

Newsletter

VOLUME 2020, NUMBER 5 **March 2020**

President's Message

By: Priscilla Suggs



Greetings Austin AGA,

As we move forward amidst the rapidly evolving COVID-19 outbreak, we pause to say – please stay home. Find balance by contacting loved ones regularly, reading books, listening, resting, exercising, exploring nature, making art, playing games, and Netflix. Meditate, pray, or dance...take this time to heal from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. Use this as an opportunity to slow down, take stock in what matters deep in your heart. Be still, embrace the quiet and calm your mind. Limit your exposure to news and stressful communications and focus on actions within your immediate control, especially in this uncertain time. Please put your health and safety first and follow community announcements to further protect your family, coworkers and friends against the spread of COVID-19. We wish all members and supporters of the Austin AGA strength and peace during this crisis.

March Words for Thought:

"Time is the coin of your life. It is the only coin you have, and only you can determine how it will be spent. Be careful lest you let other people spend it for you."

--Carl Sandburg

Board Participation

As always, we are looking for additional participation on the board and committees. Please reach out to any of our committee members if you would like to get involved or contact priscilla.suggs@hhsc.state.tx.us or Kieran.Coe@us.gt.com directly. Thank you in advance for your continued support of the chapter.

Take care,

Your President,

Priscilla Suggs

In this issue:

- April CPE Webex
- Member Spotlight: Meet your new Community Services Chair: Richard Kukucka
- In Memoriam - Nancy Kay Walden
- Postponed: AGA - IIA Networking Event/ COVID-19 Update

Upcoming trainings, meetings & events:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| March 18, 2020 | AGA Annual Women's Leadership Webinar 2 CPEs (www.agacgfm.com) *Free |
| March 25, 2020 | Cybersecurity - Mitigating Threats and Hacks 2 CPEs (www.agacgfm.com) |
| April 8, 2020 | Ethics - The Spy's Among Us! 2 CPEs (www.agacgfm.com) |
| April 9, 2020 | CPE Webex - Financial Crimes in Austin 1 CPE |
| April 22, 2020 | DATA Act - Exploring Your DATA Act data for Fraud, Waste, and Abuse 2 CPEs (www.agacgfm.com) |
| May 13, 2020 | Fraud/Data Analytics - How to Leverage Data Analytics to Build an Effective Anti-Fraud Strategy 2 CPEs (www.agacgfm.com) |
| May 14, 2020 | CPE Luncheon - Failure is an option 1 CPE |

Membership News

By: Aria Negahban

The Chapter reported 131 active members as of March, including 10 new members who joined in 2020:

- Mr. Eulogio S. Garcia
- Mrs. Josslyn Ideghe
- Mr. Asad Khan
- Mrs. Amy L. Leonard
- Mrs. Valerie H. Robinson
- Mrs. Crystal St. Clair
- Mr. Kevin Thomas
- Ms. Elizabeth Negron
- Mrs. Belia A. Herrera
- Mr. Babatunde A. Sobanjo

All of us here at the Austin Chapter extend a warm welcome, and look forward to meeting everyone at the next event.

We would also like to acknowledge the following individuals who are celebrating their AGA membership milestones:

35 Years:

- Mrs. Luz Brunilda Bundick, CGFM-Retired

25 Years:

- Ms. Kimberly R. Emmerich, CGFM

20 Years:

- Mrs. Alice M. Garrett

15 Years:

- Mrs. Bhakti Patel

5 Years:

- Mr. Robert E. Coleman



Congratulations to Priscilla Suggs, AGA Austin Chapter President on passing all four part of the CPA exam!!



**Sign up to be a member at
www.agacgfm.org**

Government - \$100/year

Private Sector - \$160/year

Young Professional - \$45/ year

Student – FREE Electronic Membership!

Retired—\$35/year

April CPE Webex — “Financial Crimes in Austin”

By: Priscilla Suggs

**Detective Tyler Link
Austin Police Department**



The AGA Austin Chapter will host its April 2020 luncheon on April 9, 2020 via webex. This month’s presenter, Detective Tyler Link will speak on Financial Crimes in Austin.

Detective Link has served with the Austin Police Department for approximately 8 years. He is currently a Detective assigned to the White Collar Crime Unit. He previously worked in various roles such as west and northeast Austin patrol, as well as the downtown entertainment district. Detective Link also currently serves as the Chair of the Board of Trustees for the Austin Police Retirement System.

Mr. Tyler will discuss current financial crime trends and how employees and members from the community can all work together to combat fraud. Mr. Tyler will also be going over real life case studies and examples that have plagued our Austin community.

