



AGA TRENTON CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2022 VOLUME 38

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RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY!

Here's to another great year!

renew



Chapter 2021-2022 Leadership

Chapter President Meghan K. Ellis NJ Office of the State Auditor	Membership Kiersten Kokotajlo NJ Office of the State Auditor
Immediate Past President Jessica Donoher NJ Department of Transportation	Chapter President-Elect Robert Rizzo NJ Office of Legislative Services
Chapter Treasurer Michael J. Salberta NJ Office of the State Auditor	Secretary Michelle C. Blatt NJ Office of the State Comptroller
NCC Representative Nikki Farrell, CICA NJ Office of Legislative Services	Education Robert Rizzo NJ Office of Legislative Services
	Webmaster Jennifer Dougherty NJ Office of Legislative Services
	CGFM/Professional Certification Margarita Stanislavskaya, CGFM, CPA Mercer County Improvement Authority



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Members & Friends,

We kicked off April with our first in-person networking event on Friday, April 8th at Slocum's Bowling Alley in Ewing, NJ. We had members, non-members, and students come out for some bowling, appetizers, prizes, and fun! It was a great event and I look forward to many more in the near future. If you have any ideas for networking events, please reach out to us!

Our Spring Professional Development Training (PDT) was on Thursday, April 28th virtually via the Go-To-Webinar platform. We had some great speakers and presentations, such as Christopher Mangano and Jason Spezzano from Withum who spoke about Risk-Based-Approach to Compliance. I thoroughly enjoyed all the sessions and hope you did, as well.

We also collected and are still accepting donations to our Paul Vidunas Fund for our selected charity this year, HomeFront. If you are interested in making a donation, check out our website and click the link to be directed to our PayPal. Please just make sure to select "Friends and Family" as the payment type to make sure HomeFront receives your full donation.

We are also accepting nominations for our 2021-2022 Trenton Chapter Awards Dinner which will be held on June 23rd at Villa Mannino in Bordentown, NJ. We will be accepting nominations for various awards and scholarships through April 30th. More information within the newsletter.

I have also been made aware from National that they are experiencing issues with the timeliness of dues payments. So if you have noticed that your payment has not cleared your bank yet, please be patient for the time being. Registration is now open on our website for our Fraud/Data Analytics Webinar on May 11, 2022 to earn more CPEs!

Sincerely,
Meghan Ellis
Trenton Chapter President



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CGFM SPOTLIGHT



UPCOMING EVENTS AND AGA NATIONAL EVENTS



Fraud and Data Analytics Webinar May 11, 2022

Contact: AGA Trenton Chapter
Email: agatrentoninfo@agatrenton.com

Leadership Webinar June 8, 2022

Contact: AGA Trenton Chapter
Email: agatrentoninfo@agatrenton.com

National Events

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| April
26
Tuesday | CGFM Live, Virtual Course 3: Governmental Financial Management and Control
April 26–28, 2022
Zoom 16 CPEs |
| May
10
Tuesday | CGFM Live, Virtual Course 2: Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting
May 10–13, 2022
Zoom 21 CPEs |
| May
11
Wednesday | Fraud/Data Analytics
May 11, 2022
Webinar 2 CPEs |
| May
12
Thursday | Performance Improvement Officer/Chief Financial Officer Summit (PIO/CFO2022)
May 12, 2022
Washington, DC 4 CPEs |
| June
6
Monday | CGFM Live, Virtual Course 1: Governmental Environment
June 6–7, 2022
Zoom 8 CPEs |

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Past Social Event—Bowling and Networking Event at Slocum's Bowling Alley



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AGA NATIONAL RECRUITMENT CHALLENGE

AGA National News



AGA's Recruitment Challenge - Everyone Get One!

In anticipation of our return to *normalcy* as COVID-19 restrictions are lifted, we're heading back to the basics of recruitment with a member-get-a-member campaign. Our target for the 2021–2022 membership year is to recruit 2,022 new members by April 30, 2022.

AGA membership is more important than ever. It is a key link to our profession, an opportunity to learn from others, invest in ourselves and make our profession stronger.

As members, YOU are the best advocates for AGA membership! Only you know how AGA membership has impacted you and your professional career and can easily convey it to others. Tell them *what AGA means to you!* By recruiting new members, you can help strengthen your Association and impact the future of your profession!

In as little as 5 minutes — with a quick call, a Zoom chat, or an email, you can have a tremendous impact!

Plus, by encouraging your friends and colleagues to elevate their professional potential via AGA membership can lead to awards and rewards for you!

- Step 1: Reach to Colleagues and Friends
- Step 2: Share What AGA Means to You
- Step 3: Invite Them to Join AGA
- Step 4: Receive Awards and Rewards!

