offers a membership package tailored to meet your professional needs and interests.

AGA Member Types:

Full Government Member

This class of membership requires three or more years of government experience, involving the professional performance of financial management activities in an operational, administrative and/or supervisory capacity. This class is also available to individuals with similar experience outside the government who are engaged in educational activities having the same objectives as the Association, or who have made a contribution toward the improvement of government financial management. \$90 national + 5 local/year

Private Sector Member

This class of membership is available to individuals working for commercial activities/ventures that are actively engaged in and support AGA's purpose and objectives. \$150 + \$5 local/year

Early Career Member

This class of membership is available to government employees with less than three years experience. \$45 + \$5 local/year

Student Member Student:

This class of membership is available to college/university students. \$30 + \$5 local/year

Retired

Call the AGA Customer Satisfaction Center at 800.AGA.7211 to find out about our retired membership category.

2015-2016 Chapter Officers and Directors

President: Audrey Hoyle

President-Elect, Education: Kiersten Kokotajlo

Immediate Past President/Nominating Committee Chair:

Guy Tassi

Vice President of Admin/Finance/Program

William Challice

Vice President of Membership: Robert Rizzo

Treasurer: Dave Kaschak

Secretary: Christopher Schwartz

Accountability Outreach Chair: T.B.D.

Communications: Nikki Pennacchio

Sponsorship: Michael Hoyle

Audio Conferences: Michelle Blatt & Susan Davis

Fall Seminar: Audrey Hoyle

Spring Symposium: Christine Muller

Chapter Recognition: William Challice

CGFM Chairperson (Trenton Chapter): Margarita Stanislavskaya

Regional Vice President: Joe Connolly

Community Service: By Committee

Awards: Christopher Schwartz

Regional & Chapter Early Career: Kiersten Kokotajlo

Budget/Finance: Dave Kaschak

Newsletter: Andrew Bishop

Historian: Rose Todaro

By-Laws: Michael Hoyle

CONTACT US

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 Trenton, NJ 08604

Via e-mail: agatrentoninfo@agatrenton.com

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AGA-Trenton-Chapter/531861283584888](https://www.facebook.com/pages/AGA-Trenton-Chapter/531861283584888)

Visit our website: <http://www.agatrenton.com/>

Please note that we are a GREEN Chapter

**Check out our Citizen Centric Report
“A Report to Our Members”**

<http://www.agatrenton.com/docs/AGACCR-2014.pdf>

NEWSLETTER SUGGESTIONS

FEEDBACK WANTED!

Please feel free to offer any comments or suggestions for the newsletter's design, format, or style. We look forward to hearing from you!