



SEATTLE
CHAPTER

Volume 16-05 January 2017



President's Message

AGA President's Message - January 2017

Happy New Year to you all! As you start thinking about your resolutions for 2017, I encourage you to keep AGA service in mind. We will soon be searching for new board members for our upcoming program year and we can certainly use your time and talents. Whether your interests lie in planning community service projects, recruiting speakers, supporting our Certified Government Financial Manager credential program, or leading the board, we have lots of opportunities to help you develop yourself as a government accountability



professional. Please give serious consideration to joining our volunteer board this spring, and keep your eyes peeled for an upcoming announcement in the Sounder newsletter about the nomination and election process.

Mary Ann Hardy,
Chapter President

Welcome New Members

We are pleased to welcome to the Seattle Chapter:
Jani Bryant Management Systems Analyst, City of Seattle

And

Peter Lewis-Miller, Civil Engineer
Pierce County Public Works

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, February 14, 2017 - Jeff Brown, Contract Specialist with King County

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AGA Seattle Chapter's Monthly Meeting Schedule for Program Year 2016-2017

Save the dates for our monthly education events for program year 2016-2017! Please join us at these luncheon and brown bag events and help us make this program year a success.

Wednesday, November 16, 2016 - Michael Jacobson and Natasha Jones, King County. 11:30-12:00 Lunch and networking; 12:00-12:50 presentation.

Tuesday, December 13, 2016 - Dean Ritz, Director of IP strategy for Workiva, Inc. on DATA Act. 11:30-12:00 Lunch and networking; 12:00-12:50 presentation. See page 3 for details.

Tuesday, January 10, 2017 - Tina Polf, CPA - Annual Tax Update. 11:30-12:00 Lunch and networking; 12:00-12:50 presentation

Tuesday, February 14, 2017 - Jeff Brown, Contract Specialist with King County. 11:30-12:00 Lunch and networking; 12:00-12:50 presentation,
Please note: the meeting will be held on the 40th floor of the Columbia Tower.

Wednesday, March 8, 2017 - AGA webinar on Uniform Guidance. 11:00-12:50 Pacific time (2 CPEs)

Monday/Tuesday, April 24-25, 2017 - Governmental Accounting and Auditing Conference, Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, WA.

Tuesday, May 9, 2017 (Tentative) - Emerald Award Luncheon. 11:30-12:00 Lunch and networking; 12:00-12:50 presentation

December 2016 Luncheon Topic

Dean Ritz of Workiva discussed Digital Accountability and Transparency Act of 2014 (DATA Act)

Mr. Ritz's presentation consisted of describing the DATA Act, how well implementation is going, technical issues being sorted out, and the impact of the Act on government agencies, Congress, and the general public. The Data Act will have a long-ranging and significant impact on how data is collected and used. Several of our members joined into the conversation, discussing how the Act will impact current reporting requirements required by grantor agencies.

In a nutshell, Mr. Ritz explained the Act as requiring all Federal agencies to provide reliable financial and operating information in a standard electronic format for display at the web site USASpending.gov. Once the information is on the site, the general public as well as Congress and the agencies themselves can extract data for analysis of an agency's efficiency and effectiveness both individually and as part of the government as a whole.

The Act calls for full implementation by May 2017. Most cabinet-level agencies are on track to meet this May 2017 deadline. While Mr. Ritz is cautiously optimistic, he did indicate that some, most notably the Department of Defense, may require extensions of the deadline.

The Office of Management and Budget and the US Treasury are the lead agencies in assuring accurate information is received in a standard format. The Government Accountability Office is also providing significant input.

Receiving timely information, along with assuring the data is accurate and presented in a standardized format, are the challenges. Mr. Ritz's firm, **Workiva**, is chiefly involved in the standardization issue. This is accomplished by developing a data dictionary that provides mandatory account categories while allowing agencies the flexibility to open subcategories. In this way, agency-specific information is not lost, but at the same time, the data remains comparable between the agencies.

