



# February 2021 Newsletter

February Theme: “Celebrating February in the New Normal”

Hello, Hope everyone is staying safe and looking forward to warmer weather around the corner since Buckeye Chuck did not see his shadow and predicts an early Spring for Ohio!!!

It is time to renew your AGA Membership! Please renew early to win a chance to attend the National AGA PDT for FREE! Please see the AGA website for more information.

Reminder!!! Our next webinar will be March 3, 2021, on Improper Payments, “Using Data and Disruptive Technology to Reduce Improper Payments”, from 2:00–3:50 PM and offers 2 CPEs in Auditing.

FREE Webinar to Members only! Annual AGA Women's Council Webinar, March 17, 2021 from 2:00–3:15 PM ET, offering 1.5 CPEs. Please check the AGA website for further information.

WANTED!!! Want to be more involved in the Chapter? The Chapter is looking for individuals to fill a vacated CEC position in Accountability. The Accountability Chair prepares the annual CCR Report for the Chapter and accounts for the Chapter points on a quarterly basis. For more information on these positions, please contact me and help the Chapter to grow by joining the CEC.

Even though February is the shortest month of the year, there are plenty of ways to celebrate safely. February was declared American Heart Month by President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1964. American Heart month is celebrated by wearing “Red” on February 5th. Of course, in the month of February, we have Valentine’s Day on February 14th. Celebrating during a pandemic may mean cooking a gourmet dinner at home and binge watching romantic movies. Just remember, through thick and thin, strong relationships can withstand many hardships, including a pandemic. February is more than just chocolate, roses, romance and the color “Red”. If the dark winter days are starting to drag on, try celebrating with one these fun excuses like: National Drink Wine Day on February 18th, National Love Your Pet Day on February 20th, National Banana Nut Bread Day on February 23rd or National Margarita Day on February 22nd and National Tortilla Chip Day on February 24th. However you choose to celebrate the month of February in our “New Normal”, please be safe.

~”The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched-they must be felt with the heart”- Helen Keller~

Sincerely,

Cindy Shoe  
Chapter President, Greater Columbus AGA



## **Treasurer's Report – as of January 31, 2021**

Checking Balance: \$11,694.52 ( ↓ \$174.70)

Savings Balance: \$1,059.30 – No Change

Certificate of Deposit: \$10,225.19 ( ↑ \$8.21)

### **What You Need To Know**

#### **Get Involved**

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

#### **New Finance & Budget Chair**

Congratulations to Mr. Jeff Howe, Greater Columbus AGA's new Finance & Budget Chair. Welcome to the CEC!

#### **Amazon SMILE**

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

#### **Become a CGFM**

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

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

#### **Kroger Plus Community Rewards**

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

#### **Keep Your AGA Information Up To Date**

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

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

## **Volunteer Tax Income Assistance – 2020 Tax Season**

For more than ten years, Greater Columbus AGA has supported the Volunteer Tax Income Assistance sites at both Northland and West HS in Columbus. Volunteers across Central Ohio work at numerous sites to prepare tax returns for low to moderate income families.

Despite the pandemic, the work continues this tax season! United Way of Central Ohio is organizing virtual tax preparation this year and seeking volunteers who are interested in volunteering. Clients are now able to make tax appointments through 2-1-1 and GetYourRefund.Org, and our tax preparers will be virtually preparing their returns via an online platform called “The Hub” and contacting them via phone as needed to ask questions and go over their return with them.

Similar to prior years, all volunteers must be certified by the IRS. This is the first step before you schedule time to volunteer. Each volunteer must pass the Volunteer Standards of Conduct, Intake/Interview, and Advance Tax Certification at <https://www.linklearncertification.com/d/>. This will generate a Form 13615, which can be submitted to prove you’re good to go! Note: if you are an active CPA, you can take the Circular 230 Exam, which just tests on the most recent tax updates. In addition, the training courses (excluding Circular 230) do qualify for CPE (not CET, since tax related). Due to this being virtual, we have less need for greeters this year.

If you’d like to attend an online training to learn more about the volunteering process and the virtual how-to, register for Canvas here:

