



Monthly Newsletter



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President's Message



Hello Dallas Chapter!

This past week we teamed with the Ozarks and the Oklahoma City Chapters to host our Fall Professional Development Training. Over 110 individuals attended the event! We were proud to have AGA's 71st National President, Wendy Morton-Huddleston, outline her platform for this year: Legacy, Leadership & Transformation. With this event, because of the wonderful turn out and the support of our corporate partners, we have been able to contribute 50 percent of the net proceeds to the [North Texas Food Bank](#). I'm so proud of the legacy AGA Dallas is creating and to have been a part of it.

In this month's newsletter, we highlight one of our Chapter Executive Committee's newest members, Tonyan Geans, our Membership Director. If you would like to get more involved with our Chapter, please [reach out to me](#). I would love to hear from you!

Thanks,

John D. Rich, CGFM
AGA Dallas Chapter President

Connect with Us!



Upcoming Events

2020 Technology & Transformation Summit (TTS)



Date: November 18, 2020
 Time: 9:00am-6:00pm ET
 Location: Virtual
 CPEs: 8 CPEs

[Register Online](#)

This event is free to AGA members

2021 National Leadership Training



Did you hear? NLT 2021 will be 100% virtual!

Date: February 24–25, 2021
 Time: 8:00am-4:30pm ET
 Location: Virtual
 CPEs: 14 CPEs

[Register Online](#)

AGA National Webinars

[Register Online](#)

Internal Control (2 CPEs)

Date: December 9, 2020
 Time: 2:00-3:50pm ET

Increase Your Confidence, Enhance Your Career (1.5 CPEs)

Date: December 16, 2020
 Time: 1:00-2:15pm ET

Free to AGA members

Uniform Guidance (2 CPEs)

Date: January 13, 2021
 Time: 2:00-3:50pm ET

GASB Update (2 CPEs)

Date: February 3, 2021
 Time: 2:00-3:50pm ET

Improper Payments (2 CPEs)

Date: March 3, 2021
 Time: 2:00-3:50pm ET

Cybersecurity/ERM (2 CPEs)

Date: March 24, 2021
 Time: 2:00-3:50pm ET

Membership Spotlight

Welcome New Members!

- Miss Ashley Clary
- Mr. David F. McCoy

Membership Anniversaries

- Mr. Todd Christians – 33 years
- Ms. Marian Wendel – 33 years
- Ms. Teena Neptune, CPA – 32 years
- Mr. Gordon Sato, CGFM-Retired, CPA – 31 years
- Mr. Daniel Genz – 6 years

The 2020-2021 program year is already underway. [Join or renew today!](#)

Meet Tonyan Geans, Membership Director



Tonyan is an accounting professional with more than 10 years of experience specializing in full-cycle accounting, from accounts payable and receivable to reporting and beyond. She has served as an accountant for the City of Dallas for the past three years and was

previously the Chief Executive Officer and President at Geans & Associates, a professional accounting firm for small businesses. Tonyan has an entrepreneurial spirit and is a natural leader using business acumen to advance her career. Currently, Tonyan aspires to advance into management in the future.

Tonyan joined AGA after being sent to an AGA professional development training in New Orleans

by the City of Dallas-Aviation Department. She has been a member of the Dallas AGA since 1999. Tonyan has heard many great and inspiring speakers at AGA training events. She has had the opportunity to meet some awesome, supportive people throughout the country. These individuals indicated how AGA contributes to personal growth and career success. At their encouragement, Tonyan decided to get more involved with her local chapter.

Tonyan enjoys being the chapter's Membership chair since it allows her to be a cheerleader for the Dallas Chapter and AGA. She believes the AGA and her role offers tools to advance your career. Tonyan has two adult children and two grandchildren, Dior and Jeremy who are the light of her life. Tonyan says that it is a pleasure to watch the next generation come forth. In her spare time, Tonyan loves to read and write short stories. These activities are especially fulfilling at this stage of her life and even in the middle of a pandemic.

Free Student and Professor Memberships

Do you know any students pursuing a career in government financial management? Or any accounting or finance professors?

AGA offers a FREE electronic membership to students enrolled full-time at an accredited higher education institution and not gainfully employed. [Learn more](#) about AGA Student Membership.

