



Our Mission

The AGA Boston Chapter serves professionals in the government financial management community by providing quality education, fostering professional development, and participating in local community projects for the enhancement of everyone in the New England area.

Our Vision

Be a collaborative and innovative organization that is future focused and committed to excellence in the government financial management arena.

We Work Together

Greetings fellow colleagues to our December newsletter!

It is hard to believe that the new year is almost here! Some upcoming events include the chapter's holiday party and AGA National's internal controls webinar. Please watch chapter pages on Facebook (@BostonAGA), LinkedIn, as well as upcoming chapter email communication for more details on these informative events.

If you are interested in volunteering with the chapter, please contact Benjamin Howe at benjaminrhowe@yahoo.com and he will forward your information to the appropriate chapter contacts. **The chapter is currently looking for a young professional member—someone with less than three years of any experience—who would be interested in volunteering on the chapter's executive committee for the remainder of the current program year. This person would serve as an adviser to the chapter president on issues affecting you and other young professionals.**

Volunteering with the chapter is a fun way to find out more about what is going on in the financial management profession, meet your colleagues, and help the chapter be the best place it can be!

We appreciate all your support! Have a wonderful and joyful holiday season!

Value in Membership

As an AGA member, you gain a variety of benefits designed to support your career growth and success. Hundreds of members love their AGA membership so much they have reached milestones of 20, 30, and even 40 years of membership!

For AGA membership information, visit <https://www.agacgfm.org/Membership.aspx>



AGA Boston Chapter's Mentoring Program

The Boston Chapter has an active mentoring program. This program brings together Chapter members interested in mentoring, as either a mentor or a mentee.

Want to learn more? Please visit

<https://www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/Boston-Chapter/Chapter-Resources/Mentoring.aspx>

Chapter Online Training Opportunities

The AGA Boston Chapter established a partnership with the Accounting Continuing Professional Education Network (ACPEN) to offer CPA-specific online training. The Chapter initiated this relationship because ACPEN is the largest provider of streaming video webinars for continuing education for CPAs in the U.S. ACPEN's CPA training sessions for September through December 2020 are now available for purchase on the Chapter's online library at <https://agaboston.ce21.com/>.

ACPEN webcasts are sponsored by the Business Professionals' Network, Inc. This network, which produces ACPEN programming, is registered with the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) as a sponsor of continuing professional education on the National Registry of CPE Sponsors. State boards of accountancy have final authority on the acceptance of individual courses for CPE credit. For more information on ACPEN, please visit <https://www.acpen.com/>.

The AGA Boston Chapter is also still offering replays of all fall and winter seminars held since 2016. All sessions are available for replay each Thursday from September through December 2020. For more information and to register for these events, please visit our online library at <https://agaboston.ce21.com/>.

Chapter Training Calendar

Online training classes - registration is open!

AGA National Webinar - Internal Controls - Cares Act

December 9, 2020

2 CPEs, Session - 2:00 to 3:35 PM

Cost: Members - \$15 Non Members - \$25



AGA National Webinar - Personal Development

December 16, 2020

1.5 CPEs, Session - 1:00 to 2:15 PM

Free for AGA members!

Contact: Joseph Valchuis

Email: jvalchuis@gmail.com

Telephone Inquiries: 617-744-3000

For more information, visit

<https://www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/Boston-Chapter/Training-Events/Event-Calendar.aspx>

SAVE THE DATES!

AGA Boston Webinar - Cyber Security

Clifton Larsen Allen (CLA)

January 21, 2021

2 CPEs

Leadership

Virtual Winter Seminar with the New England Intergovernmental Audit Forum

February 18, 2021

6 CPEs

More information on these events will be released soon. Check back and visit

<https://www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/Boston-Chapter/Training-Events/Event-Calendar.aspx>

Our Winter Holiday Party Is Going Virtual!

Please join us for **AGA Boston Chapter's Virtual Holiday Luncheon and Earn 1 CPE!**



Thursday, December 3, 2020 from 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM

This year COVID prevents us from hosting our annual holiday luncheon at Maggianos. However, we will host a virtual guest speaker through our 1 CPE charity fundraiser to benefit *Net of Compassion* of Worcester MA, a nonprofit organization, providing hot meals, clothing, and recovery programs to the homeless.

We welcome speaker **Michael G. Scott, Esq.**, Assistant District Attorney, Financial Crimes Unit for Bristol District Attorney's Office who will be presenting us with interesting **Fraud Cases**.

Proceeds from the registration fee will go directly to the *Net of Compassion* organization. Visit: www.netofcompassion.org for more information.

COST: \$15 Members/Non-Members

Your name could be chosen for door prize giveaways!

For Event Questions:

Contact: Marcia Luciano, Community Service

Email: marcia.r.luciano@state.ma.us

To register, visit

<https://www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/Boston-Chapter/Training-Events/Event-Calendar.aspx>



Community Service

The Boston Chapter Community Service Committee would like to encourage our members and friends to sponsor a wreath for the Holiday Season through Wreaths Across America, a 501(c)(3) organization. Their mission, each December, is to place a wreath on every veteran's grave throughout the United States.

You can sponsor a balsam wreath, in honor of a living veteran or in memory of those family/friends that have passed away. You can sponsor a wreath in memory of a non-veteran, too.

Our Chapter selected the MA National Cemetery at Bourne to place our wreaths. The last day to order a wreath is November 30, 2020. All wreaths will be placed on graves on Saturday, December 19, 2020. It is only \$15 to sponsor a wreath.

