

# Association of Government Accountants Phoenix Chapter

Annual Report for 2016-2017 AGA Program Year

## I. Background

### Our Vision

The Phoenix Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants (AGA) actively creates an avenue for membership to share ideas with each other, to share knowledge and time with the community, and to promote the advancement of government standards and accountability within the profession.

### Our Mission

The Phoenix Chapter serves Arizona professionals in the government financial management community by providing quality, low-cost continuing education, promoting professional development and interaction among members, and fostering a commitment to community involvement as well as a sense of responsibility for advancing government accountability.

### Our Goals

- Provide high quality, low-cost continuing professional education to the membership and the government accounting community.
- Promote the value of AGA membership in order to retain and expand membership.
- Promote the value of the Certified Government Financial Management (CGFM) program.
- Promote government financial management to schools and colleges and become spokespersons for the advancement of government accountability through quality course offerings to students.
- Seek National AGA support for a consistent local web site format and the technical support necessary to provide a web based venue that the membership can use to research current information relating to the Phoenix chapter.
- Promote networking among membership at chapter events.
- Promote Executive Board membership in order to diversify our ideas and strengthen our focus.
- Expand AGA membership throughout the state.

## II. Executive Board

Our Chapter Officers and Committee Members, as part of the Executive Board, work together to create a professional organization for the government financial management community. Our Officers and Committee Members for the 2016-2017 Program Year were as follows:

## Officers:

Gergana Kovatcheva, CGFM	President
Michelle Huckabay, CGFM	President-Elect
Joshua Neidigh	Treasurer
Kim Prendergast, CGFM	Secretary
Joshua Consier	Past President

## Committee Chairs and Members:

Kim Prendergast, CGFM	Accountability Chair
Gergana Kovatcheva, CGFM	CGFM Committee Chair
Michelle Huckabay, CGFM, Mary Adelman, CGFM	Programs Committee Co-Chairs
John Schutter	Community Service Chair
Leslie DeReche, CGFM	Scholarship Committee Chair
Mary Adelman, CGFM	Membership Committee Chair
Michelle Huckabay, CGFM	Newsletter Editor
Keith Orr, CGFM	Education Committee Chair
Jerry Snyder, CGFM	Education Committee Member
Justin Poll, CGFM	Education Committee Member
Brittney Williams, CGFM	Education Committee Member
Anthony St. George	Education Committee Member
Karie Tepper/Joshua Consier	Webmaster

### III. Meetings

#### 1. Chapter Luncheon Meetings with Guest Speakers:

The Phoenix Chapter held monthly luncheon meetings, usually on the second Wednesday of the month. Meetings were usually held at SkySong meeting facilities. The cost for attending the regular monthly luncheon meetings was \$20.00 for members and \$35.00 for nonmembers. We were able to offer 24 hours of CPE over 11 meetings throughout the Program Year.

Date	Topic	Attendees
September 14, 2016	Avoiding Surprises & Assessing Risks: Building on Today's Internal Controls	31
October 12, 2016	Cybersecurity – The New Norm	34
November 16, 2016	Tools and Strategies for Fighting Fraud	34
December 7, 2016	Diversity	32
January 18, 2017	Municipal Bankruptcies: Lessons Learned	44
February 8, 2017	GASB	48
February 17, 2017	ASRS and Tax Updates	67
March 8, 2017	Uniform Guidance	35
April 12, 2017	Ethics	30
May 17, 2017	Boosting Your Cyber Health	32
June 14, 2017	Digital Evolution of the CFO	30
Grand Total		417

#### 2. Special Meetings:

Two special meetings were held during the Program Year: a four hour ethics class to allow Arizona CPA's to obtain required ethics CPE for CPA certification and the AGA Professional Development Conference (PDC), which provided eight hours of CPE on a variety of governmental topics. The Ethics class was held at the Maricopa Community Colleges District Office in conjunction with the Arizona Society of Certified Public Accountants (ASCPA), while the PDC was held at the Conference Center by Rio, at Rio Salado College, in Tempe, Arizona.

