

July 2021

# NEWSLETTER

## Presidents Message

Michael Townsend

I am proud and honored to serve as your President. As I reflect on the challenges this Chapter faced last year, I want to say thank you to our sponsors, training participants, speakers, members and especially our Board for the success the Chapter had last year. Shenandoah Valley Chapter provided the most continuing professional education credits in the history of the Chapter, in a pandemic year. We offered a wide range of topics that included speakers and participants throughout the United States. The Chapter lead the way in coordinating Conference i/o and Zoom to provide high quality training and worked with other Chapters in helping them adapt to a virtual training environment. The Chapter will be honored at the National PDT with the Chapter Education Award.

Shenandoah Valley's success is communicating with AGA National and other AGA Chapters and their members. I remember an AGA Chapter member received one of my emails inviting her to a PDT. She wrote back and said she could not attend but to remember her for future training. I thought that was awesome as I had never met her, but she was thankful that Shenandoah Valley was communicating to her about education. While the Shenandoah Valley Chapter remains small, the Chapter grew in relationships with other Chapters and their members and that is success.

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as your President. Congratulations Shenandoah Valley Chapter on a very successful year!! Thank you for the support!

*~Mike*

### Our Sponsors

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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](mailto:Shenvalleyaga@gmail.com)

or

[svaaga1@gmail.com](mailto:svaaga1@gmail.com)

**Support Your Chapter:**

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**Select "AGA Shenandoah  
Valley"**

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## Volunteer of the Year

### Brooke Pennington



Ms. Brooke Pennington is a Young Professional and new member to the AGA Shenandoah Valley Chapter. This year, the AGA Shenandoah Valley Chapter purchased Conferences I/O for attendance tracking, polling, Q&A, and issuing CPE certificates. Brooke jumped in to help the transition to a virtual environment for chapter meetings, PDTs and webinars. She did not hesitate to learn how to use Conferences I/O, and developed a relationship with the Conferences I/O trainer to not only learn the software but to also set up a training session in which members from the AGA Richmond Chapter were invited since they also had the software.

Additionally, Brooke developed a job aid to send to attendees on how to use Conferences I/O and briefed its use at the beginning of all chapter events. Brooke also monitored and troubleshooted all Conferences I/O issues to ensure the software ran smoothly. Brooke is an absolute asset to the AGA Shenandoah Valley Chapter and has taken the reins in learning Conferences I/O. The AGA Shenandoah Valley Chapter had multiple successful events this year to include a one-day event, a two-day event with three other chapters, and varying individual webinars. Brooke deserves to be Volunteer of the Year for her dedication to the success of the AGA Shenandoah Valley Chapter, its events, and to AGA.





## Community Service Corner

# Wreaths Across America

## Remember, Honor, and Teach

Now thru November 30, 2021  
Wreath Laying December 18, 2021

The Shenandoah Valley AGA Chapter is participating in Wreaths Across America. Please remember the fallen and honor those that served by sponsoring a wreath. Each wreath costs just \$15. For more information and to sponsor a wreath please:

Visit our website at

[www.wreathscrossamerica.org/VA0054P](http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/VA0054P)

Or contact Gina Smith Moss (540) 504-1849

[svaagagina@myactv.net](mailto:svaagagina@myactv.net)



## Accomplishments 2020-2021 Chapter Year

- Held 5 virtual chapter webinars utilizing Zoom and Conference I/O; offered webinars to all AGA members.
- Successfully hosted 2 one-day Professional Development Trainings (October 2020 and May 2021)
- Successfully co-hosted with AGA Richmond, Virginia Peninsula and Roanoke chapters the Annual Commonwealth of Virginia Professional Development Training in December 2020. This was a 2-day event held virtually using Zoom and Conference I/O.
- Offered 20 CPEs to our members through our events, and 16 CPEs co-hosting the Annual Commonwealth of Virginia Professional Development Training
- Supported 4 charities: Bright Futures Stuff the Bus; Wreaths Across America; Breast Cancer Awareness-Cumberland Valley, and Blue Ridge Area Food Bank Family Backpack Program; as well as Saint Francis Service Dogs during our December joint PDT.
- Receiving 3 awards during AGA National Professional Development Training in July: Chapter Education Award, Chapter Community Service Award, and Gold for Achievements in Chapter Excellence (ACE) Award.



## Upcoming Events



September 21-22, 2021 for 14 CPEs

Hybrid Event (In Person & Virtual)



November 2021 for 8 CPEs

Free for AGA Members

26th Annual  
AGA Commonwealth of Virginia  
Professional Development Training

December 9-10, 2021 for 16 CPEs

More info to come as we plan for this  
great event.

## Accountability Talks

<https://www.agacgfm.org/Tools-Resources/Accountability-Talks-Podcast.aspx>

## 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.

### **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
- Helps encourage employer incentives and continuing education
- Enhances credibility, public confidence, and employee value



## Chapter Officers 2021-2022

President-Michael Townsend

President-Elect-Christine Blair

Treasurer-Zita Zduoba

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