



AGA Northern New Jersey Chapter

A Report to Our Citizens 2015-2016

Our National Organization

Founded in 1950, the Association of Government Accountants (AGA), formerly known as the Federal Government Accountants Association (FGAA) supports the careers and professional development of government finance professionals working in federal, state, and local governments as well as the private sector and academia. Through education, research, publications, certification and conferences, AGA reaches thousands of professionals and provides more than 100,000 continuing professional education (CPE) hours annually. AGA is located in Alexandria, Virginia.

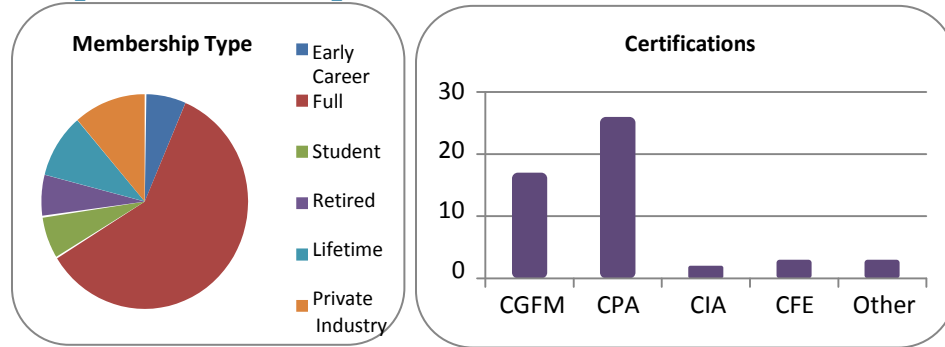
Our Local Chapter

Seeing a need for a local chapter that would benefit accountants and auditors in the Northern New Jersey area, a few dozen members of the New York Chapter signed a petition requesting that the Northern New Jersey Chapter be established. Our Chapter was the 65th Chapter chartered by The Association under the old FGAA. The purpose of the Northern New Jersey AGA Chapter is to be a professional organization dedicated to the advancement of government financial management in the Northern New Jersey area. The Association serves its members by providing or sponsoring



appropriate educational programs, encouraging professional development, and serving as an advocate for the profession. About 40% of the Northern New Jersey Chapter members are Federal employees.

Chapter Membership Information



Chapter Awards

Since 2006, our chapter has been recognized as *Achieving our Chapter Recognition Goals*. We have previously been recognized as a *Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum Chapter*. We are a strong chapter nationally. During the 2016 Professional Development Training Conference (PDT), our President received a *Platinum Chapter Recognition Award – 3 years in a row!* The highest award given by the National Association! Our Chapter has also been recognized for the Group D Chapter Education, Chapter CGFM and Chapter Accountability and Transparency Awards. Way to Go!!!



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Chapter Vision Statement

*The Northern New Jersey Chapter strives to be the voice of Advancing Government Accountability in **government** by providing through chapter **executive** committee participation, education at reasonable prices to maintain and achieve certification, outreach to students and early career government financial managers, and giving back to the local community.*

AGA Mission Statement

AGA serves government accountability professionals by providing quality education, fostering professional development and certification, and supporting standards and research to advance government accountability.

Our Focus



We value...

- Integrity..... Foster the highest professional standards of ethical conduct and behavior.
- Excellence..... Strive for the highest level of professional performance and continuous improvement.
- Accountability... Maintain and advance sound fiscal and operational practices.
- Leadership..... Be proactive and innovative in directing our activities.
- Respect..... Treat everyone fairly and with dignity.
- Service..... Attend to the needs of our members, the government financial sector and community.

- ✓ **We strive to carry out the national strategic goals.**
- ✓ **We bring together professionals to exchange information at educational meetings.**
- ✓ **We provide quality education by hosting a yearly Professional Development Training (PDT).**
- ✓ **We foster professional development and certification by offering scholarships and leadership opportunities.**
- ✓ **We give back to the community by participating in raising money for worthy causes.**
- ✓ **We also know how to have fun by hosting a few social events throughout the year.**

Our chapter has a great 49-year history, and we want to encourage early career individuals to get involved with AGA to keep our chapter strong for the future. We are planning to recruit early-career members for our Chapter Executive Committee next year.

In addition to preparing this member-centric report for our chapter, we want to encourage other entities in our area to prepare citizen-centric reports. We plan to work with other entities to help them prepare a report to their constituents.



