

# **ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS**

**TRENTON CHAPTER**

**HISTORY REPORT FOR PROGRAM YEAR 2017**

**ROSE M. TODARO  
HISTORIAN**

## **CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Trenton Chapter holds annual elections in April for the following Chapter Officers (see Attachment A for 2016 - 2017 Officers):

President  
President-elect-First Vice President  
Vice Presidents (2)  
Treasurer  
Secretary

During program year 2016 – 2017, twelve directors, appointed by the President, were active within the Chapter (see Attachment A for 2016–2017 Officers and Directors).

## **MONTHLY MEETINGS**

<b><u>DATE</u></b>	<b><u>PROGRAM</u></b>
September 14, 2016	Amy Davis, Esq., Assistant Director New Jersey Department of the Treasury, Division of Purchase and Property. The topic of her discussion highlighted the mission of the Contract Compliance and Audit Unit (CCAU). The CCAU ensures that state agencies are utilizing state contracts and not circumventing purchasing procedures; state agencies are adhering to proper contract administration; ensuring that contract vendors are adhering to contract terms and conditions; and investigating and resolving complaints concerning non-compliance with contract terms and conditions. One CPE was offered to the 29 attendees.
November 16, 2016	Ben Dworkin, Director, Rebovich Institute for New Jersey Politics, Rider University. The topic of his presentation was a discussion of the new political environment President-Elect Trump will bring to the national arena. The President-Elect will try to run our national government as a business and he will try to move away from the political establishment. One CPE was offered to the 29 attendees.
January 11, 2017	Holly Sabo, Manager, Mercadian Group, P.C. The topic of discussion was 2016 tax update. One CPE was offered to the 29 attendees.
March 8, 2017	Daniel G. Napoleon, CRP, Director of Environmental Programs, Mercer County Improvement Authority. The topic of his discussion was the economic impact of recycling in New Jersey. One CPE was offered to the 25 attendees.
May 17, 2017	Annual Awards Dinner

Four of the five monthly meetings offered one CPE to those attending.

## EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING DATES

The full Executive Board met twice during the 2016 - 2017 program year. The Board held a reorganization meeting on July 27, 2016. An additional mid-year Board meeting was held on January 25, 2017.

## EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

### AUDIO CONFERENCES HELD

- |                    |                                                                                                                                                                               |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| September 14, 2016 | Audio Conference topic was <i>Avoiding Surprises and Assessing Risks: Building on Today's Internal Controls</i> - 15 individuals attended. The session offered 2 CPE credits. |
| October 12, 2016   | Audio conference topic was <i>Cybersecurity - The New Norm</i> - 11 individuals attended. The session offered 2 CPE credits.                                                  |
| November 16, 2016  | Audio conference topic was <i>Tools and Strategies for Fighting Fraud</i> - 21 individuals attended this session. The session offered 2 CPE credits.                          |
| February 22, 2017  | Audio conference topic was <i>Fraud Indicators and Risk Assessment</i> - 25 individuals attended. This session offered 2 CPE credits.                                         |
| April 12, 2017     | Audio conference topic was <i>Pardon me, but are my ethics showing?</i> - 23 individuals attended. This session offered 2 CPE credits.                                        |
| June 14, 2017      | Audio conference topic was <i>Digital Evolution of the CFO</i> - 17 individuals attended. This session offered 2 CPE credits.                                                 |

These training sessions were offered to AGA members free. Nonmembers were charged a fee.

### FULL DAY TRAINING EVENTS

- |                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| October 28, 2016 | Annual Fall Seminar titled " <b>Audit Grand Slam - Preparation, Performance, Program Outcomes and Prosecution</b> ". Seminar offered 7 CPE credits to the 100 individuals who attended and presented discussions on the following topics; Auditor/Auditee Relations; Preparing for an Audit; and Superstorm Sandy Fraud and Prosecution.                                |
| April 21, 2017   | The Trenton Chapter of AGA Spring Symposium titled " <b>The Fiscal Impact of IT Trends in State and Local Government</b> ". The symposium was divided into two tracks as follows and offered 7 CPE credits to the 121 individuals who attended. The day started with:<br><br><b>Keynote Presentation</b> from the Dr. James Hughes – Dean, Bloustein School at Rutgers. |

**Plenary Session** was a discussion on *Municipal Government Roundtable* presented by the President of the MID Jersey Chamber of Commerce, the Mayor of Princeton, the Director of Economic Development of Somerville and the Executive Director of the New Jersey League of Municipalities.