*Do you know a dynamic speaker?
Nominate them to speak at a monthly luncheon. Email
priscilla.suggs@hhsc.state.tx.us*

Sign up at:

<https://www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/Austin-Chapter/Training-Events/Event-Calendar/Financial-Crimes-in-Austin.aspx>

Via Webex: FREE

April 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

NOTABLE *and* quotable

While I love being able to attend events that provide CPE for my professional designations, AGA has provided a great opportunity for me to develop leadership skills within the chapter, and meet others that I might not have had a professional relationship with otherwise.

Will Kays, CPA, CMA
Accountant, Defense Finance & Accounting Service;
AGA Greater Columbus Chapter

Postponed: AGA-IIA Networking Event/ COVID-19 Update

Amid growing concerns over COVID-19 (coronavirus), and to best preserve the health and safety of our members and their guests, the AGA-IIA Networking Event has been rescheduled to June 18, 2020. Sign up at: <https://www.aga-austin.org/aga-austin-networking.html>. As this is a fluid situation, the AGA Austin Chapter will continue to follow the direction of local officials to monitor this situation and provide updates to the rescheduled date.



The graphic features a night photograph of a building with illuminated signs for 'COVER 3'. Overlaid on the image is a dark banner with the event title 'AGA-IIA Annual Networking Event' in yellow. Below the title, there are logos for AGA and The Institute of Internal Auditors. A list of bullet points in yellow text describes the event's benefits. At the bottom, the date, time, and location are listed, along with a 'Register to Attend' link.

AGA-IIA Annual Networking Event

- Join Austin's accounting professionals to mingle & build relationships
- Meet the groups & become a member of a new professional organization
- Drinks and food will be provided throughout the evening

AGA **The Institute of Internal Auditors**

When: Thursday June 18th, 2020
5:30pm – 8:30pm

Where: Cover 3 Anderson Lane
2700 W Anderson Ln #202, Austin, TX 78757

Register to Attend:

- <https://www.aga-austin.org/aga-austin-networking.html>

In the meantime, we urge everyone to follow safety guidelines issued by the federal, state and local officials. Below is information issued by the Texas Department of State Health Services:

What to do if you are sick:



Symptoms of COVID-19 may show up 2-14 days after exposure. The steps you should take if you think you are sick with COVID-19 depend on whether you have a higher risk of developing severe illness.

High-Risk Individuals:

- Older adults (65 years and older)
- Heart Disease
- Diabetes
- High Blood Pressure
- Cancer
- Weakened Immune Systems
- People 65 years or older, and/or people with medical issues, like heart disease, diabetes, high blood pressure, cancer, or a weakened immune system, are at a higher risk for getting very sick from COVID-19.
- If you are a high-risk individual and you develop fever or symptoms, call your doctor.
- If you are not sick enough to be hospitalized, you can recover at home. Follow your doctor's instructions and refer to CDC recommendations for how to take care of yourself at home.

General Population:

- If you are in generally good health and have mild symptoms, stay home and take care of yourself like you would for a cold or the flu.
- If symptoms worsen, call your doctor.

COVID-19 testing



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

Your doctor will help make the decision whether you should get tested for COVID-19.

Public health testing focuses on people who have symptoms and meet testing criteria below. Following the testing criteria helps DSHS understand how the virus is spreading and what public health actions will be helpful.

Private testing is available with a doctor's order.

- **Public Health Testing (Free)** You will need to call your local health department and meet certain testing criteria before you can get tested. Testing criteria includes having fever, cough, shortness of breath PLUS:
 - * have had close contact with a confirmed case,
 - * have traveled to a location with ongoing transmission of COVID-19,
 - * have risk factors for getting very sick from COVID-19, or
 - * are hospitalized with COVID-19 symptoms even if you do not have any risk factors.
- **Private Lab Testing (Cost depends on the lab)**

People with no health insurance have the option of getting tested at a public health lab or at a private lab.

If you need a healthcare provider, dial 211 – they will direct you to low- or no-cost providers in your area. Providers for uninsured people may also contact public health to facilitate if testing is appropriate.

Symptoms of COVID-19

Patients with COVID-19 have reportedly had mild to severe respiratory illness. Symptoms can include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of Breath

Prevention of COVID-19

There is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19. The best way to prevent infection is to take steps to avoid exposure to this virus, which are similar to the steps you take to avoid the flu.

- Wash hands with soap and water.
- Use hand sanitizer as backup.
- Cover coughs and sneezes.
- Avoid touching face.
- Disinfect often touched surfaces.
- Avoid close contact.

DSHS recommends these everyday actions to help prevent the spread of any respiratory virus, including COVID-19:

- Wash hands often for 20 seconds and encourage others to do the same.
- If no soap and water are available, use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, then throw the tissue away.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Disinfect surfaces, buttons, handles, knobs, and other places touched often.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

DSHS also recommends that you start practicing social distancing. Social distancing involves staying away from other people to avoid catching or spreading illness. It's a fancy term for avoiding crowds and minimizing physical contact. This could mean avoiding concerts or weddings, skipping the handshake, and/or staying at least six feet away from others.

