



Newsletter

VOLUME 2019, NUMBER 4 FEBRUARY 2019

Chapter Leadership

2018-2019 Program Year

Chapter President

Robert Rizzo, NJ Legislative Services - Office of the State Auditor
rrizzo@njleg.org

Immediate Past President

Andrew C. Bishop, CPA, CGMA. Bishop and Bishop PC
abishop@BishopandBishoppc.com

Chapter Treasurer

Tyler T. Frounfelker, CPA, New Jersey Judiciary
tfrounfelker@gmail.com

Membership

Kiersten Marie Kokotajlo, CFE, CICA, NJ Office of the State Auditor
kkokotajlo@njleg.org

Administration

Christopher John Schwartz - NJ Dept of Human Services - Division of Mental Health
christopher.schwartz@dhs.state.nj.us

Webmaster

Brian Larkin - NJ Office of the State Auditor
blarkin@njleg.org

Chapter President-Elect

Nikki Farrell, CICA - New Jersey Office of the State Auditor
nfarrell@njleg.org

Secretary

Michelle C. Blatt - New Jersey Office of the State Comptroller
michelle.blatt@outlook.com

Education

Nikki Farrell, CICA - New Jersey Office of the State Auditor
nfarrell@njleg.org

Programs

Christopher John Schwartz - NJ Dept of Human Services - Division of Mental Health
christopher.schwartz@dhs.state.nj.us

Nominations

Andrew C. Bishop, CPA, CGMA - Bishop and Bishop PC
abishop@BishopandBishoppc.com

President's Message

Robert Rizzo

Dear Members and Friends,

January is over and the cold is definitely here! But the cold never bothered Trenton AGA anyways (yeah, whatever my reputation is just took a hit with the Frozen reference).

A few weeks ago, we had our annual tax update. I would like to thank Holly Sabo and Jill Ann Murphy from the Mercadien Group for speaking at our dinner meeting about all the changes to the tax code. Our next dinner meeting will take place on Wednesday, March 13th at 5:30 p.m. at Tessara Restaurant in Hamilton. Our speaker will be Anthony Carabelli Jr., Director at the Mercer County Office of Economic Development. Don't miss out on what is sure to be a great presentation. You can register for this event on our [website](#).

We are also having a GASB Update webinar on Wednesday, February 6th at 2:00 p.m. This will take place at the Office of the State Comptroller, 12th Floor Conference Room - 20 West State Street in Trenton. This webinar is FREE for members! Please register [here](#).

The Spring Symposium committee is currently in the process of finalizing details of the event. We have some great speakers already lined up and are hoping to have the Day at the Glance and Registration form out by mid-to-late February.

Don't forget to send in those award nominations. Nomination forms are included in the newsletter. Deadline is Friday, March 29th.

This is the 25th anniversary of the CGFM. Congrats to all CGFM certified members!

As I mentioned before, any questions or comments, please feel free to reach out. Until next time.

Take care,
Robert Rizzo
Trenton Chapter President



SAVE THE DATE WEBINARS

- **GASB Update – Wednesday, February 6, 2019**
 - Where: Office of the State Comptroller, 12th Floor Conference Room (Roebbling Building)
 - Time: 2:00 PM-3:50 PM
 - 2 CPEs
 - Field of Study: ACCG

[Register Online](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **March 2019 Dinner Meeting: Specialized Knowledge (1) CPE – Wednesday, March 13, 2019**
 - Guest Speaker: Anthony P. Carabelli, Jr., Mercer County Office of Economic Development
 - Where: Tessara Restaurant, 812 NJ-33, Hamilton, NJ 08619
 - Time: Social Hour begins at 5:30 PM; Dinner and Presentation to Follow
 - Guest Speaker's biography below:

Anthony Carabelli, Jr.

Anthony currently serves as the Director of the Mercer County Office of Economic Development. In this capacity, he manages several County business programs including the Mercer County Loan Fund, site selection services, the Mercer County Foreign Trade Zone and the Mercer County business training program. He oversees the Mercer County Division of Culture and Heritage, the Division of Housing and Community Development and the One Stop Career Center.

In addition, Anthony serves as a member of the Hamilton Township Council and is a member of the Trenton Downtown Association Board, the Hamilton Partnership, the Hamilton Township Economic Development Advisory Commission, the Small Business Development Center Advisory Board and the Princeton Mercer Regional Convention and Visitors Board.

Anthony also volunteers at several organizations including the American Heart Association, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, the Sunnybrae Little League Board of Trustees and the Georgetown Alumni Interview Committee. Anthony manages and coaches at Sunnybrae Little League.

Anthony received his Master of Arts from The Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies in Washington, DC, and Bologna, Italy, and his Bachelor of Science from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service in Washington, DC.