**Luncheon speaker** was Dr. Gerald Miller from the College of New Jersey.

**Concurrent Workshops:**

**Track 1 Fiscal Issues**

- Session 1    *Taxation Issues*
- Session 2    *A New Digital Day with the Financial Automation Submission (FAST) Solution for the Division of Local Government Services*
- Session 3    *Green Procurement in New Jersey*

**Track 2 Technology Issues**

- Session 1    *Cyber Liability Insurance and Cybersecurity Study*
- Session 2    *Cyber Hygiene*
- Session 3    *Statewide Cybersecurity Update*

**COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENTS**

- |                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| October 10, 2016                   | Six AGA Trenton Chapter members volunteered as wait staff for the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen serving lunch.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| October 28, 2016<br>April 21, 2017 | Collection of canned goods and donations was held for the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen during each of the events held on these dates.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| February 11, 2017                  | Handmade Valentine Day cards were delivered to a local senior care facility. The cards were made by members and friends who attended the February dinner meeting and the early career event.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| May 20, 2017                       | Eight members and three non-members participated in a program to honor our veterans by assisting the Mercer County Veterans' Service Office with placing flags on veterans' grave sites at a local cemetery.                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| September 2016 to<br>May 2017      | Various projects were undertaken to raise funds for the Paul M. Vidunas Community Service Memorial. Paul passed away during his term as Chapter President and the Chapter established the fund to recognize Paul's dedication to community service. Annually the Chapter selects a community service entity to receive this award. The 2016-2017 recipient selected was "The Anchor House". Through their hard work, compassion |



and dedication their mission is to enrich the lives of abused, homeless, runaway, at risk and aging-out youth to utilize their strengths and the support of their families and communities in order to ensure a stable and successful home.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

The Chapter issued eight newsletters between September 2016 and June 2017 containing our President's letter, minutes of the board of directors meetings, financial status of the Chapter, articles written by Chapter members and non-members, CGFM information, meeting announcements, speaker's biographies, etc. (Attachment B).

During the year the Chapter prepared the 2015-2016 Citizen Centric Report which highlighted the demographics the Chapter's membership by employer and professional certification; educational events offered during the program year; community service activities; as well as, discussing the Chapter's efforts to enhance its communications with current members; and efforts to expand its membership. (Attachment C)

## **EARLY CAREER EVENT**

On February 3, 2017 the Chapter held a meet and greet bowling night in order to introduce college students and early career government employees to the Chapter and all that it has to offer future and current governmental employees. The event was attended by 4 early career government professionals, 4 students from a nearby area college, and 17 Chapter board members. The event was free to the students and the young professionals. Members paid \$6 to attend, and these monies went to the Paul M. Vidunas Community Service Memorial Fund.

## **CHAPTER HONORARIUMS AND AWARDS**

The Annual Awards Dinner was held on May 17, 2017 and the following awards were presented to members and nonmembers:

### **Achievement of the Year**

Glenn Forney, NJ Department of Education

### **Special Achievement Award**

Marie Virella, NJ Department of Higher Education

### **Chapter Service Award**

Christine Brennan, NJ Department of the Treasury

### **Distinguished Leadership Award**

Christopher Bailey, NJ Department of Human Services

### **James J. Dolan Award**

No Recipient

**Membership Scholarship Recipients**

Andrew Glowdowski, NJ Department of Transportation  
David Illuminate, NJ Office of the State Auditor  
Taylor Leavy, NJ Office of the State Auditor  
Michael Salberta, NJ Office of the State Auditor  
Thalia Treby, NJ Office of the State Comptroller

**Thomas J. Kaschak Scholarship (\$1,500)**

Thomas Muller

**Trenton Chapter Scholarship (\$500)**

No Recipient

**Paul M. Vidunas Community Service Memorial (\$1,600)**

Anchor House

**Special Assistants Award**

Robyn Boyer, NJ Office of the State Auditor

**President's Award**

Nikki Farrell, NJ Office of the State Auditor

**Past President's Award**

Kiersten Kokotajlo, NJ Office of the State Auditor

**CGFM CERTIFICATION**

During the 2016 - 2017 program year one member obtained the CGFM designation.

**NATIONAL LEVEL SERVICE**

The Chapter's President and Vice President for Education/President-Elect for 2016-2017 attended the July 2016 Professional Development Training (PDT) held in Anaheim, California. The President participated in a panel presentation entitled "Ignite" which required each panel member to do their 20 slide presentation segment within five minutes.

The Chapter's CGFM Representative was selected to be part of the National CGFM Certification Board for a three-year term. This nine member Board is responsible for establishing and/or changing the CGFM certification and/or exam rules, regulations, and qualifications; handle candidate's complaints, questions or concerns; review exam questions and other issues regarding the administration of the CGFM certification process.

The Chapter's President continued to serve as a regional early career representative. It is noteworthy to report that this President was a 2012 Chapter Membership Scholarship recipient and is the youngest person to serve as President for the Trenton Chapter, and a testament that the scholarship program is accomplishing its goal of getting young, upcoming professionals involved in the organization.

Two of the Chapter's up-and-coming Directors attended the AGA Sectional Leadership Conference held in Baltimore, Maryland in April 2017.

### **NATIONAL AWARD**

The Trenton Chapter earned the Platinum Award from National for 2016 – 2017 program. The Chapter earned over 19,501 credits. Credits are awarded by the National Association for fulfilling all the various goals set by the National office.

