



March 2020 Newsletter

President's Message:

March Theme: CGFM Certification – Your Building “Permit”

Greetings AGA Greater Columbus Chapter members! Welcome to March - “in like a lion, out like a lamb”. Daylight saving time begins Sunday, March 8th and Spring is officially here on March 19th. The debate continues as to whether folks like the time change twice a year or whether we should just stay on one “time” all year round, but I’ll appreciate seemingly longer days. Though as they say, each day has 24 hours ☺

March is a very special month for AGA, it is Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) month! Each year we recognize our Chapter’s members who have earned their CGFM certifications and continue to promote the CGFM Program to members and non-members. The CGFM certification is like a “building permit” in your accounting and finance road to success. Earning the certification shows your level of dedication to the field and “recognizes the specialized knowledge and experience needed to be an effective government financial manager. Being a CGFM allows you to expand your career opportunities and distinguishes you from others in your field”. (AGA National website)



We have some exciting educational events scheduled this month. In collaboration with the ASMC Buckeye Chapter, our Greater Columbus Chapter is co-hosting the Spring 2020 Professional Development Training (PDT) on March 19th. This is an excellent opportunity to hear from a variety of experts in the field, earn up to 7 CPEs/CETs, and network with other attendees. There are also 3 webinars in March - March 4th on Improper Payments and March 25th on Cybersecurity, along with a members-only webinar on March 18th for the AGA Annual Women’s Leadership webinar – these webinars are opportunities to earn another 6 CPEs/CETs!

Chapter Officer Elections and the OSU Football Spring game are right around the corner – stay tuned for more details on how you can step up in service to our great AGA Chapter! We’ll be looking for volunteers for the game. This game, along with working the Spring Commencement and the Fall football games, are our largest means of fundraising, which helps to fund scholarships and cover our chapter expenses. Becoming a Chapter Officer or Committee Co-Director is a great way to hone your leadership and communication skills.

To see how to earn your CGFM “building permit”, please check out the link below on the AGA national website. <https://www.agacgm.org/CGFM-Certification.aspx>

“The window of opportunity for mitigation opens with every permit application” – Author Unknown
Sincerely,

Barb Bail
Chapter President, Greater Columbus AGA

Treasurer's Report – as of February 28, 2020

Checking Balance: \$15,034.47 (↓ \$19.00)

Savings Balance: \$1,058.61 (No Change)

Certificate of Deposit: \$10,120.77 (↑ \$13.64)

What You Need To Know

Get Involved

Our Greater Columbus chapter currently has CEC Openings. Not interested in a position but want to help out? Serve on a Committee! We'd love to have you involved and it's a great way to build you resume. Contact any chapter leaders or greatercolumbusaga@gmail.com if you're interested.

New Members

Greater Columbus AGA would like to welcome our newest members: Mr. Bradley Lutz, Ms. Toylise Moore, and Ms. Mario Resto-Gonzalez! Thank you for joining the chapter.

Amazon SMILE

For all your Amazon purchases, shop at smile.amazon.com, and choose Greater Columbus Association Of Government Accountants as your preferred charitable organization. Instructions are at <https://www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/Greater-Columbus-Chapter/Our-Chapter/Chapter-News/Help-Support-our-Chapter-with-Amazon-Smile!.aspx>

Become a CGFM

Consider studying and taking the tests to become a Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM).

Having this certification gives you a leg up when seeking promotions in the Federal Government! For more info, contact Ayisha King or Glenn Weimar or visit <https://www.agacgfm.org/CGFM-Certification.aspx>

Kroger Plus Community Rewards

Don't forget to help out our chapter with your Kroger Plus Card with Community Rewards! Find Instructions on our website at <https://www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/GreaterColumbus/Our-Chapter/Chapter-News/Kroger-Community-Rewards.aspx>

Keep Your AGA Information Up To Date

If you've recently changed your contact information, such as your e-mail address, please update your profile at www.agacgfm.org, so you can continue to receive communications from the chapter and AGA National. Contact Will Kays if you have problems receiving communications messages.

