



ALBUQUERQUE CHAPTER

Albuquerque AGA January 2016

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Albuquerque Chapter Members,

We are now more than halfway through our 2015/2016 Program Year. It is amazing how fast the time has flown by. Before long it will be time to put away the snow skis and heavy jackets and begin making plans for the summer.

The current plans of our Chapter Executive Committee involve providing our members with a great finish to what has been an outstanding program year. We are hard at work preparing for our annual Professional Development Training (PDT), which will be held in March at the Buffalo Thunder Resort and Casino in Santa Fe. This event, conducted jointly with the New Mexico Chapter, is our premier training event for the year. We already have an exciting speaker line-up prepared. We will also be offering a CGFM exam prep course the day before the PDT to provide assistance to those pursuing their CGFM certification. Please stay tuned for more information on these, and other, upcoming events.

An email was sent out to our membership requesting input on how we can improve our Chapter's website. Please take a few minutes to complete this brief survey as improving the quality of the services we offer to our members is always our highest priority. We value the input we receive from each of you on how we can improve our online tools and services to better meet your needs.

Thanks you again for your participation in making this program year a success. As always, it is my honor and privilege to serve the Albuquerque professional community.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Brown, CPA, CGFM
Albuquerque Chapter President



**Find Us On
Facebook**

[https://www.facebook.com/
groups/AGAABQ/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/AGAABQ/)



Welcome New Members!

- ♦ **Ms. Marlene Acosta** - Office of Superintendent of Insurance
 - ♦ **Mrs. Jennifer Ciolek** - NNSA
 - ♦ **Mr. Andres Gamez** - CliftonLarsonAllen LLP
 - ♦ **Mr. Lawrence Holmes** - NM Workforce Solutions Financial Mgmt.
Bureau
 - ♦ **Ms. Annette San Roman** - Sandia National Laboratory
 - ♦ **Ms. Sara K. Specht** - USAF
 - ♦ **Mrs. Anna M. Alexander** - REDW LLC
-

Membership Renewal

It's Membership and Certification renewal time!

Renew your membership and CGFM online today:

- Log in with your User Name and password at www.agacgfm.org
- Select the "Proceed to Checkout" at the bottom of the invoice to renew online.

Important CGFM renewal information

To maintain the CGFM certification in an active status, CGFMs are required to:

- Pay the CGFM annual renewal fee by **March 31**.
- Complete at least 80 hours of continuing professional education (CPE) in government financial management topics or related technical subjects within each designated two-year cycle.
- Maintain and, if requested by AGA, provide detailed information on CPE hours completed.

We have **10%** of the Chapter who have already renewed for the 2016-2017 program year – join their ranks now!



February Seminar Announcement

Ethics and Communication

Our next seminar will be held on Monday, February 22 from 1pm-5pm at the Crowne Plaza in Albuquerque. One of our favorite presenters, Leon Young will be here speaking on Communications and Ethics. The interactive Communications portion of the session will cover the components and techniques of communicating effectively in today's workplace. We will discuss both the verbal and non-verbal aspects of communication, review how tone, body language, and the words we use effect communication and explore the techniques of communicating both upward and downward organizationally.

Ethics in today's workplace is an increasingly important concern. This presentation will describe the ethical responsibility of all employees as well as issues we all face in the workplace. We will discuss the principles of ethical behavior and the role of documentation, policy, and openness. We will talk about the risk taking part of Ethics as well as the thinking and judgment components.

Monday, February 22 2016

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Crowne Plaza - Albuquerque

1901 University Blvd NW, Albuquerque, NM 87102

\$50 for members | \$65 for non-members

Provides 4 hours CPE

**RSVP to Marla Gorena at mgorena@rpccllp.com or
505.883.2727**



AGA Professional Development Training

March 17th and 18th 2016

What's **Hot** and What's Not in Government Accountability

Short List of Confirmed Speakers / Topics

(see [website](#) for complete listing)