## Attachment A

### CHAPTER OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS 2016 – 2017

#### OFFICERS

President  
President-Elect and Vice President of Education  
Vice President of Finance/Administration/Programs  
Vice President of Membership  
Treasurer  
Secretary  
Immediate Past President/Nominating Committee Chair

Kiersten Kokotajlo  
Andy Bishop, CPA  
Christopher Schwartz  
Robert Rizzo, CPA  
David Kaschak, CGFM, CPA  
Michelle Blatt  
Audrey Hoyle

#### DIRECTORS

Fall Seminar

Audrey Hoyle, Rene Gervasoni,  
Jessica Lippincott

Spring Symposium  
Audio Conferences  
Emerging Issues  
Newsletter  
Awards  
Budget-Finance  
Programs  
Meetings  
Historian  
Community Service  
Chapter Recognition  
Bylaws and Procedures  
Sponsorship  
Chapter Early Career  
Regional Early Career Representative  
Membership/Sponsorship  
Regional and Chapter CGFM Coordinator

Guy Tassi, Brian Larkin  
Michelle Blatt  
Committee  
Andrew Bishop, CPA  
Christopher Schwartz  
Tyler Frounfelker  
Christopher Schwartz  
Rene Gervasoni  
Rose M. Todaro, CGFM, Ret.  
Robert Olsen, Christopher Fuccello  
Brian Larkin  
Michael Hoyle, Esq.  
Michael Hoyle, Esq.  
Meghan Ellis  
Kiersten Kokotajlo  
Robert Rizzo, CPA  
Margarita Stanislavskaya, CGFM,  
CPA, CIA

Accountability Outreach Chair  
Webmaster/Communications

Nikki Farrell  
Nikki Farrell



# NEWSLETTER

April 2017

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members & Friends:

April has arrived and we have some awesome events to kick off the spring season!

I'd like to thank Dan Napoleon from the MCIA for sharing the importance of recycling in our state. All attendees learned useful tips and there were many requests for MCIA's recycling robot to join us at our next event!

Our members and friends looked radiant in red attire to honor CGFM month! Thanks to all who participated and I hope we'll get to welcome more CGFMs this season! National has released a CGFM badge for electronic signatures or social media outlets. It's available for CGFMs. Good luck to those pursuing this designation! Please don't hesitate to contact us for assistance!

We're excited about our Annual Spring Symposium on Friday, April 21st which will be held at a new location - The College of New Jersey in the Education Building! Our theme revolves around The Fiscal impact of IT Trends in State and Local Government. To register and view our lineup of distinguished speakers go to our website's events page. We'll also be collecting nonperishable food items and monetary donations for the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen. Any donations are greatly appreciated!

Thank you to those who were able to get their nominations in by March 31 for recognition at our Annual Awards Dinner on Wednesday, May 17th at Villa Mannino. The Academic Scholarship applications deadline has been extended to April 14th by AGA National. For more information: [CLICK HERE!](#)

We're happy to announce that Brian Larkin and Jessica Lippincott will be representing our chapter at AGA's Sectional Leadership Conference in Baltimore at the end of this month. We look forward to getting feedback from their experiences at this event.

Check out our website at [AGA Trenton Chapter](#) for updates & "like" us on Facebook!

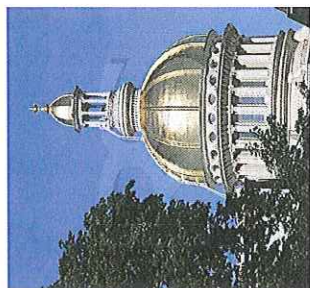
Sincerely,

Kiersten Kokotajlo  
Trenton Chapter President

TRENTON  
CHAPTER



Association of Government Accountants







## CONGRATULATIONS

*To David Jonas, new member,  
on passing the Certified  
Government Financial  
Manager (CGFM) Exam!*

**CGFM.**



[Click here for more information on becoming a CGFM!](#)



**WELCOME!**

## **New AGA - Trenton Members**

**Name:** Spring R. Jones

**Member Type:** Full Member

**Title:** Trenton Chapter

**Employer:** State of NJ

**Email:** spring\_j@hotmail.com

**Name:** David B. Jonas – New CGFM!

**Member Type:** Early Career

**Title:** Trenton Chapter

**Employer:** New Jersey Office of the State Auditor

**Email:** davjonas@yahoo.com

[Click here for more information on becoming an AGA Member!](#)





Thank you to all those who participated in AGA Trenton's "Wear Red Day" in March to acknowledge the Celebration of CGFM Month!







**Save this Date:**

**Friday April 21, 2017**

The AGA Spring Symposium will be held on Friday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM at the College of New Jersey's Education Building, 2000 Pennington Road, Ewing, NJ 08618

This year's theme is "The Fiscal Impact of Technology on State and Local Government" (7 CPE).

**Pricing:**

<b>Pre-registered AGA or ASPA Members</b>	<b>\$115</b>
<b>Pre-registered non-members</b>	<b>\$140</b>
<b>Day of Event (at the door - cash, check or PV only)</b>	<b>\$160</b>
<b>Full-Time Student</b>	<b>\$ 75</b>

**Remember:** We will be collecting non-perishable food items and/or cash donations for the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen (TASK).