The Fine Print

- All AGA members in good standing are eligible to participate.
- Recruiting free electronic members (students and professors), retired and suspended members do not qualify for campaign awards and rewards.
- The 2021–2022 Recruitment Challenge runs for 9 months! July 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022.

Submit Your Articles and Be Featured in the AGA Trenton Newsletter!

AGA Trenton Chapter is currently soliciting and accepting thoughtful articles on a wide range of government financial topics and may also publish articles relating to Tax, Practice Management, Financial Reporting, Audit, and Accounting. Chosen articles will be featured in the next newsletter and may qualify for CPE credits. For additional information, please contact agatrentoninfo@agatrenton.com

CGFM CERTIFICATION



Interested in getting your employer to recognize the AGA Certified Government Financial Manager certification? Reach out to Margarita Stanislavskaya, Trenton Chapter CGFM Chairperson, for more information.

AGA MENTORING PROGRAM



The program is open to AGA members only.

We all have a responsibility to leave this world better than we found it and to have a positive impact on the next generation of government leaders. 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.



DESCRIPTIONS OF AWARDS CATEGORIES

The James J. Dolan Award

Established in honor of the Chapter's founding president, conferred on a member of eminent service to the Chapter. (Any member of AGA, except an individual serving as a Chapter Officer, is eligible for this award.)

Distinguished Leadership Award

Conferred on individuals in government service who have provided sustained outstanding leadership in financial management over a period of years, resulting in notable contributions to financial management. (Nominees need not be a member of AGA.)

Achievement of the Year Award

Accords recognition for leadership or outstanding achievement in developing, implementing, or improving financial management in government. (Nominees need not be a member of AGA but must have been employed in government service at the time the work being recognized was performed.)

Education and Training Award

Conferred on individuals who have made significant contributions to the education and training of government financial managers. (Nominee need not be a member of AGA.)

Special Achievement Award

Accords recognition for notable contributions toward improving government financial management early in a professional career. (Nominee must under age thirty-five at the end of the preceding calendar year is eligible for this award.)

Chapter Service Award

Conferred on individuals who are active members of the Association for consistently important contributions to the development and enhancement of the Chapter over long periods of time or for distinguished or spectacular contributions to the Chapter during the year of nomination.

Thomas J. Kaschak Memorial Scholarship

Established as a memorial to Thomas J. Kaschak, a member of the Trenton Chapter of the AGA and First Vice President at the time of his death in 1982. A scholarship is presented, together with a plaque at the Chapter's Annual Awards Meeting, to an individual who is demonstrating sound scholastic achievement, in addition to participation in extracurricular and/or civic activities. (Nominees must be enrolled in an institution of higher learning in the pursuit of a degree. First priority for scholarship will be given the dependents of Chapter members.)

2022 AGA TRENTON CHAPTER AWARDS

Date: _____

I would like to nominate the following individual for a 2022 AGA Trenton Chapter Award:

(Name) _____

(Address) _____

(City/State/Zip) _____

(Telephone Number) _____

Please check the designation of the award for which you nominate this individual.

CHECK ONE ONLY

- The James Dolan Award
- Distinguished Leadership Award
- Achievement of the Year Award
- Education and Training Award
- Special Achievement Award
- Chapter Service Award
- Thomas J. Kaschak Memorial Scholarship*

**Note: This award requires submission of the "Scholarship Application"*

Additional supporting information may accompany this nomination form. Please be concise as possible. We may contact you for additional information, if necessary.

Biographical Sketch of Nominee (*position, title, education, other pertinent background information, etc.*)

Description of Accomplishments/Achievements

Citation (*For use as the formal award citation. Succinctly describe accomplishments, particularly their impact or results.*)

Signature of Nominator _____

Printed Name of Nominator _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Telephone Number _____

◆ **DEADLINE FOR NOMINATION is April 30, 2022** ◆

Mail or E-Mail Nomination Forms to:
Stephanie Rybak (SRybak@njleg.org), AGA Trenton,
P.O. Box 536, Trenton, NJ 08604

THOMAS J. KASCHAK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Association of Government Accountants

Trenton Chapter

NOTE: Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Nominee Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Name of College/University: _____

Year Beginning College/University: _____ Year in 2022-2023: FR SO JR SR OTHER: _____

College Major: _____

Scholastic Standing (Grade Point Average) * _____

Membership In - Out of School Organizations ** _____ Office Held: _____

School Activities Participated In ** _____ Office Held: _____

Honors or Awards Received * _____

Other Family Members Attending College 2022-2023.

