



A Report to our Members 2020-2021



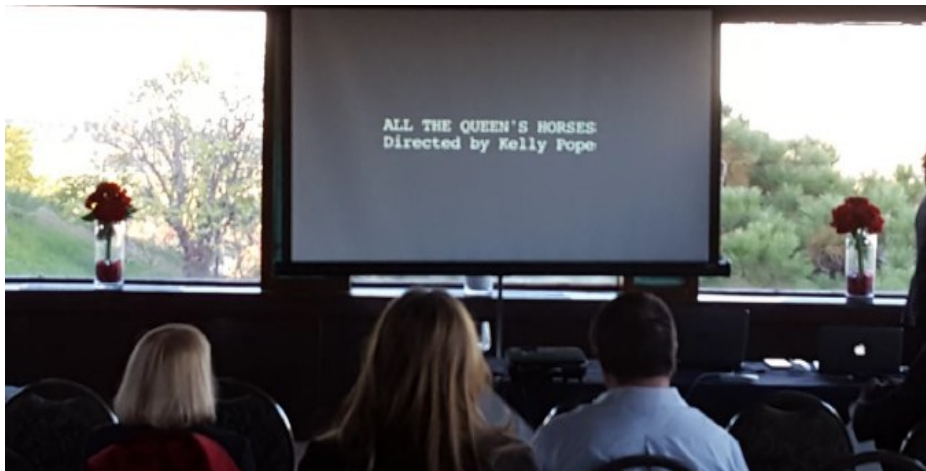
About our Parent Organization: The Association of Government Accountants (AGA)

The Association of Government Accountants (AGA) is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Contributions to AGA are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. Membership dues are not considered contributions. Headquartered in Alexandria Virginia the AGA is a member organization of financial professionals in Government, The Association focuses on Professional Development Training (PDT) events, Professional Certifications, Continued Professional Education(CPE) and accountability. Paramount in the AGA's mission is leading decentralized chapters that facilitate practices that are beneficial to their members and citizens. AGA members work in government financial management across sectors and worldwide to increase government financial performance and accountability. PDT events keep governmental financial managers current on relevant news and information. AGA's professional (CGFM) certification is a valuable credential that strengthens competency in managing a government that benefits its citizens. [View AGA's Code of Ethics](#), and to learn more about AGA's vision, mission, core values, and strategic goals visit the national AGA [web-site](#).

Who We Are: The Denver AGA Chapter

The AGA's Denver Chapter was founded in 1952, and was the first local chapter to form outside of the National chapter. Continuing goals include membership recruitment of government financial managers., and Professional Development Training (PDT). Although we were on hiatus during most of 2020 and 2021 due to the CoVid 19 pandemic our members were able to find affordable CPE credits offered several times a year to our members by using the resources of the national chapter. Those included Governmental training events, and webinars could be attended virtually and articles in the Journal of Accountancy that could be tested on for CPE credit Keeping out members and their families safe was forefront in our strategy to take a hands off approach and use resources that were developed by others to service out members. We are back and plan to use best practices to keep membership up, our members educated and informed and recruit talent to serve stakeholders of government. Going forward be assured that collaboration, ethics, and inclusion are continued attributes of the Denver AGA Chapter. That is who *we* are and have always been.

The Past: if you see something say something. In 2016 Denver AGA was in the forefront of admitting there is fraud in



Government. "*All the Queen's Horses*" was presented at an in person event. This case study went on to be a documentary on Netflix. It's message rang clear. It's not always easy to speak to the fact that a governments' funds can come under attack. Real Government Accountants and Fiscal Managers face the problem. Fiscal stewardship is an essential part of our democracy. Being an unwilling accomplice is unacceptable.

A letter from the Denver AGA President

Greetings Colleagues,

I am pleased to serve as the chapter president for the FY21-22 program year and want to thank all the board members for volunteering their time to make our chapter a positive professional and social asset to our members.

Within the recent business challenges that everyone has experienced lies the opportunity to reassess and adapt, which is one of our primary goals for the program year: **re-engage members and determine how to maximize value**. But, we can't do it without your help!

