

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members and Friends:

How fast this year is leaping past us. In a few months we will spring into a newer, younger and more vibrant AGA year. I look forward to seeing many of you as a part of a robust membership turnout for the March Dinner meeting. Then we will go full bore into the Symposium in April. The Symposium promises to be one of the most interesting and educational events this chapter has put forward for its members and its guests.

I would encourage everyone once again to look around you and find one or two people that you believe would not only benefit from being an AGA member, but would also bring something new to our chapter. Bring them to a dinner meeting. Invite them to attend the symposium. Get them involved. Onward. Forward. Energetic. Buzzwords our chapter membership should strive to achieve every day.

I look forward to welcoming you and seeing you at our next meeting.

Sincerely,

*Audrey Tyndall-Hoyle
Trenton Chapter President*

**TRENTON
CHAPTER**



Association of Government Accountants



**March 9, 2016 Dinner Meeting at Tessara
Restaurant @ 5:30 pm**

**Office of the Chief Economist/Office of
Revenue and Economic Analysis.**



Speaker: Dr. James Wooster

The Chief Economist is the chief advisor on economic matters to the Treasurer and also supports other State agencies. The OCE/OREA provides data, projections, and analyses for the Governor's Budget Message, Budget in Brief, Citizen's Tax Guide, the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, the Appropriations Act, the Annual Tax Expenditure Report, the Statistics of Income Report, the Official Financial Statement, and numerous Fiscal Notes for the State Legislature.

Dr. James H. Wooster joined the Department of the Treasury as Chief Economist in February of 2015.

Dr. Wooster, who has 28 years of experience in domestic and international public finance, previously served with the U.S. Department of the Treasury as a tax advisor to various foreign governments. He is also a former Chief Economist for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

He brings special expertise and experience in developing analytical models and other tools that will enhance Treasury's economic and revenue analysis, providing a stronger foundation for the State's policy development and implementation.

From 1991-92, Dr. Wooster was the Chief Economist for the Massachusetts Department of Revenue, where he was responsible for improving the accuracy of forecasts and policy analysis. He developed a tax analysis and research unit to forecast Massachusetts tax collections and scrutinize the revenue impact of proposed tax legislation. He also published articles on tax reform, and served the Commonwealth as Chief of the Bureau of Analysis Estimation and Research from 1989 to 1991.

In 1993, Dr. Wooster joined the U.S. Department of the Treasury as resident tax policy advisor to the government of Bulgaria. He also has served as a long-term resident advisor in Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Azerbaijan. He participated in short-term missions in Colombia, Sudan, Ukraine, Romania, Afghanistan, Jamaica, Honduras and Tunisia.

Dr. Wooster earned his Ph.D. in economics from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

March 9, 2016 Webinar Update!

It has been brought to our attention that the topic for the Webinar on Wednesday, March 9, 2016 has changed from "Grants" to "Federal Information Security Management (FISMA) Introduction". If this topic is something you are interested in learning more about, please register via our website.

Thank you,

AGA Trenton Chapter

Website: www.agatrenton.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/agatrenton.chapter

FISMA Introduction @ NJDOL | March 9 | 2–3:50 p.m. ET | 2 CPEs

The [Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014 \(FISMA\)](#) affects how agencies implement information security policies for administrative and mission-support teams, according to the [Department of Homeland Security \(DHS\)](#).

FISMA 2014 codifies DHS's role in administering the implementation of information security policies for federal executive branch civilian agencies, overseeing agencies' compliance with those policies, and assisting the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in developing the policies. The legislation also allows DHS to develop and oversee the implementation of binding operational directives to other agencies, in accordance with OMB policies and practices.

Learn more about how FISMA affects you at this webinar.

AGA Important Dates

Meeting Date	Event Name	Location	CPEs
3/9/2016	<u>Audio Conference (2:00 - 3:50 pm)</u> Topic: FISMA Introduction Speaker: N/A Webinar	Department of Labor 1 J. Fitch Plaza, 13th Fl Auditorium Trenton, NJ 08611	2
3/9/2016	<u>Dinner Meeting @ 5:30 pm</u> Topic: Revenue and Economics Speaker: Dr. James Wooster	Tessara Restaurant 812 Rt.33 Hamilton, NJ 08619	1
3/23/2016	<u>Audio Conference (2:00 - 3:50 pm)</u> Topic: Internal Controls Speaker: N/A Webinar	Office of the State Comptroller 20 West State Street, 12th floor Trenton, NJ 08619	2
4/29/2016	<u>Spring Symposium</u> Topic: TBD Speaker: Various	Wyndham Garden Hotel 1 W. Lafayette St. Trenton, NJ 08608	7
5/18/2016	<u>Awards Dinner</u> Topic: Various Speaker: Various	TBD	7

SAVE THIS DATE!

