

September 2022

NEWSLETTER

Presidents Message

Christie Blair

Hello Shenandoah Valley AGA Members

Summer is coming to its end and we are approaching the start of fall already. I have always thought of fall as a time of new beginnings. A time when we can start anew, build new relationships with our members and colleagues. This year I want to focus on networking and building meaningful relationships. As AGA members we are all leaders and I encourage you to attend training events, promote professional certifications, and help other members and colleagues to build their skills and advance their careers.

I am excited to kick off our first training event Wednesday, September 27th from 12 to 1pm with Benjamin D. Moncarz, Deputy Chief Financial Officer at FEMA. The topic of discussion will be "Career Development in the Chief Finance Office."

I am looking forward to another successful year. We as a chapter will continue to **Advance. Grow. Accelerate.**

Respectfully,

Christine Blair

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Winchester, VA 22604

[www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/
ShenandoahValley/Home.aspx](http://www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/ShenandoahValley/Home.aspx)

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Valley"**

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Recognition
of Excellence
2021



Townhall Tuesday

Starting in September, AGA National will host monthly virtual townhalls for chapter leaders. These townhalls will feature a new topic each month and are an opportunity to learn directly from the National Office staff. National's Membership Manager, Meredith Newman, will discuss the *Everyone Get One* membership campaign during the September townhall. You can learn about the incentives for AGA members that recruit new members. Consider joining this Townhall on September 6th.



Start Recruiting New Members

Did you know that our Chapter can receive **100 bonus points** for exceeding our membership growth goal. The point structure is as follows:

Tier 1: maintain membership number.

Tier 2: achieve 10% growth

Tier 3: exceed 10% growth

We also have a chance for 100 more bonus points by achieving 16% growth. Help us by recruiting new members today!



Free-Members-Only Webinar

Evidence-based Policymaking: Who's Doing it Right?

Wednesday, September 7 at 2:00 pm ET

Hear federal and state evidence leaders discuss how they are building the infrastructure necessary to use evidence and data to improve program outcomes. Register on AGA National's website today.

AGA's New Membership Manager

Meredith Newman

Ms. Newman grew up in Central New Jersey, moved to Charlotte, NC for 15 years and then moved to Alexandria, VA. She has a B.A. in elementary education and taught first grade for the last 12 years. She enjoys visiting her family in New Jersey, and taking her Great Dane mix (Maggie) to the dog park. She also enjoys reading, quilting and bootcamp workouts. Let's welcome Meredith as we work with her to recruit new members to our Chapter!

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AGA's Multi-Year Recruitment Challenge

AGA's goal for their multi-year recruitment challenge, *Everyone Get One*, is to total 20,000 members within the next four years! If EVERY member recruits just one new member, we will **far** surpass this goal!

You probably know and work with many people who should be – but are not yet – AGA members. Think about the value your AGA membership brings you. Is it the CPEs? The networking opportunities? The numerous ways to build your resume through chapter leadership or publishing in the Journal or mentoring? Maybe it's the potential for scholarships and awards! Chances are excellent you know someone else who would be attracted to the same opportunities and would benefit greatly from membership in AGA.

By recruiting new members, you help strengthen AGA (and our Chapter) and build a better future of the accountability profession. Do not hesitate! Talk with someone today about the value of your AGA membership!

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Limited Space Available! CGFM Virtual Courses

Join us online for AGA's fall virtual CGFM courses. An experienced CGFM instructor will lead attendees through the material – and you will receive free access to the CGFM online study guide for each course you attend. Course 1 will be held October 5–6, Course 2 on September 13–16, and Course 3 on September 27–29. See AGA National's website to register.

Tell Us What Training You Want

We are in the early stages of planning for our 2022-23 Chapter year. Please give us your ideas for training topics and potential speakers. This is your Chapter and we want to deliver training that you are interested in. Please reach out to any of your Chapter Officers and we will do our best to find a speaker to address your request or invite a speaker you identify.

Join Our Chapter Executive Committee

We are recruiting members to join our Chapter Executive Committee for the upcoming Chapter 2022-23 year, which began July 1. Are you interested in becoming more involved in AGA and your Chapter? Please reach out to any Chapter Officer and let us know. We would love you to join our Executive Committee or one of our various committees and help out. We are always looking for new faces and new ideas. Take time to get involved; it will be worth your efforts to learn and grow!