- GAO Director James Dalkin - GAO Update
- State Auditor Tim Keller - Government Accountability in New Mexico
- Dept of the Interior Deputy CFO / AGA National President-Elect Douglas Glenn - Data Analysis
- Sarita Nair & Sanjay Bhakta of the Office of the State Auditor - OSA Hot Topics: Cash Reconciliation Issues, Activity Funds, Fund Balance Classifications, School Personnel Act, and GASB 77
- JF Nagel of Sandia National Labs - Valuing Critical Review
- Jeff Brown, Arelene Stamper & Donna Sandoval - Cost Allocation Models
- Marty Mathisen of Atkinson + Co. - GASB 74 and 75 Reporting Health Insurance and Other Retiree Benefits
- Scott Phillips of Ekde Bailly - GASB 77 Tax Abatement & GASB 72 Fair Value Measurement
- Tristan Walters of Sandia National Labs - Project Management Applied in Major Financial Initiatives
- Jane Tinker of CliftonLarsonAllen - Uniform Grant Guidance
- Jamie Rumbaoa of Moss Adams - IT Audits

Don't wait, register today!

PDT - 8 hours CPE/day

AGA Members: \$250

Non Members: \$300

CGFM Day - 6 hours CPE

AGA Members: \$60

Non Members: \$85

<https://aganm.eventsmart.com>

or visit us at agaabo.org and click 2016 PDT

Buffalo Thunder Hotel & Casino

30 Buffalo Thunder Trail

Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87506

\$85/night

with code: AGANM

<http://buffalothunderresort.com>

or call 505-455-5555

Contact Donna Sandoval at donna.sandoval@state.nm.us or Maria Gorena at migorena@rpcilp.com with questions.

Recap of the November luncheon

On November 19th, the Albuquerque Chapter conducted the luncheon training "Business Etiquette: Professionalism and Consideration" at Pappadeaux Seafood Kitchen. The training, provided by Heather Prudhomme, CPA, CGFM, CGMA, addressed the commonly overlooked topic of what is considered to be proper etiquette in a business environment. This training was of value to professionals of all career levels, from students attempting to secure their first professional employment positions, to senior managers who routinely interact with high-profile clients. We are all familiar with the statement "you never get a second chance to make a first impression". Those participating in the training gained an increased understanding of how to better represent themselves as professionals, and make lasting positive impressions.



Other AGA Training Opportunities

Dates & Deadlines



View registration information for the following training at
<https://www.agacgfm.org/Training-and-Events>

January ERM Event Recap

On January 20th and 21st, attendees were treated to a great couple days about auditing Enterprise Risk Management. Instructor Greg Duckert kept his audience entertained and amused with stories of real risk traps he has encountered in his risk assessment practice. Mr. Duckert provided many great takeaway lessons for considering ERM on a go-forward basis, many of which can even be applied in our personal lives.

A major theme of discussion was that of striving for great outcomes, as opposed to great outputs. This perspective can make quite a difference in the assessment of effectiveness and efficiency. The ultimate measure focus is on the quality of the end event, and not just the event occurrence. By slowing down to take a closer look at what is being measured, the risk potential can be tightened and managed. Major risks become easily defined as the inverse of the desired outcome.

Some other key points necessary to create a full ERM system are the geographic mapping of an entity, the definition of desired outcomes, measurable data, and ongoing assessment. Using these points, risks can be mapped to a specific point in each entity that can implement change to achieve better outcomes. It is essential that the model be flexible to adapt to new variables and emerging risks. There also must be accountability built into the overall model so that risks are actively managed and mitigated as they are identified.

We were fortunate to have the assessment caliber of Mr. Duckert come to visit and share the aspects of a functional ERM model. Some of his personal stories showed risk assessment and outcomes in ways that were on the horrific side of an effective model, and we appreciate his candor in sharing them with us for our continued education.



CGFM Corner

It's Certification Renewal Time! Here are some tips to keep you up to date about maintenance:

Annual Renewal Requirement

All active CGFMs must renew their certification annually. At the beginning of each year, invoices will be sent to all active CGFMs. Annual CGFM renewal payments are due by **March 31**. AGA reserves the right to periodically adjust the renewal rates of **\$30** for AGA members and **\$65** for nonmembers. AGA membership is not required for the CGFM certification; however, AGA members who do not wish to renew their AGA membership must pay the nonmember CGFM renewal fee of **\$65.00**.

