

THE WASHINGTON CONNECTION



Association of Government Accountants, Washington DC Chapter Newsletter

March 2016



President's Message

By Ross Simms

Dear Washington DC Chapter Members,

We are continuing to foster learning, certification, leadership, and collaboration for government financial management professionals. In recognition of Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) Month, Mayor Bowser declared March 2016, CGFM Month in the District of Columbia and you can see the proclamation in this newsletter. We are also providing free CGFM exam training to assist members in their professional development.

Providing professional development opportunities is one of our key priorities and we will offer 16 hours of CPE at our 15th Annual Financial Management Training. The training will be held on March 29 and 30, 2016 at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center and Gene Dodaro, Comptroller General of the United States will be our keynote speaker.

In addition, we are continuing to provide CPE through free audio conferences and during our monthly luncheons. The topics include Enterprise Risk Management, Electronic Invoicing, federal accounting standards, financial management in the intelligence community, and more. Visit our website for information on the luncheon speaker, date, and topic.

The Chapter is also providing monthly collaboration and networking opportunities. Check our events calendar located on our website for dates, times, and locations.

Lastly, thanks to our accountability and outreach team, our FY16 Citizen Centric Report received the Certificate of Excellence in Citizen-Centric Reporting for demonstrating high standards of content, visual appeal, readability, quality, distribution and timeliness in reporting. You can review the report at our website.

To join our team in planning and conducting Chapter events and activities, email me at rsimmsaga@gmail.com.

Ross Simms

Chapter President



In This Issue

- Washington Women Speak!
- Citizen Centric Report
- DC CGFM Proclamation
- Upcoming Events
- Government Case Challenge
- CEARS Recruiting Event
- New Members



Washington Women Speak!

On March 10th, the DC and Northern Virginia Chapters, as well as Grant Thornton LLP sponsored the Women's History Month Event entitled "Celebrating Women In Military" at the Women's War Memorial Theater at Arlington National Cemetery.

Over 240 men and women attended this inspiring event to pay tribute to and celebrate women leaders in the military.

A special thanks to the AGA members, sponsors, the public and our distinguished speakers for making this event such a success!



Upcoming Events

15th Annual AGA Federal Financial Mgmt Training at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center

April Luncheon

Ms. Sheila Conley
"Medicaid vs. Medicare"
Wednesday, April 20
11:30-1:00 at Clyde's of
Gallery Place 707 7th
Street NW

May Luncheon

Mr. Jay Hoffman
Wednesday, May 18
11:00-1:30 – The Hamilton
600 14th Street NW



Certificate of Excellence in Accounting and Reporting Recruiting Event

In November 2015, the Washington DC Chapter brought together membership of both the DC and Northern Virginia Chapters, as well as participants from many Federal agencies, the Government Accounting Office (GAO), public accounting firms, and non-for profit organizations, with the intention of growing the CEAR program and participation level of reviewers, through an information session and recruiting event. AGA's CEAR Program has been helping federal agencies produce high-quality Performance and Accountability Reports (PAR) and Agency Financial Reports (AFR) since 1997, established in conjunction with the Chief Financial Officers Council and OMB to improve financial and program accountability by streamlining reporting and improving the effectiveness of such reports. This event featured discussions from AGA National program leadership such as the Technical Director of the CEAR program, Chris Collins, and Bob Dacey, Chief Accountant for the GAO and the Chair of the CEAR Board. Moreover, the program included an informative presentation from Ronald Crupi, retired Chief Financial Officer of the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) where we detailed the benefits of the Agency's participation as a first time submitter of their AFR for consideration. This led to a robust question and answer session highlighting to all in attendance how the evaluation of their AFR by the CEAR award criteria has enabled the NLRB to dramatically enhance their understanding and capabilities to achieve greater accountability and transparency. The success of the event was demonstrated by over 30 new applications for CEAR reviewers. Special thanks AGA Accountability and Outreach Directors who served as speakers James Gallagher and Wendy Morton-Huddleston and Margaret Sullivan, Early Career Co-Director for the photo.

Government Case Challenge

AGA invited undergraduate students to compete in the virtual Government Finance Case Challenge*. Student teams collaboratively analyzed data for a specified U.S. state, city or county government and develop a [Citizen-Centric Report \(CCR\)](#).

Submissions were provided by students in October and finalists were announced in November. Colleges who participated included: Auburn University; California State University in San Bernardino; North Carolina State University; University of Nebraska and the University of North Carolina in Pembroke.

The three finalists were Auburn and North Carolina State and North Carolina with North Carolina State winning the competition.

Thanks to all our schools, participants and judges for making it a great event!

Award Winning Citizen Centric Report (CCR)

Our chapter has produced a Citizen Centric Report for the 4th consecutive year. This reporting effort is intended to enhance transparency between governments and their citizenry. AGA's stated belief is

“that government financial information should be provided to citizens in forms that are clear and understandable, updated regularly and often, delivered to all, easy to locate, honest in breadth and technically accurate in detail. In fact, as the owners of government, citizens have a right to this information.”

The Washington DC Chapter of the AGA has sought to provide this level of transparency and accountability annually to our membership, and this year received the Certificate of Excellence in Citizen-Centric Reporting for demonstrating high standards of content, visual appeal, readability, quality, distribution and timeliness in reporting. We encourage all members to view the report on the AGA DC Chapter website, FY 2016 Member Centric Report, and to share this report with your Agencies and public citizens.



March is CGFM Proclamation Month in the District!

On March 16, 2016, Mayor Muriel Bowser proclaimed that March is CGFM month in Washington, DC. Thanks to the DC Chapter leadership for reaching out to the Mayor's office and promoting AGA and our certification.

THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

Proclamation



CERTIFIED GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL
MANAGEMENT MONTH

MARCH 2016

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants (AGA) is part of the Association of Government Accountants which has a network of 14,000 members in 100 chapters in the United States and around the world and approximately 2,000 active members representing state, federal, municipal and private sector accountants, auditors, and financial managers in the District of Columbia; and



WHEREAS, AGA District of Columbia Chapter members carry out the mission of Advancing Government Accountability, as it continues its broad educational efforts, with emphasis on high standards of conduct, honor, and character in its Code of Ethics, as well as making significant advances professionally and in the ability to serve the citizens of the District of Columbia by mastering increasingly technical and complex requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) a program of AGA provides a means of demonstrating professionalism and competency by requiring CGFM candidates to have appropriate education and employment history, to abide by the AGA's Code of Ethics, pass three examinations requiring expertise in Government Environment, Government Financial Management and Control, Government Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting, and maintaining certification by completing at least 80 hours of continuing education in government financial management or related technical subjects every two years:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, THE MAYOR OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, do hereby proclaim March 2016 in Washington, DC as "CERTIFIED GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL MANAGER MONTH".



Upcoming Speakers

April Speaker

Ms. Sheila Conley, Health and Human Services, Deputy CFO

Ms. Conley joined HHS in 2006 and is responsible for: leading the Department's annual financial statement preparation and audit process; implementing a rigorous internal control program; overseeing HHS's financial management systems; as well as reducing improper payments. Prior to HHS, Ms. Conley worked at the State Department, OMB and KPMG where she provided audit and financial management consulting services. Ms. Conley is a CPA and CGFM and obtained her degree from James Madison University where she graduated summa cum laude.

May Speaker

Mr. Jay Hoffman, Consumer Product Safety Commission, CFO

Contact Us

Please contact us if you have any questions or would like additional information on the DC Chapter of Association of Government Accountants.

If you have any information that you would like to see in next month's newsletter, please contact Michael Loos at:

Michael.Loos@us.gt.com

Thank you!

Washington AGA Chapter

P.O. Box 423

Washington, DC 20044-0423

www.AGADC.org

Follow us on **Twitter** [@AGA_DC](https://twitter.com/AGA_DC)

Welcome New Members!

Mesfin Abebe	Nino Kintsurashvili
Natan Z. Aberu	Mark A. Lemke
John A. Adams	Kumar Mantripragada
Ricardo Aguilera	Jacob D. Matthews
Krystal M. Avila Arreola	Pat McClanahan
Richard M. Banh	Shemsa Saidi Mohamedi
Melissa M. Baur	Tina Nicole Montgomery
James Belanger	Taylor M. Murrin
Sherika L. Benjamin	George R. Neill
Traci A. Billings	Emeka T. Oputa
William J. Blot, Jr.	Delcina Parrish
Alison A. Boyce	Andrea M. Payne
Donald N. Bruce	Jacob T. Powell
Diane M. Carthorn	Stephanie Rego
Kenneth Todd Cason, Sr.	Gregory J. Sanial
Wesley D. Casson	James D. Shelton, Jr.
Catherine C. Chatfield	Stephanie Shortino
Stella Chen	Jacob Simmons
Tremayne Cobb	Leta Simons
Justin B. Cole	Shannon Smith
Angela D. Coleman	Joseph A. Stewart
Taryn L. Cyrus	Michael Stewart, Jr.
Michael V. Danish	David A. Tagg
Emily Dean	Henry L. Tennant, Jr.
Amanda Dombrowski	Sonia Maimouna Thomas-Tierney
Donna A. Donella	Salome J. Tinker
Dashaun M. Dorsey	Sahitya Rajita Tippavajhala
Melissa Dozier	Heleen Townsend
Carmelita M. Duenas	Milena Traasdahl
Quintina Durante	Paul R. Tsikerdanos
Adil I. Durrani	Voula K. Tsoutsouras
Carlton Irie William Edwards	Amber E. Turnbull
Cody A. Ferguson	Eno Udoibe
Robert G. Garrett, III	Anthony Varrone
Diana Gracias	Omar Vazquez
Robert S. Grant, Jr.	Alma J. Velez Erba
Barrett B. Guy	Mike Veshchev
BriChelle Hall	Andrew J. Walter
Jeffrey R. Hayden	Yong Wang
John Hill	Alicia Ward-Johnston
Dennis Jay Hoffman	Nathan West
Joseph Hungate	Jermaine L. Wilcox
Damon O. Hunt	Tonya E. Williams
Eric G. Iacobucci	John R. Wobbleton, Jr.
Naomi R. Jackson	Irma Work
Raquenel Jackson	Alexander P. Yow
Tonia L. Jackson	
Yolanda O. Jackson	
Halimatu Jalloh	
Justin Joes	
Christie Johnson	
Rendell L. Jones	
Sophila Jones	
Wenisha Shivani Jones	
Anshita Joshi	
Maima Kaba	
John M. Keiran	
Tammy K. Kennedy-Nichols	
Leigha Kiger	

Thanks to our Sponsors

DIAMOND CONTRIBUTOR

**KEARNEY &
COMPANY**

Thanks to our Sponsors

DIAMOND CONTRIBUTOR



pwc

Thanks to our Sponsors

DIAMOND CONTRIBUTOR



Thanks to our Sponsors

DIAMOND CONTRIBUTOR



Thanks to our Sponsors

DIAMOND CONTRIBUTOR



Grant Thornton

Thanks to our Sponsors

GOLD CONTRIBUTORS



Thanks to our Sponsors

SILVER CONTRIBUTORS



BRONZE CONTRIBUTORS



Thanks to our Sponsors

BRONZE CONTRIBUTORS



savantage solutions



BECKER
PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

WATKINS | GOVERNMENT
SERVICES



ALLMOND & COMPANY, CPAs