



# The Ozarks Ledger



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## From Nathan's Desk

We are already over one month into the new year and it is time to begin planning your 2021 CPE and how to remain current, influential, and innovative by keeping your knowledge and skills fresh. Last year as AGA members we had the opportunity to receive all 40 required CPE just by attending our chapter events along with the free webinars hosted by National AGA and other chapters who invited members for free.

I know my membership definitely paid off just by receiving all required CPE, in addition to the resources and relationships I have through AGA.

We are announcing the virtual Spring Seminar for March 24-25th which will include another year of membership. Watch for a registration link soon!

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

Best,

Nathan Ziegler, CPA



## Ozark Chapter Events

### Spring Seminar

- March 24 - Half Day
- March 25 - Half Day

### Chapter Meeting - April 15

- Tentative in Person, TBD

### Chapter Meeting - May 20, TBD

## Other

## Chapters' Events

### New York Capital Chapter - Webinar - February 23

- Report Writing for Results

### Roanoke Chapter - Webinar - February 25th

- GASB Update

### Mid-MO Chapter - March 17

- 2021 Winter Professional Development

## National Events

### Young Professionals/Students Only Webinar - February 24

- How to Advance in a Multi-Generational - and Virtual - Workplace

### Webinar - March 3rd

- Improper Payments

### Webinar - March 17th

- Annual AGA Women's Council

### Virtual Course - March 17th - 18th

- CGFM Live: Governmental Environment

### Webinar - March 24th

- Cybersecurity/ERM



### New York Capital Chapter **Report Writing for Results**

February 23, 2021

12:00 pm - 1:25 pm Central

1 CPE Credit

### **Spring Seminar**

Presented by Ozarks, Dallas, and

Oklahoma City Chapters

March 24, 2021

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Central

March 25, 2021

12:00 pm - 4:00 pm Central

Trivia & Networking - March 25, 2021

4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Up to 8 CPE Credits Available



## **We now accept Paypal!**

Please visit **AGA Ozarks - Monthly Meeting Minutes** to review the monthly CEC Chair Meeting Minutes.

## CGFM Live, Virtual Courses

These classes are to assist in CGFM Certification preparation for individual participants. Registration includes 6 months of access to the AGA CGFM study guide. Please visit the link below to read more about the courses and to register.

### CGFM Certification - Live, Virtual Classes

<i>Course 1</i>	<i>Course 2</i>
<i>Governmental Environment</i>	<i>Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting</i>
<i>March 17 - 18, 2021</i>	<i>April 6 - 9, 2021</i>
<i>10:30 am - 2:15 pm ET</i>	<i>10:30 am - 3:30 pm ET</i>
<i>\$325 Per Person</i>	<i>\$725 per person</i>
<i>8 CPE Credits</i>	<i>21 CPE Credits</i>



## Community Service

Each year, in addition to hosting monthly professional development meetings; the AGA hosts 2 full day seminars. These seminars are focused on current accounting events and future accounting changes; giving our members valuable continuing professional development. As a Civic Organization; we also give back to the community. In the past, we've centered our charitable work to Non Profits in the Springfield area however, as our club membership increases, we are seeing a larger portion of

members from the surrounding cities. The Ozarks Chapter of AGA would like to expand the charitable reach to Non Profit Organizations outside of the Springfield area. We will present a list of Organizations at the Spring seminar and attendees will vote on the charity that will receive the contribution.

Please give this request your full consideration and send your ideas to:

Jennifer Schatzer by February 28, 2021.

## News from National/NCC Rep

Hello, everyone!

I hope you are staying safe and warm in this extremely cold and snowy weather this winter.

As the "working from home" era continues, it's become increasingly difficult to build and maintain connections with colleagues and those in our professional circles. The old ways of connecting have changed. Lunch meetings have turned into Zoom calls. In-person seminars and conferences became webinar events. As we've all noticed, these ways are less personal and make it more difficult to connect and have meaningful conversations. Connecting with others has to be more deliberate now.

To help AGA members connect and build those relationships, National AGA is introducing a new Mentorship Program. I'm sure most of us have seen how important mentors are to our careers. Having a trusted boss or colleague's advice on professional and personal matters can help us avoid potential pitfalls and identify areas for improvement in our lives.

By enrolling as an AGA mentor, you'll be able to share your knowledge and experience with a younger member as they develop into a leader in government finance. You can offer challenges for growth and boost confidence to learn new skills. Mentors also have the opportunity to learn new skills and gain input on issues they are facing.

Mentees receive feedback on goals and decisions. They can expand their professional networks and grow their knowledge in areas key to their success.

National AGA has made it easy to get involved. Click the link above to read more about the program and enroll as a mentor or mentee.

This is a great opportunity to connect with other AGA members throughout the country!

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

Greg Drake, 2019-2021 Ozarks Chapter NCC Representative



### Accounting Today Article

## Art of Accounting: Black History Month and Women's History Months

by Edward Mendlowitz

Kristy Bork is from Mt. Vernon and attended Missouri State University when it was still Southwest Missouri State University. She has worked for City of Springfield for 10 years and has been with the Airport for almost 8 years. Kristy's favorite part of working at the Airport is being part of a national transportation network that helps connect people worldwide.

One of Kristy's passions is education. She has many family members who are teachers. Although teaching isn't for her, she cares deeply that all people have access to educational opportunities, no matter their age or ability. Her mom went back to college while Kristy was a kid, so she was able to see the difficulty related to earning the degree as well as the investment her mother made in herself and her family. Kristy also feels like there are many ways to be innovative in the K-12 system and loves to support teachers in our communities.

Kristy also loves to be outdoors - hiking, camping, and kayaking. In the summer you will find her spending time at the pool. She also loves to visit both the mountains and oceans.



