



Volume 14-01 September 2014

## President's Message

### CONNECTING FOR GOLD

Greetings fellow AGA members. As your new chapter president, let's start the program year with a challenge: "Can we connect more?"

### CONNECTING - "Coffee with Ken"

As professionals who seek better government accountability and performance, most of us have our plates full with a host of tasks at work, home and community. Yet there are so many benefits to connecting with new colleagues. Please consider attending our monthly CPE-granting lunchtime meetings, but let's also find other ways to connect. As a professor, I'm used to having "office hours"

with my students. Some of the time we meet to discuss assignments, but the best times are when we talk about their career aspirations and how to get the students in better positions to reach those dreams. For AGA, I'm going to do something similar, having "Coffee with Ken" time every week. I'm happy to come to your location - and can meet just about any time of day. I'd love to hear about your career path so far, and how the AGA can help you get in a better position to reach your dreams. Look for an invitation in your inbox shortly.

### THE GOLD STANDARD

I've been active with AGA for a decade, though only in the Seattle chapter for 4 years. I'm proud of the history of our chapter and want you to share in the celebration of our

*(Continued on page 6)*

### Upcoming Events

Please join us at the GAO Training Room, 28th Floor of the Columbia Center, on 9/22/2014 for 1 hour CPE provided by David Hammond, Sound Transit Internal Auditor.

### Inside this issue:

2013-2014 Monthly Meetings	2
AGA Activities	3-6
Announcements	7
Financial Report	8
Board Members	9

Please join us at our September 2014 CPE presentation and brown bag lunch

**When/Where**

Monday September 22, 2014, 11:00 am - 12:30 pm

GAO Training Room, Columbia Center, 701 Fifth Ave, 28th Floor. Sound Transit Internal Audit Risk Assessment

Lunches will be provided for \$15. MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS PAY ONLY: \$5 - Special discounted price for members and non-members Please **RSVP** by **Friday, 09/19/14** to [bohanp@gao.gov](mailto:bohanp@gao.gov)



### **AGA Seattle Chapter's Monthly Meeting Schedule for Program Year 2014-2015**

Save the dates for our monthly education events for program year 2014-2015! Please join us at these luncheon and brown bag events and help us make this program year a success.

**Monday, September 22, 2014 - GAO 28th Floor Training Facility, Columbia Tower,**

David Hammond CPA, Director of the Sound Transit Internal Audit

Topic: Sound Transit Internal Audit Risk Assessment.

**Monday, October 20, 2014 - GAO 28th Floor Training Facility, Columbia Tower.**

Nancy Krier, Assistant Washington State Attorney General for Open Government

Topic: Overview of the Washington State Public Records Act

**Monday, November 17, 2014 - GAO 28th Floor Training Facility, Columbia Tower.**

Daniel Masterson, Sheri Sawyer, and Shawn Looney, Washington State Auditor's Office

Topic: Confronting Local Government Financial Health with a New Tool from the State Auditor's Office

**Wednesday, December 10, 2014 - GAO 28th Floor Training Facility, Columbia Tower.**

AGA Web Conference on Ethics

**Monday, January 12, 2015 - GAO 28th Floor Training Facility, Columbia Tower.**

Tina Polf CPA

Topic: 2014 Tax Update

**Wednesday, February 4 or 18, 2015 (TBD) - GAO 28th Floor Training Facility,**

AGA web conference

**Wednesday, March 4 or 18, 2015 (TBD) - GAO 28th Floor Training Facility,**

AGA web conference

**Monday & Tuesday, April 20 - 21, 2015 - Governmental Accounting & Auditing Conference**

Tacoma Convention Center with satellite locations in Everett and Spokane and webinar option.

**Monday, May 18, 2015 - Columbia Tower Club - Emerald Award presentation**

## Seattle Chapter CGFM Plan 2014 - 2015

Certification is a critical part of the AGA Mission and a major focus of the organization. Chapter involvement and support of the Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) program is essential and necessary for the continued success of the program. In addition to conducting a brief but meaningful internal assessment of lessons learned and enhancements needed from the prior operating year, the Seattle Chapter shall support CGFMs in the following manner.