Our Finances

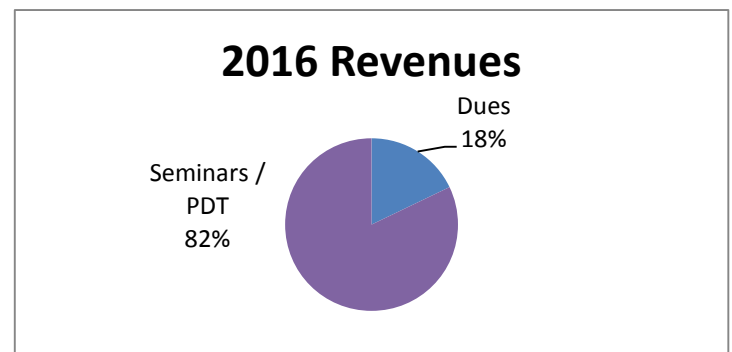
Revenues and Expenses

What are the costs for servicing the chapter's members and how are those costs paid?

Revenue by Source (unaudited)

Of the \$1,479 in total revenue in FY 2016, 82 percent is made up of meeting and seminar fees, and the remaining 18 percent is made up of chapter dues. In an effort to increase attendance at dinners or events, we did not charge any fees.

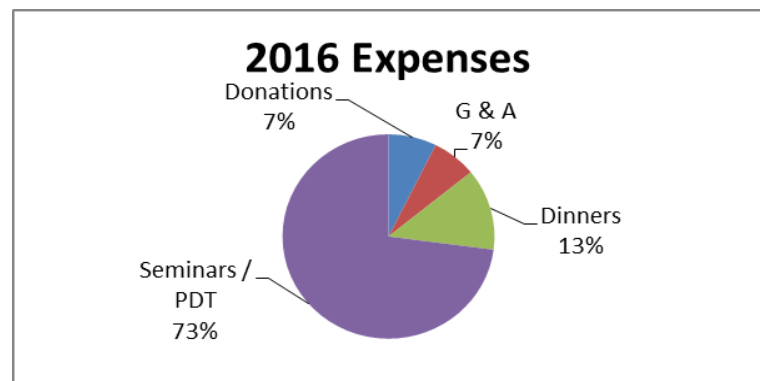
	2015	2016
Chapter Dues	\$ 262	\$ 264
Membership Scholarship	143	0
Dinners (Events)	225	0
Meetings / Seminar Fees	4,770	1,215
Total Revenues	\$ 5,400	\$ 1,479



Expenses by Area (unaudited)

Of the \$2,716 in expenses in FY 2016, 73 percent is made up of meeting and seminar fees, and another 13 percent is made up of dinner and event fees.

	2015	2016
Donations	\$ 420	\$ 200
General & Administrative	154	185
Meetings / Seminars / PDT	5,100	1981
Dinners (Events)	380	350
Total Expenses	\$ 6,054	\$ 2,716



What's Next

Challenges Moving Forward

The Northern New Jersey Chapter is continuously looking to be creative by introducing college students and early career members to the AGA. We are looking for involvement by early career members as well as students on our Board or on various committees. As a relatively small chapter we will continue to provide quality education to the community and provide donations and volunteer effort to various charities within the Northern New Jersey and surrounding area. During these tough economic times, we plan on providing seminars and meetings at a very reasonable cost to the professionals, students and retirees within the accounting field. Our Challenges in detail are shown below.

Membership Retention

Over the past few years we have seen our membership numbers decrease. It is our challenge to develop programs that will convince former members to rejoin and attract young professionals.

Education

Identifying and scheduling quality speakers for the various educational events can pose a challenge. As budgets get tighter, it is important to show that our educational activities are timely, relevant, and economical training opportunities.

Leadership Position Opening

While we have been successful in recruiting many young professionals to leadership positions, our Chapter President serves a two year term instead of a one year term. We would like to go back to a one year Presidential term in the future.

Location, Location, Location

Since our Chapter encompasses the Northern New Jersey area, and a portion of our membership works in New York, there is no true downtown area to have meetings. We tend to have more meetings during the evening hours rather than around lunch time. Our Chapter holds seminars in Newark, and meetings in Clifton, Kearney or Lyndhurst, NJ.

2015 – 2016 Chapter Officers

Joseph Connolly, CFE, President; TBD, President Elect Designate; Israel Maya, Immediate Past President; David Gotlib, Director of Accountability and Treasurer; Gwen Jackson, CPA, Treasurer Elect; Eric Elefante, CPA, CGFMFE, MBA, Director of Membership; Elisa M. Frank, CPA, Director of Communications; Albert Giacchetti, CGFM, Director of Education; Karen Davies, Director of Professional Certification; Michael Rinaldi, Secretary; Agnes Dec, CPA, Director of Community Service; Gwen Jackson, CPA, Director of Early Careers; Sid Slifer, CPA, Director of Special Events; Michael Rinaldi, Director of By-Laws and Procedures; Ed Haag, Director of Industry Liaison.

We Would Like to Hear From You

Do you like this report? Would you like to see other information? Please let us know by contacting David Gotlib, Director of Accountability at 973-724-4118 or visit our website at: www.agannj.org.

Our mailing address is: AGA Northern New Jersey Chapter, P.O. Box 2065, Woodland Park, NJ 07424

www.agannj.org