**[Click here for the latest updates for this year's Spring Symposium!](#)**

## The Fiscal Impact of IT Trends in State and Local Government

The College of New Jersey  
2000 Pennington Road Ewing NJ 08608 Education Building

**Opening Session:** 8:30am to 10:30am Education 212

**Keynote Presentation:** *Dr. James Hughes – Dean, Bloustein School at Rutgers*

**Plenary Session: Municipal Government Roundtable**

Host: Robert Prunetti, President – MIDJersey Chamber of Commerce  
Liz Lempert – Mayor of Princeton  
Colin Driver – Director of Economic Development of Somerville  
Michael Darcy, Executive Director – New Jersey League of Municipalities

**Concurrent Workshops:** 10:45am to 12:00pm

**Track 1: Fiscal Issues:** Education 212  
*Marita Sciarrotta, Department of the Treasury, Division of Taxation*

**Track 2: Technology Issues: Cyber Liability Insurance and Cybersecurity Study** Education 113  
*Michael Smith, Department of the Treasury, Division of Risk Management*  
*Annette Evans and Swapna Aurora, Deloitte*

**Lunch** 12:00pm to 1:30pm Education 212

**Luncheon Speaker –** Dr. Gerald Miller, The College of New Jersey

**Concurrent Workshops:** 1:45pm to 3:00pm

**Track 1: Fiscal Issues: A New Digital Day with the Financial Automation Submission (FAST) Solution for the Division of Local Government Services** Education 212  
*Maureen Mitchell and Christine Caruso, Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services*

**Track 2: Technology Issues: Cyber Hygiene** Education 113  
*Marc Pfeiffer, Bloustein School at Rutgers*

**Concurrent Workshops:** 3:15pm to 4:30pm

**Track 1: Fiscal Issues: Green Procurement in New Jersey** Education 212  
*Dr. Kevin Lyons, Rutgers Business School*

**Track 2: Technology Issues: Statewide Cybersecurity Update** Education 113  
*Michael Geraghty, Office of Homeland Security and Protection*

**Credits for Continuing Education:** 7 credits in the subject area of “Accounting/Government Environment”  
\*\*\*CPE certificates will be available at the conclusion of the Symposium. In the event of your early departure, the certificate will be adjusted accordingly and mailed.\*\*\*

**NOTE: Subject to change. Check website for updates [CLICK HERE](#)**



## **SAVE THIS DATE**

**Date: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 2:00 to 4:00 pm**

**Event: Audio Conference**

**Topic: Ethics (2 CPE)**

**Location: OSC, 20 W. State St, 12th Floor, Trenton, NJ 08625**

**[Click here to register NOW!](#)**



**Get Social!** AGA Trenton Chapter is on Facebook!  
Come join us in this cyber community, "Like" us now!

**[Click here to connect with us!](#)**





## SAVE THIS DATE

**Date: Wednesday, May 17 @ 5:30 pm**

**Event: Annual Awards Dinner**

**Location: Villa Mannino, 73 Rte 130, Bordentown, NJ 08620**

[Click here for more information on the Dinner Meeting](#)



**Get Social!** AGA Trenton Chapter is on Facebook!  
Come join us in this cyber community, "Like" us now!

[Click here to connect with us!](#)



# Membership

---

## National Academic Scholarships

Are you or a family member pursuing undergraduate or graduate studies in disciplines such as accounting, economics, finance, information systems/technology or public administration? If so, consider applying for an AGA Academic Scholarship today!

This year, AGA will award:

Rising College Freshman: One full-time (\$3,000) and one part-time (\$1,500)

[Full-Time Application](#)

[Part-Time Application](#)

Current Undergraduates: Three full-time (\$3,000) and two part-time (\$1,500)

[Full-Time Application](#)

[Part-Time Application](#)

Graduate Students: Two full-time (\$3,000) and one part-time (\$1,500)

[Full-Time Application](#)

[Part-Time Application](#)

Community Service: AGA can award two \$1,500 scholarship for community service amongst the three collegiate categories noted above.

[Rising College Freshman Community Service Application](#)

[Current Undergraduate Community Service Application](#)

[Graduate Community Service Application](#)

The deadline for receipt of applications is Friday, April 14, 2017.

[National Collegiate Leadership Program:](#) Provides full-time college students the opportunity to attend National Leadership Training (NLT) or Professional Development Training (PDT).

[Young Professionals PDT Scholarship:](#) The Young Professionals Focus Group (YPFG) annually selects five young professionals to attend AGA's Professional Development Training (PDT).





## Membership

### Young Professionals PDT Scholarship

The [Young Professionals Focus Group \(YPFG\)](#) annually selects five young professionals to attend AGA's [Professional Development Training \(PDT\)](#) in July. The participants in this program will act as ambassadors for attendees and assist at the AGA exhibit hall booth and other activities throughout the training event.

#### Requirements:

Must be an AGA member in good standing

A first-time attendee at this annual event

Working directly for government or nonprofit (federal, state, local or tribal)

Under the age of 30

Available Saturday afternoon prior to the start of the PDT and assist at the AGA booth throughout the event

Willingness to provide feedback on their PDT experience prior to departure

#### Participants Receive:

Five-night hotel scholarship at the PDT host hotel

Complimentary registration for the entire event

CPEs to help you advance your career (number of CPEs may vary depending on assignments)

Opportunities to meet and network with AGA leaders

#### More Information on PDT Scholarships:

<https://www.agacgfm.org/Membership/Connect/Awards-Recognition/Young-Professionals-PDT-Scholarship.aspx>

apply now





# topics

## Spring 2017 *Journal* quiz is live — earn 3 CPEs!

The issue on sustainability will hit mailboxes soon, but is available now if you prefer to read online or on the go!