### **I. Support current CGFMs**

A. Assist CGFMs to meet 80 hours of Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credits biannually. When possible the Chapter shall:

1. Provide courses and other trainings that meet CGFM CPE requirements.
2. Identify CPE opportunities from sources outside the chapter including local seminars, Internet courses, and self-study and promote either on Chapter website or in newsletter.
3. Promote awareness of CPE requirements.

B. Publish CGFM members' achievements in Chapter newsletter and on the Chapter website.

C. Market educational events to the government accountability community, members, and nonmembers.

D. When possible, partner with other Professional Organizations or Governmental Entities to promote the CGFM designation.

E. Encourage CGFM renewals through personal contact, letters, newsletters, or websites.

F. Recognize local CGFMs by:

1. Using the CGFM designation in chapter publications, name tags, etc.
2. Publicizing new CGFMs in chapter and local publications.

### **II. Market CGFM service mark locally**

When possible, the Chapter will Contact area government accountability leaders to promote the CGFM.

Create awareness of the value of the CGFM service mark in the general public.

Encourage area employers to change policies to recognize the CGFM.

Encourage the endorsement of the CGFM from area employers, elected officials, or principals.

Encourage the setting of specific Chapter goals to promote the CGFM in its area.

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Seattle Chapter CGFM Plan (Continued)

### III. Assist potential new CGFMs in attaining certification

When possible or desired, the Chapter will: Offer CGFM courses Sponsor Study

### IV. Using chapter resources to work with CGFM certification

The CGFM coordinator will:

Communicate with the Chapter and the Governmental Community promoting the CGFM.

Arrange for the contribution of items to the Chapter Newsletter and the Chapter website such as the CGFM recognition, Study Suggestions, Encouragement, Technical Requirements, tip of the month, etc. Attempt to retain CGFMs as Chapter members.

## Looking for a reason to join the AGA?

The AGA's website ([agacgfm.org](http://agacgfm.org)) includes best practices and helpful articles on career development, including Interview Tips:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 4 Sticky Interview Questions and How to Handle Them            | 10 Tips to Boost Your Interview Skills                              |
| 5 Things to Bring to a Job Interview                           | 10 Tough Questions for Older Workers                                |
| 5 Things to Say in a Job Interview                             | 11 Interview Questions Hiring Managers Ask to Test Your Personality |
| 5 Things that will Get You Blacklisted from a Job              | Always be Your Best   |
| 5 Things You Must Not Do in an Interview and 5 Things You Must | Best & Worst Colors to Wear to a Job Interview                      |
| 7 Most Common Interview Questions                              | Dress for Success: How to Choose Your Outfit for an Interview       |
| 7 Tips focused on how to have a successful job interview       | Follow Up After the Interview for the Win                           |
| 7 Questions to Ask During a Job Interview                      | Good Call: How to Make a Positive Impression on the Phone           |
| 8 Lies Interviewers Tell Job Candidates                        | How to Answer to Top 50 Interview Questions                         |
| 9 Memorable Questions to Ask at Your Interview                 | Impress Job Interviewers with the Best Questions                    |
| 10 Things Not To Do In An Interview                            |   |

AGA Board Appreciation Dinner, Salty's Restaurant West Seattle  
July 2014



Each year the AGA Seattle Chapter pays for a meal to acknowledge the work of the board members. This year's attendees were: Left to Right: Alex Pheng Savath\*, Diane MaKaeli, Sam Lord, Ken Smith, John Kurpierz, Judy Dobler\*, Karyn Angelo, Tim Dobler, Gabrielle Sivage, Tom Moscovith\*, Jessica Grey and Pat Bohan (\*Guests and alcohol are billed separately.)



On July 16, 2014, AGA National President Mary E. Peterman, CGFM, CPA, presented the Chapter Recognition Award to Seattle Board Member Sam Lord at the AGA's Annual Professional Development Training held in Orlando, FL.