See the CDC website for more information on what you can do at home to prevent the spread of COVID-19



How COVID-19 spreads

Current understanding about how the virus that causes COVID-19 spreads is largely based on what is known about similar coronaviruses.

The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person:

- Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).
- Via respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes.

These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.

People are thought to be most contagious when they are most symptomatic (the sickest). Some spread might be possible before people show symptoms; there have been reports of this with this new coronavirus, but this is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads.



Wash hands with soap and water



Use hand sanitizer as backup



Cover coughs and sneezes



Avoid touching face



Disinfect often touched surfaces



Avoid close contact

Social Distancing

Social distancing involves staying away from other people to avoid catching or spreading a virus. It's a fancy term for avoiding crowds and minimizing physical contact. This could mean avoiding concerts or weddings, skipping the handshake, and/or staying six feet from others. Health professionals believe COVID-19 spreads from person to person by droplets from coughing and sneezing. The safest thing to do during an outbreak is stay home as much as possible and minimize close contact with others.



BE SAFE!

- From your AGA Austin Chapter Executive Committee

Send us your Social Distancing Pictures!!



Many of you are doing your part and social distancing. AGA Austin misses you and wants to see your pics!! Send them to austinaga1@gmail.com. Keep a lookout for them on our linked in page and the next newsletter!

Past Events

By: Bhakti Patel
Photo Credit: Aria Negahban



Priscilla Suggs, Eddie Chan, Patti Roano, Aria Negahban, Randy Anderson

During our December Luncheon, Mr. Randy Anderson presented the art of communications to an audience of 34 attendees. Mr. Anderson discussed how to become a great communicator, which includes understanding your audience and improving your listening skills. He engaged the crowd by sharing personal stories on how his own communication failed and succeeded him through his professional and personal life.

Many thanks to Mr. Anderson for presenting at the AGA Austin Chapter December luncheon!



Marie Queller, Michelle Roland, Maria Berke, Eddie Chan, and Patty Hamm



December Presenter, Randy Anderson

Past Events

By: Bhakti Patel

Photo Credit: Aria Negahban



Kieran Coe, Patti Roano, Eddie Chan, Priscilla Suggs, Kimberly Jones, Aria Negahban, LaTosha Goard, Richard Kukucka

During our January Luncheon, Kimberly Jones discussed how increasing your self-confidence can enrich all aspects of your professional life to an audience of 27 attendees. Kim kept the audience captivated with her energy, enthusiasm and humor. She discussed how to develop a greater appreciation for your own abilities and qualities, enabling you to more effectively present, communicate and interact in the business environment.

Ms. Jones is the CGFM and Education Programs Manager for AGA National. She's been with AGA for eight years and is the author of two published novels.

Many thanks to Kim for presenting at the AGA Austin Chapter January luncheon!



John Rivers, Sevim Topcu, Latosha Goard, Kieran Coe



Patti Roano, Salvador Sanchez, Eddie Chan

Do you have pictures from an AGA event? Submit them to publish in the next newsletter! austinaga1@gmail.com

Past Events

By: Bhakti Patel

Photo Credit: Sharita Jefferson

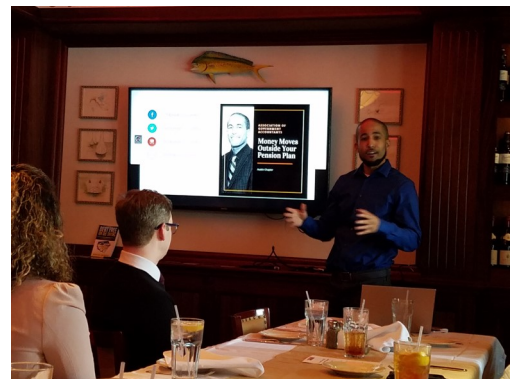


Richard Kukucka, Eddie Chan, Kieran Coe, Aria Negahban, Marcus Garrett, Patti Roano, LaTosha Goard, Priscilla Suggs, David Vasquez

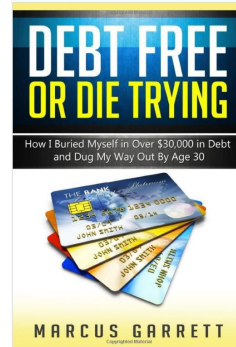
During our February Luncheon, Marcus Garrett discussed how money moves outside of your pension plans along with other money management matters. Marcus impressed an audience of 33 attendees as he discussed his 10-year journey to ‘overnight success.’ He gave his insight regarding personal finance and strategies on how living life and living debt free are not mutually exclusive goals.