By submitting their annual renewal payment, CGFMs affirm that they have and will continue to abide by AGA's [Code of Ethics](#) and that they have fulfilled the [minimum CPE requirements](#).

CGFMs must promptly notify AGA of any change of mailing address. It is the responsibility of each CGFM to pay the annual CGFM renewal fee, even if that individual did not receive an invoice from AGA.

Continuing Professional Education (CPE) Requirements

All active CGFMs are required to complete at least 80 hours of continuing professional education (CPE) every two years in government financial management topics or related technical subjects. The 80 CPE hours must be completed within the CGFM's two-year CPE cycle. The two-year CPE cycle depends on the year the CGFM was awarded. The award date can be found on the CGFM certificate. You can use the table below to determine your CPE cycle.

CPE Rule of Thumb: If the CGFM was awarded in an even year, every CPE cycle will also end on an even year (Exception: 1994 follows the odd years schedule).

If your CGFM was awarded in 1994/1995, 1997, 1999, 2001, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013 or 2015:

Your current CPE Cycle is 01/01/2016 – 12/31/2017

If your CGFM was awarded in 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012 or 2014:

Your current CPE Cycle is 01/01/2015 – 12/31/2016

If your CGFM was awarded in 2016:

Your 1st CPE Cycle will be 01/01/2017 - 12/31/2018

CGFMs do not need to submit supporting documentation of the CPE hours at the time of renewal. The payment itself serves as the CGFM's affirmation of his or her compliance with the CPE requirements. CGFMs are required to maintain supporting documentation on CPE hours earned for a minimum of three years and provide it to AGA upon request. This documentation may be requested by AGA as part of the annual audit of a random sample of CGFMs.

Waivers or extensions on earning CPE hours are granted on an individual case basis. All requests for waivers must be sent in writing to AGA's Office of Professional Certification no later than April 30 in the year following the end of the two-year CPE cycle.

Don't Forget! To retain the CGFM certification, all CGFMs must adhere to the AGA's Code of Ethics. In addition, to continue using the CGFM designation after their name, CGFMs must be in an active status.





Recruit New Members and Win Prizes!

AGA Member-Get-A-Member Campaign

Recruit new members now for AGA's Member-Get-A-Member campaign and everyone wins! You get a chance to win prizes and your recruits get to enjoy the many benefits of AGA membership.

Who and How to Recruit

Any of your colleagues who work in government accountability are eligible for AGA membership, including accounting, budgeting, financial management, grants, IT, auditing, reporting, fraud, and administration.

When recruiting new members, keep these tips in mind to make it easy on yourself and the recruits: print out membership applications in advance, refer colleagues to the AGA web site, have a copy of AGA's *Journal* handy, tell your colleagues about how you have benefited from AGA, invite colleagues to come to an AGA chapter event, be sure to make yourself available for questions, and follow up with colleagues on their membership interest.

Be sure to let recruits know about the many benefits of AGA membership, including continuing professional education; networking opportunities; keeping up-to-date on current issues, the latest technologies, and financial systems through AGA events and publications; professional guidance and certification; leadership opportunities through committee involvement; and award and scholarship opportunities. Members also receive discounted rates to the annual PDC and other professional development opportunities.

Help AGA Grow

New members help AGA to further develop and become an even stronger organization that can better serve member needs. New members enrich our local chapters with their knowledge and resources. Through their dedication to government accountability, they advance our profession. Be sure to let potential new members know how AGA can benefit their career.

For more information on prizes and other membership details, contact

christopher.gregory@claconnect.com or visit the AGA website:

<https://www.agacgfm.org/Membership/Recruit-a-Member.aspx>

MISSION STATEMENT

Albuquerque AGA serves government accountability professionals by providing quality education, fostering professional development and certification, and supporting standards and research to advance government accountability.

www.agacgfm.org

AGA CORE VALUES

Service, Accounta-
bility, Integrity,
Leadership



ALBUQUERQUE CHAPTER

2015-2016 AGA Albuquerque Chapter Executive Committee

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National Leadership Training

2016

February 23–24 | 14 CPE

Washington or virtual