Remember: AGA is THE member organization for government financial management professionals. We lead and encourage change that benefits our field and all citizens. Our networking events, professional certification, publications and ongoing education help members build their skills and advance their careers.

Chapter Scholarship Information Available

Know a high school or college student who could use some extra help on paying tuition?

The Greater Columbus AGA Chapter is offering three scholarships to individuals who successfully complete the required application and essay, obtain a professional reference and are currently graduating from high school or pursuing higher education (Undergraduate/Graduate) at a college within the state of Ohio or are an Ohio resident.

Deadline to register is Monday, April 13, 2020. For more details and to download the application, please visit: <https://www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/Greater-Columbus-Chapter/Our-Chapter/Chapter-News/AGA-Scholarship-Information-Available.aspx>

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance – Thanks for Volunteering!

Thanks to the following Greater Columbus AGA members who volunteered for VITA at Northland High School in February and March: Will Kays (Site Coordinator), Barb Bail (Greeter), and Connie Sombaty (Greeter). All together, the site's volunteers produced more than 120 free tax returns for low income individuals across the Columbus community.

It's Time for Membership Renewal!

Remember to visit the main AGA website and pay your renewals for FY2020-21, so you can continue to receive great benefits such as: Free Webinars, Discounted Luncheons/PDTs, Leadership Development Opportunities, and more! Renewal dues are \$100.00, unless you are new; then, typically you are paying a pro-rated amount for your second year to get caught up to the normal renewal cycle. To renew, visit <https://www.agacgfm.org/renew>.

February 2020 CEC Meeting Minutes

February 10, 2020, 11:00 AM – 12:00PM
DSCC Building 21

In attendance: Barb Bail, Kristen Hershberger, Glen Weimer, Connie Sombaty, Cindy Shoe, Bob Palmieri, Ben Thayer, Eric Gersper, Joe Scipione, Matt Little, Shaq Chambers

Presidential Updates:

- Budget Committee – please contact Jason at LIDS and see if AGA can work the Merchandise booth again

- Start looking at your committee budgets, next month we'll be reviewing and approving the chapter budget for the next chapter year
- Discussion on PDT Location Change – Noah's Event Center went bankrupt, Cindy is already working with the Vault downtown and they are willing to give us the venue for free just pay for the catering

Chapter Planning Calendar:

- **February**
 - February 14 – Solicit auditor for FY audit (done)
 - February 14 – Finalize Plans for March AGA/ASMC Conference Speakers
 - February 14 – Renewal of Chapter Insurance Policy
 - February 20 – Establish the Chapter Nominating Committee, led by the President Elect
 - February 28 – Finalize Plans for March CGFM Luncheon
- **March**
 - March 15 – Finalize Plans for April Luncheon Speaker
 - March 31 – 3rd Quarter CRP deadline & notify RVP and SVPRS when complete
 - March 31 – Submit recruitment best practices to the National AGA Members Only Site
 - March 31 – Deadline for Nominations for Chapter Officers
 - March 31 – Approve Budget for Next Fiscal Year
 - March 31 – Review and update the CEC appointed positions
 - March 31 – Annual Membership Survey
- **April**
 - April 1 – Scholarship Application Due Date
 - April 1 – Finalize Sponsorship Flyer Offer
 - April 1 – Communicate Kroger Community Rewards Renewal to Members
 - April 30 – Deadline for Votes to be Cast for Chapter Officers
 - April 30 – Initial deadline to submit Chapter Officers to National Office
 - April 30 – Monitor CGFM Renewal Rates for CRP
 - April 30 – Submit Treasurer Report to Auditor for review
 - April 30 – Sponsoring Partnership applications from Finance and Budget (United Way)

Committee Updates:

