



The Washington Connection



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Up Next!

July 28th, ASMC & AGA DC Golf Tournament, 8am: *Fort Belvoir Golf Club - Both the Woodlawn and Gunston Courses.* Event begins with a shotgun start at 8am and concludes with a catered lunch at the clubhouse. Register Now! [Tournament Online Registration Link](#)

Hope You're Enjoying Your Summer!

THANK YOU for your engagement this 2021-2022 season.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

President's Message

We had nearly 100 attendees at our May 14th Awards Gala to celebrate our Chapter's accomplishments and to recognize our awardees. I encourage you to read our Year-In-Review column later in this newsletter because it effectively highlights our many diverse activities and other items of note. Thanks again to the sponsors and volunteers that made it all happen.

The first award presented at the Gala was a President's Award given to Paul Marshall who leads the Sponsorship committee. During the year, Paul was extremely successful in recruiting sponsors, organizing virtual and in-person sponsored training events, planning in-person sponsor recognition networking events, and coordinating in-person Diamond Sponsor VIP events. Another President's Award was given to our Treasurer, Gary Wong. Gary's contributions during the year included paying the Chapter's bills, doing monthly bank reconciliations, issuing, and collecting on sales invoices, preparing monthly financial statements, and training our student accounting intern. President's Awards were also given to our Programs committee members at our May 17th luncheon. Paul Lionikis, Peter Moore, Frank Petersen, III and Bo Shevchik have worked together for many years recruiting speakers for our monthly luncheon programs and they also help us find speakers for our Annual Training.

This year's James Saylor Volunteer of the Year Award was given to Mona Amatie who has been a chapter member for over 17 years. Mona runs our webinar education program wherein the Chapter purchases 60 registration slots for each of AGA National's 12 webinars so that our Chapter members can attend for free and earn 2 CPEs per webinar. Mona is actively involved in webinar registration, distribution of webinar access instructions/voucher codes, and fielding questions from members with



registration and/or access issues. In addition, Mona is an active participant in our Chapter Executive Committee which has oversight over the Chapter's budget and operational matters.

The Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Simcha Kuritzky who has been a Chapter member for over 29 years. Simcha has written articles on technical financial reporting issues for our Chapter newsletters since the 1990's. On average he has contributed 4 articles per year for over 24 years. Most of these can still be viewed on our Chapter website. Simcha has performed this task independently over all these years and has consistently met his publication deadlines. His articles help to distinguish our Chapter newsletters from those of other AGA Chapters because they provide substantive updates concerning financial management and reporting topics that are relevant to our members.

It was a great night. Before I go, I just wanted to thank Terry Burr from the AGA Nashville chapter for all his help in kick-starting our hybrid events program. And congratulations to our very own Frank E. Petersen, III whose father was honored by the United States Navy last month when the Guided-Missile Destroyer Frank E. Petersen, Jr. was commissioned in Charleston, SC.

Al Pavot, President
AGA Washington DC Chapter

Vision

AGA is the premier association for advancing government accountability. AGA defines government accountability as a government's obligation to the people for its actions and use of resources.

Mission Statement

AGA fosters learning, certification, leadership and collaboration for professionals and stakeholders committed to advancing government accountability.



Save the Date:
ASMC & AGA Annual
Golf Tournament
July 28, 2022

Ft. Belvoir Golf Club
 We have both the Woodlawn and Gunston Courses

The event begins with a **shotgun start at 0800** and concludes with a catered lunch at the clubhouse.
 The format is Captain's Choice (Scramble).

ENTRY FEES: (includes catered lunch, cart, greens fee & prizes)

Individual Golfer Registration:

\$50 for current government/Military Personnel
 \$110 for Corporate/Retiree participants.

Foursome Golfer Registration:

ALL Current Government/Military: \$180
 ALL Corporate/Retiree: \$400

2022 Tournament Online Registration link:

<https://secure3.rhq.com/ireg/public/index.cgi?evid=R22-07-29-ASMC>

This event is organized by the ASMC/AGA Washington Chapters:

<http://www.washington-asmc.org>

For event or sponsorship information, please contact:

Conrad Symer (csymer@aeyon.us) / 732 397 8925 or
 Matthew Hunt (hunt@scvistas.com) / 434 774 7930

Special Feature: **AGA DC Year-In-Review**

by Al Pavot, President, AGA DC

Since June 30, 2021, AGA DC has organized or co-sponsored 55 events for its members, including 26 in-person activities. To put this in context, prior to that date our last in-person event was in March 2020. The Chapter's biggest challenge coming into the year was to resume in-person networking and training events in a safe and responsible manner. This required a constant monitoring of guidance from the CDC and local authorities. It also required that we obtain the equipment and proficiencies necessary to convert our training programs into hybrid events. Recognizing that other AGA chapters were going through the same process, we communicated with our friends in Nashville, Boston, Utah and Tallahassee to assess our options and develop a plan. AGADC's very first hybrid training luncheon was held on December 7th and we had 172 total virtual and in-person attendees – which was a 72% increase compared to the December 2020 virtual luncheon. We hired technical staff at the venue to assist with the audio/visual aspect for the December training but due to a quick learning curve we did not need to hire any technicians for our last 3 hybrid luncheons (thanks to Alexis & Matt). All 8 of our luncheons this year had higher attendance compared to the prior year and we had 1,592 total attendees this year which was a 38% increase.

On March 30-31st AGA DC held its first-ever hybrid Annual Training. This was a complex task since many of our speakers were participating remotely so we hired the Reagan Building's audio/visual technicians to help us. As with our hybrid luncheons, we were very successful in transmitting the program to our virtual participants. Prior to the pandemic, we generally had 150-200 attendees at our 100% in-person Annual Training. This year, we had approximately 55 in-person attendees and 175 virtual attendees for a total of around 230. This was 29% less than our April 2021 Annual Training which was 100% virtual. Since there were no venue costs last year we only charged members \$125 to attend both days. This year we charged members \$300 to attend both days since we needed to offset the cost of the venue, so that may have had a negative impact on registrations. Approximately 92% of survey responses rated this year's program as an 8 or higher on a scale of 1-10.

Between the luncheons, the Annual Training, and the webinars – the Chapter enabled its members to receive almost 6,500 CPE's this year.

The Chapter reported a 3% increase in members between May 2021 and May 2022. As of June 4, 2022, we had 2,157 members including 215 people whose primary membership is with other chapters. Our membership is as follows: 1,101 government; 832 private sector; 78 Retired; 71 Young Professionals; 20 Students; and 55 Lifetime/Deceased.

We had 13 in-person Chapter social functions including our first in-person community service event (Wreaths Across America) since April 2019. AGA DC raised a total of \$1,613 for local charities and AGA's National Community Service Fund provided \$552 in matching donations for a total of \$2,165, with an additional \$275 matching request still pending.

An independent review of the Chapter's June 30, 2021 annual financial statements was completed and no deficiencies were noted. AGA DC generated a surplus that year since nearly all activities were virtual which yielded substantial savings on venue costs. Approximately 60% of that surplus was used to fund the



Special Feature (cont'd.)

Chapter's FY 22 operating expenses which were approximately: \$122K for CPE-generating activities; \$91K for member networking & sponsor recognition activities; \$3K for member recognition and recruitment contest costs; \$1.5K for DC licensing fees; \$1.4K for insurance; \$1K for email service provider costs; and \$3K for community service & other.

Other items of note include:

- The Chapter submitted its first Citizen Centric Report in four years;
- The overall member satisfaction rate came in at 86% in our annual Spring survey;
- Our LinkedIn social media account now has almost 1,500 connections – up from around 300 just 2 years ago;
- Initiated a Welcome to New Members feature in our monthly newsletters;
- Co-sponsored chapter's first CGFM study group class with NOVAGA;
- Reactivated Chapter liability and D&O insurance coverage;
- Established an internship position that enabled a University of Minnesota accounting student to earn college credit for accomplishing specific tasks;
- Amended our bylaws in June 2022 to support AGA National's \$70,000 rebranding & name change initiative;
- Achieved platinum chapter status; and
- Worked with the DC Government Archives staff to recover AGA's original 1951 Certificate of Incorporation which is now posted on our website. AGA National was formed as the successor corporate entity in 1956.





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that we are now part of **SIKICH LLP!**



Same exceptional team you've come to trust,
now with expanded resources and capabilities.