Please visit their website to order wreaths:

<https://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/MA0119>. You can also call 1-877-385-9504 to order wreaths (GROUP ID # MA0 119).

Please Note: When you are logged in website above, please remember to honor a relative/friend, go to Options - In Honor and Memory Of . .

OUR CHAPTER GROUP NAME: AGA-Boston Chapter

GROUP ID: MA0119

LOCATION NAME: Massachusetts National Cemetery at Bourne

LOCATION ID: MANCBO

Thank you!

Our committee will to continue our collections and volunteering! We will think outside the box with virtual volunteering and other initiatives. More information will be forthcoming in future newsletters. From all of us on the Chapter's Community Service Committee, thank you again and stay safe and healthy!

NEWS FROM NATIONAL

Intergov features AGA tools *by you, for you!* They are designed to help government financial management professionals do their jobs better. Intergov features tools that officials from any level of government can use to improve program performance and enhance accountability. These tools can be used to prevent fraud, reduce improper payments, improve outcomes, mitigate risk, and enhance collaboration. They can be used by auditors, accountants, grants managers, IT professionals, program managers and others.

<https://www.agacgfm.org/Tools-Resources/intergov.aspx>

AGA has launched the **AGA COVID-19 Resource Exchange** as a resource for our community, featuring thought leadership, training, tools, events and more to help you and your organization navigate this crisis. Please check back often, as the site will be updated as new information becomes available.

The Exchange Features:

- Government Resources
- AGA Corporate Partner Resources/Events
- AGA Chapter Resources/Events
- For First Responders
- Useful Articles
- AGA Session Videos to Inspire You
- AGA Session Videos to Increase Productivity
- And More!

[AGA COVID-19 Resource Exchange](#)

Online Store is Open!

The AGA Boston Chapter [online store](#) for purchasing goods and supplies with our logo is open.

[Visit the Store Today!](#)



[Renew AGA Membership Today!](#)

[AGA Event Calendar](#)

[AGA Virtual Training](#)

[AGA Online Training Resources](#)

AGA Boston Chapter Corporate Partners



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Gold Sponsor

RSM's purpose is to deliver the power of being understood to our clients, colleagues and communities through world-class audit, tax and consulting services focused on middle market businesses. The clients we serve are the engine of global commerce and economic growth, and we are focused on developing leading professionals and services to meet their evolving needs in today's ever-changing business environment.

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CLA (CliftonLarsenAllen LLP)

Gold Sponsor

CLA exists to create opportunities for our clients, our people, and our communities through industry-focused wealth advisory, outsourcing, audit, tax, and consulting services. With more than 6,200 people, 120 U.S. locations and a global affiliation, we promise to know you and help you.

We are dedicated to building an inclusive culture that thrives on different beliefs and perspectives. By welcoming and respecting our clients and each other, we can all experience success. For more information visit CLAconnect.com and/or connect with [CLA on LinkedIn](#).



Corporate Sponsorship Program – THANKS to RSM & CLA

Our Boston Chapter would like to THANK RSM and CLA (CliftonLarsenAllen) for their partnership as a Gold Sponsor this past year. We greatly appreciate their patronage to aid our Chapter in serving professionals in the government financial management community by helping us provide quality education, foster professional development, and participate in local community projects for the enhancement of everyone in the New England area. Their staff has done a marvelous job in supporting our Education program by providing speakers for our education events. In addition, RSM and CLA have provided staff to assist our Chapter Executive Committee (CEC) to better serve its members. The Program goal is to have both the Chapter and the for-profit entity benefit from the partnership by working together to ensure each other's success. The firm gets visibility and access, branding with a respected organization, such as the Boston Chapter, and the opportunity to showcase their subject matter expertise. As we move forward to enhance our Corporate Sponsorship Program, we are always looking for new ideas to expand and improve the program. An enhanced program will help us to continue offering great educational programs and services by increasing non-dues revenue, increase and diversify our membership roster, attract new speakers, and enlist additional volunteers.

Please contact **Bill Muench** at william.muench@comcast.net or (508) 259-3382 to discuss any ideas you may have, or for more information about corporate partnership sponsor opportunities with the AGA Boston Chapter.

Colleagues in Our Area

National Council of Chapters Representatives near us

Benton W. Cash

Aroostook County Chapter
Benton.w.cash.civ@mail.mil

Dan Bonnette, CPA

Boston Chapter Dan.bonnette@rsmus.com

Brian E. Gee

New York Capital Chapter
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Melissa Jones

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Joseph H. Connolly, CFE, CICA,
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Kiersten Kokotajlo, CFE, CICA
Trenton Chapter
kkokotajlo@njleg.org

Citizen-Centric Reporting

The Association of Government Accountants, the thought leader for the government accountability profession, evaluates reports for the Certificate of Excellence in Citizen-Centric Reporting award.

AGA determines award recipients based on content, visual appeal, readability, distribution, and timeliness of reporting.

Interested in learning more? Visit
www.agacgfm.org/ccr



2020–2021 Officers & Directors

Chapter President Benjamin R. Howe, CFE	Chapter President-Elect Julie A. O'Sullivan, CFS
Immediate Past President Craig C. Hall, MPA	Secretary Jane Gustowski, CPA
National Council of Chapters Representative Daniel Bonnette, CPA	Chapter Treasurer Jeffrey A. Benbenek, CGAP
Accountability Outreach Christina M. Lento	Community Service Marcia R. Luciano
Programs & Education Joseph N. Valchuis, CGFM	Membership & Early Career Programs Elaine M. Silva, CFS
Audit Shana C. Doiron	Awards Jonathan L. Markowski
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