



Nashville Notes



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Rachelle Cabading
2020-2021 Chapter President

President's Letter

Happy Thanksgiving Nashville Chapter!

What are you thankful for this year? This Thanksgiving season may look a little different from the past. The gatherings might be a little smaller, but the meaning of the season is still as big as ever. Make sure you spend a little time letting others know what you are thankful for before you dig into the Turkey, Dressing, Ham, Mashed Potatoes, Sweet Potato Casserole, Green Beans, Corn... Yum! Anyone hungry yet? I am thankful our Nashville AGA chapter can continue our monthly educational events, but honestly, I do miss the luncheons. Part of what makes our chapter so special is getting to spend time together while enjoying a meal and each other's company. I look forward to the days when we can join back together in person. In the meantime, I am very thankful we found a way to still connect and continue to meet our chapter's goals of providing members with quality professional education.



President's Letter (Continued)

Speaking of quality educational events, have you ever wondered how your house and land gets appraised for tax purposes? Make sure you join us at our next virtual meeting on Monday, December 7th to hear Vivian M. Wilhoite, Metropolitan Government of Nashville & Davidson County's Assessor of Property. She is going to help us understand the appraisal process.

I am very thankful our Community Service Committee found an activity we could participate in outside while still being able to social distance. Thank you to our chapter members and friends who were able to plant trees with Hands on Nashville and Root Nashville on Saturday, November 21st. We planted seven trees at the Tennessee School for the Blind (corner of Lebanon Pike/Stewarts Ferry Pike). If you are ever in the neighborhood, make sure you look for our newly planted trees. Root Nashville has an ongoing initiative to plant 500,000 trees across Davidson County by 2050.

Also, don't forget to register for our annual Winter Seminar being held on January 20-21, 2021. This two-day training event provides 16 hours of Continuing Professional Education and will cover accounting and auditing updates as well as training on cybersecurity, fraud, and more! Click this link to register: [Nashville Chapter/Training/2021 Winter Seminar](https://www.nashvilleaga.org/Chapter/Training/2021%20Winter%20Seminar).

Make sure you sign up for our chapter emails, including our monthly newsletter, at www.NashvilleAGA.org. Find the "Membership" tab and click on "Join Email Group". By entering your email address, you will receive the monthly newsletters, invitations to monthly meetings/luncheons, social events, community service opportunities, and so much more.

I look forward to seeing everyone "virtually" on December 7th for our next chapter meeting!

2020-21 AGA Webinars

Internal Control (details on pg. 9)

December 9 | 1:00–2:50 PM

Virtual

Uniform Guidance

January 13 | 1:00–2:50 PM

Virtual

GASB Update

February 3 | 1:00–2:50 PM

Virtual

Cybersecurity/ERM

March 24 | 1:00–2:50 PM

Virtual

CARES Act

April 21 | 1:00–2:50 PM

Virtual

Fraud/Data Analytics

May 12 | 1:00–2:50 PM

Virtual

Leadership

June 9 | 1:00–2:50 PM

Virtual



2020-2021 Chapter Meeting Dates

December 7, 2020

January 11, 2021

February 1, 2021

March 1, 2021

April 5, 2021

May 10, 2021

2020-2021 CEC Meeting Dates

December 2, 2020

January 6, 2021

January 27, 2021

February 24, 2021

March 31, 2021

May 5, 2021

November Meeting Speaker

Vivian Wilhoite

Understanding the Appraisal Process

Vivian started her professional career as a Real Estate Appraiser at the Tennessee Public Service Commission ("Commission") now known as the Tennessee Regulatory Authority ("TRA"). While at the Commission, Vivian was responsible for the appraisal of public utility properties for *ad valorem* tax purposes. She was promoted to the position of Assistant Director and later to Chief of the Consumer Services Division where she oversaw Tennessee's regulatory initiatives, policy development, and complaints about regulated utility companies. She concluded her state career as the TRA's statewide representative for Consumer Education & Outreach, a role in which she traveled the state empowering consumers to make informed decisions about their gas, water, electric, and telephone services.