With over a decade of professional experience as a Certified Internal Auditor combined with freelance writing on topics ranging from current events to love and relationships have helped Marcus develop a unique qualitative and quantitative perspective. His advice focuses on meeting individuals where they are in life rather than lecturing about where they should be: “talking to versus talking at.”

Many thanks to Marcus for presenting at the AGA Austin Chapter February luncheon!



February presenter, Marcus Garrett



Marcus’ book, *Debt Free or Die Trying*, can be purchased at amazon.com

Past Events

By: Bhakti Patel

Photo Credit: Sharita Jefferson

During our March Luncheon, our past AGA President, Kieran Coe discussed the challenges of navigating the federal grant environment as it may be confusing due to constant requirement changes, shifts in policy, politics, and various other factors. In front of an audience of 25 attendees, Kieran presented the post-award environment and highlighted the monitoring function of grant management. He took a high-level dive into administrative and program regulation, policy, and other guidance relevant to managing an award.



Kieran Coe, CGMS, is a grant management professional with over eleven years of experience in working within, and for, government organizations. His primary area of expertise is in assessing controls and grant compliance of governmental and non-profit organizations. Kieran provides consulting services in monitoring programs as well as application of federal and state regulations to his clients. He possesses extensive knowledge in structure and operations of local and state governments.

Kieran was raised in Alabama. He earned both his Bachelor in Business Administration and his Master of Business Administration from Auburn University at Montgomery and served four and a half years with the Alabama Dept. of Rehabilitation Services before exploring a career in private sector. He currently resides in, Austin, Texas with his wife, Candrianna, and two dogs.

Many thanks to Kieran for presenting at the AGA Austin Chapter March luncheon!



Patti Roano, Aria Negahban, Eddie Chan, Kieran Coe



Rodney Valls, Tracy Hardwick, Lesli Cathey (top), Patty Hamm, Mari Queller



Henrietta Cameron-Mann (AGA Austin Past President), Eddie Chan



Bhakti Patel, Katambra Rose

Community Service

By: Bhakti Patel

Information obtained from <https://www.givepulse.com>

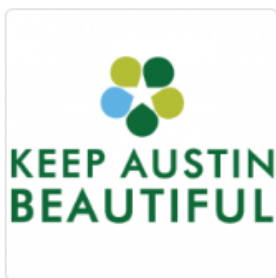


Please check with the organization prior to attending for any cancellations.

Community Engagement Day: Givens Park



Friday, March 20th, 2020 from 9:00am to 12:00pm (CT)



Join Keep Austin Beautiful for a morning of service at Givens Park! This area is a heavily used park in East Austin and trash accumulates quickly in the park and near Tannehill Branch Creek. Volunteers will help pick up trash around the

park and creek to prevent litter from entering Tannehill Branch Creek and the Colorado River.

They will have tools, gloves, snacks, and water for everyone, but please bring a water bottle. You will be working outside all around the park, so come ready to work wearing sturdy closed-toe shoes, long pants, and other clothes you don't mind getting wet or dirty.

Location: River 3811 E 12th St, Austin, TX 78721



Are you involved in a charitable organization? Have you had an amazing volunteer experience? Tell us about it!! Email us at communications@agaustin.org

Volunteer Running Club Coach



Friday, March 20th, 2020 from 1:00pm to 2:00pm (CT)



YouthBuild is seeking tutors for a Running Club Coach for out High School Diploma and GED Students.

YouthBuild is a Non-Profit, development and job skills pre-apprenticeship program for young men and women 16-25 years of age. Students work towards their GED or high school diploma while receiving training in construction, health care, or IT development.

YouthBuild offers committed volunteers an opportunity to engage in a meaningful way with young people in their community.

Expectations for a YouthBuild Tutor:

- Engaging in Minimum 3 Month commitment, for at least 1 day a week/bi-weekly during school hours*Our clubs typically meet on Friday Afternoon from 1-2.
- Be positive, confident and adaptable
- Provide one on one tutoring
- Work effectively with 3rd-12th grade reading level students
- Demonstrate positive character attributes
- Encourage academic skills building
- Have a passion for education, humor and youth development

Volunteers considering this position would benefit from from experience working with youth and background in education or training and development.

Volunteers interested in this position will be required to attend an orientation and participate in a brief interview.

Location: 1901 E. Ben White Boulevard, Austin, TX 78741

First-Saturday-of-the-Month Fun at Blunn Preserve



Saturday, April 4th, 2020 from 8:30am to 12:00pm (CT)



Come be part of the restoration of Blunn Creek Nature Preserve, removing invasives, planting natives, improving trails, installing signposts, collecting litter, and otherwise helping make the Preserve more beautiful and vital.

Location: Please come to the southwest entrance to Blunn Creek Nature Preserve. You can parallel park for free along St. Edward's Drive., 900 St. Edward's Drive, Austin, TX 78704

Seventh Annual Ney Day!