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ACCOUNTING TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY

AGA DC Member Survey Results

PROGRAM YEAR 2021-2022

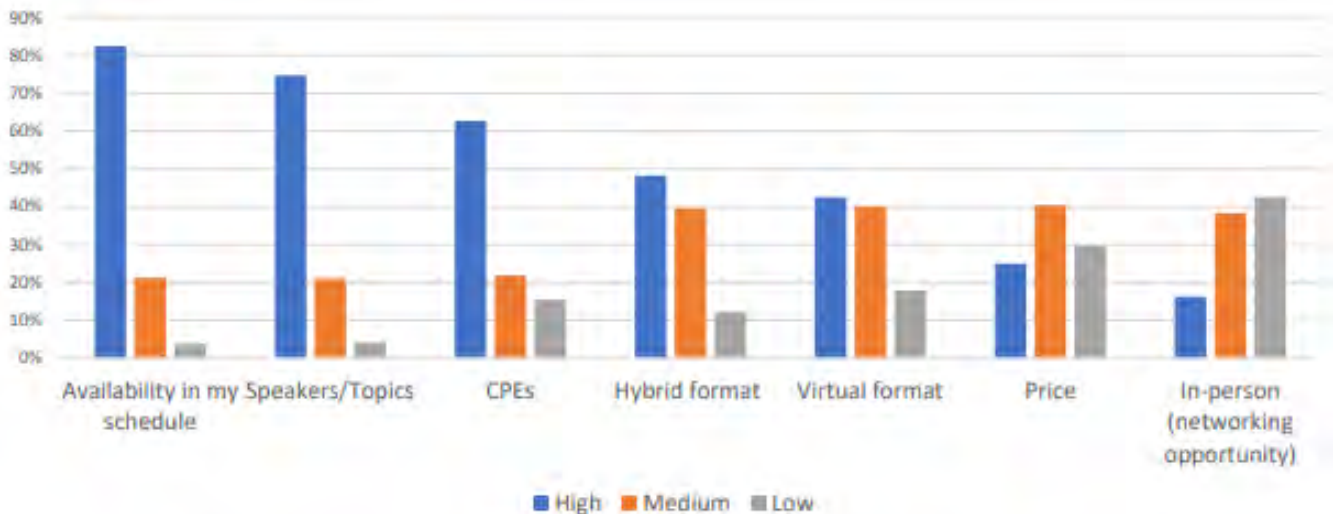
Thank you for taking your valuable time back in February and March to complete our annual chapter member survey and provide your feedback! To express our appreciation of your feedback, we randomly selected the following two survey respondents who received an Amazon gift card! Congratulations to you both!

- Charlene Matthews
- Mark Priebe

A special shout out to Wendy Allen, our chapter's volunteer on survey design and analysis, who did an outstanding job again in creating this year's member survey and assisting the chapter leadership in analyzing the results. Thank you, Wendy!

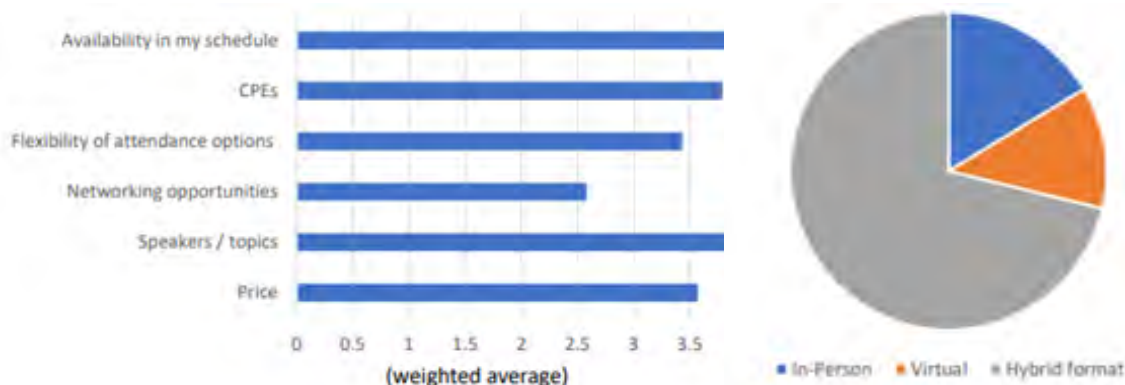
Our chapter leadership takes your feedback seriously and has been analyzing the survey results during the past month and will continue to do so to prepare for the next program year. For now we would like to share with you key results from the annual member survey that may be of interest.

Monthly Luncheons



Consistent with previous years, your availability, luncheon speakers/topics, and the opportunity for CPEs remain to be key drivers for your attendance. Added hybrid vs. virtual format this program year, the flexibility of doing both seems to appeal to you, in which our chapter plans to continue to hold our luncheons in hybrid format.

Annual Spring Training Event

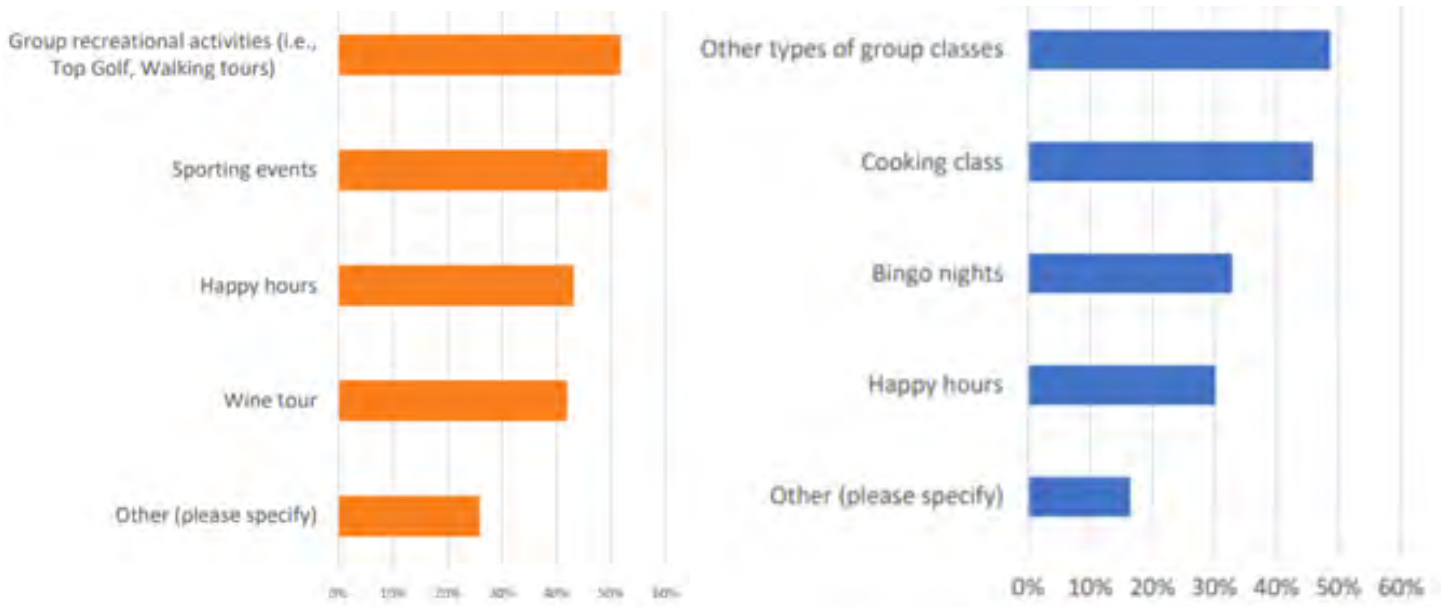


AGA DC Member Survey Results cont'd.

Similar to our monthly luncheons, you told us that your availability, training speakers/topics, and CPEs are top factors for you to join our annual training event. Majority of you prefer to have the annual training to be conducted in hybrid format.

Also, big thank you to you who provided specific speakers or topics for our future luncheons/events. We've taken your suggestions into consideration for an even better luncheon and training event line-up for the next program year!

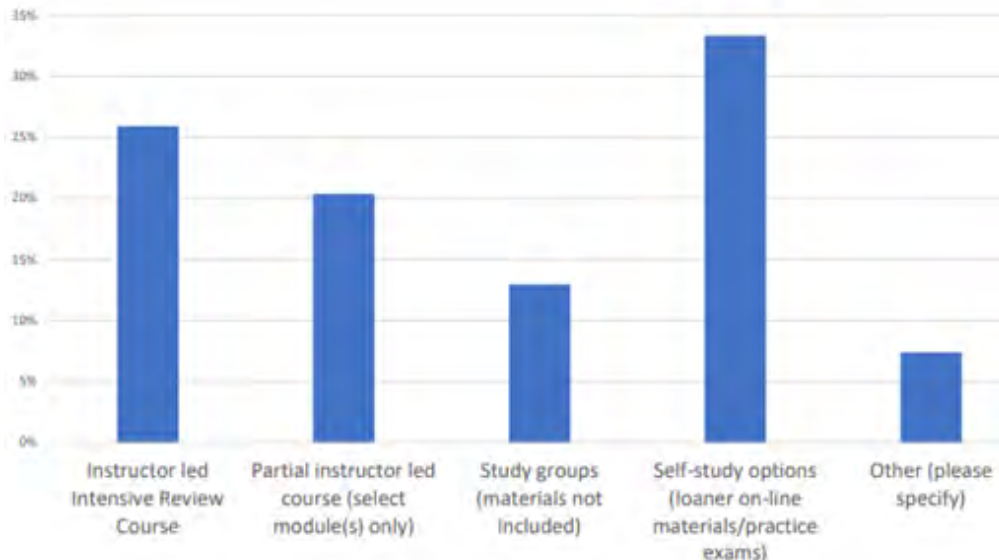
In-Person and Virtual Events



Here is what you told us about your preference in-person and virtual events that our chapter could offer:

Our Member Networking Events Committee is also reviewing your "other" suggestions of in-person and virtual events for potential inclusion for the next program year.

CGFM



AGA DC Member Survey Results cont'd.

We asked members who are pursuing CGFM on the study assistance format that they would find most beneficial. Consistent with previous years, self-study options remain popular. We will continue to look for creative ways to bring you study options!

Conclusion

Training/CPE continues to be a high priority for you and our chapter is committed to providing you with high quality monthly luncheon and educational events. As many of you are slowly getting more comfortable with in-person events, our chapter continues to evaluate effectiveness of our existing delivery platforms and plans to continue the hybrid format, and look for new and innovative topics, speakers, and member networking events.

We are grateful more than 83 percent of you who responded to the survey tell us that you would refer a friend or colleague to join our DC Chapter. We are a volunteer organization and thank you for your "feel good" comments to recognize hard work made by our committee members. We also greatly appreciate your feedback on areas for improvement, as our chapter continues to look for ways to provide a more inclusive and transparent environment.