Vivian began walking in her public service purpose as an involved student at TSU. In 2003, she ran and was elected to serve as Representative of District 29 on the Metropolitan Nashville-Davidson County Council ("Metro Council"). In 2007, she was re-elected by 72% of the votes which was the largest percentage of anyone running for local public office in that election year. While serving on the Metro Council, Vivian was selected as Vice-President of Information, Technology and Communications Committee of the National League of Cities which played a major role in the implementation of the Broadband Plan and Digital Transition for the city of Nashville.

After serving eight (8) years on the Metro Council, Vivian remained active in the community and political arena. Seeing an opportunity to effect change and empower the masses, she again entered the political arena and successfully ran for the Office of the Assessor of Property for Davidson County. On



August 31, 2016, she took the oath for a four-year term, becoming the first African American to hold the Office of Assessor of Property in the history of Davidson County. As the Assessor, Vivian, and her amazing staff of eighty-five are responsible for the valuation of more than 260,000 taxable residential and commercial properties, in addition to 26,805 personal property accounts. The resulting work of the Office of Assessor constitutes approximately 48% of the budget of Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County.

In her first year as the Assessor, Vivian successfully completed the 2017 Reappraisal which resulted in \$29.7 billion *total assessed value* for all classifications of properties in Davidson County (15.1 billion and 14.1 billion respectively for commercial and residential properties). This was the largest valuation increase in the history of Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County. Under Assessor Wilhoite, the office has held more than 100 community meetings across Davidson County to explain the

Speaker Bio (continued)

appraisal process to property owners and to answer questions about property valuation and appeal rights. As a result, Vivian and her staff was awarded the prestigious Certificate of Excellence in Assessment Administration from the International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO), a national and international organization which is made up of approximately 8,000 members in the assessment profession and seeks to maintain the highest standards of professionalism in property valuation. Vivian is looking forward to Reappraisal 2021 which she believes is going to be historical, in light of the unfortunate pandemic and the challenges that it brings.

Vivian was successfully re-elected in the primary on March 3, and in the general election on August 6, 2020 with the most vote of all county wide elections.

Vivian is a member of the International Association of Assessing Officers; Tennessee

Association of Assessing Officers; a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated; Les Gemmes, Incorporated; The Women Collaborative Caucus; The National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Incorporated; Nashboro Village HomeOwners Association-president and numerous other boards and organizations. She and her family are active members of Mt. Zion Baptist Church. Vivian is married to Larry and they are the proud parents of two sons, Pherius and Lelan and their beloved Shih Tzu, Bella and Doodle-Teddy. Vivian lives her life directed by the adage:

"Do all the good you can, in every way you can, for all the people you can, while you can."

Community Service

Members, family, and friends of the Chapter enjoyed a beautiful fall morning and planted trees on Saturday, November 21, at the Tennessee School for the Blind. Pictured are Angela McElrath-Prosser, Arlene Sawlani, Mary Anne Queen, Penny Austin, Rachelle Cabading, Andrew Turner, and Jai Sawlani. Not pictured: Stephanie Gravert-Spitzer.



Community Service (continued)

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Gloves, Socks, & Underwear Drive to Benefit Samaritan Ministries



Samaritan Ministries is located at 1041 28th Avenue North in Nashville, TN 37208. A carryout meal and essential personal resources are available Monday through Friday of each week from 11am to 12 noon to ANYONE in need. This year, because of COVID-19, the center is only accepting **NEW** items. Currently, the greatest needs are as follows:

- Gloves
- Socks
- Underwear
- Thermal underwear
- Body wipes
- Hand warmers

Drop-Off Locations	Contact Information	
Cordell Hull Building	Rachelle Cabading	(615) 430-3852
425 Fifth Avenue North	Rachelle.Cabading@cot.tn.gov	
Nashville Public Library	Angela McElrath-Prosser	(615) 862-5772 (Calls only)
615 Church Street	angela.mcelrath@nashville.gov	(615) 210-0812 (Text is best)

Please make arrangements in advance if you would like to drop off items. Financial contributions are also accepted and our chapter will match contributions up to \$100.

Please contact Scarlet Sneed at scarlet.sneed@comcast.net with questions related to financial contributions.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE!

Community Service (continued)

NASHVILLE RESCUE MISSION

Help Provide Hope This Thanksgiving!

Your gift will help make Thanksgiving great for Nashville's homeless!