Saturday, April 11th, 2020 from 12:00pm to 5:00pm (CT)



The Eighth Annual Ney Day is right around the corner! To commemorate Elisabet Ney and her legacy, we are hosting this annual event as a celebration of women in the arts, sciences and civic culture. In keeping with previous years, there will be a ton of art activities, interactive demonstrations, book readings, food

trucks and live music.

If you would like to volunteer at Ney Day, you can sign up for one of these shifts: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm or 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm. We will primarily need help with art activities, face painting and overseeing the museum gallery. This event has become such an important part of our programming initiatives so we really do appreciate all of the help we receive from people in our community! Volunteers will have an opportunity to engage with local artists and organizations. There will also be snacks and beverages provided for all participants.

Location: Between Ave G and Ave H on 45th St., 304 E. 44th St., Austin, TX 78751

Install Free Smoke Alarms - Save a Life



Saturday, April 18th, 2020 from 8:00am to 1:00pm (CT)



Every day, seven people die in home fires, most in homes that lack working smoke alarms. Sadly, children and the elderly disproportionately lose their lives. The American Red Cross wants to improve the odds and save lives, that's why we

launched our Home Fire Campaign in 2014.

A critical part of the campaign is Sound the Alarm, a series of home fire safety and smoke alarm installation events across the country. Red Cross volunteers, along with fire departments and other partners canvass at-risk neighborhoods, installing free smoke alarms, replacing batteries in existing alarms, and providing fire prevention and safety education. In just three years, we've accomplished so much, including the installation of more than 1 million smoke alarms and prepared more than 1 million people against home fires through our home visits.

RSVP: https://volunteerconnection.redcross.org/?nd=public_shift_listing&view_id=2&zip_code=78723

Volunteer activities include:

- Educating residents about home fire safety
- Canvassing a residential area
- Installing free smoke alarms
- Training provided
- Food provided
- Block Party from 1pm – 3pm

We have a goal to install 1,000 smoke alarms and will need approximately 500 volunteers for this event, so any help is greatly appreciated.

Location: Widen Elementary School, 5605 Nuckols Crossing Road, Austin, 78744, Austin, TX 78744

Member Spotlight

By: Bhakti Patel

Meet your Community Services Chair: Richard Kukucka



Richard is currently the Community Service Chair of the Association of Government Accountants (AGA) Austin, Texas Chapter. His past experience with non-profits includes serving as the Volunteer Coordinator of an Austin-based mixed-breed dog rescue, which went from 2,000 to 20,000 followers on social media and more than doubled its adoption rate during his service. He was also the President of Warriors for Shelter Pets, which was awarded TAMUCT's 2013 Student Organization of the Year for their charitable contributions to Central Texas communities and their pets.

Richard is an Eagle Scout and was the 2013 recipient of the General Pete Taylor Commitment to Leadership and Integrity Award. He was also valedictorian of the HHS Aspiring Leaders Academy, Class 13. He received his Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting from Texas A&M University – Central Texas. He is a Certified Fraud Examiner and is pursuing further certification through the Institute of Internal Auditors.

Richard Kukucka is currently the Contract Administration Manager of Controls & Risk Management for DFPS Contract Oversight and Support. While serving with DFPS, he's been leading strategic planning efforts for risk management and process improvement of contracting activities and internal controls.

Prior to joining DFPS, Richard served as an Audit Project Manager with the Office of Inspector General where he developed recommendations aimed at improving the operational effectiveness and process efficiency of Medicaid providers and managed care organizations. Richard began his career with the Texas State Auditor's Office where he performed risk-based performance audits of state contracting and financial activities and uncovered executive management override of controls reported in SAO's 2015 Investigation of the Procurement of Services from 21CT, Inc.



Treasurer's Report

By: David Vasquez

As of December 31, 2019

Beginning Bank Balance	12/1/2019	\$2,818.36
<i>Funds Received:</i>		
12/6/19 - 12/19/19 ACH - Square (Dec. Luncheon)		\$682.95
12/1/2019 Dividend through 12/1/2019		\$0.24
	Total Funds Received	\$683.19
Funds Available		\$3,501.55
<i>Funds Expended:</i>		
Date	Check No./Credit	
12/13/2019	Bank Card December Luncheon	\$963.90
	Total Funds Expended	\$963.90
Ending Bank Balance	12/31/2019	\$2,537.65
Check Register Reconciliation:		
Ending Bank Balance	12/31/2019	\$2,537.65
<i>Outstanding Checks:</i>		
Date	Check No.	Description
	Total Outstanding Checks	\$0.00
<i>Outstanding Deposits:</i>		
	Date	Description
	Total Outstanding Deposits	\$0.00
Adjusted Ending Bank Balance	12/31/2019	\$2,537.65
Total Chapter Funds Available Per Check Register	12/31/2019	\$2,537.65
<i>Cash On Hand:</i>		
	CU Min Savings Balance	\$5.00
	Luncheon Bank	\$40.00