Date	Topic	Attendees
January 20, 2017	Ethics with ASCPA	41
March 31, 2017	AGA Phoenix Chapter Professional Development Conference	118
Grand Total		159

The PDC agenda is listed below:

Time	Topic	Presenter
7:30-8:00	Registration and Continental Breakfast	N/A
8:00-8:10	Welcome Address	Gergana Kovatcheva, President
8:10-9:00	Government Financial Reporting/Data Analytics and Visualization	Douglas A. Glenn, AGA National President
9:00-9:10	Break	N/A
9:10-10:00	Intro to Enterprise Risk Management	Heather J. R. Prudhomme, AGA Southwest Regional VP
10:00-10:10	Break	N/A
10:10-11:00	SAS and GASB Updates	Brittney Williams and Corey Arvizu, Heinfeld, Meech & Co., P.C.
11:00-11:10	Break	N/A
11:10-12:00	Evaluating and Reporting Audit Findings	Brittney Williams and Corey Arvizu, Heinfeld, Meech & Co., P.C.
12:00-12:30	Lunch	N/A
12:30-1:20	State Treasurer's Updates	Honorable Jeff DeWit, Arizona State Treasurer's Office
1:20-1:30	Break	N/A
1:30-3:10	IT Security Awareness	David Godfrey and Tim Hicks, Arizona Auditor General's Office
3:10-3:40	Break – Ice Cream Social	N/A
3:40-4:30	Partnership Opportunities within Internal Audit	Jody LaBenz, Maricopa County Community College District

### 3. Chapter Board Meetings

Our Chapter also held Chapter Board Meetings throughout the Program Year. Chapter Board Meetings started the Program Year off strong with a Leadership Retreat in August, 2016, followed by Board meetings in February and April, 2017. Chapter officer elections were held in March, 2017.

## IV. Community Service Projects

The Community Service Events were coordinated by John Schutter. The Community Service Committee chair is responsible for promoting and finding volunteers for community service projects, which allow members to contribute skills, labor, or funds to community based activities. Events this year included the following:

- Made a cash contribution to Phoenix Children's Hospital.
- Volunteered at the Ronald McDonald House in November 2017.
- Volunteered with VITA.

## V. Scholarships

The Phoenix Chapter attempts to sponsor scholarships each year to deserving students at Arizona colleges and universities. Scholarships are awarded to undergraduate (sophomore or higher) or graduate students in an accounting or financial management discipline who are interested in the pursuit of public financial management careers. This year our Chapter awarded one \$1,000 scholarship to a student identified for her academic excellence and community service achievements. The entire board served as members of the Scholarship Committee.

## VI. CGFM

This committee promotes and assists individuals in obtaining AGA's Certified Government Financial Manager certification. Gergana Kovatcheva was the Chair of the CGFM Committee. During the Program Year, the CGFM Committee made available CGFM exam study guides for members to borrow for exam preparation. The CGFM committee also offered scholarships to individuals who pass portions of the CGFM certification examination.

## VII. Membership

For the 2016-2017 Program Year, the Phoenix Chapter of AGA had 189 members, up slightly from 175 in 2015-2016. To increase our membership, we are reaching out to non-renewing members to see how we can meet their needs and reaching out to non-members to encourage them to join.

## VIII. Newsletters

The Phoenix Chapter published twelve newsletters in the 2016-2017 Program Year, between July 2016 and June 2017. The newsletters were produced by Michelle Huckabay, Newsletter Editor. Michelle informed members of upcoming events, training, and job opportunities.

## IX. Website

The Phoenix Chapter of AGA maintains a web site at <http://www.agaphoenix.org/>. The Webmaster, Karie Tepper, kept information on our website current. The website includes the Chapter Vision, Mission and Goals; How to become a member; Newsletters, Minutes, and Treasurer Reports; Community Service information; Scholarship information; Job Postings; and Contact information for Board Members, as well as AGA Nationals news. In April 2017, we transitioned the Chapter web site to the format sponsored by AGA National. Joshua Consier coordinated this event.

## X. Chapter Recognition Program

The Phoenix Chapter of AGA earned sufficient Chapter Recognition Points during the 2016-2017 Program Year to be the recipient of the Platinum Chapter Designation Award from AGA National.