April 29, 2016

Spring Symposium

Wyndham Garden Hotel

1 W. Lafayette St.

Trenton, NJ 08608



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>

Membership-Scholarship Program

In order to promote the AGA-Trenton Chapter and its membership, the AGA-Trenton's "Membership-scholarship" program (the Program) was launched in January 2011. For one year, the Program sponsors National and Trenton's Chapter AGA membership dues, CPE awarding monthly meetings, Annual Fall Seminar and Annual Spring Symposium for the individuals (one or more) who meet the following selected criteria.

The qualified individual is the one who:

- * Works for Federal, State, or Local Government
- * Performs accounting, auditing, or IT related duties
- * Has not previously been a member of AGA-Trenton
- * Regularly attends (commits to attend) AGA-Trenton Chapter's functions (e.g. monthly meetings, Seminar and Symposium, etc.)
- * Agrees to serve as a Board member (at the position available or assigned by the Board)
- * Committed to actively promote the AGA-Trenton Chapter, its membership, and events

Evaluation criteria and scholarship's term:

At the end of the first year the Program's Committee will evaluate the scholarship recipient's performance based on the criteria specified above, and, if satisfied, this member may be awarded one more year of the sponsorship for full membership (Dues-National and Trenton Chapter-only).

The application for the Program will be placed on AGA-Trenton website shortly. The scholarship recipient will be announced and introduced at AGA-Trenton's annual Award Dinner on May 18, 2016. Please, forward this information to your colleagues, clients, and friends. Please, nominate your colleagues, clients, and friends who are not yet members of AGA-Trenton.

The due date for the application/nomination is March 31, 2016

(please see application on next page)

We look forward to hearing from you,
Audrey Tyndall-Hoyle, President



**AGA-Trenton Chapter
Membership-Scholarship Program
Application**

Name _____

Place of work _____

Position _____

Contact Info _____

Experience _____

Candidate Statement (why interested in joining AGA) _____

Comments/References (optional) _____

THOMAS J. KASCHAK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Association of Government Accountants

Trenton Chapter

NOTE: Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Nominee Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Name of College/University: _____

Year Beginning College/University: _____ Year in 2016-2017: FR SO JR SR OTHER: _____

College Major: _____

Scholastic Standing (Grade Point Average) * _____

Membership In - Out of School Organizations ** _____ Office Held: _____

School Activities Participated In ** _____ Office Held: _____

Honors or Awards Received * _____

Other Family Members Attending College 2016-2017

NAME

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

YEAR

NAME	COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY	YEAR

Nominator Information:

Member of AGA? (Please Circle) **YES** **NO** How Long? _____

Printed Name of Nominator: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Number () _____ E-Mail _____

Employer: _____

Relationship to Nominee: _____ Signature of Nominator: _____

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATION is March 31, 2016

Mail Nomination Form to:

Christopher Schwartz

**NJ Div of Mental Health Services, Office of Fiscal & Mgmt Operations (5th floor)
222 S. Warren Street, P.O. Box 700, Trenton, New Jersey 08625**

*Attach High School and College (if any) Transcripts

** Attach Additional Sheets if Necessary

PREVIOUS AWARDEES ARE NOT ELIGIBLE

2016 AGA TRENTON CHAPTER AWARDS

Date: _____

I would like to nominate the following individual for a 2016 AGA Trenton Chapter Award:

(Name) _____

(Address) _____

(City/State/Zip) _____

(Telephone Number) _____

Please check the designation of the award for which you nominate this individual.

CHECK ONE ONLY

- The James Dolan Award
- Distinguished Leadership Award
- Achievement of the Year Award
- Education and Training Award
- Special Achievement Award
- Chapter Service Award
- Thomas J. Kaschak Memorial Scholarship*

**Note: This award requires submission of the "Scholarship Application"*

Additional supporting information may accompany this nomination form. Please be concise as possible. We may contact you for additional information, if necessary.

