

May 2022

NEWSLETTER

Presidents Message

Michael Townsend

Hello Shenandoah Valley AGA Members

I am thankful for what this Chapter, the Board and members have accomplished this 2021-2022 Chapter year. This past year the Chapter has persevered through the pandemic and change in lifestyles. The Chapter throughout the year provided an award-winning energy to our members and other AGA Chapters delivering excellent training throughout the year. It is gratifying that other AGA Chapters attend our monthly meetings and give positive feedback.

In April, your incoming Chapter President, Christine Blair and NRCC Representative, Mike Townsend attended Lead! 2022 in Baltimore. Lead! 2022 was a success. Christine and I learned from AGA National about the state of AGA, where AGA is headed with rebranding, recruiting new members, and training this year.

Ms. Mary Peterman, MPA, CGFM, CPA, Past National AGA President and Deputy Director for FDIC spoke to the Chapter in April on *Accelerating Financial Management*; how the pandemic has accelerated digital transformation, remote and hybrid work, and generational changes in the workforce.

Ms. Kelly Stefanko met with the Chapter in March, *Getting to Know Audit Speak*. Kelly discussed the audit cycle, internal controls, and an audit process.

This May, I am looking forward to hearing Lieutenant Governor/Senate President Craig P. Blair speak on *Rags to Riches: West Virginia's Path to Prosperity*.

This month we honor our veterans. Please see the Wreaths Across America information in this newsletter.

This Chapter will be successful in the upcoming new Chapter year which begins July 1 with our new President Christine Blair, dedicated Board and members. Please reach out to Christine and board members with ideas to make this Chapter better and continue the success.

It was an honor to serve as your Chapter President and thank-you for your support.

Mike

P.O. Box 3779
Winchester, VA 22604

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

Shenvalleyaga@gmail.com

or

svaaga1@gmail.com

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Did you know?

AGA Rebranding

A Rebrand to Advance, Grow and Accelerate.

AGA, the preeminent government accountability and transparency network, announces our rebranding initiative to better convey our mission of helping to shape the future of good government and empowering leaders to advance, grow and accelerate.

Where we focused almost exclusively on accounting and auditing during our earlier years, we have come to embrace and reflect an expanded purpose while promoting transparency and accountability in government.

Simplifying Our Name to Communicate Our Mission

Our rebranding includes abbreviating our former name, Association of Government Accountants, to simply AGA. While the name change seems minor, the meaning of each letter is significant. “A for Advance,” stands for advancing good government accountability and transparency. “G for Grow,” represents helping professional growth. And lastly, “A for Accelerate,” speaks to accelerating careers and driving excellence and transparency in government accountability.

A New Symbol of Excellence & Transparency in Government Accountability

Our new name is expressed in our new logo. The design represents AGA’s commitment to elevating the standard of excellence in government accountability and advancing our members’ professional expertise and opportunities. The design is bold, bright, and better equipped to represent our brand moving forward.



Helping You Remain on the Forefront as an AGA Member

As an AGA member, whether you’re leading the way or looking to advance your career, AGA is committed to helping you remain at the forefront of emerging issues and innovation. Thank you for being a part of driving excellence and transparency in government accountability.

AGA Membership

Advance. Grow. Accelerate.

AGA is the [association](#) for connecting and empowering professionals who support government, from financial management to IT, human resources, cybersecurity and more, to accelerate their careers.

We work together to advance good government initiatives and improve citizen trust in government.

We connect and empower professionals to help them:

- **Advance** sound financial practices, accountability, transparency and excellence in government
- **Grow**, learn, excel and engage through a network of likeminded professionals and leaders
- **Accelerate** professional careers through learning opportunities and the opportunity to earn a unique credential – the Certified Government Financial Manager, the only credential developed solely with the government financial professional in mind.

Through thought leadership, [certification](#), and national and chapter educational [events](#), AGA remains at the forefront of emerging issues and innovation – driving excellence and transparency in government accountability.

Whether you're leading the way or looking to advance your career, as an AGA member you can expand your expertise and help shape and drive the future of government accountability.

AGA is made up of more than 14,000 members, including senior executives, mid-level managers, entry-level employees, elected officials, professors and students. Our members work in government financial management disciplines, including accounting, auditing, budgeting, financial reporting, human resources, performance reporting, grants management, contract management information systems and more.

AGA membership is distributed among:

- State and Local Government Members – 44%.
- Federal Government Members – 24%.
- Private-Sector Members – 19%.
- Academics, Non-Profits, Students and Retirees – 13%.

Tell Us What Training You Want

As we wrap up the 2021-22 Chapter year, we will begin to plan for the upcoming 2022-23 Chapter year. Please provide 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 begins 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

Chapter Webinar—Free to AGA Members

May 25, 12-1pm ET

“Rags to Riches: West Virginia’s Path to Prosperity” presented by Lieutenant Governor/Senate President Craig P. Blair

Contact svaaga1@gmail.com to register.

