



# The Ozarks Ledger



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## From Nathan's Desk

We have so much to be thankful for this year, despite the pandemic. I have found this year to be full of growth opportunities for our chapter, and personal growth opportunities to rise up to the unique challenges. I hope you can find many things to be thankful for as well.

The 2020 Technology and Transformation Summit on November 18th was 100% virtual this year and offered 8 free CPE to all AGA members. It was a conference full of learning opportunities, encouraging government financial management employees to lead us into the future with new technologies.

I wish you all the best and that you will continue to stay safe and well.

Best,

Nathan Ziegler, CPA



## Ozark Chapter Events

- Chapter Meeting - January 21
  - Tentative in Person, TBD
- Chapter Meeting - February 21
  - Tentative in Person, TBD
- Spring Seminar - March 25
- Chapter Meeting - April 15
  - Tentative in Person, TBD
- Chapter Meeting - May 20, TBD

## National Events

- Virtual Event - November 18
  - Technology & Transformation Summit (TTS)
- Virtual Event - December 2
  - CEAR Reviewer Training
- Virtual Event - December 9
  - Internal Control
- Virtual Event - January 11
  - CGFM Live, Virtual Course: Governmental Environment
- Virtual Event - January 13
  - Uniform Guidance



## Technology & Transformation Summit (TTS)

**Virtual Event - November 18th**

This event brings together more than 1,300 government leaders and industry experts to discuss how IT innovation, workforce, security, and cloud are transforming mission delivery.

8 CPEs Available

Free for Members or \$125 for Government Non-Members

## We now accept Paypal!

**PSSSTTT...Pass it On!**

Did you know that if you recruit a new member and they include your name on their application that you can be entered into a monthly drawing to win an awesome tech gadget or an AMEX give card? You will also receive a recruiter lapel pin and AGA reusable face mask!

Be sure to let your coworkers know of the opportunities they can access through AGA!

# News from National/NCC Rep

Hello, everyone!

As governments wrap up the year-end and start preparing their Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports (CAFRs), many also issue Popular Annual Financial Reports (PAFRs) to communicate results to their citizens in a less technical and more user-friendly format. They focus on the flow of resources to the government, how those resources were used and the results that were achieved with those resources.

In an effort to make government spending more transparent and easier to understand, the National AGA office developed the Citizen-Centric Report (CCR) reporting style in 2007, and since then, over 400 government CCRs have been published to provide citizens a clear and concise understanding of where taxpayer dollars are going.

The CCR is a 4 page report format that uses charts, tables and graphics to share useful information on a government's annual financial and operating results. You will see

- a description of the agency and its mission (page 1),
- service and performance metrics and outcomes (page 2),
- financial revenues and expenditures (page 3), and
- upcoming challenges and goals that the entity has in the future (page 4).

The National AGA office and its Chapters use a similar format, the Member-Centric Report, to highlight key information to keep members informed on their annual results and achievements.

Did you know that your Ozarks AGA Chapter produces a Member-Centric Report in the fall? You can find those on the Chapter website. Your Chapter Executive Committee is currently working on our annual report for the 2019-2020 reporting year. We expect to have that report published in early November.

I will update you next month with more news from National.

Greg Drake

2019-2021 Ozarks Chapter NCC Representative



## Random Financial Fact:

Due to COVID-19, the 94th Annual Macy's Thanksgiving Parade will look much different in 2020. It is estimated that a typical yearly parade costs more than \$10 million.

Including helium costs, the iconic balloons cost between \$600,000 and \$750,000 depending on if the balloon is a newly constructed balloon or reused from a previous year.



# The Pathways Program

*Get started on your career path.*

**Are you a student or recent graduate interested in government accounting?**

**Do you know a student or recent graduate who may be interested in government accounting?**

- The Federal Chief Financial Officers Council is seeking up to 1,000 college students and recent graduates to contribute to the budget, performance, systems, and

accounting needs of the Federal government. Learn how YOU can become a **National Asset!**

- The [Pathways Program](#) is accepting applications from now through Nov. 30, 2020, or until they get 1,000 applications — whichever comes first.
- This is a great opportunity to get involved. Learn how government works and work to make it better!
- Don't delay! Apply now!

# Everyone meet, Daphne Pevahouse



This month we are excited to introduce Daphne Pevahouse. Daphne was raised in Webb City and attended Missouri Southern State University. Although she lives in Joplin now, she raised her children in Neosho and has been employed by the City of Neosho since 2009. Daphne is proud of how far the City of Neosho has come since 2009, which has continued to motivate her every day. Daphne has been a member of AGA for 7 years. The recent pandemic has taught her to love Netflix. Her friends and family are her everything.

## Strictly Business:

What was your first job?

My first job as a teenager was at Pretzel Time in the mall. It was so much fun.

What's your go-to productivity trick?

I like to make a list of things I need to get done during the day. Being able to check things off the list motivates me.

## A Little More Personal:

What is something most people don't know about you?