[learn more](#)

### By the Number

48

CPEs you can earn by attending our CGFM training program.

[learn more](#)

### Upcoming Events



View AGA's calendar for national and chapter events.

[learn more](#)

### Chapter Spotlight



**Atlanta**  
Celebrated CGFM Month with Gov. Nathan Deal. View photo.

[learn more](#)

## Assessing Government Performance Across the Triple Bottom Line

Government organizations are natural leaders in advancing the triple bottom line. Local sustainability initiatives promote positive change.

[learn more](#)



**Extra! Extra!**  
Read the spring issue on sustainability.

[Click here for more AGA Topics Information](#)





## AGA Citizen Centric Report (CCR) Turns 10!

In 2007, AGA launched the Citizen Centric Reporting (CCR) Initiative. Former AGA CEO Relmond P. Van Daniker brought together AGA members representing federal, state and local governments to develop criteria for a 4 page report designed to communicate to citizens the business of government.

The AGA Winter Journal for 2016-2017 featured an article of the CCR turning 10! The CCR offers transparency and accountability for public-sector entities. Read what AGA has to say about the CCR hitting this great milestone. Click on the link below:

[https://www.agacgfm.org/aga/chaptersites/Trenton/files/CCR%20from%20AGAJournal Winter2016 17 F LR.PDF](https://www.agacgfm.org/aga/chaptersites/Trenton/files/CCR%20from%20AGAJournal%20Winter2016%2017%20F%20LR.PDF)

*AGA looked at ways to improve financial performance reporting more than 10 years ago, and, following an extensive study and examination of the public-sector financial and performance reporting outputs and surveys of citizens by AGA members and staff, the AGA Citizen-Centric Report (CCR) was conceived.*

*In extolling the platform for CCR, AGA's former executive director, Relmond Van Daniker was often quoted as saying, "Citizens are*

*drowning in data but starving for information." Ann Ebberts, AGA's CEO, said CCR can be viewed as an early adopter in providing transparency and information in context in a way all Americans should be able to understand. "The CCR can be used in so many ways and can quickly get the public, staff, and new leaders current on the agency mission, demographics, accomplishments and priorities for the future. It's come a long way in 10 short years, and we look forward to the next 10!"*



## AGA—Trenton Chapter Balance Sheet as of 2/28/17

ASSETS:		LIABILITIES AND EQUITY:	
Cash - Savings (BOA)	\$12,179.63	Accounts Payable	\$954.00
Cash - Checking (BOA)	9,406.15	Deferred Income	110.00
Accts Rec. Symp/mtg/Sem	0.00		
PrePaid Expenses	<u>3,283.88</u>	Fund Balance	<u>23,805.66</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$24,869.66</b>	<b>TOTAL L&amp;E</b>	<b>\$24,869.66</b>



### ***Remaining AGA Audio Conferences***

**Topic: Ethics**

**Location: Office of the State Comptroller, 12th Floor Conference Room - 20 West State Street, Trenton, NJ 08625**

**Date: April 12, 2017      Time: 2 PM to 4 PM**


**Topic: Fraud/Data Analytics**

**Location: Office of the State Comptroller, 12th Floor Conference Room - 20 West State Street, Trenton, NJ 08625**

**Date: June 14, 2017      Time: 2 PM to 4 PM**



# April 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		28	29	30	31	1
	2	3	4	5	6	7
9	10	11	12  <b>Webinar</b> <b>(2:00-3:50 pm)</b>	13	14 	15
16 	17	18	19	20	21 <b>Spring Symposium</b>	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	1	1) Webinar Location - Office of State Comptroller, 20 W. State St, 12th Fl, Trenton NJ 2) Spring Symposium - <a href="https://www.agacgm.org/Chapters/Trenton/Home.aspx">https://www.agacgm.org/Chapters/Trenton/Home.aspx</a>				

# May 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30	1	2	3	4	5 	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 	15	16	17  Awards Dinner at 5:30 pm	18	19	20  Community Service Event
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29  Memorial DAY	30	31	1	2	3



- 1) Awards Dinner at Villa Mannino's, 73 Route 130, Bordentown, NJ...For details:  
<http://www.agatrenton.com/events.html>  
 2) Community Service Event - Italian American War Veterans - Check website:  
<http://www.agatrenton.com/community-services.html>



# June 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14  Webinar (2:00-3:50 pm)	15	16	17
18 	19	20	21  Summer Begins	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	1



1) Webinar: Location - Office of State Comptroller, 20 W. State St, 12th Fl, Trenton NJ

## Attention all CGFM applicants!

The Trenton AGA Chapter will be offering the CGFM Achievement Scholarship, an award for CGFM applicants that will reimburse the scholarship winner for the cost of study materials and exam fees for CGFM exams (maximum of \$250). Requirements for this scholarship are as follows:

- Must be an AGA Trenton Chapter member in good standing
- Must be a government employee
- Must have passed 2 of 3 parts prior to applying
- Must fill out application before taking the final exam in order to establish commitment from the Chapter for the scholarship
- Scholarship will be paid only if all 3 exams are passed within the timeline established by the AGA to achieve the certification

Please, see the next page for the application.