Treasurer's Report

By: David Vasquez

As of January 31, 2020

Beginning Bank Balance	1/1/2020	\$2,537.65
<i>Funds Received:</i>		
1/3/20 - 1/23/20 ACH - Square (Jan. Luncheon)		\$1,278.63
1/1/2020 Dividend through 1/1/2020		\$0.23
Total Funds Received		\$1,278.86
Funds Available		\$3,816.51
<i>Funds Expended:</i>		
Date	Check No./Credit Card.	
1/10/2020	Bank Card January Luncheon	\$755.16
Total Funds Expended		\$755.16
Ending Bank Balance	1/31/2020	\$3,061.35
Check Register Reconciliation:		
Ending Bank Balance	1/31/2020	\$3,061.35
<i>Outstanding Checks:</i>		
Date	Check No.	Description
Total Outstanding Checks		\$0.00
<i>Outstanding Deposits:</i>		
	Date	Description
Total Outstanding Deposits		\$0.00
Adjusted Ending Bank Balance	1/31/2020	\$3,061.35
Total Chapter Funds Available Per Check Register	1/31/2020	\$3,061.35
<i>Cash On Hand:</i>		
		CU Min Savings Balance \$5.00
		Luncheon Bank \$40.00

Treasurer's Report

By: David Vasquez

As of February 29, 2020

Beginning Bank Balance	2/1/2020	\$3,061.35
<i>Funds Received:</i>		
2/3/20 - 2/26/20 ACH - Square (Feb. Luncheon)		\$856.48
2/1/2020 Dividend through 2/1/2020		\$0.25
Total Funds Received		\$856.73
Funds Available		\$3,918.08
<i>Funds Expended:</i>		
Date	Check No./Credit Card.	
2/14/2020	Bank Card February Luncheon	\$936.36
Total Funds Expended		\$936.36
Ending Bank Balance	2/29/2020	\$2,981.72
Check Register Reconciliation:		
Ending Bank Balance	2/29/2020	\$2,981.72
<i>Outstanding Checks:</i>		
Date	Check No.	Description
Total Outstanding Checks		\$0.00
<i>Outstanding Deposits:</i>		
Date	Description	
Total Outstanding Deposits		\$0.00
Adjusted Ending Bank Balance	2/29/2020	\$2,981.72
Total Chapter Funds Available Per Check Register	2/29/2020	\$2,981.72
<i>Cash On Hand:</i>		
	CU Min Savings Balance	\$5.00
	Luncheon Bank	\$40.00

Chapter Executive Committee Minutes

By: Elba Morales

January 16th, 2020 | 12:00 pm

Priscilla Suggs called the meeting to order. CEC Members present: Aria Negahban, Elba Morales, Priscilla Suggs, and LaTosha Goard, Bhakti Patel, Kieran Coe, and Sharita Jefferson

Approve Agenda – The agenda was approved as presented.

Monthly Luncheons

Debrief of January Luncheon

Plans for next month – February

Elba – Way to stay on top of announcements! Please send email reminders 1/22 and 2/5.

Recruitment

Luncheon attendance- went great, everyone had a good time

How many people attended: 36 registered; 26 attended

Chapter Membership Recruitment – brainstorm action items

Status of Monthly Newsletter

Bhakti it looks awesome!!!

Spotlighting Richard, he is a new member. Richard will work with Bhakti

PDT – July 2020; obtain consensus from the board on members that would like to submit volunteer applications for PDT in Dallas, TX in July 2020

Volunteering can be an option

Ask employer if they can pay the travel costs

SLM – April 2020; board member interest. Awaiting details from National Board

Annual budget

Sponsorship letter – Priscilla working on a revised draft

It is now called LEAD

Paul Morris is going to be in attendance

Annual budget

Sponsorship letter – Priscilla will email draft

Networking Event Update

Contacts at IIA, ISACA, ACFE, and any other orgs – have we received responses?

Discussion of appetizers

Aria to review the MOU and other documents

Priscilla is working on the sponsorship letter by using the tiered approach

Sharita will forward the flyer from last year

University Initiative – on hold

Pending the sponsorship outcome

Social Media

Aria great job on LinkedIn posts! And Board sharing!!

Will include the LinkedIn link on the email

Coordinate with Aria in sharing responsibilities

Committee Reports

Past President (Kieran)

Treasurer (David)

Secretary (Elba)

Communications Committee (Bhakti)

Membership (Aria)

Professional Certifications Committee (Patti)

Education/ Programs Committee (Vacant)

Community Service Committee (Richard)

Service Activity? Do we want to promote for the networking event; Y/N vote.

Webmaster (Eddie)

Research (Debi)

Historian (Sharita)

Early Careers (LaTosha)

Bylaws – VACANT

Adjournment –The meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM.