He currently resides in the Yardville section of Hamilton with his wife, Sharon, and their two children, Dominic and Dante.



What is CGFM?

Certified Government Financial Manager® (CGFM®) is a professional certification awarded by AGA, demonstrating competency in governmental accounting, auditing, financial reporting, internal controls and budgeting at the federal, state and local levels.

CGFM is a respected credential that recognizes the specialized knowledge and experience needed to be an effective government financial manager.

Being a CGFM allows you to expand your career opportunities and distinguishes you from others in your field.

How do you become a CGFM?

To earn the CGFM, you must fill out an online application and meet the following requirements:

- [Ethics](#) — read and agree to abide by AGA's *Code of Ethics*
- [Education](#) — have a bachelor's degree in any subject area from an accredited U.S. college or university
- [Examinations](#) — pass three comprehensive CGFM examinations
- [Experience](#) — have at least two years of professional-level experience in government financial management



Scholarship Opportunities!

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 in May 2019. 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 29, 2019

(please see application on next page)

We look forward to hearing from you!

Robert Rizzo, 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) _____

2019 AGA TRENTON CHAPTER AWARDS

Date: _____

I would like to nominate the following individual for a 2019 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 29, 2019** ◆

Mail Nomination Forms to:

Christopher Schwartz, NJ Dept of Health- Div. of Mental Health & AS, 5 Commerce Way (Suite 100),
P.O. Box 362, Trenton, NJ 08625-0362

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 2019-2020: 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 2019-2020

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 29, 2019

Mail Nomination Form to:

Christopher Schwartz

**NJ Dept of Health- Div. of Mental Health & AS, 5 Commerce Way (Suite 100),
P.O. Box 362, Trenton, NJ 08625-0362**

*Attach High School and College (if any) Transcripts

** Attach Additional Sheets if Necessary

PREVIOUS AWARDEES ARE NOT ELIGIBLE



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!



The mission of the 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. The firm’s purpose is to turn knowledge into value for the benefit of their clients, people, and capital markets.



Today, Mercadien’s focuses on four primary service areas: Accounting, Consulting, Technology and Wealth Management; work with a wide range of clients throughout the U.S. and in Europe; have a diverse team of dedicated associates, and invest in the most cutting-edge technology and office facilities to ensure Mercadien remains a firm of the future. The firm’s leadership team consists of 18 managing directors. Sought-after experts in their practice areas, they are seasoned when it comes to owning and running businesses, solving industry and economic challenges, and building partnerships.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION PERIOD ENDING 1/31/2019

	ASSETS:	LIABILITIES AND EQUITY:	
Cash (BOA)-Savings	\$12,184.36	Accounts Payable	\$791.16
Cash(BOA) Checking	\$12,787.19	Deferred Income	\$110.00
Accts. Rec. - Symp/mtg/Sem	\$105.00	Fund Balance	\$26,406.95
PrePaid Expenses	\$2,231.56	TOTAL	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$27,308.11	L&E	\$27,308.11



CHAPTER DIRECTORS - 2018-2019 PROGRAM YEAR

President - Robert Rizzo

President Elect/VP of Education - Nikki Farrell

Immediate Past President/Nominating Committee Chair- Andy Bishop

VP of Membership - Kiersten Kokotajlo

VP of Finance/Administration/Programs - Christopher Schwartz

Treasurer - Tyler Frounfelker

Secretary - Michelle Blatt

Fall Seminar – Co-chairs: Robert Rizzo/Jessica Lippincott + Fall Seminar Committee includes but not limited to Rene Gervasoni, Andy Bishop, Brian Larkin, Tyler Frounfelker, and Marie Samson

Spring Symposium – Co-chairs: Robert Rizzo/Chrissy Brennan + Spring Symposium Committee includes but not limited to Meghan Ellis and Mike Salberta

Audio Conferences - Michelle Blatt/Thalia Treby

Sponsorship - Guy Tassi

Chapter Recognition - Brian Larkin

CGFM Chairperson - Margarita Stanislavskaya

Community Service - Stephanie Rybak/Chris Fucello

Awards - Christopher Schwartz

Early Career - Taylor Leavy

Budget/Finance - Dave Illuminate

Newsletter - Marie Samson

Meeting Chair - Rene Gervasoni

Paul Vidunas Coordinator - Jennifer Suchan

Historian - Rose Todaro

By-Laws – David Kaschak

Accountability Outreach Chair - Kiersten Kokotajlo

Webmaster/Communications - Brian Larkin

Contact us

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

E-mail: agatrentoninfo@agatrenton.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AGATrentonNJ/>

Website: <https://www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/Trenton/Home.aspx>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/trenton-aga>