You do not need to wait for the next member survey to make a difference! Please let us know if you have any feedback or suggestions, or you are interested in volunteering with our chapter! Contact us at agadc@agadc.org today!

Thank you!





For more than 160 years, we have been committed to providing our clients with great service and powerful financial expertise to help them meet their financial goals. We are proud of our longstanding history of supporting not only our customers but also our communities, employees and shareholders.

AGA DC 2023 Leadership Announcements

The AGA DC Nominating Committee is happy to announce that we recently selected a new leader for the upcoming year.

Heather Moreland will be serving as the Chapter Secretary beginning on July 1, 2022. Heather has been a member of AGA since 2016, having assisted the DC AGA chapter previously through her work on the Administration, Awards Gala, and Strategic Planning committees. She has also served as a CEAR reviewer for two years. In her spare time, Heather enjoys gardening and spending time with her two boys (Declan, 6 and Hudson, 4).



Please join us in congratulating and welcoming our new leader!

AGA DC Newsletter Survey

You ask, we listen!

In our previous newsletter, we announced the launching of a new newsletter survey that allows our newsletter team to continue to hear from you and receive feedback. Our new newsletter survey continues to be open all year around.

We invite you to provide your quick feedback on our newsletter at any time, with only two questions:

- How satisfied are you with the most recent issue of the AGA DC Chapter newsletter? (On a scale of 1 to 5)
- Please provide any comments or feedback on this issue of the AGA DC Chapter newsletter. (Open ended question)



THANK YOU for those who provided your feedback on our third newsletter of this program year!

For our final chapter newsletter of this program year, please visit the survey site at: [AGA DC Chapter Newsletter Survey](#) to rate and provide feedback on our newsletter!

Thank you again for your support!

AGA DC Newsletter Team



We bring solutions to reality, efficiently propelling our customers forward.

We are the federal government's dedicated partner,
focusing on progressive, continuous innovation.

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journey and IT modernizing efforts including financial
management, contract writing, cybersecurity, and cloud
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Trusted by 190 federal agencies, Momentum provides
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Virtual Luncheons



APRIL 2022 HYBRID LUNCHEON

"The Future of Financial Management – Challenges and Opportunities"

On April 19, 2022, the DC Chapter welcomed our April hybrid luncheon speaker **Mr. Bret Edwards from the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC)**. We are grateful for both 130 virtual and 44 in-person attendees who joined us at Clyde's of Gallery Place in downtown Washington, DC. **We have 97 percent of our attendees rated excellent or very good for this luncheon event!**

Mr. Edwards is the Deputy to the Chairman and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the FDIC. Since joining the FDIC in 1989, Mr. Edwards has held a series of increasingly responsible and complex roles. He began his FDIC career in the former Division of Liquidation, both in Washington, DC, and in San Francisco. He later served in the Division of Finance as Chief Investment and Funding Officer and thereafter as the Division's Director.



Mr. Edwards began his presentation "The Future of Financial Management – Challenges and Opportunities" by providing our luncheon attendees an overview of the FDIC, which plays a key role in maintaining stability and public confidence in the US financial system. With a \$2.3 billion budget operating for 2022, FDIC insured more than 827 million accounts with more than \$9.7 trillion in depositor funds at more than 4,800 institutions across the US. In terms of the FDIC workforce, Mr. Edwards indicated that for the last few years, the Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey (FEVS) results consistently ranked among the highest for small agencies.

Mr. Edwards looked back on the pandemic impact on society. While we had to deal with all the sudden changes, he thought our country remained resilient and rose to the challenges. Mr. Edwards gave lots of credits to his IT team at FDIC to adopt the new work environment, as the agency just implemented the communication tools Microsoft Teams. This proved to be important as the FDIC workforce went entirely virtual overnight starting in March 2020. The pandemic also changed certain operational aspects, such as the old paper processes/wet signature approvals are now an entire digital process. The pandemic brought challenges on budget impact and employee engagement, in which the management provided much flexibility and empathy to employees well-being. Overall, the pandemic has been an accelerator of change as many organizations/agencies are now working on the return-to-office plan.



April Luncheon cont'd.

Speaking on managing a virtual workforce, Mr. Edwards believes that nothing is totally new, but what's new is the large scope for transition, which has never been done before. We will need to learn as we go as situations vary by organizations. Under the virtual workforce, there are things we missed and we need to



think on how we can compensate them. For example, team building is difficult under the virtual environment and it is difficult to get others' body languages entirely. Also, there have been technology challenges, such as video conferencing capabilities and information security, even considerations such as hardcopies disposal. Other challenges on managing a virtual workforce include: employee development and well being (to prevent those at home from being left behind and to consider health and safety for on-site workers); space challenges (how does the office layout/design need to change and cost considerations); transportation challenges (safety and financial viability of public transportation in the long run); and employee union considerations (work space, hoteling, telework arrangement negotiations).

On building a diverse culture of excellence, Mr. Edwards stated that it's been even more important now while so much more work still needed to be done in this area. As our country has become more diverse, we should expect our workforce to mirror the demographic changes. Mr. Edwards and his team studied the FEVS results and looked at the inclusion quotient, as well as conducting diversity dialogues and training. Mr. Edwards stated that while sometimes it's uncomfortable to talk about this sensitive subject, however, it's important to have this dialogue. He stressed that formal and informal mentoring is extremely important. At FDIC, employee resource/affinity groups are formed where his staff volunteer their time to run these groups to drive changes. Overall, Mr. Edwards believes that senior leaders have obligations to make organizations more equitable and inclusive - actions speak louder than words.

Regarding managing generational transition, Mr. Edwards commented that the next generation workers tend to see the world differently and do not assume they would be at the same organization for the rest of their careers. Therefore, it is important to keep engaging with these next generation workers and keep the work interesting for them. We should be prepared for transition, especially on knowledge management and transfer. Mr. Edwards suggested the following practices at FDIC: job shadowing, long-term details, double-encounter positions, corporate knowledge repository using Sharepoint site and other tools to document processes and how to do tasks. Mr. Edwards recommended we should be open to feedback and change, and to get a millennial mentor.



Mr. Edwards believes it's the most competitive job market in 75 years. We need to think hard on what value proposition to next generational workers, given there are many options for them under this very challenging hiring environment. Mr. Edwards discussed the following areas that we should consider to

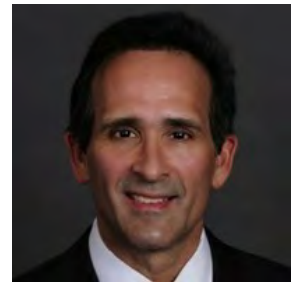
April Luncheon cont'd.

attract and retain new talent: agency mission, pay and benefits, telework flexibilities, job security, FEVS results, and authority to act. Strategies include recruiting through all forms of social media, providing pathways programs, and getting back to face-to-face recruiting.

Mr. Edwards believes Federal agencies are playing catch up in deploying cutting edge technology. He suggested that it is critical to partner with the Chief Information Officer on the following areas: bandwidth, funding, talent, and citizen-led development. As leaders, we will need to have a change management strategy and to define and understand the data.

Finally, on reskilling the workforce, Mr. Edwards commented that digitizing and automating will require new skills. It is necessary to have frequent communication and change management messaging; stressing the job security and the purpose of automation - trying to make the work better and more interesting by deploying technology that employees will like to use. Mr. Edwards discussed the importance of performing skills gap analysis and action plan - just be very public about the results and focus on what new skills need to be added on. He stated that employees must be willing and be able to acquire new skills, and to reward those who get on board and have a plan for those who don't.

We sincerely appreciate the time spent by Mr. Edwards, sharing his knowledge and experience with us. We would also like to thank our Corporate Sponsor, **KPMG LLP**, and **Mr. Thomas Coccozza**, Director at KPMG, for his introductory remarks! **A big THANK YOU to the Northern Virginia Chapter for co-sponsoring this event with us!**



Finally, our April hybrid luncheon was made possible by our hard working volunteers from the Monthly Luncheon Team who took care of the programming, in-person, and virtual operations. **THANK YOU to our Monthly Luncheon Team!**

MAY 2022 HYBRID LUNCHEON

"Funding Freedom"

On May 17, 2022, the DC Chapter welcomed our May hybrid luncheon speaker **Ms. Teresa R. Hunter from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS)**. We are grateful for both 129 virtual and 58 in-person attendees who joined us at Clyde's of Gallery Place in downtown Washington, DC.

Before Ms. Hunter's presentation, our Chapter President Al Pavot spotlighted one of our Monthly Luncheon team volunteers, Mr. Frank E. Petersen, III, an accomplished long time chapter member who is the Deputy Chief Financial Officer of Finance at NASA. At the beginning of the luncheon program, Mr. Petersen shared with the attendees the story about his father, **Lt General Frank E. Petersen Jr.** Lt General Petersen was the first African-American Marine Corps aviator and general. He retired from Marine Corps after 38 years of distinguished service and received numerous awards and honors, including Purple Heart Medal, National Aviation Hall of Fame - Neil Armstrong Outstanding Achievement Award, being appointed by President Obama to the Board of Visitors to the US Naval Academy. He is an author of an autobiography **"Into the Tiger's Jaw: America's First Black Marine Aviator."** On May 14, 2022, **USS Frank E. Petersen Jr. (DDG-121) was commissioned in Charleston, SC** as the ship is named in honor of the late U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Gen. Frank E. Petersen Jr.



May Luncheon cont'd.

