

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members and Friends:

I want to begin by thanking everyone who assisted in making the Fall Seminar a success. We've gotten a lot of positive feedback and it seemed as if everyone took away something valuable from the sessions. Or, they won one of the awesome prizes raffled for the Paul Vidunas fund in which we raised \$630 towards our final donation at the end of the program year to the Anchor House. In addition, \$290 was donated to the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen as well as numerous bags of food items. The generosity of our members and friends is a true reflection of what an amazing and giving organization this is and I can't thank you enough for your contributions.

I hope to see you all at our dinner meeting on November 16, 2016, at Tessara's. Dr. Ben Dworkin from Rider University will give us his unique take on the newly elected political landscape and how the recent local elections will influence the political atmosphere in our state. Just a reminder, Dr. Dworkin will be starting his presentation about a half hour later than usual so we will have an extended social hour for those who would like to come at the normal time.

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

Don't forget to check the website for updates as well as pictures from our events & "like" us on Facebook! Wishing everyone a wonderful November!

Sincerely,

**Kiersten Kokotajlo**  
Trenton Chapter President

**TRENTON  
CHAPTER**

**ITAGGA**

*Association of Government Accountants*



# AGA Dinner Meeting Speaker, Nov. 16, 2016

At Tessara Restaurant | Social hour - 5:45-6:45 Presentation and dinner to follow



## **Ben Dworkin, Ph.D.**

**Adjunct Assistant Professor and Director of The Rebovich Institute for New Jersey Politics**

[bdworkin@rider.edu](mailto:bdworkin@rider.edu)

Ben Dworkin (BA Politics - Princeton 1990, MA Political Science – Rutgers/Eagleton Institute of Politics 1992, Ph.D. Political Science - Rutgers 1990) is the Director of the Rebovich Institute for New Jersey Politics and Adjunct Assistant Professor of Political Science. A veteran of New Jersey politics, he has extensive experience in campaigns and elections, government and legislation, lobbying and issue advocacy, as well as teaching and media relations. He has been frequently quoted by major newspapers including the Philadelphia Inquirer, Star-Ledger, Press of Atlantic City, Asbury Park Press, the Home News-Tribune and others. He is also a frequent guest on NJ12's "Power & Politics" television news program.

### **Education**

- Rutgers University, Ph.D., Political Science
- Rutgers University, MA, Political Science (Eagleton Institute of Politics)
- Princeton University, BA, Politics / Alternate Route Teacher Certification (Social Studies)

### **Fellowships and Honors**

- Eagleton Alumni Government Fellowship (2006 – 2007)
- Harold Martin Fellowship (1991 – 1992)
- Princeton University Cane Scholarship (1986 – 1990)



# 2016 AGA Fall Seminar





## **THANK YOU!**

*AGA MEMBERS AND GUESTS WHO ATTENDED THE  
FALL SEMINAR*

**YOUR DONATIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS ARE APPRECIATED!**

**\*\*PAUL VIDUNAS FUND CONTRIBUTIONS TOTALED \$633\*\***

**\*\*TASK DONATIONS TOTALED \$290 IN CASH AND 8 BAGS OF  
NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS!\*\***





## WHAT'S NEW

For Events/Seminars we now offer the convenience of online payments!!



Here's how to complete your registration, just follow these easy steps:

- 1) Go to [Events Page](#) to view the upcoming events.
- 2) Scroll down to complete the Online Registration Form.
- 3) Print your Online Registration Form for your records.
- 4) Submit the form.
- 5) The [Online Payment Page](#) appears where you can process your payment.

Note: If you elect to pay via check on the Registration Form then decide to pay via Credit Card, you can simply go back and access the [Online Payment Page](#) and process your payment separately as the Registration Form and Payment Page work independently of each other.

If you happen to have any issues, please [Contact Us](#).



## CONGRATULATIONS TO MARGARITA STANISLAVSKAYA

Trenton Chapter's very own Margarita Stanislavskaya has been selected to be a part of the National CGFM Certification Board for a three year term! The duties of the Board are to establish and/or change the CGFM certification and/or exam rules, regulations, and qualifications; handle candidates' complaints and questions or concerns, review exam questions and more. Congratulations Margarita!



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

[Click here to connect with us!](#)



## 2016 - 17 AGA Webinars

- Avoiding Surprises and Assessing Risks: Building on Today's Internal Controls | Sept. 14, 2016 | LWD - 2:00 to 3:50 pm
- Cyber/Big Data | Oct. 12, 2016 | LWD - 2:00 to 3:50 pm
- Fraud Toolkit Case Studies | Nov. 16, 2016 | OSC - 2:00 to 3:50 pm
- Fraud/Risk | Feb. 22, 2017 | OSC - 2:00 to 3:50 pm
- Ethics | April 12, 2017 | OSC - 2:00 to 3:50 pm
- Fraud/Data Analytics | June 14, 2017 | OSC - 2:00 to 3:50 pm

## AGA 2016-17 IMPORTANT DATES

### **9.14.16 - Dinner Meeting at Tessara Restaurant, Hamilton**

TIME: 5:30 pm Speaker: Amy Davis, Esq Topic: T.B.D.

### **10.10.16 – Community Service Event at Trenton Area Soup Kitchen, Escher St, Trenton**

TIME: 10:20 am to 12:50 pm Topic: Volunteering Serving Lunch

### **10.28.16 – Fall Seminar at The Conference Center at Mercer County Community College**

T.B.D.