Upcoming Events

Internal Controls & Fraud Prevention (FRAUD2022)

Sept. 20-21, 2022

Shenandoah Valley Chapter Meeting

Sept. 27, 2022

12-1pm ET

Speaker: Benjamin Moncarz

Technology & Transformation

Summit 2022

Dec. 8, 2022

Washington, DC

Commonwealth of Virginia

27th Annual PDT

Dec. 8-9, 2022

Williamsburg, VA

Accountability Talks

<https://www.agacgfm.org/Tools-Resources/Accountability-Talks-Podcast.aspx>

Community Service Corner

Wreaths Across America

Remember, Honor, and Teach

Once again, we will be participating in the Wreaths Across America campaign. We will begin soliciting donations for Wreaths Across America to sponsor wreaths that will be placed on the graves of our fallen military members across the country. A wreath can be sponsored in remembrance of a loved one or to honor someone who has served or is still serving. The wreaths are \$15 per wreath. Please join us in helping to honor our fallen military members as well as those who have served or are still serving. You can sponsor wreaths at <https://www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org/pages/24150>



Land's End AGA Apparel Store

With AGA's recent rebranding, new merchandise is now available at Land's End. Whether you're looking for something special to commemorate a membership event, present a gift to a speaker or show your AGA spirit, our **one-stop shop** has what you need! See merchandise at <https://business.landsend.com/store/agamembership>.

AGA's Mentoring Program

Did you know that AGA has a mentoring program? Consider being a mentor or a mentee.

Mentors—Share your knowledge and expertise to assist others in developing and growing in our profession.

Mentees—If you are looking to develop a skill or gain insight from an experienced professional, please consider signing up.

More information at <https://www.agacgfm.org/Membership/Connect/Mentoring-Program.aspx>

Did You Know?

AGA members are dedicated professionals.

AGA supports government at all levels and work in all areas of financial management, accounting, auditing, IT, and other business operations areas to help government work more efficiently and effectively.

As members, we're able to boost our careers through AGA education and the CGFM certification, and through opportunities to network, share ideas and solutions.

AGA training events are fantastic; they highlight innovations, best practices and research and lead to positive change in government that benefits our society.

You can make a difference when you join AGA.

Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM)

CGFM is a professional certification awarded by [AGA](#), who is *the* member organization for financial professionals in government.

Benefits of Becoming a **CGFM**:

- Increases knowledge of government financial management
- Increases confidence on the job
- Provides better understanding of 'big picture' of government
- Indicator of experience and knowledge
- Enhanced marketability throughout all levels of government

Chapter Officers 2022-2023

President-Christine Blair

President-Elect-Vacant

Treasurer-Cheryl Ferguson

Secretary-Vacant

Membership Chair-Vacant

Newsletter Editor-Gina Smith Moss

Education Chair-Brooke Pennington

Achievement in Excellence (ACE) Chair-Gina Smith Moss

Accountability Chair-Vacant

Community Service Chair-Danielle Unger

CGFM Chair-Vacant

Young Professionals Chair-Saira Blair

Webmaster/Social Media-Aleasha Jeffries

NCC Representative-Michael Townsend

AGA National Governing Board 2022-2023

National President-Melinda Miguel

National Treasurer-Eric Berman

Director Area 1-Samuel Lord

Director Area 3-vacant

Director Area 5-Andrew Stovich

Director Area 7-Shelly Taleporos

Director (at-Large)-Suzanne Bump

Prof. Certification Board-Raquenel Jackson

National President-Elect-Gwendolyn Sykes

National Treasurer-Elect-Michael Pearson

Director Area 2-Misty Schuck

Director Area 4-Tiffani Dorsa

Director Area 6-Angela McElrath-Prosser

Director Area 8-Johnny Ramsey

Director (at-Large)-Tony Scardino

CPAG Chair-David Zavada

AGA National Office

Chief Executive Officer-Ann Ebberts

Executive Assistant-Sia Sankoh

Chapter Services Manager-Kristi Miller/Lauren Walters

Director of Information Technology-David Payne

Director of Meetings & Expositions-Jerome Bruce

Student & YP Programs-Kyra Nichols

Chief Operating Officer-Susan Fritzlen

Director of Finance & Administration-Vacant

Field Representative-Bobby Derrick

Membership Manager-Meredith Newman

Director of Professional Certification-Katya Silver

Editor/Copywriter-Mary Margaret Yodzis