

# AGA NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2020

VOLUME 2020 ISSUE 2



## SEASON'S GREETINGS



New Orleans Chapter



Greetings,

On behalf of the Association of Governmental Accountants-NOLA Chapter, I would like to wish everyone a Happy Holidays greeting. 2020 has certainly been a year that no one expected. I hope you were able to take time to rest and reflect during this holiday season. I am truly grateful for the support of our members and volunteers this year. I look forward to working with you in 2021 and I hope for a year of continued success!

Kind Regards,

Shawn M. Charles  
NOLA AGA Chapter  
2020-2021 President

# THE SEASON OF GIVING

Marcie Tureaud Kinloch

This year our chapter participated once again in the donation to the Marine Corps Reserve "Toys for Tots" event. In addition to our toys purchased, a monetary donation was given.,



The AGA New Orleans Chapter is excited to welcome our  
**New Members for 2020-2021:**

Leah Gigi

Avion M. Turner

Student Members: Mary Magee, Brian Keith Lockett Jr.



# *The Clay*

BY KARRIN ALEXANDER

A few weeks ago, I had problems with my backyard flooding practically every time there was a hard rain. Therefore, a drainage system was installed to force the water from the back of the yard to the front. One evening, I went outside to see if the grass was starting to grow in the areas where the trenches were dug to lay the PVC pipes. As I was looking down, I noticed a small mound of something that was brownish black. When I looked closer, it appeared to be a pile of doggie dunk. Now my curiosity was peeked because a wood fence runs from the sides of my home and covers the entire backyard. In addition, the wood fence sits on top of a cement block. So...I thought, "How did a dog get in the yard?" I kept looking and saw more piles of what I thought was doggie dunk. So...I asked a friend to come and tell me what he thought. To my surprise without hesitation he said, "Oh, that's clay." I'm thinking, "What, clay!" As I leaned in closer to look, although it still looked like doggie dunk, what he said made sense. He explained that the people laying the PVC must have used clay to seal the pipes together. Around 3:30am, about a week after discovering the clay in the backyard, I woke up with that piece of clay on my mind. I could not go back to sleep. I just kept thinking about that lump of clay.

# *The Clay*

BY KARREN ALEXANDER

A lump of clay that was supposed to be used to seal the pipes was instead laying in my back yard wasting away. A lump of clay that no longer has a purpose; thus, no longer can be used. Then it came to me (You know the ah ha moment). The clay could represent people in the workplace. Yes, people! Their purpose is not being fulfilled or the employee is simply struggling to perform their job duties. Often, the employee may foolishly and carelessly neglect the use of their knowledge, and abilities to perform their duties. Others recognize their worth, but they do not; thus, they are set aside. That is probably what came to mind with the pipe layers. They got to this piece of clay and noticed that it had started to harden and decided it could not be of any use. Thus, they tossed it aside. Sometimes, we appear as a dried-up lump of clay unable to be used. But there is HOPE...someone will pick us up and make us new again. Someone will shape us into a new form or refresh and renew the original form. Someone may even come along, clean us up from the inside out, and once again we are ready to go forth and fulfill our purpose. That someone is called a MENTOR! This is a call for all of us to arise and be our best while helping others to be theirs.







## Training Schedule

Topic	Date	Time
Financial	Thursday, January 21, 2021	Noon
Information Technology	Thursday, February 18, 2021	Noon
Spring PDT	Thursday, March 18, 2021	Noon

## National Headquarter Updates

### Virtual CGFM Training

Join us online for CGFM Course 1: Governmental Environment on January 11–12, 2021. You'll participate in live training with a knowledgeable instructor who will lead you through the course material. Ask questions, offer comments or just listen! An online study guide is also provided. Space is limited!

### Update Your Contact Information

It is almost renewal season! Take a moment to log in to your My AGA account and make sure your contact information is up to date. Maybe you've moved agencies or are still working from home — it only takes a minute to keep your account current.

### COVID-19 Impacts on the CFO — FREE Webinar!

Within the span of just two months, CFOs became responsible for the rapid delivery of funds for COVID-19 relief. Join us and hear perspectives from senior government executives in response to AGA's Annual CFO Survey — Managing Finances for the Future. Jan. 14, 9-10 a.m. ET