The next meeting is to be on February 20, 2020 via conference line at 12 p.m. CST.*

Respectfully submitted,

Elba Morales

AGA Austin Secretary

*The February Chapter Executive Committee was cancelled for scheduling reasons.

Certified Government Financial Managers Month

By: Eddie Chan

We are pleased to announce that the Texas Governor Office has designated the month of March as the CGFM month for an awareness campaign to highlight the importance of certified government financial managers in government operations.



STATE OF TEXAS OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

As Texans, we know how to live within our means and no less should be expected from our government. The title of "certified government financial manager," a professional designation of the Association of Government Accountants, is awarded to individuals who exhibit the skills, knowledge, and commitment to ethical behavior required of the primary overseers of our tax dollars.

Whether serving at the federal, state, or local level, these hardworking men and women earn our trust by demonstrating reliability, ingenuity, and sensible stewardship of public resources. From accountants to auditors, these invaluable professionals help ensure efficiency at all levels of government.

Every year, the month of March is designated for an awareness campaign to highlight the importance of certified government financial managers in government operations.

At this time, I encourage all Texans to recognize the efforts of these hardworking professionals. Their dedication and excellent work highlights the best of the Lone Star State.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim March 2020 to be

Certified Government Financial Managers Month



in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the 14th day of February, 2020.


Governor of Texas

In Memoriam

By: Latosha Goard



Nancy Kay (Huffman) Walden

September 9, 1965 ~ February 24, 2020 (age 54)

The AGA would like to offer our sincerest condolences to the family and friends of Nancy Kay Walden. She was an honored member of the AGA. In her memory, you may donate gift that supports K-9 Angels Rescue and the National LeioMyoSarcoma Foundation.

On Monday, February 24, Nancy Huffman Walden passed away. Her family and her husband Myron were there surrounding her with their love. Her beautiful smile, love of life and family and being positive, encouraging and loving to everyone she met will be remembered forever. Nancy was born in San Antonio, Texas on September 9, 1965 to Jack and Kay Huffman. She grew up in Austin, TX, graduating from Anderson High School in 1983, where she was a Trojan Belle.

Nancy graduated from Texas A&M University in College Station with a B.A. in Business Administration in 1990 and started her professional career at Dillard's department store. Nancy found her "niche" as an auditor for the Texas Department of Transportation. She continued her auditor career at the Texas Lottery Commission and as an Audit Manager at Texas Department of Public Safety. She was very proud of being able to participate in and graduate from the DPS Command School. Nancy enjoyed being with people and worked at the College Station HEB for several years. Nancy was involved with Boy Scout Troop 60 and was the advancement chair and on the eagle scout advancement committee. She loved gardening, being outdoors, and animals which included her rescue dogs, cats and Oreo cows.

As she faced her cancer diagnosis in 2017, Nancy did not let chemotherapy, radiation, or the side effects prevent her from participating fully in life and showing others how to be a brave, strong warrior. The family would like to thank all the staff who cared for Nancy at Scott and White in College Station and Temple.

Nancy was preceded in death by her grandparents, Luther and Bertha Douglas Huffman and Walter and Ivy Francis Knopp. Nancy is survived by her husband of 32-years Myron C. Walden, their children, Kay Ilene and Christopher Scott Walden, their spouses Alex Allred and Brandi Walden and granddaughter Rei. Nancy is also survived by her sister Carolyn Klassy, brothers John W. Huffman, and Neil S. Huffman, and their wives, Danae and Kim Huffman, and her nieces, Hannah Huffman, Leslie Contreras, and nephews, Jarred and Jake Huffman, and Jason and Ross Williams. Her extended family included her uncle Robert J. Huffman, Myron's brothers and their wives, Bruce and Claire Walden and their children Stephanie and Mike, Kevin and Melonie Walden, and his sister, Phoebe and Scott Pritchard and their children, Hayley and Hannah.

A Celebration of Life was held on March 11, 2020.



Industry News

Submitted by: Debi Weyer

Governments' Response to the Coronavirus Could Lessen Its Economic Impact - or Increase It

As the coronavirus spreads, the economic fallout will depend in part on the type of emergency declarations made by the federal, state, and local governments.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services declared a public health emergency in late January, which helps free up resources for states responding to the coronavirus. More than 20 states have made declarations in response to the coronavirus, with provisions ranging from price controls and travel restrictions to activating the National Guard and empowering state health departments to ensure that infected individuals are isolated or quarantined.

The potential economic impact was underscored on Tuesday, when Gov. Andrew Cuomo of New York announced a "containment area" in New Rochelle, N.Y., where schools and other facilities will be closed for a two-week period. The National Guard will help deliver food to homes and clean public spaces in the area, where Covid-19 cases have climbed rapidly. "Local shop owners don't like the disruption. Nobody does," the governor said in a press briefing. But "this can't be a political decision."