## Everyone meet, Kristy Bork

### Strictly Business:

How do you prefer to start your day?

Jazzercise and coffee

### A Little More Personal:

What is your biggest pet peeve?

People who don't have a sense of urgency.

### Just for Fun:

If you had to pick one age to be permanently, which age would you choose?

Probably 30, you're old enough to know better and not old enough for everything to hurt.

YouTube Video:

**How to Achieve Your Most Ambitious Goals**

Stephen Duneier



## Anniversaries, Milestones & Achievements

- AGA National Collegiate Leadership Program Scholarship
  - Austin Kays
- February Anniversaries:
  - Shelly Deckand, MSU
  - Rebecca Friedrich, KPM
  - Tyler Kocher, Student
  - Rachel McGinnis, MSU
  - Nicole Plenge, Student
- Email Melody Ownby with any Anniversaries, Milestones, or Achievements



## Job

### Opportunities

- City of Springfield
  - Financial Analyst
- City Utilities of Springfield
  - Chief Internal Auditor
- Email Melody Ownby with any governmental accounting opportunities in the Ozarks

### Volunteer Opportunities

- City of Springfield
  - Citizens' Tax Oversight Committee
- **AGA Mentoring Program**
- Email Melody Ownby with any volunteer opportunities in the Ozarks



## 2021 National Scholarships

### Rising college freshmen

- One full-time (\$3,000)
- One part-time (\$1,500)

### Current Undergraduates

- Three full-time (\$3,000)
- Two part-time (\$1,500)

### Graduate Students

- Two full-time (\$3,000)
- One part-time (\$1,500)

### Community Service

- Open to all three categories.
- Two \$1,500

Visit **2021 National Academic Scholarships** for more information and to apply.

## Award Nominations

### PDT Awards of Distinction

- Due March 29
- Multiple Awards Available such as Chapter Education, Community Service, and more.

### Other National and Local Awards

- Chapter Communication - March 29
- Volunteer of the Year - May 31

Please visit **AGA - National Awards** to view each of the Awards Available for Nomination.

# Citizens Tax Oversight Committee

## City of Springfield



### Description:

Review and monitor the collection of the 1/4-cent Capital Improvements Sales Tax revenues, the 1/8-cent Transportation Sales Tax revenues, the 3/4-cent Police and Fire Fighters Pension Fund Sales Tax revenues, the Hotel/Motel Tax revenues, and the Level Property Tax revenues. In addition the committee may evaluate any proposed reduction or enhancement to pension benefits before presentation to City Council.

### Requirements:

1. Must be a resident of Springfield, MO for at least three (3) years.
2. Meetings take place at 5:30 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of February, May, August, and November.

There are currently multiple chairs available for the Citizens Tax Oversight Committee in Springfield, MO.

If you are not a resident of Springfield, MO, please feel free to pass on this information to any Springfield residents who may be interested.

**I keep all my dad jokes in a Dad-a-base!**





# Why the CGFM?

## Monica Robinson

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

A: I fell into a government finance and accounting position while in school completing my accounting degree. During school there was only a brief section on government accounting which meant there was a void in specific knowledge. Obtaining my CGFM was a way to fill the void by increasing my knowledge.

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

A: When I decided to start the process of taking the CGFM exams I had been working at the City of Marshfield for about two and half years. I knew what needed to be done, but not always the why. Studying for the exams I had a few "aha" moments that explained the why. Knowing the why has

boosted my confidence not only with my job duties, but also in my presentations to the Board of Aldermen.

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

A: Obtaining my certification has helped me understand the broader aspects of being a financial manager. Some of the subjects of the exam were not relevant at the time of the exam, but have since become relevant in my job duties.

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

A: Networking has been key for me when questioning a process or implementing a new process.

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

A: I checked out the study guides from the Ozarks Chapter. Each study guide is divided into sections. After each section is a reinforcement quiz. At the end of each study guide are end-of-course self-assessment questions. The reinforcement quiz and self-assessment questions really cemented the material in each section.

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

A: Check out the study guides! Each one is set up so that you can pass each exam if you study each section. Establish a timeline to read each section and study the questions provided. After reading all the sections, go back and review the previous sections again and stay positive. If you are working in a government finance position, you probably know many of the answers already!

### 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: Yes, I did know that.

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

A: It took me approximately one year from the application process to the taking the final exam.



The AGA Podcast "**Accountability Talks**" brings topics to the governmental accounting community in an insightful and modern way. Each episode covers a different topic related to the field.

Recent Episodes:

Episode 60: CGFM with Katya Silver, Kimberly Jones, Lora Pickard, and Crystal Robinson

Episode 61: Blockchain for Grants with Mike Weklow and Justin Poll



**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 Public Hearings and User Forums

Three separate, but related proposals will be discussed:

1. Preliminary Views, Revenue and Expense Recognition
2. Exposure Draft of a proposed Statement, Financial Reporting Model Improvements
3. Exposure Draft of a proposed Concepts Statement, Recognition of Elements of Financial Statements

## Public Hearings

The public hearings will be a half day for the Preliminary View and a half day for Exposure Drafts.

Dates:

- March 23
- March 30
- March 31
- April 8
- April 13
- April 14
- April 20
- April 21

If you are interested, you may testify on all or some of the proposals on the same day or different days.

## User Forums

Interested individuals or organizations from the financial statement community, such as legislators and legislative staff, municipal bond analysts, academics, and taxpayer associations. Separate forums will be conducted on the Preliminary Views and the two Exposure Drafts.

Dates:

- April 9
- April 15

User Forums will be conducted via Videoconferencing. If you are interested, you will need to respond by February 26, 2021.

For more information, please visit GASB: Exposure Documents.



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