Three immediate ways to get involved:

1. Tell us what you want. You will be receiving a brief survey that will allow the board to plan events, services, and topics that are currently valuable to you. We also welcome any direct input or feedback via DenverAGA@gmail.com.
2. As we begin planning the calendar of activities, including monthly webinars, please consider inviting one of your colleagues. The exposure could make a difference in their career and increased participation leads to greater recognition of both your involvement with AGA and CGFM designation.
3. If you have been waiting to attain your CGFM, now is a great time to achieve that goal and we are here to assist you.

With your participation, we look forward to making this an impactful year. Let's ALL get re-engaged.

Sincerely,

Brandon Boggs, CGFM, PMP



Accomplishments—Past, Present, and Future



Admittedly this is one of our favorite awards. It is a CGFM Award that we received in FY2019. One of our members volunteered his time and resources to offer a free course to CGFM Candidates. Denver AGA can never have too many of those. We realize that the more Governmental employees who understand the importance of fiscal stewardship the better off we are as a people. Not just here in Denver, but in all of the USA. When we prosper as a nation, so do our stakeholders here at home and abroad. The CGFM certificate is important and you can expect to be hearing about us putting on another class in FY 2022.

And that is not all that happened. In FY 2019 our President Jacqueline Schmuhl creatively added 30 plus new members by selling the CGFM concept to an entire Federal department. During Co-Vid we had Federal Employees well on their way to studying for the certificate if they did not already have it due to the intensive course offering. If nothing else more than 30 people were more aware of the importance of Governmental Ethics and doing the right thing. Expect more of this type of salesmanship in 2022 we are truly psyched up. It showed amazing initiative, creativity and inspired the entire Board. It was Leadership at it's best. The entire campaign was exciting to watch not to mention fun, and must have filled these 30 new members with a sense of accomplishment.



However , Jackie did not take all of the credit in 2019. Robert Pereira long time board member received the Highest Overall Growth Award for our Group C as Membership Chairman. Bob passed the Chapter's Presidential torch that eventually gets to Jackie. Denver AGA has a structure that mentors board members correctly. Jackie was a PDT chair under Bob, and then becomes a President Elect after that. Denver AGA mentors their leadership before they come to the helm. A President elect is mentored for a year or more watching and learning from their predecessors. It is real succession planning and it works. Recruitment to the board continues in 2022.

Denver AGA past Accomplishments and what to expect in 2022

- ◆ Offered free webinars that earned two CPEs each; .These webinars help fiscal managers accept change, face risk, find fraud if it exists in the deep pockets of the taxpayers. We buy these packets every year with the exception of the pandemic year. They previously were in person, now we see a way forward in offering them virtually when need be.
- ◆ Continue to organize the popular, annual two-day Personal Development Training (PDT) This event is offered in late spring. We can expect to see it come back now that the vaccine seems to be working. In 2020-2021 however we skipped the event. Remember keeping our colleagues and the people they come into contact with safe was paramount in our Denver AGA agenda.
- ◆ Outreach in Colleges and Universities. This is hugely important. Succession planning is necessary, and it is always a perk to get the best and brightest minds early. We hope to inspire newcomers into our profession because they are doing a job they love.
- ◆ Promoted AGA value to state and local government, as well as professional and commercial organizations, colleges and universities, federal government , and continued to increase the chapter's membership. We have seen State Government participation increase recently and hope that trends stays with us. This is were Denver AGA can really do some good for our local stakeholders with a budget of 35 billion and increasing the State benefits from CGFM certified employees.
- ◆ Participated 13 times in Habitat for Humanity building homes for the still devastated New Orleans communities affected by the Katrina Hurricane. We have also taken on projects here in Colorado, and now we see the wrath of Ida. Housing is so important we hope this cause remains in our hearts for years to come.
- ◆ Continue to keep a focus on CPE that benefits the learner whether it be Artificial Intelligence or Fraud. Governmental accounting is never boring and awareness is important
- ◆ Empower our membership. Their input is important to us. Use surveys and other mechanisms to allow them to be heard and address issues that are important to their workplace.
- ◆ Our membership dues continually to provide a 500% return through Denver AGA membership benefit training, the subscription to the AGA quarterly journal tool provided by the National AGA that now has the opportunity for CPE, and access to career planning and promotional job opportunities
- ◆ Planning continues to focus on offering a free course on Exam one, CGFM, scholarships to CGFM Candidates for study materials and exam fees and packages to employers.
- ◆ Filling board vacancies, participation in national events, and recruiting members is a continued effort on the part of Denver AGA because this is who we are and the right thing to do.