Such government-imposed "social distancing" measures, which can include not only facility shutdowns but also travel restrictions, limiting public gatherings, closures of public transportation, and other steps, come on top of consumers' natural tendencies to change their behavior in light of the highly contagious virus. Together, they can have a profound economic impact, strategists say.

Social distancing is the biggest threat to the consumer economy, says David Kelly, chief global strategist at J.P. Morgan Asset Management. Looking at actual January consumer spending in such categories as air travel, hotels, and amusement parks, he estimated that social distancing would have clipped about \$190 billion, or 16%, off spending in those areas. If that sort of spending reduction hits in the second quarter, he says, it would be enough to take 4 percentage points off annualized real GDP growth.

An expectation that many communities across the country will experience lockdowns and quarantines is built into Moody's Analytics chief economist Mark Zandi's projection of 1.4% GDP growth for 2020.

"We're not assuming the entire country shuts down, alt-

though the number of impacted people will be in the tens of millions," Zandi says. There is a 35% chance, he says, of a pandemic scenario leading to a full-blown recession, with 2020 GDP shrinking slightly.

There is no clear historical parallel to help guide economic forecasts, Kelly of J.P. Morgan says. His consumer spending estimates, for example, include a 25% drop in many categories, such as live entertainment, air travel, and hotels. But in a worst-case scenario, he says, "you could see the cruise line industry shut down and maybe a closer to 40% drop in things like hotels, airlines and the like."

In a best-case scenario, he says, in which social distancing does reduce the spread of the disease and an effective treatment or vaccine appears relatively soon, GDP growth would still be negative for the second quarter but could turn positive in the third quarter.

The emergency response of many states may also include the ability to issue new debt, says James Hodge, professor at Arizona State University's Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law. "States are not going to let something like red-tape procurement policies get in the way of emergency response," he says.

At the federal level, President Donald Trump has not yet taken a step that some policy experts expect to see any day now: Declaring a national emergency under the Stafford Act, which would open up additional federal resources for emergency management. That step would trigger "a recognition that we are in a federal-wide response effort that's not just HHS-led," and would free up far more federal dollars than the \$8 billion package passed by Congress last week, Hodge says.

Under the Stafford Act, the president can declare an emergency for any situation in which federal assistance is needed to bolster state and local emergency services, including "the protection of lives, property, public health, and safety," according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Although Stafford Act emergency declarations have more commonly been made for hurricanes and other natural disasters, they have also occasionally been used to address public health crises. In 2000, President Clinton made emergency declarations for New York and New Jersey in response to the West Nile virus, according to a Congressional Research Service report.

Some experts don't see immediate need for a declaration. The president doesn't need to declare an emergency "unless there is some need in a state that's not currently being met," says Michael Coen, former chief of staff to the FEMA administrator and currently senior adviser for homeland security and emergency management at the consulting firm IEM. The option, however, should be reassessed from day to day, he says.

Others say there is more urgency. States are about to undertake "massive expenses with respect to mitigation and control," Hodge says. "You can't close facilities and schools without emergency management authorities getting heavily involved," and states will need federal help coordinating and funding those efforts, he says. "That's why you'll see that national emergency forthcoming soon," he says. "We need those resources out the doors."

On Wednesday afternoon, Trump tweeted that he was "fully prepared to use the full power of the federal government" to deal with the coronavirus.

"At this time, FEMA is not preparing an emergency declaration in addition to the HHS public health emergency," a FEMA spokesperson said. While HHS is the agency leading the federal government's response, FEMA is helping with crisis action planning, interagency coordination, and other efforts, the spokesperson said.

By: Eleanor Laise

Just for Fun...



Have you or a colleague published an article and would like it published in the next newsletter? Email it to austinaga1@gmail.com



AGA Members: Read the latest copy of the Journal of Accountancy at: agacgfm.org

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e-mail: Priscilla.Suggs@hpsc.state.tx.us

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e-mail: Elba.Morales@CohnReznick.com

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e-mail: Patti.Roano@ers.gov

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e-mail: Aria.Negahban@CohnReznick.com

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e-mail: Bhakti.Patel@us.gt.com

Eddie Chan

Webmaster

e-mail: Eddie.Chan@ers.texas.gov

Debi Weyer

Research Committee Chair

e-mail: debiweyer@gmail.com

Latosha Goard

Early Careers Committee Chair

e-mail: Latosha.Goard@dps.texas.gov

Sharita Jefferson

Chapter Historian

e-mail: Sharita.Jefferson@dfps.state.tx.us

Kieran Coe

Past President

e-mail: Kieran.Coe@us.gt.com

Paul Morris

Regional Vice President


e-mail: pmorris1@austin.rr.com





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