If you would like more information about this scholarship, please contact Margarita Stanislavskaya at [mstanislavskaya@mercercounty.org](mailto:mstanislavskaya@mercercounty.org).

For more information on the CGFM certification, please visit <http://agacgfm.org/cgfm/>.







## CGFM Achievement Award Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Member ID # \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Current Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Position/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Did you pass 2 of 3 exams for the CGFM certification?  
(Attach Proof)

☐ Yes

☐ No

I certify that the information provided on this application is true and correct.

Applicant \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

For AGA Trenton Use Only

AGA-Trenton Board

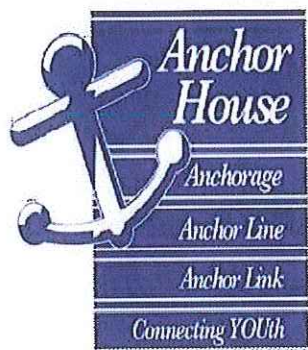
Approval \_\_\_\_\_  
(Authorized representative name and  
signature)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please, complete this form and email to:

Margarita Stanislavskaya  
[mstanislavskaya@mercercounty.org](mailto:mstanislavskaya@mercercounty.org)

## About the Paul Vidunas Memorial Fund



**ANCHOR HOUSE**  
The Houses Where Healing Begins

***The Paul Vidunas Memorial Fund*** was established in 1998 shortly after the death of then Trenton Chapter President Paul Vidunas. During his lifetime, Paul was very involved in community service as an enthusiastic volunteer for various community based organizations. The establishment of a fund that would support a variety of community service groups seemed a fitting tribute to this memory.

Each year a different recipient is selected to receive funds collected throughout the Chapter's program year. The local area charity for this year's Paul Vidunas fund is Anchor House. The agency's mission is to work with abused, homeless, runaway, at risk and aging out youth to utilize their strengths and the support of their families and communities in order to ensure a stable and successful home. For information about the charity **[CLICK HERE!](#)**

The Trenton Chapter AGA holds drawings at monthly meetings and educational events to raise funds for the Paul Vidunas Memorial Fund. For more information on how you can contribute to this worthy cause contact the AGA Trenton local chapter now at **<https://www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/Trenton/Home.aspx>**

*Thank you to all our newsletter sponsors!*



The mission of the Mercer County Improvement Authority (MCIA) is to serve the needs of Mercer County improving the quality of life for the residents by providing programs and services for the County, Municipalities, school and fire districts, and not-for-profits in the areas of financing, project management, redevelopment, solid waste and recycling.



KPMG LLP, the U.S. audit, tax and advisory services firm, operates from 87 offices with more than 23,000 employees and partners throughout the U.S. Our purpose is to turn knowledge into value for the benefit of our clients, our people, and the capital markets.



Today's Mercadien focuses on team work and effectively allocating resources to be responsive to each client's needs. The Mercadien Group is a family of distinct companies created to serve the diverse and sophisticated needs of our clients in a capacity far greater than any single organization can offer. The group is comprised of six individual companies situated in one location, providing accounting, auditing, tax planning and compliance, management consulting, technology, wealth management, outsourcing, and investment banking services. We are a group of trusted advisors working in one place, sharing a broad knowledge base, and creating seamless solutions to meet your personal and business objectives.





## Membership

AGA members form a diverse group of individuals--from students to entry-level employees to senior executives and elected officials--working for local and state governments, school districts and retirement systems, colleges and universities, federal agencies and public accounting firms.

Whatever your role in government financial management, AGA offers a membership package tailored to meet your professional needs and interests.

## AGA Member Types:

### **Full Government Member**

This class of membership requires three or more years of government experience, involving the professional performance of financial management activities in an operational, administrative and/or supervisory capacity. This class is also available to individuals with similar experience outside the government who are engaged in educational activities having the same objectives as the Association, or who have made a contribution toward the improvement of government financial management. \$100 national + 5 local/year.

### **Private Sector Member**

This class of membership is available to individuals working for commercial activities/ventures that are actively engaged in and support AGA's purpose and objectives. \$160 + \$5 local/year.

### **Early Career Member**

This class of membership is available to government employees with less than three years experience. \$45 + \$5 local/year.

### **Student Member Student:**

This class of membership is available to college/university students. \$30 + \$5 local/year.

### **Retired:**

This class of membership is available to AGA members who have permanently retired and are not working. \$35 + \$5 local/year.