Chapter News

AGA Dallas Hosts Joint Virtual 2020 Fall Professional Development Training (PDT) with the Oklahoma City, and Ozarks Chapters

The AGA Dallas, Oklahoma City and Ozarks Chapters hosted the Virtual Fall PDT on October 29, 2020. Over 110 attendees participated in a variety of sessions including the 71st AGA National President platform (Legacy, Leadership and Transformation), managing in the COVID-19 environment, and resolving ethical dilemmas.

Donations on behalf of the speakers have been made to the [North Texas Food Bank](#), the [Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma](#) and the [Diaper Bank of the Ozarks](#). In addition to the speaker donations, the AGA Dallas Chapter is also donating 50 percent of the net proceeds from this event to the North Texas Food Bank.

Speaker bios, presentations and photos of the event are available now in our [Past Events](#) page.



AGA 71st National President Platform: Legacy, Leadership & Transformation
Wendy Morton-Huddleston, CGFM, PMP, AGA National President and Principal, Grant Thornton LLP



Managing in the COVID-19 Environment
John Rich, CPA, CGFM, General Services Administration
Riley Shauli, CPA, CGFM, University of Central Oklahoma
Brandie Fisher, City Utilities, Springfield, Missouri
Chelley Hilmes, CPA, CGFM, Oklahoma Department of Transportation



Resolving Ethical Dilemmas
Dave Cotton, CPA, CFE, CGFM, Chairman, Cotton & Company LLP; and Melinda DeCorte, CPA, CGFM, Partner, Cotton & Company LLP



AGA Dallas Launches Suggestion Mailbox

We would like to hear from you! Do you have any suggestions on how we can best provide value to you? Please submit your ideas and suggestions on this [Google Form](#). Responses are anonymous.

Job Opportunity: Junior Financial Accountant, Savantage Solutions

Savantage Solutions is seeking a Junior Financial Accountant to join their Dallas Financial Center team. Government accounting experience in Obligation, Payment, and Payroll lifecycles is highly preferred. This position requires the ability to understand and comply with federal government standards, accounting principles, and system application standards. We provide a challenging, dynamic, and fast paced work environment where innovation is nurtured, and creativity is embraced.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Provide accounting and/or reconciliation services that support department and organizational programs and components.
- Provide accounting services for Funds Management, Payment management, and Payroll Management lifecycles.
- Communicate with senior level analysts to gather, analyze, and compile data to provide support services.
- Assist senior level analysts in monitoring functional systems specifications for accounting and financial control in assigned program areas and taking action to achieve organizational financial and accounting objectives.

[Click here](#) to learn more about this opportunity or apply for this position.

WHAT AGA MEANS TO ME

Carla Flores
CFO Data Analytics Lead
IRS



“ AGA is the extended family you didn't know you needed. You can build and maintain a professional network and better yet, personal connections. ”



AGA National Updates



Want to help strengthen our association and have the chance to win fun prizes? Participate in AGA's Power of 7 recruitment campaign, running October 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021!

This 7-month campaign is designed to strengthen AGA by challenging every member to recruit 7 new members. When you recruit a new member, you'll receive a recruiter lapel pin as well as a reusable AGA face mask, and be entered into both our monthly prize drawings and the grand prize drawing for a complimentary trip to PDT 2021 in Nashville.

[Learn more](#) about the campaign.

National Collegiate Leadership Program

AGA offers undergraduate students opportunities to engage with senior government leaders and learn more about careers in government financial management and supporting fields through the National Collegiate Leadership Program.

[Applications](#) are due on **November 13**.

Call for National Leadership Award Nominations

Nominate a colleague for a 2021 National Leadership Award! Awards recognize federal, state, local and private professionals who promote and exemplify excellence in the profession. [Submit your nomination](#) by **December 7**.

CEAR Reviewers Needed

AGA is looking for reviewers for the Certificate of Excellence in Accountability Reporting (CEAR) program. If you have considerable knowledge of federal government financial management, performance measurement, and the reporting of results, please consider applying to serve as a CEAR reviewer.

Volunteers should have a general understanding of federal government operations as well as familiarity with federal agencies and the subjects covered by an Agency Financial Report or Performance and Accountability Reports.

CEAR Reviewers are eligible to earn up to 6 CPEs.

[Learn more](#) about becoming a CEAR reviewer.