Our Corporate Sponsor representative, Mr. Tom Davis from EY, then introduced Ms. Teresa Hunter. Ms. Hunter serves as the Chief Financial Officer at the IRS. She is the principal advisor to the IRS Commissioner and Deputy Commissioners. She leads the IRS's financial management programs and oversees financial policies and programs, budget formulation, and execution of a multi-billion dollar budget. She also manages the multi-trillion-dollar revenue collected each year.

Ms. Hunter started her presentation by discussing the IRS missions and history of the US taxation system. She also pointed out some "fun facts" demonstrating how the taxation system evolves throughout the years. Currently, the IRS operates at the \$11.5 billion budget in charge of collecting more than \$4.1 trillion in gross taxes. The budget and staffing issues pose challenges to IRS operations as there has been a 15 percent funding reduction (factor in the inflation) comparing 2022 and 2010. As the US population grows and IRS staff workforce decreases, it has been a struggle for IRS to get the job done.

Ms. Hunter then moved on to discuss her time at the Office of the CFO - its structure and CFO transformation efforts. Ms. Hunter's office focus on the following initiatives:

- Innovation: advance automation and analytics; risk-based process improvements; transparent discovery; rapid innovation and identification
- Strategic initiatives: data-driven foundation; agile finance; appropriation restructure; visualization
- Governmentwide presence: CFO Council workgroups; Line of Business workgroups
- Pilot programs: enterprise digitization, and innovation lab collaboration
- Team building: CFO All Hands, networking, holiday/birthday messages
- Change management: executive and new hire meet and greet; upskilling/reskilling workforce efforts; change management practitioners



Frank E. Petersen, III,
DCFO-Finance of NASA



Regarding steaming processes, Ms. Hunter stated that current processes are being reworked with various tools, such as RPA, in mind as solutions for 64 active innovation projects. As a result of various CFO innovation project outcomes, there is a 63 percent of average workload reduction, 37,523 work hours had been saved, and \$2 billion financial adjustments. Ms. Hunter also shared her office success stories on using data analytics and dashboard over status of funds and improving the local travel review process via reducing workload. She further discussed the use of technology about the OCR pilot at her office to improve the process to extract data from digit images and forms. Ms. Hunter concluded her presentation on discussing technology areas of focus, as her office's agile finance approach provides benefits across the

May Luncheon cont'd.

enterprise to support taxpayers and need technology to enable staff to work in a more agile, fast, and accurate way.

At the conclusion of the last monthly luncheon of this program year, our Chapter President Al Pavot thanked each of the Monthly Luncheon Team for their hard work to provide a high quality luncheon program. See our picture below for our monthly luncheon team volunteers! **THANK YOU to our Monthly Luncheon Team!**

We sincerely appreciate the time Ms. Hunter spent with us to share her knowledge and experience. We would also like to thank our Corporate Sponsor, **Ernst & Young, LLP (EY)**, and **Mr. Tom Davis** - Senior Manager in the Business Consulting practice from EY, for his introductory remarks! **A big THANK YOU to the Northern Virginia Chapter for co-sponsoring this event with us!**

We have **100 percent** of our attendees agreeing that the learning objectives for this luncheon have been met and **all of our attendees rated excellent or very good for this luncheon event!!** Thank you for your support on our monthly luncheons throughout this program year – see you back in September!



Monthly Luncheon Team Volunteers (left to right): Craig Freeman, Dan Lange, Alexis Alfaro-Trejo, Frank Petersen, Bo Shevchik, Paul Lionikis, Christy Beck, Al Pavot, Areeba Rizvi (not in picture: Peter Moore, Morgan Buchanan, Matt Gorman, Wendy Schiffman, Victoria Abril, Emma Pollock)



Member Luncheon Videos

To access past recordings of our luncheon speaker presentations, please visit our chapter website and select the menu section "**Members Luncheon Videos**" or visit this [direct link](#).

Please Note: Login and password are the same as your access to the AGA National website



From strategy to execution, the Government & Public Sector (GPS) practice of Ernst & Young LLP provides a full range of consulting and audit services to help our federal, state and local clients implement new ideas to achieve their mission outcomes. We have experience in delivering real change and measurable results through our diverse, high-performing teams, quality work at the highest professional standards, operational know-how from across our global organization, and creative and bold ideas tailored to each client's unique mission. We help support our GPS clients in protecting our nation and serving our people; increasing public safety; improving health care for our military, our veterans and our citizens; delivering essential public services; and helping those in need. In doing so, we play a critical role in building a better working world for our people, for our clients, for our government and for our communities.

New Member Contest

DO YOU LIKE MONEY? THEN PLEASE READ!

During the 2022-2023 Program Year, the Membership Committee of the AGA DC Chapter is instituting a **CASH PRIZE** (\$100 USD in the form of an Amazon gift card) provided at each coming quarter end (March and June, 2022 remain), to the member who sponsors and/or recruits the **most new members** in a given quarter. With your help and dedication, we can achieve our Chapter's 10% growth goal of new members this year!

Congratulations to Craig Freeman who recruited the most members in the Spring quarter!

Please note the membership referral/sponsoring application is a three-step process:

1. New members should create an "My AGA Account" found at the [AGA National website](#);
2. New account login details will be sent to email provided during registration in step 1;
3. Once logged into the "My AGA Account," new members are to complete their AGA membership application, whereby within the Demographics data page of the application, the new member **must** denote the "Recruited by Member ID" and/or "Recruiter's Name."

Recruitment/Sponsoring winners will be contacted via email and announced in the following quarter's newsletter. The Membership Committee looks forward to every member "getting" a member (or more)!

(NOTE: Previous quarterly winners are ineligible for future prizes in the same program year.)

Welcome New Members!

The AGA DC Chapter and the Membership Committee extends a warm welcome to our newest members! Thanks to you, the AGA continues to grow. Stay up-to-date on fantastic programs, membership benefits, and recruiting incentives starting now. Remember if you have not yet renewed, you may do so at the [AGA Washington DC Chapter website](#) to take advantage of member benefits throughout the next program year.

Rekha Alagarsamy

Mr. Pryde F. Atanga

Ms. Jyoti Athavale, CGFM

Mr. Ryan Glenn Bailey

Ms. Nikki Baptiste

Mr. Michael G. Barker, CGFM

Ms. Shannon Kate P. Bartonico

Mr. Alexander S. Baum

Ms. Lauren Bloom

Mr. Robert E. Board

Mr. Ian Borthwick

Ms. Shayla T. Boyd

Ms. Yalonda Boyd

Mr. Jamal D. Burise

Courtney Coghill

Mr. Samuel Crawford

Ms. Trina R. Crawley

Mr. David Dalenberg

Ms. Daphne I. Davies

Ms. Tawnya Garrett

Mr. Sean Gilkerson

Mr. Jason Gould

Ms. Melissa A. Green

Mr. Paul J. Harris

Mrs. Michelle W. Hawkins

Mr. Todd R. Holtzman

Ms. Grace Hsu

Miss Charlotte Hungate

Mrs. Michele A. Johnson

Mr. Caleb L. Jones

Kyndra Jones

Mr. Jehanzeb N. Khan

Ms. Diane Jessica Kissoon

Ms. Theresa Kohler

Mr. Thomas D. Krug

Ms. Josette C. LeDoux

Mr. Simon Lee

Ms. Colleen Loftus

Mr. Oatis J. McCrea

Ms. Tondria McDowell

Mr. Donald S. McGraw

Ms. Katherine McIntyre

Ms. Kathryn McVay

Mr. Ward Melhuish

Mr. Matthew C. Menchi

Mr. Daniel Minger

Ms. Denise L. Mitchner

Mr. Matthew T. Montgomery

Mr. Edward M. Morales Perez

Mr. Marvin Muhumuza

Mr. Kerry K. Neal

Mr. Hien T. Nguyen

Mrs. Fayth R. O’Neal

Ms. Gabriela Piatkowski

Ms. Caroline E. Piccione

Mr. Kevin A. Powers

Mr. George J. Rabil, Jr.

Ms. Marshelle Richardson, CFE,
CICA

Mr. William Roberts

Mr. Tyler Robertson

Ms. Yanira Rosado

Virgil L. Savage, Sr., CGFM

Lee C. Schinnerer, CGFM

Dr. John E. Sholhead

Lena Simon

Mr. Markell D. Smallwood

Mr. Chris Smith

Mrs. Kelly A. Sutch

Mr. Conrad Matthew Symber

Aster Teferra

Mr. Tony H. Thai

Ms. Hannah Thornton

Christian Tjoa

Mr. Lawrence Ung

Mr. Jared J. Washok

Ms. Estelle E. Wiley

Ms. Brittany A. Wilson

Ms. Shauna C. Woody-Coussens

Mr. Scott D. Young

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AGA DC 72nd Annual Awards Gala

InterContinental - The Wharf, Washington DC, May 14, 2022

Our chapter celebrated another successful program year as our volunteers and members gathered at the InterContinental Washington DC at The Wharf on the night of May 14, 2022.

We started the event with the cocktails reception on the 12th floor of the InterContinental hotel with a fantastic view of the Potomac River and Jefferson Memorial. Followed by the dinner, we held the awards ceremony to recognize our outstanding volunteers for their continuous contributions to our chapter: Paul Marshall; Gary Wong; Simcha Kuritzky; and Mona Amatie (award pictures below). The event concluded with the door prizes drawing and dancing.

We are grateful to provide our members the opportunity to connect in person and celebrate our chapter's achievement made during this program year. Our Awards Gala could not be made possible without all the hard work of the Awards Gala Committee.