### **11.16.16 - Dinner Meeting at Tessara Restaurant, Hamilton**

TIME: 5:30 pm Speaker: Ben Dworkin Topic: Election Updates

### **1.11.17 - Dinner Meeting at Tessara Restaurant, Hamilton**

TIME: 5:30 pm Speaker: Holly Sabo Topic: Tax Update

### **2.3.17 – Bowling/Network Event at Slocums Bowling Center, Ewing Township**

TIME: 5:30 pm Topic: Social/Networking

### **3.8.16 - Dinner Meeting at Tessara Restaurant, Hamilton**

TIME: 5:30 pm Speaker: Daniel G. Napoleon Topic: Economic Impact of Recycling in NJ

### **T.B.D. - Spring Symposium**

T.B.D.:





## National Events

### [Tools and Strategies for Fighting Fraud](#)

**November 16, 2016**

Webinar | 2–3:50 p.m. ET | 2 CPEs

### [Ethics in the Workplace](#)

**December 7, 2016**

Webinar | 2–3:50 p.m. ET | 2 CPEs

### [Being Transparent – Using the Citizen-Centric Report to Inform the Public](#)

**December 14, 2016**

Free webinar | 2–3 p.m. ET | 1 CPE

### [Financial Systems Summit](#)

**January 13, 2017**

Washington or virtual | 6 CPEs

The Financial Systems Summit (FSS) unites federal financial managers and private-sector executives to discuss the near-term and future prospects of federal financial management systems in a budget-constrained environment. The summit will provide new insights into the burgeoning federal financial systems modernization strategy over the coming decade — and beyond.

FSS offers live audience participation! Attendees will actively participate in conversation throughout the day using their mobile device (both in person and virtual attendees). Summit speakers will post questions and attendees can text their response allowing for real time conversation and engagement.

Follow the event on [Twitter](#): #FSS2017

For more information regarding national, regional, and chapter events, please visit:

<https://www.agacgfm.org/Training-and-Events/Event-Calendar/national-events.aspx>

## AGA—Trenton Chapter Balance Sheet as of 10/31/16

<b>ASSETS:</b>		<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY:</b>	
Cash - Savings (BOA)	\$12,178.61	Accounts Payable	\$5,733.00
Cash - Checking (BOA)	11,582.37	Deferred Income	110.00
Accts Rec. Symp/mtg/Sem	2,590.00	Fund Balance	<u>25,527.98</u>
PrePaid Expenses	<u>5,020.00</u>	<b>TOTAL L&amp;E</b>	<b>\$31,370.98</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$31,370.98</b>		



The AGA Trenton Chapter would like to thank  
 Jim Arnette, AGA National President-Elect  
 for speaking at this year's Fall Seminar.  
 It was a pleasure to serve you as our guest!

# November 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7		9	10		12
13	14	15	 <b>Webinar/ Dinner Meeting</b>	17	18	19
20	21	22	23		25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3



- 1) Webinar: Location - State Comptroller, 20 W. State St, 12th Fl (Time: 2:00 - 3:50 pm)
- 2) Dinner Meeting Location - Tessara Restaurant, Hamilton NJ (@ 5:45 pm)

# December 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21  Winter Begins	22	23	24 
25 	26	27	28	29	30	31



# 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](mailto: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)

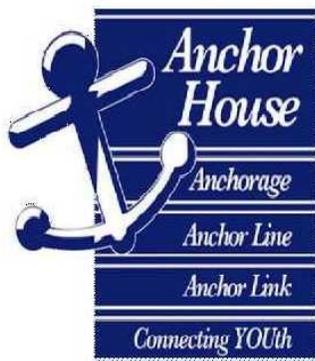
Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please, complete this form and email to:

Margarita Stanislavskaya

[mstanislavskaya@mercercounty.org](mailto:mstanislavskaya@mercercounty.org)

# About the Paul Vidunas Memorial Fund



**ANCHOR HOUSE**  
The Houses Where Healing Begins

***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 local area charity for this year's Paul Vidunas fund is Anchor House. The agency's mission is to work with abused, homeless, runaway, at risk and aging out youth to utilize their strengths and the support of their families and communities in order to ensure a stable and successful home. For information about the charity:

<http://anchorhousenj.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-us.html>

*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.



## 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>

## **2016-2017 Chapter Officers and Directors**

**President:** Kiersten Kokotajlo

**President-Elect, Education:** Andy Bishop

**Immediate Past President/Nominating Committee Chair:**

Audrey Hoyle

**Vice President of Admin/Programs:** Christopher Schwartz

**Vice President of Membership:** Robert Rizzo

**Treasurer:** Dave Kaschak

**Secretary:** Michelle Blatt

**Accountability Outreach Chair:** Nikki Farrell

**Communications:** Nikki Farrell

**Sponsorship:** Michael Hoyle

**Audio Conferences:** Michelle Blatt & Susan Davis

**Fall Seminar:** Audrey Hoyle/Rene Gervasoni/Jessica Lippincott

**Spring Symposium:** Guy Tassi/Brian Larkin

**Chapter Recognition:** Brian Larkin

**CGFM Chairperson (Trenton Chapter):** Margarita Stanislavskaya

**Regional Vice President:** Joe Connolly

**Community Service:** Robert Olsen, Christopher Fucello

**Awards:** Christopher Schwartz

**Regional & Chapter Early Career:** Meghan Ellis

**Budget/Finance:** Tyler Frounfelker

**Newsletter:** Andrew Bishop

**Meeting Chair:** Rene Gervasoni

**Paul Vidunas Coordinator:** Audrey Hoyle

**Historian:** Rose Todaro

**By-Laws:** Michael Hoyle

## CONTACT US

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Trenton, NJ 08604

*Via e-mail:* [agatrentoninfo@agatrenton.com](mailto: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!