## President's Message

(Continued from Page 1)

success. We recently earned the BRONZE award at the national meeting (see picture on page 5) for the 2013-2014 program year. Many individuals participated in the activities that led to this award - thanks especially to the board members and to Tim Dobler for serving as President last year. For the upcoming year, the Board has agreed to aim for the GOLD award. This will require us to do a few more activities and to be more visible. These are all great things for us and for the governments/constituents that we serve. We can do this - and we appreciate the support from every member of the chapter. Please see below for openings on the board or for projects where additional help can be used.

ACCOUNTABILITY - Live chat....what does it mean do you?

The AGA has members from a wide range of accounting, auditing, and accountability professions. I've always known what accounting and auditing represented, but the notion of accountability is something a bit newer. Perhaps you have some thoughts on accountability and how it has changed over the years. If you'd be interested, I'd love to have a live chat on this subject. There are surely other topics or news events that would be fun/useful to discuss among other AGA members. Please think about discussion topics - and share them via my e-mail [ksmith5002@yahoo.com](mailto:ksmith5002@yahoo.com) or text/mobile 503-428-0994.

This will be another great year in Seattle. Thank you for your involvement.

Sincerely, Ken Smith, Chapter President

### MEMBERS SOUGHT TO FILL CHAIR OPENINGS ON THE SEATTLE CHAPTER BOARD OR FOR PROJECTS

**Accountability**

**Awards**

**Chapter Recognition**

**Education \***

**Historian**

**Meeting Coordinator \***

**Treasurer \***

\* Pat Bohan currently serves as our Meeting Coordinator, Treasurer, and as Chair for Education. Pat intends to retire soon. Co-occupants of these positions are sought to assure a smooth transition.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### NEW REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Mr. Brandon Purcell, CGFM has accepted the Regional Vice President position for AGA's Northwest Region, which includes the Seattle Chapter. Mr. Purcell is Chief, Bureau of Reporting & Review, State of Idaho Division of Statewide Accounting, within the Idaho Office of the State Controller.

Mr. Purcell replaces our previous Regional Vice President, Lealan Miller, Partner, Eide Bailly LLP.

Messrs. Purcell and Miller are both members of the Idaho Centennial Chapter of the AGA, located in Boise, Idaho.

Regional Vice Presidents are appointed for one-year terms. Candidates are now being sought for the 2015-2016 term year. Please submit nominations (self or otherwise) to [GOVERNENCE@AGACGFM.org](mailto:GOVERNENCE@AGACGFM.org) or contact Joyce Carter at 703-684-6931.

Central Washington University is sponsoring an Accounting Career Event on Friday, September 26, in Des Moines, WA. Organizations wishing to co-sponsor the AGA's table to present government opportunities may contact Ken Smith at [kensmith@uw.edu](mailto:kensmith@uw.edu).

### PHOTOS WANTED

We like to decorate the first page of THE SOUNDER with a local photo each month.

If you have a picture to contribute, please send it to Tim Dobler, [DOBLER5@MSN.COM](mailto:DOBLER5@MSN.COM), and we will acknowledge you in the credits on the back page.

The **Pacific Northwest Intergovernmental Audit Forum** (PNIAF) is meeting from Wednesday to Friday, September 24-26, 2014, at the Hotel Grand Pacific, 463 Belleville Street, Victoria, B.C. Canada. PNIAF will offer 16 CPEs at a cost of \$300 (US Dollar). Meals (reception on Wednesday and lunch on Thursday) are included. Coffee, tea, and juice will be served each morning.

For information about the meeting and registration, visit the event website at <https://www.regonline.com/PNIAF2014Victoria> Please register with PNIAF no later than Monday, September 15, 2014. Online registration is the preferred method, however, should you need a registration form emailed to you, please contact Sylvia Woo at [woos@gao.gov](mailto:woos@gao.gov) or 415-904-2214.