- **Finance & Budget**– Marc Willis/Shaq Chambers
 - The OSU Spring Game date has been announced for 4/11, please consider volunteering.
- **Chapter Historian** – Lindsey Harris
- **Programs** –Carolyn Lutz/Bob Palmieri
 - \$20 Cost from January for speaker lunches (2)
- **Membership/Early Career** –Matt Little
 - Annual Membership (CGFM) Drive is underway, flyers, and MOTD notices were submitted to Communications for final review.
 - Tax Presenters contacts are all expended (H&R Block and Liberty). Recommend the Whitehall Mayor Kim Maggard.
 - Leadership Development Committee (LDC) is having trouble finding a National Treasurer candidate, please advertise or recommend names and I will contact them.
- **Certification** – Ayisha King/Glenn Weimer

- Already contacted about state recognizing CGFM month, they said they would, just waiting for official letter
- **Education** – Eric Gersper/Connie Sombaty
 - Finalizing February luncheon speaker – H&R Block and other tax update POCs not available
 - Feb 19 and 26th rooms booked, but still searching for speaker. If anyone has any tax POC please let us know.
- **Community Service** – Catrina Davis Harris
 - VITA Program, please consider this worthy community service opportunity
- **Scholarships** – Ben Thayer
 - Committee Set
- **NCC Representative** – Ben Thayer
 - Quarterly meeting held, big ongoing items discussed. A committee working to revamp chapter recognition program. A template was sent, but still in development state. Hopefully will simplify the process.
 - National making it a 2 year commitment
 - Diversity and inclusion statement sent out for all of AGA, will ask if anything is needed in the By-Laws
 - Lead Event– Connie, Cindy, and Ben are already registered

Upcoming Calendar of Chapter Events

SATURDAY MAR 14 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM	Greater Columbus AGA Volunteer Opportunity Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Northland HS/West HS, Columbus OH	
WEDNESDAY MAR 18 2:00 – 3:50 PM	AGA Group Webinar Cybersecurity DFAS-CO Building 21, Room B215	2 CPE/CET – Computer Science
THURSDAY MAR 19 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM	AGA Greater Columbus/Buckeye Chapter ASMC Joint Conference Venue TBD	7 CPE/CET – Various Areas
WEDNESDAY APR 8 2:00 – 3:50 PM	AGA Group Webinar Ethics – “The Spy’s Among Us” DFAS-CO Building 21, Room B215	2 CPE/CET – Behavioral Ethics
MONDAY APR 13	Deadline for AGA Scholarship Applications	
WEDNESDAY MAY 13 2:00 – 3:50 PM	AGA Group Webinar How to Leverage Data Analytics to Build an Effective Anti-Fraud Strategy DFAS-CO Building 21, Room B215	2 CPE/CET – Auditing (Governmental)
WEDNESDAY JUNE 10 2:00 – 3:50 PM	AGA Group Webinar Taking Care of People – Leadership that Matters DFAS-CO Building 21, Room B215	2 CPE/CET – Personal Development
SUNDAY JULY 19 – WEDNESDAY JULY 22	AGA National Professional Development Training (PDT) Dallas, TX	25 CPE/CET

**Greater Columbus AGA –
Officer & Chapter Executive Committee Roster**

President	Barb Bail, CGFM
President-Elect	Cindy Shoe
Secretary	Kristen Hershberger
Treasurer	Pat Jackson

Immediate Past-President	Matthew Little
National Council of Chapters Representative	Ben Thayer
Accountability Outreach	Andy Higgins
By-Laws	Elizabeth Gibbs
Communications 1	Will Kays
Communications 2	Joe Scipione, CGFM
Community Service 1	Catrina Davis-Harris
Community Service 2	-Vacant-
CGFM 1	Ayisha King
CGFM 2	Glenn Weimar, CGFM
Education 1	Eric Gersper
Education 2	Connie Sombaty
Finance & Budget 1	Marc Willis
Finance & Budget 2	Shaneequah Chambers
Historian	Lindsay Harris
Leadership Development Committee	Matthew Little
Membership 1	Matthew Little
Membership 2	Lindsay Harris
Programs 1	Bob Palmieri, CGFM
Programs 2	Carolyn Lutz
Scholarships Committee	Ben Thayer

Visit Our Website and Contact Us:

<https://www.agacgfm.org/GreaterColumbus>
greatercolumbusaga@gmail.com