### **Membership Link:**

<https://www.agacgfm.org/Membership/overview.aspx>

## **2016-2017 Chapter Officers and Directors**

**President:** Kiersten Kokotajlo

**President-Elect, Education:** Andy Bishop

**Immediate Past President/Nominating Committee Chair:**

Audrey Hoyle

**Vice President of Admin/Programs:** Christopher Schwartz

**Vice President of Membership:** Robert Rizzo

**Treasurer:** Dave Kaschak

**Secretary:** Michelle Blatt

**Accountability Outreach Chair:** Nikki Farrell

**Communications:** Nikki Farrell

**Sponsorship:** Michael Hoyle

**Audio Conferences:** Michelle Blatt

**Fall Seminar:** Audrey Hoyle/Rene Gervasoni/Jessica Lippincott

**Spring Symposium:** Guy Tassi/Brian Larkin

**Chapter Recognition:** Brian Larkin

**CGFM Chairperson (Trenton Chapter):** Margarita Stanislavskaya

**Regional Vice President:** Joe Connolly

**Community Service:** Robert Olsen, Christopher Fuccello

**Awards:** Christopher Schwartz

**Regional & Chapter Early Career:** Meghan Ellis

**Budget/Finance:** Tyler Frounfelker

**Newsletter:** Andrew Bishop

**Meeting Chair:** Rene Gervasoni

**Paul Vidunas Coordinator:** Audrey Hoyle

**Historian:** Rose Todaro

**By-Laws:** Michael Hoyle



## CONTACT US

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Trenton, NJ 08604

*Via e-mail:* [agatrentoninfo@agatrenton.com](mailto:agatrentoninfo@agatrenton.com)

*Like us on facebook:* <https://www.facebook.com/pages/AGA-Trenton-Chapter/531861283584888>

*Website:* <https://www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/Trenton/Home.aspx>

Please note that we are a **GREEN** Chapter

Check out our Citizen Centric Report:  
<https://www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/Trenton/Our-Chapter/Chapter-News/2016-Citizen-Centric-Report.aspx>

## NEWSLETTER SUGGESTIONS

### FEEDBACK WANTED!

Please feel free to offer any comments or suggestions for the newsletter's design, format, or style. We look forward to hearing from you!





# A Report to Our Members

*Citizen Centric Report 2015-2016*

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## Vision Statement

AGA is the premier association for advancing government accountability.



## Our Mission

The Trenton Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants (AGA) is a leading advocate for improving the quality and effectiveness of Governmental fiscal management. To this end, our goal is to carry forward the purpose of the AGA itself - to promote continuing education, development and professionalism in the areas of government financial management and to promote opportunities for community service.

## Total Members by Employer

	2015	2016
State	90	99
Federal	12	8
Local	2	3
Private Sector	13	11
Retired	17	17
Academia	4	0
Student	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>138</b>

## Member Certifications

	2015	2016
CGFM	34	32
CPA	59	54
CIA	3	4
CFE	9	9
Other	13	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>111</b>



### National Mission

AGA fosters learning, certification, leadership and collaboration for professionals and stakeholders committed to advancing government accountability.

### Continuing Professional Education (CPE) Hours Awarded

We strive to provide our members more the 40 hours of CPE credits per year. The following table shows total CPE credits awarded over the past three years:

	2014	2015	2016
Audio Conferences	334	252	238
Fall Seminar	700	637	700
Spring Symposium	700	700	700
Dinner Meetings	119	52*	112
*less dinner meetings were held this year due to inclement weather.			
Other	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,853</b>	<b>1,641</b>	<b>1,750</b>



### Community Service

- Canned goods and other donations were provided to the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen
- Members participated in a program on Memorial Day to honor veterans by assisting the Italian American War Veterans Post # 2 in placement of flags on Veterans' grave sites at a local cemetery
- Raised \$1,300 for the Paul M. Vidunas Community Service Memorial donated to the Mercer Sunshine Foundation

### Awards Banquet

- Presented various awards to members and non-members for various services in governmental financial management
- \$1,000 awarded through scholarships to college students

### Early Career

- Hosted a bowling networking event where three students from TCNJ and four non-member young professionals were in attendance





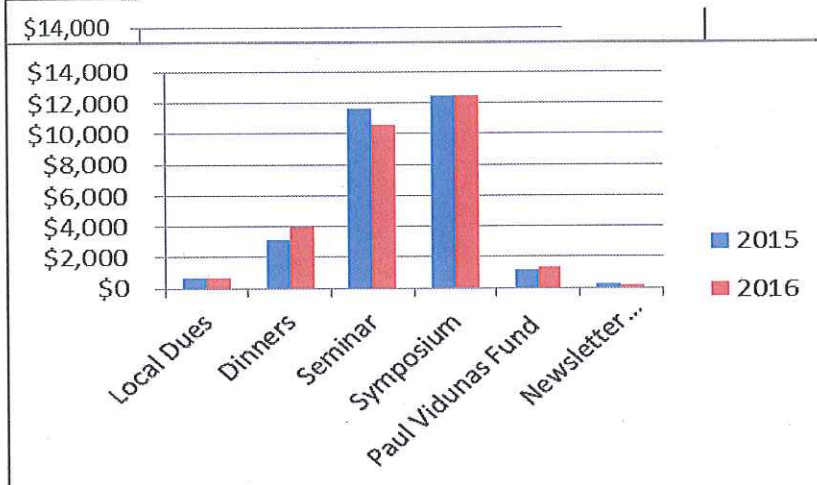
# OUR FINANCES

## REVENUES AND EXPENSES

### Primary Sources of Revenue

	2015	2016
Local Dues	\$686	\$707
Dinners	\$3,155	\$3,955
Seminar	\$11,660	\$10,525
Symposium	\$12,455	\$12,445
Paul Vidunas Fund	\$1,200	\$1,300
Newsletter Ads/Other Education/Misc	\$236	\$152
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$29,392</b>	<b>\$29,084</b>