For further information on this revolutionary legislation, go to <http://www.datacoalition.org/issues/data-act/>, or watch a congressional hearing on the topic at <https://oversight.house.gov/hearing/data-act-implementation-check/>.



Chapter President Mary Ann Hardy with our speaker Dean Ritz

2016-2017 Webinars

AGA has scheduled the following webinars for the 2016-2017 Program Year.

See <https://www.agacgfm.org/Training-and-Events/Learn-Online/Webinars/2016-2017-Offerings.aspx> for more information about participating in these events.

Getting Your Dollars to Work Harder:

Blended and Braided Funding

Jan. 18, 2017

GASB

Feb. 8, 2017

Fraud/Risk

Feb. 22, 2017

Uniform Guidance 1/

Mar. 8, 2017

CFO/CIO Collaboration

Mar. 29, 2017

Ethics

Apr. 12, 2017

DATA Act

May 7, 2017

Fraud/Data Analytics

Jun. 14, 2017

2017 Member-Only Webinar Free Learning Event

[The Fraud Tools: Case Studies](#) Feb. 23, 2017 2-3 p.m. | 1 CPE |

Field of study: Auditing

1/ To be presented at our March Meeting

CGFM Intensive Review Course & Exams

Sign up for AGA's Intensive Review Course with CGFM examinations *included* - it's a great opportunity to review the course material with a knowledgeable instructor and complete your CGFM!

The Intensive Review Course (IRC), offering up to 18 CPEs, will be held in Alexandria, Va., April 3-4, 2017. 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 non-members.

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

The CGFM examinations for the April 3-4 course can be taken by appointment only at [Pearson Professional Testing Centers](#) from April 5, 2017 - July 31, 2017, using vouchers provided by AGA.

Before You Register, Please Read

- **What is the Intensive Review Course?** It is a special, limited enrollment opportunity for those 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.
- **What it's NOT:** It is not a shortcut. It is not an exam prep course with strategies on how to pass the exams. The Intensive Review Course is not a substitute for the three AGA instructor-led training courses. It is usually not enough, by itself, to prepare for the CGFM examinations - advance preparation is strongly recommended.

Registration

To participate in this event, individuals must:

- Be accepted into the CGFM program (see Eligibility section below).
- Pre-register for this event. **Note:** Only current CGFM candidates will be able to register for this event. Walk-ins will not be accepted.

Location

- The IRC will be held in Alexandria, Va. Detailed information will be provided to all registered attendees.

Eligibility

- To attend the Intensive Review Course and take the CGFM examinations, participants must first apply and be accepted into the CGFM program.
- Potential candidates need to submit the [CGFM program application form](#) and a copy of an official transcript from an accredited college or university.

2017 National Leadership Training

Feb. 15-16, 2017

This is *the* event for developing and training government financial professionals to excel as leaders in today's competitive market. Don't miss this opportunity to share best practices, find solutions to shared challenges, network with your peers, and learn from the top financial management leaders and industry experts. This training offers up to 14 hours of CPE.

Can't travel to Washington? NLT offers virtual attendance — from your home or office — so you don't have to miss out on this important leadership training event. Virtual attendance also offers up to 14 hours of CPE.

For further information, go to <https://www.agacgfm.org/NLT2017.aspx>

2017 Professional Development Training

July 9-12 | Boston or virtual

Registration now open!

To attend AGA's premier event, or learn more about the agenda, in person or virtual attendance, or other information, go to <https://www.agacgfm.org/PDT-2016.aspx>



AGA Seattle Chapter Activities

Board Member Sam Lord delivered 37 different toys to Toys for Tots. The total includes items shown here, which the chapter collected at our December luncheon, plus additional items Sam purchased with cash donated by December attendees.



Members were asked to bring toiletries for the benefit of Mary's Place women's shelter to our January Meeting.

New Member Tony Eayrs, Business & Finance Officer, King County International Airport, attended our December Meeting regarding Digital Accountability and Transparency Act of 2014 (DATA Act)



ARTICLES and PHOTOS WANTED

It has been said that nothing looks better than a published article with your name on it.