THANK YOU to our volunteers: Diane Rudnick; Heather Moreland; Cherry Ung; and Orinda Basha!



AI Pavot (Chapter President)





Diane Rudnick (left) & Heather Moreland (Awards Gala Committee volunteers)





Paul Marshall (left-President's Award Recipient) & Al Pavot



Al Pavot and Christy Beck, Bylaws Director



Simcha Kuritzky (right-Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient) & Al Pavot



Gary Wong (right-President's Award Recipient) & Al Pavot



Mona Amatie (right-James W. Saylor Award/Volunteer of the Year Award Recipient) & Caitlin McGurn (Chapter President-Elect)



Past Chapter Presidents (left to right): Evelyn Brown, Virginia Robinson, Christy Beck, Salim Mawani, Paul Lionikis, Al Pavot



AGA membership over 30 years (left to right): Chuck McAndrew, Virginia Robinson, Evelyn Brown, Simcha Kuritzky



Chapter volunteers group picture



Paul Lionikis (right-Immediate Past Chapter President) & Al Pavot



Caitlin McGurn (left-Chapter President-Elect) & Al Pavot





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Committee Spotlights

Annual Training Committee

What do we do: Our volunteers from the Annual Training Committee successfully planned, organized, and held the 20th Annual DC Chapter Hybrid Training on March 30-31, 2022 at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, DC. Our 2-day annual training event, including cocktail hour for in-person attendees at the end of Day 1 of the training, offered each attendee up to 16 hours of CPEs. This event provided training by key leaders in the Federal financial management sphere delivering insight into the current financial environment. Check our previous member newsletter #3 for pictures from the 20th Annual DC Chapter Hybrid Training event!

Our volunteers (hear what some of them say about our Chapter and the Committee they serve):

Annual Training Program Team (recruited speakers and developed the training program):

- *Brittany Hopwood* (membership since 2012): I joined this Committee because I'm passionate about training development, and because it's a great way to get involved in our Chapter. This is unlike anything I've ever done in my professional career, and it's so rewarding to have all of our planning efforts culminate in a tangible event that can be enjoyed by so many people. I'm really proud of our Chapter and the Committee for how we've adapted in the wake of the pandemic. We've delivered exceptional training content to our members in ways that were never thought possible just a few years ago, and we keep finding ways to raise the bar even higher.
- *Tonya Baker* (membership since 2008): I volunteered for the Committee because I wanted to become more engaged beyond being an attendee. From my own personal experience, I've gained invaluable knowledge through AGA education offerings, so I wanted to give back. Our Chapter is rich in tenured members who are passionate about AGA and take pride in what we do.

Annual Training Site Logistics Team (managed in-person registrations and coordinated logistical issues with the venue):

- *Orinda Basha* (membership since 2005): I initially started by helping out with the Awards Gala and Paul Lionikis (Past Chapter President) asked if I could help with the Committee. I jumped at the opportunity because of the role that training plays in preparing, informing, and inspiring our members. I had previously coordinated, planned, and/or moderated several training events for the AGA PDT. So involvement with the Annual Training Committee seemed a natural progression. Our Chapter caters to the Federal government agencies, which are unique in and of themselves, especially vis-à-vis state and local governments. As a member of the Annual Training Committee I help shape the training agenda, session learning objectives, event schedule, as well as the lunch menu. I sum this up as catering to both the mind and the body.
- *John Hooley* (membership since 2020): I joined the Committee as a means to more substantively contribute to the health and success of our local chapters through broadening my network and impact on our community members and non-members. I also wanted to make an impact on the type of interesting topics we delivered on through the training. Our Chapter and Committee members and leadership are incredibly talented and fun to work with. Great vibe within our team and it showed in the results of our outstanding training.

Annual Training Virtual Team (managed registrations for virtual attendees and ran the virtual software program):

- *Sophie Cutler* (membership since 2022): Although I just joined AGA this year, I volunteered on the Technical Committee in 2021 as well and helped run the Spring Conference in 2021. My mentor, Brittany Hopwood, encouraged me to volunteer on the Technical Committee back in 2021 and from there I've been volunteering and participating in AGA activities. I love the opportunities our Chapter provides. I've met a ton of great people and have participated in several fantastic events so far!

Interested in volunteering? Contact us at agadc@agadc.org today!

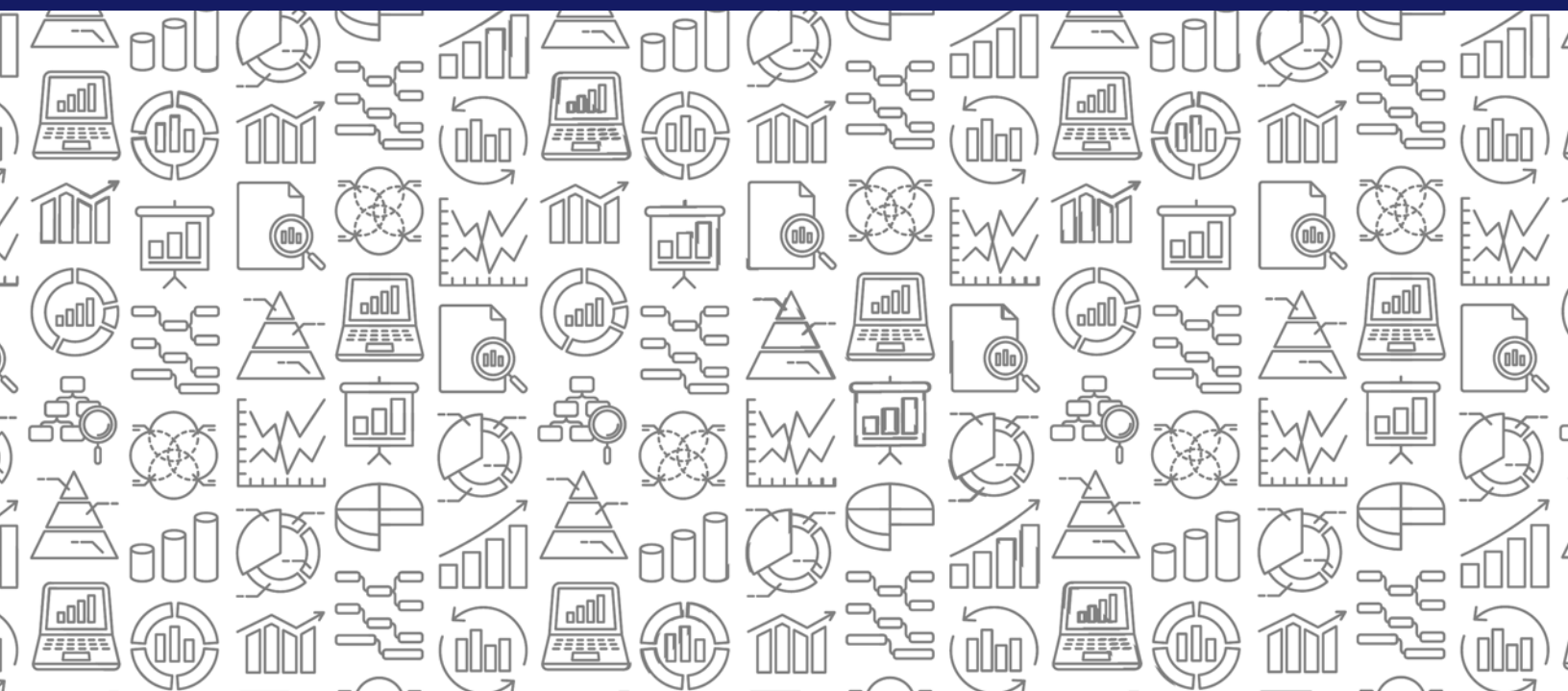
Member Networking Events Committee

What do we do: Our volunteers from the Member Networking Events Committee provide a variety of events to our chapter members to facilitate networking and opportunities to integrate new members into our Chapter. The Committee hosts events throughout the year that range from virtual bingo to in-person events such as holiday parties, happy hours, baseball games, and wine tasting. Check our pictures from our member networking events in our member newsletter throughout this program year!

Our volunteers (hear what some of them say about our Chapter and the Committee they serve):

- *Crystal Wolf* (membership since 2008): I was new in my career and saw this as a great opportunity to expand my network and understand more about AGA. I could tell right away what a great organization it was. I appreciate the diversity and variety of experiences of our Chapter – this fosters great collaboration and innovation that we can bring to our members.
- *David Baskin* (membership since 2013): As both new to the Washington DC area and supporting the government, I wanted to join a professional association that would provide me the opportunity to both grow as a professional and develop my network. By joining both the DC chapter and supporting the Committee, I've been able to continue both my professional and personal development and provide back and support the Chapter's operations. Our Committee is responsible for bringing people together and organizing events that our members want. I'm always meeting new people at our events, providing a new experience, and enjoying the classics that we know our members have come to enjoy and expect annually.
- *Anthony Richards* (membership since 2008): I met Salim Mawani (Past Chapter President), and he introduced me to AGA Washington, DC Chapter and how much he was involved with the organization. After that, I went to one of the AGA functions, met the most interesting and kind people, and joined the organization. I started serving on the Committee after meeting David Baskin at one of the functions. I enjoyed working with Crystal Wolf, David, AGA leadership, and the other AGA committees when planning events. Most importantly, when I received confirmation from members and non-members that they enjoyed the events!

Interested in Volunteering? Contact us at agadc@agadc.org!





