



Quarterly Newsletter

A Look Back Program Year 23/24

MEGAN JONES, IMMEDIATE PAST CHAPTER PRESIDENT

The 2023/2024 Program Year was a tremendous success for us! We revitalized our Chapter, hosted numerous member networking and happy hour events, and reintroduced our annual AGA Charleston Chapter Professional Development Training, which will become a staple event moving forward. We earned the Silver Achievements in Chapter Excellence Award and secured the Membership Growth Award for Group D, which includes chapters with 50-99 members. Additionally, Victoria Clark, one of our outstanding members, was honored with our Chapter's Volunteer of the Year Award and received recognition at AGA's National Professional Development Training 2024.

We want to extend our heartfelt thanks for your dedicated involvement and membership over the past year. Your commitment and contributions have been truly invaluable, and we greatly appreciate the energy and enthusiasm you bring to our Chapter and community.

FREE Featured Webinar

AGA National is offering a FREE webinar! Any member can attend the webinar on October 9th and earn **1.5 CPES**!

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

Upcoming Events

[INTERNAL CONTROL &
FRAUD PREVENTION
TRAINING!](#)
[SEPT 19 - 20](#)

[WEBINAR:
COMMUNICATIONS
THE CATALYST OF
COMMUNICATION](#)
[SEPT 25](#)

[FREE MEMBERS-ONLY
WEBINAR](#)
[FREE MEMBERS-ONLY
WEBINAR - 1.5 CPES](#)
[OCT 9](#)

[WEBINAR: UNIFORM
GUIDANCE & GA](#)
[OCT 16](#)

[WEBINAR: ETHICS](#)
[NOV 13](#)

Greetings and Updates from Your Committee Chairs

Budget and Finance

The Budget & Finance Committee (BFC) is excited to kick off the 2024/25 program year, our mission is to provide transparency and oversight for the financial affairs of the Charleston Chapter. Our efforts for the program year will be to maintain and propose a comprehensive and sound budget that meets the funding and program needs of our chapter committees while maintaining proper fiscal oversight of Chapter operations to ensure the return of meaningful value to our members.

- Alan Bahadori, Treasurer & BFC Chair

Education

The Education committee coordinates educational events for chapter members and other professionals in our community and beyond. Our goal is to develop and offer seminars, trainings, workshops, and conferences while ensuring that participants receive CPEs if needed and opportunities for their professional development. We work together with other AGA chapters and committees to ensure educational awareness.

- Ashley Gaskins, Education Chair

Membership

For those whose memberships are up for renewal, this is a friendly reminder to renew your membership with the AGA Charleston SC Chapter. Staying current ensures you continue to enjoy all the benefits, including exclusive events and professional development and networking opportunities. Don't miss out - [renew today](#) to keep your membership active and continue being a vital part of our Chapter! We look forward to your continued membership and involvement in our Chapter!

- Megan Jones, Membership Chair

Community Service

This year, our Community Services team is excited to announce multiple invitations for involvement with local non-profits like Beach Sweep Charleston and Charleston Animal Society. We aim to extend the AGA love throughout the Charleston Metro area by actively participating in these impactful events. Join us as we delve into meaningful community service opportunities and make a difference together. We look forward to seeing you at these events and sharing our collective efforts for a great cause.

- Casey Szegi, VP and Community Service Chair

Communications

The Communications Committee's primary focus is the continuing support of all committees by ensuring that any important messaging is visible by all chapter members. Keeping our members in the know of upcoming events and trainings is our passion. Other areas that we own are the quarterly newsletter, website updates, flyers, photography, marketing, and social media monitoring and postings. We're really looking forward to the 2024/25 program year and raising the bar.

- Shea Hester, Communications Chair

Meetings and Events

The Meetings and Events Committee is excited to get to work planning get togethers, learning experiences & the annual Charleston PDT. Our committee's hope is to create a culture of community & interconnectedness with opportunities for leadership, growth & development within the Charleston business community.

- Laura Vanadore, Meetings & Events Chair

Wanting to Get More Involved with AGA?

We are looking for volunteers. If you are interested in joining one of the committees you just read about, please reach out to the committee chair.

Charleston Beach Sweep

September 21, 2024
9AM - 12PM

Our Chapter is thrilled to join the annual Charleston Beach Sweep on Saturday, September 21st at 9 a.m.! We'll meet at the Fort Moultrie Visitor Center for a fun day of cleaning up our shoreline. This event is a fantastic way to enjoy the outdoors while making a real difference for our beaches and local wildlife. Plus, it's a great opportunity to hang out with fellow members and take part in a rewarding activity that's good for our community.

Keep an eye out for an E-Blast with RSVP details so you can join us in this feel-good adventure. Let's roll up our sleeves, have some fun, and keep our beaches beautiful together!



Message from the President

VICTORIA CLARK, CHAPTER PRESIDENT

I am beyond excited to kick off this new program year as your Chapter President! First off, a huge shoutout to Megan Jones for being an absolute rockstar in leading our chapter—her shoes are big, but I'm ready to fill them with all your help!

This year is going to be all about leveling up—whether it's your professional skills, networking game, or community impact, we've got some seriously awesome things in the works.

I'm here to make sure our chapter isn't just a place to connect but a platform where we all grow together and make a difference.

Your voice matters, and I'm all ears for your ideas, feedback, and ways to get involved. Let's make this year one for the books! Get ready, AGA Charleston—2024 is our year to shine!

Looking forward to all the amazing things we're going to achieve together!

AGA National PDT24

In mid-July, AGA held its National PDT conference downtown in the Mile High City of Denver, Colorado. While some members attended in-person, others attended sessions that were offered virtually.

A good number of sessions centered around the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in government while highlighting both the benefits and risks associated with it. Other sessions focused on ethics, leadership, mental health, and analytics.

From the kickoff to the introduction of our new national president, Frank Petersen, to the closing session about overcoming adversity with outdoor adventurer, Aron Ralston (subject of the film 127 Hours and avid Phish fan), to the President's Appreciation Dinner at Mile High Stadium, there was never a dull moment. We're already looking ahead to PDT 2025, which will be held in Nashville, Tennessee.



Check out some feedback from virtual and in-person attendees from our chapter.

"This was my first AGA PDT and it was awesome! Exactly what I was hoping it would be: educational, enlightening, fun, and most of all, energizing! I came back recharged, eager to implement new ideas, and excited about attending next year's PDT in Nashville." - Ned

"A masterclass in networking and professional development, this workshop is like a thrilling blockbuster—packed with insights and practical strategies that keep you hooked and propel your career forward. A must-see for anyone aiming for career greatness!" - Casey

"PDT24 left a Mile High impact with a variety of networking and educational sessions." - Ashley

"PDT24 was an incredible experience—to learn, celebrate, collaborate, network, and plan for the future. I came back full of ideas for my personal and professional growth with AGA Charleston!" - Tymasha

"PDT24 left a lasting impact! With inspiring insights and valuable networking opportunities, it is as much about connections as learning." - Victoria



"PDT24 opened a new lens perspective for me! With inspiring insights and valuable networking opportunities virtually, I am left with a lens of always improving and adjusting to the changes needed for the future." - Stephanie

"PDT24 was an incredible learning experience and was filled with so much enthusiasm and camaraderie! Great connections were made throughout the conference. We're all faced with unique challenges (boulders) throughout our lifetimes, but we can control how we react – resist them or embrace and accept them." - Shea

"Attending PDT24 virtually may not give the same networking opportunities as attending in person, but it did give insights and fountains of knowledge. It was an amazing learning of leadership, technology advancements, and more." - Stacey