This 2020 Thanksgiving may look a bit differently than in years past. But with our help, the Nashville Rescue Mission will be serving over 4,000 traditional Thanksgiving meals to men, women, and children experiencing homelessness and hunger over this Thanksgiving holiday. **And they need turkeys! Lots of them.**

We are encouraging our Nashville Chapter members to make their donations during the month of November.

You may drop off your donations of turkeys and other food items at the Mission's Donation Center located at 616 7th Avenue South, Nashville, TN 37203. It is open Monday through Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Contact Keevia.battle@tn.gov to let us know that you have donated or if you have any questions!

New Member!

Mark Jaquish

Department Controller

State of Tennessee



Recruiting Incentives

- First-time guests receive a free lunch.
- Each sponsor of a new member receives a \$10 gift card.
- The member who sponsors the most new members by December 31 wins \$100.

Gain 30 points so that you can receive a \$45 rebate on your full membership renewal after renewing by March 31, 2021.

Membership

As of our November meeting, our membership count was 326, just 41 short of our goal of 367 for this year! Currently, we have five people in the running for the \$100 Prize in our local recruiting competition to sponsor the most people between May 1 and December 31! That means everyone still has a chance to win! Continue to share the benefits of AGA membership with your coworkers and acquaintances. Sponsors receive three points and a \$10 gift card!

Internal Control

Implementing, Controlling, and Monitoring Emergency Funding under the CARES Act

December 9 | 1:00-2:50PM CT | 2 CPEs | 2 PDUs | FOS: AUDG

COVID-19 brought unprecedented change and significant emergency funding via the CARES Act. Agencies across the Federal Government have been tasked with distributing the emergency funding, resulting in internal control complexities, potential fraud challenges, and operational obstacles as the federal workforce largely migrated to telework. In this webinar we want to focus on these internal control challenges and lessons learned for future emergency funding that could be coming in the near future as COVID-19 persists.

Learning Objectives:

At the end of the webinar, participants will be able to:

- Understand how to establish a control program to implement emergency funding, CARES Act, etc.
- Understand how to monitor emergency funding to prevent fraud, waste, and abuse.
- Understand how to establish operational controls around telework and getting the workforce back in the office.
- Understand lessons learned from current emergency funding efforts that can be applied in the future.

LUNCHEON/CEC MINUTES

To read the minutes from the most recent CEC and luncheon meetings, please visit the chapter website [here](#). The luncheon minutes will be presented for approval at the next scheduled business meeting.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

From time to time, job opportunities are sent in and posted to our website by the Website Committee, for your convenience. If you are interested in new job offerings or know someone who is, click this link for more information.

EDITOR'S CORNER

We enjoy reading articles submitted from our membership! Please share your thoughts, ideas, or interesting news with us by submitting an article to Tyler.Ensminger@cot.tn.gov no later than December 15, 2020 for the next edition of our newsletter.

Chapter Committees

Young Professionals

Organizes events for members in the first few years of their careers.

Education

Organizes our annual training seminar in January/February. This includes recruiting and scheduling speakers for the seminar. Also organizes local participation in Webinars hosted by the National Office.

Awards

This committee creates nominations for National Awards as well as awarding local chapter scholarships. We provide at least 2 scholarships annually and this committee reviews the scholarship applications and decides on the recipients.

Membership

Recruits and retains members.

Finance

Collects money at monthly luncheons, prepares annual history report, and local chapter tax forms.



Webmaster

Maintains the website content and listserv.

Accountability & Outreach

Prepares annual Citizen-Centric Report (CCR) and recruits other agencies to prepare CCRs.

Meetings & Attendance

Organizes monthly Chapter Executive Committee and chapter luncheons. Keeps up with those who sign up and attend meetings. Also assists the Education committee with rosters for meetings that provide CPE training.

Program

Recruits speakers for monthly lunches and organizes annual social events.

Corporate Sponsorship

Recruits sponsors for events. So far, most of our sponsors have been for the Winter Seminar in January or February.

Community Service

Coordinates and organizes monthly community service projects throughout the program year.

Communication

Publishes the monthly newsletter and maintains social media presence.

Contact Rachelle Cabading or the committee chairs to volunteer!

Contact Us

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For a list of all Chapter Leadership for the 2020-2021 Program Year visit:

<https://www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/Nashville-Chapter/Our-Chapter/Chapter-Leadership.aspx>



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**Visit the Nashville Chapter website at
www.nashvilleaga.org**