AGA Accountability Talks

Have you listened to AGA's Accountability Talks podcast yet? Episodes feature topics such as OMB Circular A-123 Appendix C, FASAB, data analytics, interviews with AGA leadership and more! In Episode 55, The Ethics of AI, host Paul Marshall speaks with Taka Ariga and Farahnaaz Khakoo-Mausel from GAO about the ethical implications of utilizing Artificial Intelligence.

[Listen now!](#)

NCC Representative Corner



Dallas Chapter Members,

As I described in the October newsletter, my role as the NCC representative for the Dallas Chapter is to support the Chapter in pursuit of our strategic goals. The NCC

provides me the opportunity to connect with other NCC representatives across geographic boundaries, learn from and support one another, and leverage best practices employed by other Chapters to accomplish initiatives in support of our Chapter's strategic goals. You can find our Chapter's strategic plan and goals [here](#).

I am proud to update you on several key accomplishments in pursuing our goals related to Education. As you know, we have partnered with the Oklahoma City and Ozarks Chapters to purchase a subscription to GoToWebinar. On October 29, 2020, we hosted our first joint virtual PDT to our collective membership, offering four CPE hours. We had over 110 attendees participate in this event, across North Texas, Oklahoma City and Southwest Missouri. We appreciate and greatly value all of you that participated, representing federal, state, and local government as well as private industry. We are looking forward to reviewing the session surveys (i.e., evaluations) from our joint PDT. We will use your feedback in planning and providing high quality CPE to our members and nonmember event attendees, while leveraging resources and speakers across all Chapters.

Another key accomplishment in pursuit of our goals related to Community Service is the donation of 50 percent of the Dallas Chapter's share of the PDT net proceeds to the North Texas Food Bank. We are proud to donate over \$500 to

the food bank, in support of our community. We will continue to look for ways to directly benefit our community through future PDTs.

Related to Community Services, I wanted to highlight a key initiative in another AGA Chapter that I thought was especially intriguing. The Immediate Past President of the New York Capital Chapter, Jennifer Paperman, designed and implemented a financial literacy badge campaign for the Girl Scouts. She is a Lifetime Member of the Girl Scouts and has served as a Leader for 13 years. Girl Scouts are organized by level, with each level corresponding to school grade levels (e.g., Cadettes are Girl Scouts that are currently in the sixth through the eighth grades). The financial literacy badge campaign offers two badges for each level (three badges for the Cadettes level) with the financial literacy concepts increasing in complexity for each progressive Girl Scout level. Through the conduct of workshops, participants learn financial literacy concepts and skills and qualify for a badge. I thought this was such a neat idea and great example of how we, as accountability professionals, can make such a difference in the lives of the future generation. I am proud that we have AGA leaders like Jennifer. If you'd like more information on this initiative, I am happy to point you to some publicly available resources that you can leverage. You can also contact Jennifer Paperman directly at: agapaperman@nycap.rr.com.

I look forward to providing you with additional updates, including progress in achieving our strategic goals, in the December newsletter.

Melinda J. DeCorte, CGFM, CPA
AGA Dallas Chapter NCC Representative and
NGB Area 3 Chapter Director

2020-2021 Chapter Executive Committee

[John D. Rich, CGFM](#)

President

Vacant

President-Elect

[Shino Knowles](#)

Treasurer

[Regina M. Stevenson, CGFM](#)

Secretary

[Tonyan L. Geans](#)

Membership Director

[Carla B. Flores, CGFM](#)

Communications Director

Vacant

Programs Director

Vacant

Certification Director

[Melinda J. DeCorte, CGFM, CPA](#)

Dallas NCC Representative and
NGB Area 3 Chapter Director

Volunteering with AGA is a great way to give back to the profession, and further your own career. If you would like to hear more about our volunteer opportunities for this program year, please contact [John Rich](#), AGA Dallas Chapter President.

Connect with Us!

 <https://www.agacgfm.org/dallas>

 agadallasChapter@gmail.com

 <https://www.facebook.com/AGADallasChapter>

 <https://twitter.com/AGADallas>

 <https://www.linkedin.com/in/agadallas/>

Corporate Partners

Our Chapter would like to thank our corporate partner. We partnered with this organization to further the educational and networking opportunities we provide to our members. Click on the logo below to learn more about our corporate partner.

Bronze Partner

Becker+

We have various corporate partnership opportunities to meet your organization's needs. [Learn more](#) about becoming a corporate partner.