PIO/CFO Summit

May 12 from 7:30-Noon

Washington DC Convention Ctr

Hundreds of PIOs, CFOs and other government officials, managers and analysts attend the PIO/CFO Summit each year to discuss the policies that impact and call for greater collaboration between the federal financial management, evidence and performance communities.

Free for AGA members!

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>



The Youth Development Center

The Youth Development Center (YDC) was founded in 1990 by a group of individuals, including business people and community leaders, who deeply cared for the development of adolescents in Winchester, Frederick and Clarke County. Their mission is to engage, motivate, and activate the youth. This is a non-profit organization that creates a space for the area kids to go and participate in a variety of activities at a cost that is affordable to families. They offer daily open gyms and are moving into their Summerfest program which has weekly themes ranging from STEM, community gardening, sign language, and sports. This organization is located in Frederick County and caters to all children from surrounding counties.

For more information visit:

[Youth Center | United States | Youth Development Center \(myydc.org\)](https://www.myydc.org)



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

MEMBERSHIP

Recruit a Member

Member recruitment is and must continue to be at the forefront of our chapter goals, even while we are meeting virtually. Please invite potential members and newcomers to our events and webinars. Help them to see the benefits of becoming a member of AGA and our Chapter

Let us know of potential members so we can include them in our Chapter communications and invite them to events. If they seem interested, continue to reach out as they may not join the first time, but may need some encouragement and continued vision into the benefits of AGA. Help us grow our Chapter and AGA!



Membership Renewal

If you haven't renewed for the upcoming year please do as soon as you can. Renewal was to be complete by March 31, but please ensure you renew before **May 31** or you will have an interruption in receiving AGA's great benefits as you will be suspended.

1. Log in to **My AGA** with your username and password. Forgot your password? You can reset it at <https://www.agacgfm.org/MyAGA/SignIn/RecoverPassword.aspx>
2. Click "Proceed to Checkout" and verify your AGA membership dues.
3. Click "Check Out" and enter credit card payment.



DRIVING INNOVATION

July 17-20

Anaheim, CA or Virtual

24 CPEs

AGA National is happy to announce that Professional Development Training (PDT) 2022 will be offered in-person!

AGA's PDT brings together a broad audience of more than 2,000 federal, state and local government financial professionals, including federal, state and local government CFOs, inspectors general, accountants, auditors as well as financial professionals from the private sector.

For more information and the agenda, please visit <https://www.agacgfm.org/PDT/Home.aspx>



2022 Internal Control & Fraud Prevention Training

September 20-21

Ronald Reagan Bldg, Washington, DC

Participants can earn up to 14 hours of [NASBA approved](#) continuing professional education (CPE) credits. The agenda includes a range of timely and valuable information including fraud detection, data analytics, improper payments and risks with government payment cards.

For more information and the agenda, please visit <https://www.agacgfm.org/Fraud/Home.aspx>



Technology & Transformation Summit

December 8

Washington, DC

8 CPEs

More than 1,600 government leaders and industry experts will come together to discuss transformation of mission delivery through IT innovation, personnel, security and cloud technology.

In the upcoming months, please visit <https://www.agacgfm.org/TTS/TTS-Home.aspx> for more information.

Chapter Officers 2021-2022

President-Michael Townsend

President-Elect-Christine Blair

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

Awards Chair-Gina Smith Moss

Community Service Chair-Danielle Unger

CGFM Chair-Cheryl Ferguson

Young Professionals Chair-Vacant

Webmaster/Social Media-Christine Blair

Accountability Chair-Gina Smith Moss

AGA National Governing Board 2021-2022

National President-Gerry Boaz

National Treasurer-Doreen Shute

Director Area 1-Niclas Hales

Director Area 3-Melinda DeCorte

Director Area 5-Benjamin Thayer

Director Area 6-Benton Cash

National President-Elect-Melinda Miguel

National Treasurer-Elect-Eric Berman

Director Area 2-Misty Schuck

Director Area 4-Tiffani Dorsa

Director Area 6-Angela McElrath-Prosser

Director Area 8-Johnny Ramsey

AGA National Office

Chief Executive Officer-Ann Ebberts

Executive Assistant-David Acerra

Chapter Services Manager-Megan Brien

Director of Finance & Administration-Cristina Barbudo

Director of Meetings & Expositions-Jerome Bruce

Chief Operating Officer-Susan Fritzlen

Director of Finance & Administration-Cristina Barbudo

Field Representative-Bobby Derrick

Director of Information Technology-David Payne

Director of Professional Certification-Katya Silver