Biographical Sketch of Nominee (*position, title, education, other pertinent background information, etc.*)

Description of Accomplishments/Achievements

Citation (*For use as the formal award citation. Succinctly describe accomplishments, particularly their impact or results.*)

Signature of Nominator _____

Printed Name of Nominator _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Telephone Number _____

◆ DEADLINE FOR NOMINATION is March 31, 2016 ◆

Mail Nomination Forms to:

Christopher Schwartz, NJ Div of Mental Health Services, Office of Fiscal & Mgmt Operations (5th floor)
222 S. Warren Street, P.O. Box 700, Trenton, New Jersey 08625



AGA - March 2016

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

notes

3/9/16: Audio Conference @ Dept. of Labor & Workforce Devel. (2:00 – 3:50 pm)
3/23/16: Audio Conference @ Office of State Comptroller (2:00 – 3:50 pm)



AGA - April 2016

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 Celebrate EARTH DAY APRIL 22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 Spring Symposium	30

notes

04/29/2016: Spring Symposium @ Wyndham Garden Hotel, Trenton, NJ
NOTE: Please check back for updates to this event!



AGA - May 2016

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

notes

AGA—Trenton Chapter Balance Sheet as of 1/31/16

ASSETS:	LIABILITIES AND EQUITY:
Cash - Savings \$12,176.98	Accounts Payable \$776.00
Cash - Checking 9,868.02	Deferred Income 0.00
Accts Rec. Symp/mtg/Sem 30.00	Fund Balance <u>24,669.00</u>
PrePaid Expenses <u>3,370.00</u>	TOTAL L&E \$25,445.00
TOTAL ASSETS \$25,445.00	

Young Professionals PDT Scholarship Program

This program is for individuals under the age of 30, working directly for government or a nonprofit, who have never attended PDT. The program provides:

- Complimentary registration for PDT (\$775 value)
- Five hotel nights (\$875 value)
- Up to 24 CPEs
- Lots of opportunities to network

In exchange, we ask for assistance in the AGA booth during breaks and receptions in the exhibit hall. Participants in this program are expected to attend sessions and collaborate with the Young Professionals Focus Group post-PDT.

- **Details and application** are available here: <https://www.agacgfm.org/Membership/Connect/Awards-Recognition/Young-Professionals-PDT-Scholarship.aspx>
- **The PDT website** is available here: <https://www.agacgfm.org/PDT-2016.aspx>
- **Deadline to apply is March 1, however it will likely be extended a few days**

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



CONGRATULATIONS

**The AGA – Trenton Chapter
would like to recognize three
special people as AGA
Lifetime Members:**

- **Anthony Manno**
- **Terrance P. Sharky**
- **Rose Todaro**

*We'd also like to recognize Rose Todaro as a
founding member of the AGA Trenton Chapter*

About the Paul Vidunas Memorial Fund



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 collect 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

Master of Accountancy in Governmental Accounting

– *Now Available Online!*

Earn your Masters in Governmental Accounting anytime, anywhere with the online convenience of the Rutgers Business School's Master of Accountancy in Government Accounting program. As the nation's only online advanced degree in governmental accounting – this 10-course program prepares graduates to take advantage of career opportunities in governmental accounting, auditing, and finance.

Great Value for Government Employees

Get a high quality master degree at the same great value received by New Jersey residents. Candidates working within government, regardless of state residency, are eligible for in-state tuition for this program.

Contact us Today:

govmaccy@business.rutgers.edu, 848-445-4441, or business.rutgers.edu/govmaccy



Rutgers Business School

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey – founded 1766

RUTGERS
Rutgers Business School
Newark and New Brunswick



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. \$100 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. \$160 + \$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:

This class of membership is available to AGA members who have permanently retired and are not working. \$35 + \$5 local/year.

Membership Link:

<https://www.agacfm.org/Membership/overview.aspx>

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

By mail: AGA-Trenton
PO Box 536
Trenton, NJ 08604

Via e-mail: agatrentoninfo@agatrenton.com

Like us on facebook: <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/AGACCR-2014-15.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!