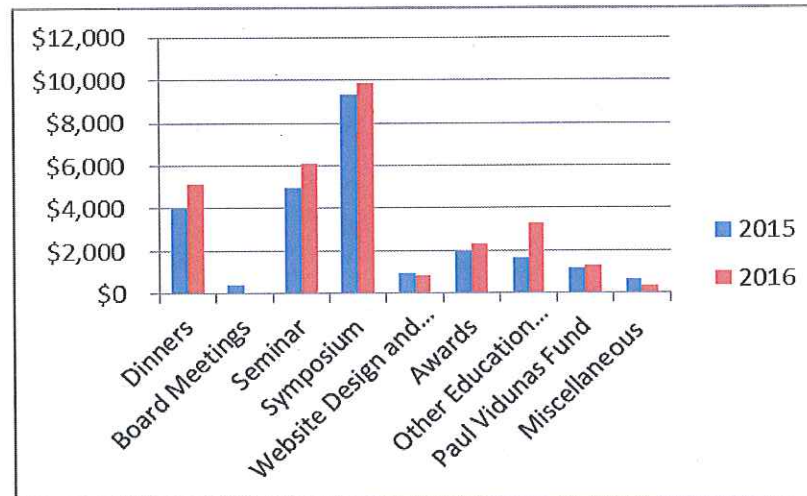
Fiscal Year 2015 & 2016 Revenue by Type



### Primary Functional Expenses

	2015	2016
Dinners	\$4,012	\$5,107
Board Meetings	\$381	\$0
Seminar	\$4,936	\$6,060
Symposium	\$9,298	\$9,872
Website Design and Maintenance	\$919	\$815
Awards	\$1,942	\$2,291
Other Education Expenses	\$1,660	\$3,260*
*PDT 2016		
Paul Vidunas Fund	\$1,200	\$1,300
Miscellaneous	\$634	\$358
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$24,982</b>	<b>\$29,063</b>

Fiscal Year 2015 & 2016 Expenses by Type



### Independent Audit

Independent audits of the Association's finances were conducted, resulting in clean opinions.





# What's next?

## *Challenges moving forward*

### We want to hear from you.

Do you like this report? Would you like to see other information?

Please let us know by contacting Nikki Farrell at [nfarrell@njleg.org](mailto:nfarrell@njleg.org).

#### AGA - Trenton

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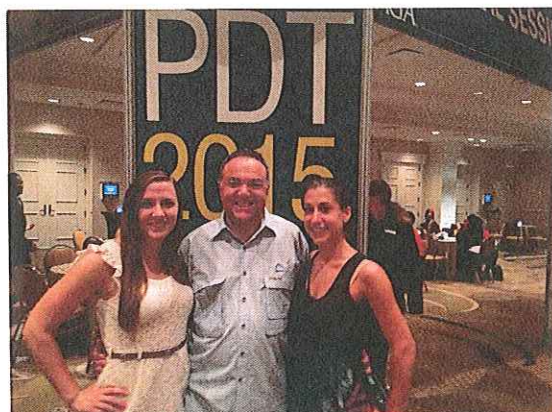
[agatrentoninfo@agatrenton.com](mailto:agatrentoninfo@agatrenton.com)

[www.agatrenton.com](http://www.agatrenton.com)

FACEBOOK: "AGA Trenton Chapter"



Like us on  
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- Continue to increase our presence in the professional community through constant upgrade and update of our website and use of social media to provide the most current and important information to the Chapter's members and friends and by issuing periodic electronic newsletters. This will strengthen and move AGA-Trenton forward to communicate its vision, mission, and goals to the existing and potential membership.
- Continue constant and regular communication with AGA's Regional and National coordinators to exchange information and ideas.
- Membership:
  - ✓ Continue improving and expanding annual Membership-Scholarship Program to promote AGA-Trenton Chapter and its membership especially among early career government employees by providing full sponsorship of the one full year of membership dues (national and chapter) along with registration for all AGA-Trenton Chapter's functions during the year at the member's rate (including annual Fall Seminar and Spring Symposium) for one or more individuals.
  - ✓ Continue promoting AGA-National Members' Recruitment and Retention Program with the Focus on Early Career and Student Members.
- Raise Public Awareness of Government Accountability, Transparency and Performance:
  - ✓ Preparing and distributing Chapter's Citizen-Centric Report to AGA-Trenton's membership and beyond.
  - ✓ Encouraging governmental entities to adopt four-page Citizen-Centric Report for greater governments' transparency and accountability.
  - ✓ Establishing and maintaining the Board position of Accountability Coordinator.
- Continue providing regular education programs through CPE dinner meetings, audio conferences, and Annual Fall and Spring Symposiums inviting highly respected and recognized speakers from all levels of government, private enterprise, and academia.
- Continue to promote the Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) program. Implement a scholarship incentive to become a CGFM.