NAME	COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY	YEAR
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Nominator Information:

Member of AGA? (Please Circle) YES NO How Long? _____

Printed Name of Nominator: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Number () _____ E-Mail _____

Employer: _____

Relationship to Nominee: _____ Signature of Nominator: _____

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATION is April 30, 2022

Mail Nomination Form to:

Stephanie Rybak

AGA Trenton

P.O. Box 536, Trenton, NJ 08604

*Attach High School and College (if any) Transcripts

** Attach Additional Sheets if Necessary

PREVIOUS AWARDEES ARE NOT ELIGIBLE

Membership-Scholarship Program

In order to promote the AGA-Trenton Chapter and its membership, the AGA-Trenton's "Membership-scholarship" program (the Program) was launched in January 2011. For one year, the Program sponsors National and Trenton's Chapter AGA membership dues, CPE awarding monthly meetings, Annual Fall Seminar and Annual Spring Symposium for the individuals (one or more) who meet the following selected criteria.

The qualified individual is the one who:

- * Works for Federal, State, or Local Government
- * Performs accounting, auditing, or IT related duties
- * Has not previously been a member of AGA-Trenton
- * Regularly attends (commits to attend) AGA-Trenton Chapter's functions (e.g. monthly meetings, Seminar and Symposium, etc.)
- * Agrees to serve as a Board member (at the position available or assigned by the Board)
- * Committed to actively promote the AGA-Trenton Chapter, its membership, and events

Evaluation criteria and scholarship's term:

At the end of the first year the Program's Committee will evaluate the scholarship recipient's performance based on the criteria specified above, and, if satisfied, this member may be awarded one more year of the sponsorship for full membership (Dues-National and Trenton Chapter-only).

The application for the Program will be placed on AGA-Trenton website shortly. The scholarship recipient will be announced and introduced at AGA-Trenton's annual Award Dinner in June 2022. Please, forward this information to your colleagues, clients, and friends. Please, nominate your colleagues, clients, and friends who are not yet members of AGA-Trenton.

The due date for the application/nomination is April 30, 2022.

(please see application on next page)

Return via email (srybak@njleg.org)

We look forward to hearing from you,
Stephanie Rybak, Director of Awards



**AGA-Trenton Chapter
Membership-Scholarship Program
Application**

Name _____

Place of work _____

Position _____

Contact Info _____

Experience _____

Candidate Statement (why interested in joining AGA) _____

Comments/References (optional) _____

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AGA TRENTON CHAPTER'S MARCH 2022 BALANCE SHEET

MARCH 2022

ASSETS

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Cash - Savings	\$ 24,190.95	Accounts Payable	\$ 1,593.98
Cash - Checking	\$ 12,486.07	Deferred Income	\$ -
Accounts Receivable	\$ 290.00		
Prepaid Expenses	\$ 780.74	Fund Balance	\$ 36,153.78
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 37,747.76	TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQU	\$ 37,747.76

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

PLATINUM



BRONZE



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CHAPTER DIRECTORS 2021-2022 PROGRAM YEAR

President - Meghan Ellis
President Elect/VP of Education - Robert Rizzo
Immediate Past President/Nominating Committee Chair - Jessica Donoher
VP of Membership - Kiersten Kokotajlo
VP of Finance/ Administration/Programs - Stephanie Rybak
Treasurer - Michael Salberta
Secretary - Michelle Blatt
National Council of Chapters Representative - Nikki Farrell
Fall PDT/Technical Coordinator - Co-chairs: Nikki Farrell & Meghan Ellis + Fall PDT Committee
Spring PDT/Technical Coordinator - Co-chairs: Nikki Farrell & Meghan Ellis + Spring PDT Committee
Audio Conferences - Rene Gervasoni - Backup: Michelle Blatt
Sponsorship - Guy Tassi
Chapter Recognition - Robert Rizzo and Meghan Ellis
CGFM Chairperson - Margarita Stanislavskaya
Community Service - Chris Fucello
Awards - Stephanie Rybak
Young Professionals/Early Career - Meghan Ellis
Budget/Finance - Amanda Ireland
Newsletter - Marie Samson
Meeting Chair - Rene Gervasoni - Backup: Joseph Pica
Paul Vidunas Coordinator - Nat Jackson
Historian - Rose Todaro
By-Laws - David Kaschak
Accountability Outreach Chair - Kiersten Kokotajlo
Webmaster/Communications - Jennifer Dougherty - Backup: Nikki Farrell

Contact Us

By mail: **AGA-Trenton PO Box 536 Trenton, NJ 08604**

E-mail: **agatrentoninfo@agatrenton.com**

Facebook: **<https://www.facebook.com/AGATrentonNJ>**

LinkedIn: **<https://www.linkedin.com/company/trenton-aga>**

Website: **<https://www.agacgfm.org/trenton>**