In order to give our members a chance to experience that thrill, we are looking for articles to include in the *SOUNDER*. Please submit items for inclusion and attribution.

Also, we like to decorate the first page of *The Sounder* with a local photo each month. If you have an article or picture to contribute, please send it to Tim Dobler at DOBLER5@MSN.COM. When we use your photo, we will acknowledge you in our credits section.

Financial Condition as of December 31, 2016

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Checking | \$ 2,749.62 |
| Savings | \$ 4,063.28 |
| 12 Month Certificate of Deposit | \$ 4,654.58 |
| Total Assets | \$11,467.48 |
| | |
| Liabilities | \$ 0.00 |
| Members' Equity | \$ 11,467.48 |
| Liabilities & Members' Equity | \$11,467.48 |

Cash Flow Report, as of December 31, 2016

| | | |
|--|----------|--------------------|
| Beginning Cash Balance | | <u>\$11,475.26</u> |
| Lunch Meals, Speaker Gifts | \$ 86.45 | |
| Other Events & Early Career Membership Scholarship | \$ 13.25 | |
| Subtotal Cash Expended | | <u>\$ 99.70</u> |
| Cash Deposits | | <u></u> |
| AGA Dues Received | | |
| Lunch Revenue | \$ 90.00 | |
| Interest Income | \$ 1.92 | |
| Board Dinner Reimbursements | | |
| Subtotal Cash Deposits | | <u>\$ 91.92</u> |
| Net Cash Change | | <u>\$ 7.78</u> |
| Ending Cash Balance | | <u>\$11,467.48</u> |

AGA Seattle Chapter Recognition Program Points

Chapter Goal: 19,000

| Chapter Recognition Program categories | Points to Date | Maximum Points |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Section I - Chapter Leadership, Planning, & Participation | 2,500 | 5,000 |
| Section II - Education & Professional Development | 1,900 | 4,000 |
| Section III - Certification | 1,250 | 4,000 |
| Section IV - Communications | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| Section V - Membership with a Focus on Early Career and Student Members | 4,000 | 4,000 |
| Section VI - Accountability | 0 | 2,000 |
| Section VII - Community Service | 1,450 | 2,000 |
| Section VIII - Awards | 100 | 1,000 |
| Total as of December 2016 | 14,200 | |

Recognition Levels:

A **Bronze Chapter Designation** will be presented to any chapter that attains between 10,000 and 14,500 credits for the year. The chapter president's plaque will include recognition that the chapter has achieved Bronze status.

A **Silver Chapter Designation** will be presented to any chapter that attains between 14,501 and 17,000 credits for the year. The chapter president's plaque will include recognition that the chapter has achieved Silver status.

A **Gold Chapter Designation** will be presented to any chapter that attains between 17,001 and 19,500 credits for the year. The chapter president's plaque will include recognition that the chapter has achieved Gold status.

The **Platinum Chapter Designation** will be presented to any chapter that attains between 19,501 and 22,000 credits for the year. The chapter president's plaque will include recognition that the chapter has achieved Platinum status.



WE'RE ON THE WEB:
WWW.AGASEATTLE.ORG

AGA serves government accountability professionals by providing quality education, fostering professional development and certification, and supporting standards and research to advance government accountability.

The purpose of the Association and the Chapter is to be an international, professional organization dedicated to the advancement of government financial management. The Association shall serve its members by providing or sponsoring appropriate educational programs, encouraging professional development, influencing governmental financial management policies and practices, and serving as an advocate for the profession. The Association shall serve government officials and the public by sponsoring efforts to ensure full and fair accountability for all public monies, and by providing a variety of pro bono services throughout the United States and its territories that support that end.

**AGA Seattle Chapter
2016-2017 Board Members**

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Open

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This newsletter was produced by board member Tim Dobler, with the assistance of Karyn Angulo. Thanks to chapter members who contributed articles and photos for this issue. Masthead Photo by Tim Dobler from the Bainbridge Ferry.