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Thought Leadership: LEAD! 2022 Leadership Training

DC Chapter leaders Paul Marshall, Sponsorship Director, and National Council of Chapters (NCC) representative, and Chi Okonkwo, DC Chapter Treasurer Elect, attended LEAD! 2022 held in Baltimore, Maryland in April. LEAD! is AGA's annual leadership training event for chapters that covers AGA's national direction, initiatives, expectations of leaders, areas for improvement and insight into how to access AGA resources.

Some highlights from the event are included below:

- **Rebranding:** We should all do our part to promote AGA's new brand – “AGA, the association that connects and empowers financial-related professionals supporting the government to advance good government initiatives, grow their expertise and accelerate their careers.” The new brand makes AGA more inclusive of new members in disciplines such as procurement, human capital, budget, information technology and other related fields outside of accounting and audit. Other important actions for chapters include changing the chapter name officially to “AGA” (vs Association of Government Accountants), filing this change via an amended Articles of Incorporation with the chapter’s respective Secretary of State and noting the name change when submitting tax returns to the IRS. Chapters are also encouraged to replace older Chapter and CGFM logos on websites, social media, and marketing materials to new formats. (See **Resources** below)
- **Hybrid Events:** Hybrid and virtual events are likely to continue for the long-term, in addition to in person events. Chapters shared best practices and benefits of providing both virtual and in person options to members including:
 - Offering hybrid options have generally increased attendance for training events and are recommended if cost-effective
 - Put in extra time and effort to evaluate technology to enable hybrid events, test the software, determine the best way to poll the audience both in person and virtual, and allow capabilities for both in person and virtual presenters
 - Prepare breakeven analyses of revenues and expenses from hybrid events to ensure chapters establish prices and budget accordingly
 - Survey your members to see if hybrid events make sense for your chapter
 - Consider collaborating with or promoting other Chapter virtual events for key topics (Ethics, RPA)
- **Succession Planning:** Chapters should plan how to best maintain continuity on boards and Chapter Executive Committees (CEC). Chapters shared best practices in succession planning including:
 - Identifying a pipeline of members to serve each committee for the next few years – preferably based on their strengths (social media, networking, event planning, etc.)
 - Encouraging chapter leaders to rotate board positions to learn more about all aspects of running a chapter
 - Encouraging coworkers/direct reports at your agency/company to actively volunteer and hold board positions



Thought Leadership cont'd.

- Maintaining chapter documentation on a shared platform/website for easy access by incoming leaders
- Having incoming leaders shadow and support the current person in the position-similarly establish co-chairs for committees where feasible



- Consider on-boarding orientations for new board members each year
- Promote benefits such as complementary registration or accommodations for National training events
- **CGFM/Training:** Chapters and AGA National discussed ideas for improving training and encouraging members to obtain the CGFM.
 - Plan meetings/training further in advance to provide more lead time for a speaker and/or to attract more attendees once a speaker is identified
 - Make greater use of private sector SMEs as speakers
 - Consider not only high-profile speakers (CFOs), but also speakers around a certain topic of interest such as fraud, budgeting, technology or a recent updated law or regulation
 - Hold joint meetings with other chapters or organizations such as CFE, CIA, ASMC and AICPA

- Consider CGFM “buddy” programs to mentor and encourage members to take the exam
- Consider chapter CGFM sponsorships to subsidize exam fees and exam training
- Set up CGFM study groups, promote CGFM month and share CGFM success stories of how it has helped people’s careers

- **ACE:** The group discussed ways to help chapters meet the goals of the Achievements in Chapter Excellence (ACE) program. Chapters should assign an individual to keep track of chapter achievements and update ACE periodically throughout the year. At least quarterly, this progress should be shared with the CEC to make sure the chapter is meeting its goals. Chapters were also reminded that they should have an annual evaluation or audit of their finances to ensure accurate accounting practices and appropriate internal controls over chapter funds.
- **Resources:** Chapter leaders should refer to Chapter Resources on AGA’s website (www.agacgfm.org/MyAGA/ChapterResources.aspx) to find great templates and guidance for the following:
 - ACE
 - Administrative & Operations (including rebranding)
 - CGFM
 - Communications & Marketing (including new logos)
 - Community Service
 - Education & Meetings
 - Membership
 - Virtual Meetings & Events
 - Young Professionals, Colleges & Universities



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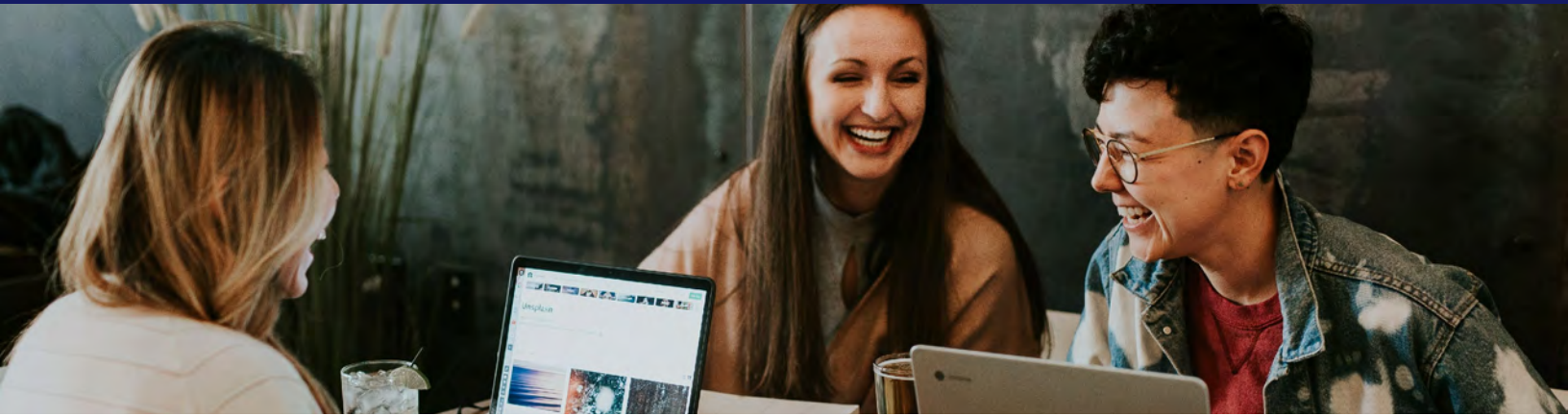
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AGA Young Professionals and Mentoring

The DC Chapter supports the **AGA National's Achievements in Chapter Excellence (ACE)** program, as we highlight the Young Professionals and Mentoring programs mentioned below:

AGA - Young Professionals

Whether you are considering a career in government financial management or have already started down the path, AGA is here to support you! Membership in AGA gives you access to practical resources to develop your skills, expand your knowledge, boost your job performance and advance your career. Remember to check out what each AGA chapter offers — like scholarships, board positions and other opportunities to develop your leadership skills. **For more details on discounts, scholarships, awards, education, training, and more, click here: [AGA Young Professionals](#)**

AGA - Mentoring Program

Mentoring is important, not only because of the knowledge and skills young professionals can learn from mentors, but also because mentoring provides professional socialization and personal support. At a time when most are working remotely, having a trusted advisor to turn to can help balance the blending of work and life. The program is open to AGA members only. Having complete and accurate profiles is crucial to the success of mentor/mentee selection and matching! **For more details on the roles of a mentor and/or a mentee, and how to enroll, click here: [AGA Mentoring Program](#)**

Check out
Accountability Talks, hosted
by the DC Chapter's very own
Paul Marshall!

The podcast focuses on the
government accountability
community and is available
everywhere you get your
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Special Events

Over 40 attendees participated in our annual AGA DC Chapter **Wine Tour** on June 4, 2022. We had 2 buses departing from Rosslyn with visits to the 8 Chains, Bogati Bodega, and Firefly wineries. Lunch and snacks were included. Thanks to David Baskin, Anthony Richards and Crystal Wolf for organizing all of our member networking events throughout the year!



Special Events



AGA DC Chapter members and sponsors gathered on May 25th at a **Rooftop Happy Hour** in Washington DC. The event was held at the Hotel Hive and included plenty of food, drinks and great company.



AGA DC welcomed all who attended the **Diamond Sponsors VIP Event** on May 10, 2022 at the Old Ebbitt Grill in Washington DC. Our guest of honor was Kika Scott, Chief Financial Officer at the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), who spoke about the financial crisis USCIS experienced in 2020. Attendees enjoyed the luncheon and the opportunity to discuss issues during the Q&A segment.



Special Events

Over 70 members came out on April 8th for our **Spring Social** at the Washington Hilton. The event included a cocktail hour with an open bar & hors d'oeuvres followed by dinner. Our guest speaker was AGA National's President Gerry Boaz and he was preceded on the agenda by Johnny Ramsey, the NGB Director for our NCC Area. Several National and DC Chapter Past-Presidents were in attendance including Virginia Robinson, Evelyn Brown, Sam Mok, Christy Beck, Paul Lionikis, Salim Mawani, Malena Brookshire, and Kim Farrington. We were also joined by Nick Garrard, President of the Montgomery/PG chapter and Joe Hungate, President-Elect of NOVAGA. Gerry spoke about the rebranding initiative and his experiences serving at both the chapter and National levels. Johnny focused on the need for chapters to develop future leaders and volunteers.



Special Events



Over 40 members came out for our April 8th **Wizards Basketball** outing at Capital One Arena. The event included dinner and an open bar at the arena's Devils Backbone lounge. The Wizards started out strong but the Knicks came back to win 114 – 92.



