



# 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

## New York Capital Chapter Events

Webinar - December 17  
 • Better Outcomes from  
Challenging Audit Discussions

## National Events

Virtual Event - December 16  
 • Increase Your Confidence,  
Enhance Your Career

Virtual Event - January 11  
 • CGFM Live, Virtual Course:  
Governmental Environment

Virtual Event - January 13  
 • Uniform Guidance



### **New York Capital Chapter Webinar - December 17th Better Outcomes from Challenging Audit Discussions**

**Presented by: Drummond Kahn**  
**1:00 - 2:50 pm (Eastern)**  
**2:00 - 3:50 pm (Central)**

In this two-hour session, the presenter will cover typically challenged audit discussions -- sensitive entrance and exit meetings, dealing with difficult colleagues, and how to best and handle the discussions we would rather avoid. Through communication and organizational lenses, you will look at these discussions in new ways, and leave the session with tools you can use to best defuse but tackle your next challenging discussions.

2 CPEs Available

Free for Members or \$20 for All Others

Register for **Better Outcomes from Challenging Audit Discussions** here.

## **We now accept Paypal!**

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

# News from National/NCC Rep

Hello, everyone!

Merry Christmas to you and your family! I hope everyone has a safe and healthy holiday season!

We are nearing the halfway point of our 2020-2021 program year, and I want to give you an update on our Awards for Chapter Excellence (ACE) award progress.

As you may know, a chapter has 9 requirements to complete before it is eligible for an ACE award. Some of those requirements include electing chapter officers, submitting annual chapter plans to the National office, filing the necessary forms with the IRS and state offices and engaging in an annual review of the chapter's finances.

Your Chapter Executive Committee (CEC) has completed 6 of the 9 requirements, while maintaining an updated chapter website and using the correct AGA logos in all communications are an on-going process. Your CEC will begin a review of the Chapter bylaws in early 2021 to complete the final requirement.

Currently, your CEC has earned 2,100 points toward the ACE award, which puts our chapter in the Silver Award category. Several of our ACE award goals won't be measurable until Spring 2021, but we are still on track to reach our Platinum Award goal of 4,400 points for the year. See the upcoming award levels below:

Platinum: 4,400 - 5,500 points

Gold: 3,000 - 4,399 points

Silver: 2,000 - 2,999 points

For more information, don't hesitate to contact me at [gdrake@thearcoftheozarks.org](mailto:gdrake@thearcoftheozarks.org).

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

Greg Drake, 2019-2021 Ozarks Chapter NCC Representative



## Christmas Financial Predictions:

In 2019, an article in USA Today had estimated that Missouri households would spend about \$1,030 on Christmas in 2019. CNBC is predicting that the general public will spend \$50 less on Christmas in 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Although travel expenses will be less this year, people are planning to spend more on decorations, gifts for family and friends, etc.



Jennifer Schatzer was born in Quincy, Illinois and raised in Nixa, MO. She graduated from Missouri State University. Jennifer has worked for KPM for 16 years where she enjoys the firm culture and coworkers whose knowledge and expertise have helped make her a better auditor. Jennifer has also been a member of AGA for many, many, many years...over 12!

Jennifer's passions include the other nonprofit board that she is a member of: Crossroads 3D Archery, her faith, her kids, and her amazing husband. When not working you may find her crafting. She loves to sew clothes, create things, and be outdoors. Hunting takes up her fall and spring, and she and her family participate in monthly archery tournaments that start every January.

# Everyone meet, Jennifer Schatzer

## Strictly Business:

What led you to this career?

I had an amazing teacher in high school that made me LOVE accounting.

## A Little More Personal:

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

I have very large dogs - English Mastiffs and chickens. I also met my husband in high school.

## Just for Fun:

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

34

What is one item you can't leave home without?

My car keys

Youtube Video:

**How to Create Macros in Excel Tutorial**

Kevin Stratvert



## Anniversaries, Milestones & Achievements

- December Anniversaries:
  - Rhonda Christopher - BKD
  - Kimberly Hamm - BKD
  - Greg Rainwater - Missouri State University
- Julie Ravenscraft
  - Graduation from Oklahoma State University with Ph.D. in Business Administration
- Email Melody Ownby with any Anniversaries, Milestones, or Achievements

## Job Opportunities

- City of Springfield
  - Accounting Technician
- Missouri State University
  - Internal Auditor
- Email Melody Ownby with any governmental accounting opportunities in the Ozarks



Think About It:

How do you change a Six to a Nine?

Remove the S!

# Why the CGFM?



**Tammy Beeman**

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

A: Other employees had obtained their CGFM and they encouraged me to do the same.

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

A: I think it has helped tremendously. It has opened promotion doors for me and the certification has backed my experience and knowledge.

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

A: I have additional resources I can use for research and I have the ability to ask other CGFMs professional questions.

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

A: I have met many great co-CGFMs. It is nice knowing others with the same skill set.

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

A: I attended a week long local training to prep and study for one section. I took this section exam not long after that, and passed. I used the same methods to study for the other sections.

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

A: Take one section at a time. Do not give up. It is well worth it.

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

A: The CGFM Study Guides and sample test questions.

**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 not know this until I had taken the exams, but this could give someone the incentive to take their exams.

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

A: It was close to two years.



**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)**



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.**



# Contact Us

**Nathan Ziegler, CPA**  
President  
nathan.ziegler@cityutilities.net

**Tammy Beeman, CGFM**  
President-Elect  
tbeeman@springfieldmo.gov

**Renee Vines, CPA**  
Treasurer  
renee.vines@cityutilities.net

**Ashley Bartholomaus**  
Secretary  
barthola@otc.edu

**Monica Robinson, CGFM**  
Membership Chair  
mrobinson@marshfieldmo.gov

**Melody Ownby**  
Communications Chair  
mownby@springfieldmo.gov

**Sarah Burrows, CPA**  
Accountability Chair  
sarah.burrows@cityutilities.net

**Greg Drake, CGFM**  
National Council of Chapters Representative  
gdrake@thearcoftheozarks.org

**Daphne Pevahouse, CGFM**  
Professional Certification  
dpevahouse@neoshomo.org

**Eric Biring, CPA**  
Education Co-Chair  
eric.biring@cityutilities.net

**Kristy Bork, CPA**  
Education Co-Chair  
kbork@flyspringfield.com


**Julie Ravenscraft, CPA**  
Early Careers Chair  
julieravenscraft@missouristate.edu

**Jennifer Schatzer, CPA**  
Community Service Chair  
jschatzer@kpmcpa.com

**Teresa Allen, CGFM**  
Historian  
tallen@springfieldmo.gov



Association of Government Accountants  
Ozarks Chapter  
PO Box 5212  
Springfield, Mo 65802

 [www.ozarksaga.org](http://www.ozarksaga.org)

 @OzarksAGA