My husband and I started a business out of our basement 7 years ago. Now we have a 40 employee E-Commerce powerhouse with a 90,000 square foot warehouse and sales all over the country. We have commercial rentals and just started a new auto body business.

## Just for Fun:

What's one item you can't leave your home without?

I take my Hydro Flask filled with ice cold water everywhere I go. I do not even run down to the grocery store without filling it up and taking it with me.

Lynda.com from LinkedIn Video:

**Building Your Visibility as a Leader**

Jason Schenker



## Anniversaries, Milestones & Achievements

- Email Melody Ownby with any Anniversaries, Milestones, or Achievements

## Job Opportunities

- City of Springfield
  - Accounting Technician
  - Payroll & Benefits Assistant
- Joplin Schools
  - Director of Accounting
- Missouri State University
  - Accountant
  - Internal Auditor
- Email Melody Ownby with any governmental accounting opportunities in the Ozarks



## Quote of the Month

"Beware of little expenses. A small leak will sink a great ship." - Benjamin Franklin

# Why the CGFM?

## Greg Drake

### **Q: What prompted you to begin the process of obtaining your CGFM?**

A: My Bachelor's degree is in Mathematics, so I didn't have a lot of Accounting in college. I wanted something more formal that would demonstrate what I'd learned on the job.

### **Q: How has it helped your confidence?**

A: Having the CGFM credential gave me a well-rounded background in all levels of government accounting.

### **Q: How do you feel it has helped you in performing your job duties?**

A: The CGFM certificate requires 80 hours of CPE every two years. That continuing education helps keep me up-to-date on trends and changes in the government financial environment.

### **Q: How has networking with other CGFM holders helped you?**

A: Networking is essential. Whether you are looking for a job or needing advice on a project/work situation, someone in your network likely has the information you need.

### **Q: What did you find helpful in studying for the CGFM Certification?**

A: On-the-job experience was a big part of my success with the exams. You'd be surprised by the amount of exam material you learn just from working in the field. I also bought the CGFM study guides from the National office. Those guides filled in the knowledge gaps that work experience didn't fill.

### **Q: What would you suggest to candidates to help them pass the exams?**

A: Read the study guides. If you struggle with a topic, use your network and ask other CGFMs for help on material that you don't understand.

### **Q: What resources did you use to help prepare?**

A: The study guides are a great resource to use. The Chapter has the study guides available to borrow, if you don't want to buy your own set. As others have said before, get a study group together to keep you motivated and help you with the more difficult material.

### **Q: Did you know that Ozarks Chapter will reimburse you for the application and exams once all exams have been passed if your employer has not paid for them?**

A: I did. I noticed that when I was Chapter Treasurer several years ago. The Chapter wants to help its members succeed and helping defray the exam costs is a big part of that.

### **Q: How long did it take you from when you started the application process to complete the certification process?**

A: I spent a few lunch hours each week just reading over the study guides. I believe it took about 9 months to finish all 3 exams.





**AGA wants to partner with you.**



**GET MORE INFORMATION TODAY!**

**Contact Daphne to see how the AGA Ozarks Chapter can support you! - [dpevahouse@neoshomo.org](mailto:dpevahouse@neoshomo.org)**



# GASB FOCUS Webinars

## Preliminary Views, Revenue and Expense Recognition

For Preparers and Auditors:

- November 19, 2020 2:00–3:00 p.m. EST (PV Chapters 2 and 4)
- December 10, 2020 2:00–3:00 p.m. EST (PV Chapters 5–7).

Participants in the live webinars (which are offered free of charge) are eligible for 1 hour of continuing professional education (CPE) per webinar. CPE credit is **not** available for group viewing of the live broadcast.

The webinars will be conducted by Paulina Haro, GASB supervising project manager, and Erin McKenzie, GASB project manager. Dean Mead, GASB senior research manager, will moderate the webinar for users. David R. Bean, GASB director of research and technical activities, will moderate the webinars for preparers and auditors.

Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions during the webinar.

## Exposure Draft, Financial Reporting Model Improvements

For Preparers and Auditors:

December 15, 2020, 2:00–4:00 p.m.

Participants in the live webinars (which are offered free of charge) are eligible for 1 or 2 hours of continuing professional education (CPE) credit depending on the length of the event. CPE credit is **not** available for group viewing of the live broadcast.

The webinars will be conducted by Roberta Reese, Lisa Parker, and Scott Reeser, GASB senior project managers, and Janeen Hathcock, GASB associate practice fellow. Dean Mead, GASB senior research manager, will moderate the webinar for users. David Bean, GASB director of research and technical activities, will moderate the webinars for preparers and auditors.

Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions during the webinar.





Are you ready for the next strategic move?

AGA's National Governing Board is seeking active, engaged, and strategic senior leaders to take AGA to the next level during the July 2021 - June 2023 term.

**Be sure to [submit nominations](#) by December 15, 2020.**

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