On March 13th we hosted **AGA DC On Campus**. Al Pavot and Christy Beck visited Professor Sheila Bedford's corporate financial reporting class at American University. Al talked about how to find government accounting jobs, the benefits of Federal employment, his own career path at the Securities & Exchange Commission, and strategies for career development after entering the federal workforce. Christy covered AGA and employment opportunities in the government contracting sector. Students asked many questions during and after the class and departed with AGADC logo baseball caps.

Three representatives of the AGADC Chapter presented to about 40 students (roughly half in person) of GWU's undergraduate Accounting Information Systems class on March 11, 2022. The presentation was roughly 25 minutes. Slide decks were utilized to facilitate discussion.





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CGFM Committee Updates

AGADC is proud to support our chapter members in obtaining the CGFM designation. We can pay up to \$125 per chapter member per program year to help offset the costs of training modules, study guides, practice exams, and/or exam fees. This subsidy is not available if your costs were already reimbursed by your employer. Reimbursements are available on a first come, first served basis until funds for the program year are exhausted.

You must submit the following to qualify:

1. Copy of certification showing that you passed the exam;
2. Proof of payment;
3. Mailing address; and
4. AGA member number

Submit the above documentation to Sara Specht via email to obtain a rebate.

Available Study Resources

Study Guides - AGA offers CGFM study guides in two convenient formats - print (hard copy) version and online access.

- **Print Version** - Study guides are now available in the [AGA CGFM Bookstore](#). The study guides now include a binder.
- **Online Access** - Study guides are now available online through a six-month subscription. The guides can be viewed on- and off-line, through an app. To buy or access the online guides, click on the corresponding link below:
 - [Study Guide 1: Governmental Environment](#)
 - [Study Guide 2: Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting](#)
 - [Study Guide 3: Governmental Financial Management and Control](#)



Training Modules - AGA offers CGFM Training Modules, which are currently available in course bundles for all portions of the CGFM exams. These modules are currently available for purchase [here](#).

Practice Exams - In addition to study guides, AGA provides practice exams for use in studying for the CGFM exam. To purchase and/or access your practice exams click [here](#).

If you have additional questions about the CGFM Program, please feel free to contact Shawn Syed via email.



The following members obtained their CGFM in February-April 2022!

Christine M. Dewhirst, CGFM
Wendell Bazemore, CGFM
Lee C. Schinnerer, CGFM
Anthony Smith, CGFM

Have questions? Check out our CGFM chapter web-page at this [link](#). Alternatively contact Shawn Syed at agadc@agadc.org



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Member Spotlights -

Werner Lippuner

Swiss Certified Public Accountant, CISA, CISM, CGEIT, CRISC, CRMP-FED

Chief Operating Officer at SecureIT

AGA-DC: Since you retired from Ernst & Young LLP (EY) as a Global Client Service Partner, how have you been and can you tell us about your current projects?

Werner: It's been over four years since I retired from EY. During that time our world has changed in so many ways. My goal has been and is still to leverage my 30 years of experience to help organizations achieve their strategic objectives in this changing environment. As such, I serve as a director on various boards and work with several executive teams. My primary focus is with SecureIT where we enable technology companies to bring innovative technologies to government agencies. From an information security perspective, there is a need to drive some level of consistency across the ecosystem. Programs like FedRAMP, StateRAMP, CMMC, and others are in place to normalize the level of security and protection as agencies continue to leverage new and advanced products and services. At SecureIT we assist service providers to efficiently meet compliance requirements to accelerate their ability to support the missions of our local, state, and federal government.

AGA-DC: It seems like we are no longer shocked by data breach/cybersecurity incidents - they just happen much more often on a never-ending scale. We all know we have to do something, but what should this "do something" be?

Werner: Most incidents occur because basic practices are often not adhered to. Think about an account with a weak or no password, an individual clicking on a link embedded in a suspicious email, or a device running outdated software. Driving habitual practices for ensuring the protection of data and systems seems such an easy answer and yet it's astonishingly hard to achieve. It's inconvenient and it



takes time; we often seem to forget the concepts we're frequently taught through security awareness programs; and yet, it's the cornerstone of information security. While we've products and services available to reduce the risk of cyber incidents, we're still reliant on human behavior.

Not being able to fully prevent a data breach/cyber security incident requires us to be capable of detecting and responding to an event. This means that we must have clearly defined responsibilities and procedures to identify, respond to, and limit the consequences of an incident. While we've come a long way with automating security and controls, there's still a need to drive security awareness and foster the consistent application of basic cyber hygiene.

AGA-DC: We understand the importance of having a strategic plan for private sector business and public sector agencies. However, some companies/agencies execute their strategic plans better than others. What differentiates them?

Werner: In my experience, the short answer is

Member Spotlight Cont'd.

My experience during the exchange program ultimately led to my relocation to the Washington D.C. metropolitan area. I saw it as a natural progression in my professional life. To me the lesson learned is that changes and uncertainties create opportunities beyond those that we can plan or even envision. As I started my career, I couldn't imagine that I would end up working with some of the world's largest government organizations. After all these years, I'm still fascinated and encouraged by the diversity, receptiveness, and collaboration I experience here in the United States.

AGA-DC: Leaders are often being asked "what keeps you awake at night?" However, I'm sure any positivity we can hear and learn is certainly welcome these days. With that, what keeps you motivated each day?

Werner: We all face challenges coming from a multitude of directions. The focus on the negative sometimes clouds our perception of the positive. Sometimes we have to make an effort to see the positive, to recognize the opportunities, and to envision the art of the possible. In so many areas, we're moving into the right direction, making progress, and solving problems. When I look back over the last 30 years, I see so many positive developments. Progress has never been accomplished in a straight line; at times it seems we're moving backwards. Having a positive attitude and a long-term perspective are key to staying the course. As for my daily motivation, it's the people I interact with. Most everyone is trying to do the right thing. I feel humbled being part of such a great professional community.

AGA-DC: Thank you for your time and insights, Werner!

The contents of this interview have been condensed and edited for length and clarity.

Curriculum Vitae

Werner Lippuner

Swiss Certified Public Accountant, CISA, CISM, CGEIT, CRISC, CRMP-FED, Chief Operating Officer at SecureIT

Education:

- Degree in business and accounting, Handelsschule Muenchenstein, Switzerland.

Hometown: Basel, Switzerland

Fun Fact: My family maintains a little farm in Western Maryland.

Professional Experience:

- As the Chief Operating Officer at SecureIT, Werner oversees the service delivery organization that enables technology companies to bring innovative technologies to government agencies.
- Serves a Board Member and Chief Financial Officer at TransPacific Holdings, a company whose mission is to generate efficiencies in the HVAC and related industries.
- Provides strategic consulting services to small and mid-sized companies providing goods and services to the Federal Government.
- Served as a Global Client Service Partner at EY. Werner was responsible for business development and service delivery activities at large cabinet-level federal agencies. Werner was also responsible for the build-out and management of the EY's Federal Risk Advisory business to help clients manage their risks across a wide range of disciplines, such as enterprise risk management (ERM), financial management, cyber security, supply chain, human capital, and regulatory compliance.
- At EY he provided financial management and information technology assurance and advisory services to Swiss- and US-based companies.
- Frequently presented on topics around IT and financial management at various local, national, and international conferences; held guest lectures at Swiss and U.S. universities.

AGA History:

- Published thought leadership articles for national and chapter publications.
- Served on the PDT committee for several years.
- DC Chapter member since 2002.

Member Spotlights -

Brady Johnson

Sophomore Accounting Student at the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities Campus

AGA-DC: How did you first learn about the AGA and the internship opportunity for our DC Chapter?

Brady: I previously lived in Sioux Falls, SD all my life until my mom got a traveling nurse case management position at Johns Hopkins in the summer of my junior high school year. We rented in Middle River Baltimore for that summer until she got a new contract and we relocated again to Falls Church, VA. I then completed my senior year at McLean High School. During my freshman year in college, I explored different career options and was pursuing pre-med with primarily science-related courses, but decided it wasn't for me. I then decided to learn more about accounting and spoke to Al Pavot, whom I happened to become acquainted with when I was in the DC area. Al taught me all the basics of accounting. Soon after this discussion, I decided that the accounting field was a perfect fit for me. He then introduced me to the AGA and provided me with an amazing internship opportunity.

AGA-DC: I understand this AGA DC Chapter internship experience has made a huge impact on you. Can you tell us more about it?

Brady: My internship with the AGA DC chapter has had such an impact on my academic career. Through the internship, I learned how to create accounting entries, create and analyze financial statements, do bank reconciliations, operate accounting software, and understand internal controls. All this extra knowledge and practice has allowed me to excel in my accounting courses. Additionally, the AGA DC chapter provides wonderful networking



opportunities and has allowed me to get my foot in the door in the DC area. Not to mention, the experience is an excellent resume builder and likely aided in my admittance to the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota.

AGA-DC: Who are your mentors at AGA and how did they help you?

Brady: My biggest mentor at the AGA is Al Pavot, the DC Chapter President. He has been so generous as to provide me this internship experience and got me into accounting in the first place. Previously, I had no idea what I wanted to do, but Al guided me down the accounting path which is the perfect fit for me. I also would like to thank the DC Chapter Treasurer, Gary Wong. I work right alongside Gary and learned a lot about preparing financial statements.

AGA-DC: What keeps you motivated each day?

Brady: This year has been extremely busy and challenging as I tutored the student athletes for 10 hours per week on top of my normal class load. Needless to say, it has been very difficult to stay motivated at times. My future aspirations and goals

Member Spotlight Cont'd.

help to keep me motivated to push through college and get the most out of my academic experience. My family and friends have been a great support network and help me through trying times. I also get a lot of motivation from my mom, Melanie Johnson. I look up to her so much as I witnessed the leap of faith she had to make when becoming a traveling nurse in order to advance her career.