[https://elink.clickdimensions.com/c/6/?T=NDcwMzM0Njc%3AMDItYjIxMDIzLTVhNGJiZjc2MzFhYjQ3NzZhOTA5MGRmMGU2MzIwZGQ0%3AcmFjaGVsc2t3ZXJlckBnbWVpbC5jb20%3AY29udGFjdC0zYjMyMTBiNjdkM2ZINzExODExYWUwMDcxYjZhZjE0MS0yOWE1M2I4MTE2YTE0YjQwYWZiNmZIMjU5OWY5ZGRhNw%3AZmFsc2U%3AMQ%3A%3AaHR0cHM6Ly9jYW52YXMuW5zdHJ1Y3R1cmUuY29tL2Vu cm9sbC9GQkdBQ1c\\_X2NsZGVIPWNtRmPhR1ZzYzJ0M1pYSmxja0JuYldGcGJDNWpiMjAlM2QmcmVjaXBpZW50aWQ9Y29udGFjdC0zYjMyMTBiNjdkM2ZINzExODExYWUwMDcxYjZhZjE0MS0yOWE1M2I4MTE2YTE0YjQwYWZiNmZIMjU5OWY5ZGRhNyZlc2lkPTI1MWY3MWQ5LWE2NWQtZWlXMS1hODEyLTAwMGQzYTFhNjYyNg&K=9\\_vXXIYZY2d160as\\_5Geng](https://elink.clickdimensions.com/c/6/?T=NDcwMzM0Njc%3AMDItYjIxMDIzLTVhNGJiZjc2MzFhYjQ3NzZhOTA5MGRmMGU2MzIwZGQ0%3AcmFjaGVsc2t3ZXJlckBnbWVpbC5jb20%3AY29udGFjdC0zYjMyMTBiNjdkM2ZINzExODExYWUwMDcxYjZhZjE0MS0yOWE1M2I4MTE2YTE0YjQwYWZiNmZIMjU5OWY5ZGRhNw%3AZmFsc2U%3AMQ%3A%3AaHR0cHM6Ly9jYW52YXMuW5zdHJ1Y3R1cmUuY29tL2Vu cm9sbC9GQkdBQ1c_X2NsZGVIPWNtRmPhR1ZzYzJ0M1pYSmxja0JuYldGcGJDNWpiMjAlM2QmcmVjaXBpZW50aWQ9Y29udGFjdC0zYjMyMTBiNjdkM2ZINzExODExYWUwMDcxYjZhZjE0MS0yOWE1M2I4MTE2YTE0YjQwYWZiNmZIMjU5OWY5ZGRhNyZlc2lkPTI1MWY3MWQ5LWE2NWQtZWlXMS1hODEyLTAwMGQzYTFhNjYyNg&K=9_vXXIYZY2d160as_5Geng)

Contact Will Kays/614-701-3478 or [william.y.kays.civ@mail.mil](mailto:william.y.kays.civ@mail.mil) for more details. Volunteering will begin in earnest in mid-February.

## **Membership Renewal Season**

It’s that time of year – AGA Membership Renewal. Renewal is due by March 31, 2021 and can be completed at <https://www.agacgm.org/MyAGA/Renew.aspx>. Renewing by March 15 ensures your name gets put in the pot for a free National PDT! For any questions, please contact Matt Little/614-701-4136 or [matthew.r.little12.civ@mail.mil](mailto:matthew.r.little12.civ@mail.mil). We look forward to another great membership year!

## **Greater Columbus AGA Scholarship Applications Available**

Greater Columbus AGA Scholarship application information is now open. Please share with students you know who might be interested in applying! Everything is available on the Greater Columbus AGA website and were e-mailed to all members. For more information, contact Ben Thayer.

## February 2021 CEC Meeting Minutes

Meeting minutes will be shared in March 2021 newsletter; February CEC meeting rescheduled for Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### Upcoming Calendar of Chapter Events

WEDNESDAY MAR 3 2-3:50 PM	AGA Group Webinar FOS: Improper Payments Online Only - Free For Members, \$30 for Non-Members, Contact Eric Gersper to Register	2 CPE/CET
WEDNESDAY MAR 17 2-3:15 PM	AGA Members Only Free Webinar FOS: Personal Development Online Only – Free for Members Self Registration Only	1.5 CPE/CET
WEDNESDAY APR 7 2-3:50 PM	AGA Group Webinar FOS: Ethics Online Only - Free For Members, \$30 for Non-Members, Contact Eric Gersper to Register	2 CPE/CET
WEDNESDAY MAY 12 2-3:50 PM	AGA Group Webinar FOS: Fraud/Data Analytics Online Only - Free For Members, \$30 for Non-Members, Contact Eric Gersper to Register	2 CPE/CET
WEDNESDAY JUN 9 2-3:50 PM	AGA Group Webinar FOS: Leadership Online Only - Free For Members, \$30 for Non-Members, Contact Eric Gersper to Register	2 CPE/CET
SUNDAY JUL 18 – WEDNESDAY JUL 21	AGA National Professional Development Training Nashville, TN (Multiple FOS) Chapter Selection/Registration Coming Soon	25 CPE/CET

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

President	Cindy Shoe
President-Elect	Connie Sombaty
Secretary	Leisha Hickman
Treasurer	Pat Jackson

Immediate Past-President	Barb Bail
National Council of Chapters Representative	Ben Thayer
Accountability Outreach	-Vacant-
By-Laws	Elizabeth Gibbs
Communications 1	Will Kays
Communications 2	Joe Scipione, CGFM
Community Service 1	Catrina Davis-Harris
Community Service 2	-Vacant-
CGFM 1	-Vacant-
CGFM 2	Glenn Weimar, CGFM
Education 1	Eric Gersper
Education 2	-Vacant-
Finance & Budget 1	Jeff Howe
Finance & Budget 2	-Vacant-
Historian	Lindsay Harris
Leadership Development Committee	Matthew Little
Membership 1	Matthew Little
Membership 2	Lindsay Harris
Programs 1	Bob Palmieri, CGFM
Programs 2	Carolyn Lutz
Scholarships Committee	Ben Thayer

**Visit Our Website and Contact Us:**

<https://www.agacgfm.org/GreaterColumbus>  
[greatercolumbusaga@gmail.com](mailto:greatercolumbusaga@gmail.com)