## Seattle AGA Chapter Financial Statements as of August 31, 2014

	7/1/14 to 6/30/2015 Actual	7/1/14 to 6/30/2015 Budget
<b>INFLOWS</b>		
Joint Conferences	\$3,311.52	\$3,311.00
Chapter dues	\$64.00	\$250.00
Interest income	\$3.84	\$20.00
Other Income-Board dinner reimbursed for significant others	\$250.28	\$309.00
National Scholarships-Early Careers	\$0.00	
Luncheon Receipts	\$20.00	\$1,500.00
<b>TOTAL INFLOWS</b>	<b>\$3,649.64</b>	<b>\$5,390.00</b>
<b>OUTFLOWS</b>		
Board Dinner Costs	\$740.51	\$1,000.00
Speaker Gifts	\$0.00	\$125.00
Emerald Award	\$0.00	\$65.00
Membership for Webmaster	\$0.00	\$155.00
Monthly lunch costs	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Other Expenses (Non-profit report to Sec. WA State)	\$0.00	\$10.00
PDC travel costs for President-Elect to attend	\$228.65	\$1,500.00
Other Educational Events & Scholarships-Early Career		\$350.00
Symposium Raffle Gift	\$0.00	\$65.00
Web Conference Trainings	\$0.00	\$578.00
Website annual fee	\$0.00	\$250.00
<b>TOTAL OUTFLOWS</b>	<b>\$969.16</b>	<b>\$5,598.00</b>
<b>TOTAL CHANGE</b>	<b>\$2,680.48</b>	<b>(208.00)</b>
August 31, 2014 Balances		
<b>ASSETS - CASH</b>		<b>LIABILITIES</b>
Checking - .10% interest	\$6,009.00	
Savings - .10% interest	\$2,633.92	<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>
12 month CD - .35% interest	\$4,618.66	\$0.00
Total Assets	\$13,259.58	<b>MEMBERS' EQUITY</b>
		\$13,259.58
		<b>Liabilities + Members' Equity</b>
		\$13,259.58





## The Sounder

WE'RE ON THE WEB:

[WWW.AGASEATTLE.ORG](http://WWW.AGASEATTLE.ORG)

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

The purpose of the Association and the Chapter is to be an international, professional organization dedicated to the advancement of government financial management. The Association shall serve its members by providing or sponsoring appropriate educational programs, encouraging professional development, influencing governmental financial management policies and practices, and serving as an advocate for the profession. The Association shall serve government officials and the public by sponsoring efforts to ensure full and fair accountability for all public monies, and by providing a variety of pro bono services throughout the United States and its territories that support that end.

## AGA Seattle Chapter 2014-2015 Board Members

### President

Ken Smith PhD  
206-616-8698  
[kensmith@uw.edu](mailto:kensmith@uw.edu)

### President-Elect

Diane MaKaeli  
206-616-8698  
[kensmith@uw.edu](mailto:kensmith@uw.edu)

### Membership Chair

Mary Ann Hardy  
  
[hardym@gao.gov](mailto:hardym@gao.gov)

### CGFM Chair

Gabrielle Sivage, Altruist Mgt.  
202-277-8250  
[gsivage@gmail.com](mailto:gsivage@gmail.com)

### Treasurer, Meeting Coordinator, & Education Chair

Pat Bohan, U.S. GAO  
206-287-4824  
[bohan@agaseattle.org](mailto:bohan@agaseattle.org)

### Secretary

Karyn Angulo, U.S. GAO  
206-287-4868  
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### Early Careers Chair

John Kurpierz, University of WA  
[JohnRKurpierz@gmail.com](mailto:JohnRKurpierz@gmail.com)

### Community Service Chair

Sam Lord, HHS OIG  
206-615-2257  
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### Newsletter Editor

Tim Dobler, Retired  
206-364-3499  
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### Research Chair

Elizabeth Naftchi, U.S. HHS  
[elizabeth.naftchi@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:elizabeth.naftchi@acf.hhs.gov)

*This newsletter was produced by board member Tim Dobler with the assistance of Karyn Angulo. Thanks to board members who contributed articles and photos for this issue and to our webmaster, Gabrielle Sivage, for maintaining our chapter website. Masthead Photo "Public Market at Sunset" was donated by Board Member Diane MaKaeli.*