AGA-DC: Thank you for your time and insights, Brady!

The contents of this interview had been condensed and edited for length and clarity.

Curriculum Vitae

Brady Johnson

Sophomore Accounting Student (University of Minnesota)

Education:

- Sophomore Accounting Student at the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities Campus (Carlson School of Management)

Hometown: Sioux Falls, SD

Fun Fact: I have lived in four different states: SD, MD, VA, MN.

Professional Experience:

- Intern, AGA Washington, DC Chapter
- Student Tutor, Lindahl Academic Center
- Volunteer, Falls Church (VA) Homeless Shelter
- Volunteer, Adventist HealthCare

Honors:

- **College:** Have been on the Dean’s list for all four semesters
- **High School:** Ap Scholar Award; Scholastic Excellence; Excellence in Civics Education; National Honor Society





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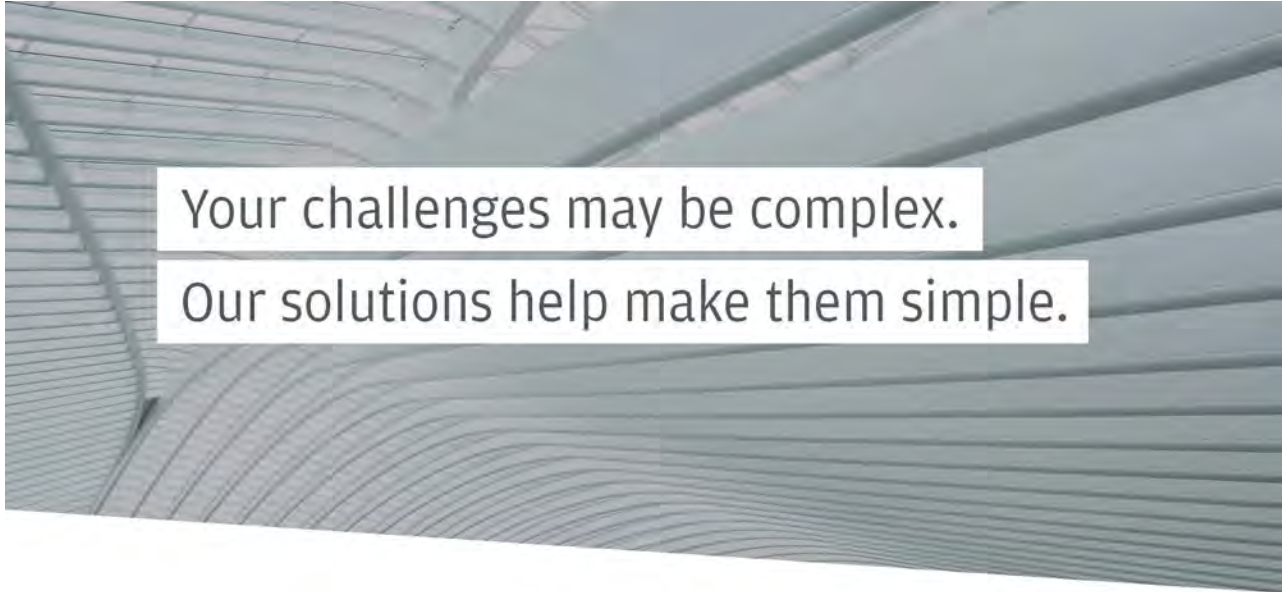
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Inside the Black Box

by Simcha Kuritzky, CGFM CPA



Reconciling Budgetary and Proprietary Cash

Cash is recorded in both the proprietary and budgetary accounts. The proprietary cash accounts are assets, while most of the budgetary accounts are sources and uses of cash. The Standard General Ledger (SGL) crosswalks assume these two are synchronized, and Tie Point 2 ensures they match up. Any error in Tie Point 2 would probably also throw off GTAS Edit 4, though that edit uses a lot more accounts.

Proprietary

The main proprietary cash account is 101000 Fund Balance with Treasury. By definition, any budgetary accounts that are posted parallel to 101000 (i.e., debited when 101000 is debited) is a budgetary cash account. There are two ways of determining if other proprietary accounts are cash accounts: if 101000 is transferred to that account with no posting to a budgetary cash account, or if the budgetary accounts posted parallel to the account are the same as those posted parallel to 101000.

The three main proprietary cash accounts other than 101000 are 112000 Imprest Funds, 112500 U.S. Debit Card Funds, and 113000 Funds Held Outside of Treasury - Budgetary. Before FY2002, imprest funds required an obligation so the cash was treated as an advance (i.e., was reported in account 480200 Undelivered Orders - Obligations, Prepaid/Advanced, although that was not the title back then), but more recent guidance on transactions D502 and D504 do not post to budgetary cash accounts when 101000 is transferred to 112000, so 112000 has to be treated the same as 101000. The handful of entries that use 113000 (without 101000) do post to various collection or disbursement budgetary accounts, so 113000 has to be treated like 101000. A peculiar exception is 109000 Fund Balance with Treasury

while Awaiting a Warrant. It is posted along with appropriation accounts which are budgetary cash accounts, but the appropriations are posted for the annual total while 109000 is only posted for the amount currently available for obligation. However, this inconsistency is temporary. Since the FMS tests are performed at the end of the year, there shouldn't be any continuing resolutions, or by then, the available amount would be the annual amount.

The original Tie Point 2 definition from years ago includes 119000 Other Cash and 1195000 Other Monetary Assets in the equation, but like 113500 Funds Held Outside of Treasury - Non-Budgetary and 120000 Foreign Currency, no SGL transactions post these along with budgetary accounts. There may be some unusual circumstances when these accounts are treated as funded cash, but that would have to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Those special funds that hold Treasury paper also include most of the 1600 series of accounts as cash. When securities are purchased (using 101000) for par or a discount, no budgetary accounts are posted, so 161000 Investments in U.S. Treasury Securities Issued by BPD, 161100 Discount on U.S. Treasury Securities Issued by BPD, and the equivalent accounts for zero-coupon and non-Treasury securities 162000, 162100, 163000 and 163100 are all classified as cash accounts for special funds in the Tie-Points list. However, the Tie-Points include both 161200 Premium on U.S. Treasury Securities Issued by BFS, and 162200 Premium on Securities Other than BFS Securities. Transaction B126 specifies that budgetary cash accounts are posted for the premium matching the excess cash disbursed, so neither premium account should be counted as

Inside the Black Box Cont'd.

cash. In summation, the SGL shows accounts 161000, 161100, 162000, 162100, 163000, and 163100 acting as cash, though the Tie-Points list also includes 161200, 161300, 162200, and 162300.

Budgetary

The easiest way to determine budgetary cash accounts is to look at the permanent accounts since there are so few of them: 420100 Total Actual Resources – Collected, 422200 Unfilled Customer Orders with Advance, and 480200 Undelivered Orders - Obligations, Prepaid/Advanced. Any accounts which close into them must also be cash accounts or any comparisons will work only in the first year of the fund. Since there are so many cash activity accounts, I will only list them by number but I will break them down into like groups:

- **Authority:** 411100-411994, 412250, 413000, 413800-413810, 414600-414800, 415000, 420100-421200, 435100-435600, 437000, 438700-439300
- **Transfers:** 412500, 412800-412900, 414200-414203, 415100-415200, 415900-415901, 416700-416712, 417000, 417300-419700, 423100, 483200
- **Collections:** 422200, 425200-427700, 429000
- **Spending:** 480200, 487200, 488200, 490200, 497200, 498200

Also, 435000 Canceled Authority is used to record the withdrawal of 101000, so it acts like a cash account in the year the fund is canceled, but not in subsequent years.

The Tie-Points don't include all of these accounts, but many of the differences could be because the Tie-Points spreadsheets are a couple years old and also FMS hasn't issued the spreadsheet for Revolving Funds, and many of these accounts are identified as only existing in Revolving Funds. It's also possible accounts like 435100 were excluded because they are only used by closed funds and such funds wouldn't be reported in GTAS.

However, there are some other peculiar situations. The Tie-Points list 417500 Allocation Transfers of Current-Year Authority for Non-Invested Accounts as a cash account but not its prior-year equivalent 417600, even though their accounting treatment is

the same. Similarly, 419100 Balance Transfers - Extensions of Availability other than Reappropriations is listed but 419200 Balance Transfers - Unexpired to Expired is not. It looks like 427300 Interest Collected from Treasury was overlooked when listing Trust Fund accounts, but General (Appropriated) Funds seems to list 428700 Other Federal Receivables instead, which is associated with 131000 Accounts Receivable not 101000. Perhaps this is one reason why the Tie-Points spreadsheets on FMS's web site are still marked draft.

Conclusion

Agencies should periodically check both their posting models and their general ledger account balances to ensure that proprietary and budgetary cash accounts are in agreement. Note any circumstances where timing differences (such as with Continuing Resolutions) may occur. This will make it easier to research any discrepancies found mid-year. Agencies might consider posting to memorandum accounts for timing differences and include these in the reconciliation analysis, particularly if the reconciliation is automated. Agencies may also consider splitting their 101000 FBwT account into sub-accounts by type of activity so that each can be reconciled with a limited number of budgetary accounts, easing the reconciliation process.

Comments and critiques, as well as specific questions or suggestions for future topics, are always welcome. Please send them to Simcha.Kuritzky@CGIFederal.com, and not to the AGA.



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