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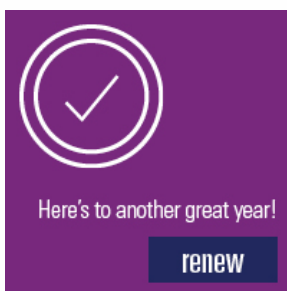
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President's Message Meghan Ellis

Hello Members & Friends,

Happy Holidays! I would like to make a short and sweet message to all of our wonderful members during this busy time of year. I thank you all for your continued support. Take this time to slow down and enjoy celebrations with your family and friends, as hard as it can be. Time flies by so quickly during this time of year.

I just have a quick update for everyone. I am happy to announce that the Trenton Chapter will be hosting our Bowling and Networking Event on Friday, January 28, 2022 for the first time in 2 years!!! Please come out to Slocum's Bowling, Bar, and Grille from 4:30pm to 6:30pm on January 28th! Registration will be on our website soon. It will be FREE for students and non-members and \$6 for our members. This is a great opportunity to catch up with other members and see what AGA Trenton Chapter is all about. We will have bowling, appetizers, and prizes! As a reminder, feel free to wear a mask, even though masks are not required and please stay home if you are feeling unwell to protect all of our friends and members. Hope to see you there!



...continued on page 2



President's Message *(continued)*

As always, I am here for any of your concerns, issues, or questions, don't hesitate to reach out. We would also love to hear about any recent accomplishments AGA Trenton Chapter members have made. You could be in our next Newsletter!

Best wishes and see you all in 2022,
 Meghan Ellis
 Trenton Chapter President

CHAPTER LEADERSHIP 2021-2022 PROGRAM YEAR

Chapter President
Meghan K. Ellis
 NJ Office of the State Auditor

Immediate Past President
Jessica Donohue
 NJ Department of Transportation

Chapter Treasurer
Michael J. Salberta
 NJ Office of the State Auditor

National Council of Chapters Representative
Nikki Farrell, CICA
 NJ Office of Legislative Services

Administration
Stephanie Rybak
 Community Service
Christopher J. Fucello
 NJ Office of the State Comptroller

Membership
Kiersten Kokotajlo
 NJ Office of the State Auditor

Chapter President-Elect
Robert Rizzo
 NJ Office of Legislative Services

Secretary
Michelle C. Blatt
 NJ Office of the State Comptroller

Education
Robert Rizzo
 NJ Office of Legislative Services

Webmaster
Jennifer Dougherty

CGFM/Professional Certification
Margarita Stanislavskaya, CGFM, CPA
 Mercer County Improvement Authority

UPCOMING EVENTS

Webinar - Uniform Guidance
(2 CPEs)
Date: January 12, 2022
Location: Online
Time: TBA
Register via www.agacgfm.org

Webinar - CGFM Live Course:
Governmental Environment (8 CPEs) Date:
January 13, 2022 - January 14, 2022
Location: Online
Time: 10:30 AM - 2:30 PM
Register via www.agacgfm.org

Webinar - CGFM Live: Governmental
Financial Management and Control
(21 CPEs)
Date: January 25, 2022 - January 28, 2022
Location: Online
Time: 10:30 AM - 3:30 PM
Register via www.agacgfm.org

Webinar - Members Only "How We
Communicate and Why it Matters"
(1.5 CPEs)
Date: January 26, 2022
Location: Online
Time: 2:00 PM - 3:15 PM
Register via www.agacgfm.org

Webinar - GASB Update
(2 CPEs)
Date: January 26, 2022
Location: Online
Time: 2:00 PM - 3:50 PM
Register via www.agacgfm.org

Virtual CGFM Training
for groups or individuals

Convenient learning.
AGA quality.



AGA is pleased to offer another CGFM preparation option: live, virtual CGFM courses for individual participants. Get the benefits of live training with a knowledgeable instructor and the convenience of staying at your home or office. Click above to sign up!

Give back to the profession
Apply to be a mentor today!

MENTORING
program

The program is open to AGA members only.
We all have a responsibility to leave this world better than we found it and to have a positive impact on the next generation of government leaders. Mentoring is important, not only because of the knowledge and skills young professionals can learn from mentors, but also because mentoring provides professional socialization and personal support.
For more information, visit the AGA website.

SAVE THE DATE!



Bowling & Networking Event

Friday, January 28, 2022

4:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Slocum's Bowling Alley

1675 Pennington Road, Ewing, NJ

FREE for STUDENTS & Non-Members!

\$6 for AGA Members

Join us for bowling, appetizers, & networking opportunities!

www.agacgfm.org/trenton ~ facebook.com/AGATrentonNJ



AGA Trenton

Wishes you...

*Happy
Holidays!*

And a Happy
New Year!

E-mail Scam Alert

Messages like this have been reported by many AGA chapters in the past few days:

Hi [Board member name],

I need you to handle this as soon as possible: I need you to purchase a gift card as we have some charity donations to make today. Please let me know when you are ready for the details.

P.S: I'm busy at the moment and can't talk but will lookout for your reply.

Regards,

[Chapter President Name]

So what can we do to keep our chapters safe? The answers are simple —internal controls and website security!

Internal Controls

If you receive a suspicious email, pause and rely on your instincts and internal controls. Here are a few tips we've found, especially in this article from the Federal Trade Commission (FTC):

- 1. Double-check the email address.**
- 2. Hover over the email address to make sure the address in the tool-tip matches the email address in the "from" field.**
- 3. Forward the message to the known email address of the officer requesting payment (i.e., if they use their work email, but the message is from a personal email address, use the one you're familiar with).**
- 4. Pick up the phone! Directly contact the person (e.g., an AGA chapter member) who "appears" to be requesting funding, information, etc., before quickly responding to an email — or, worse yet, opening an attachment.**
- 5. Do not reply to the email address. This will confirm for the scammer that the email address is live and can result in follow-up contact.**
- 6. Does the sender seem pressed for time? Don't feel rushed simply because of an "urgent" email. A minute of caution can save thousands of dollars.**
- 7. Do your own typing. If someone sends you a link or phone number, don't click. Use your favorite search engine to look up the website or phone number yourself.**
- 8. Report phishing emails and texts. The aforementioned FTC article tells you how.**

Website Security

Many AGA chapters have been hit by phishing scams like the one described at the beginning of this article. Sophisticated scammers use "bots" to scan public websites for email addresses, then use the addresses to contact their targets. So, leverage the web tools at your disposal to implement these safeguards:

- 1. Use links! Ensure that you link to email addresses on your website rather than writing them out, as we've done in this sentence. If you have an AGA-hosted website, refer to the "Working with Documents and Links — Link to an Email Address" section of the user guide.**
- 2. Update your leadership roster settings. You can change the leadership rosters so you have options for the way you want to display them:**
 - 3. Internal controls. Establish, and use, your internal controls.**

In an uncertain world,
**be certain of what
you know.**



Know More.
Become More



Get Your **CGFM** Certification!



Interested in getting your employer to recognize the AGA Certified Government Financial Manager certification? Reach out to Margarita Stanislavskaya, Trenton Chapter CGFM Chairperson, for more information.



AGA National News



AGA's Recruitment Challenge - Everyone Get One!

In anticipation of our return to *normalcy* as COVID-19 restrictions are lifted, we're heading back to the basics of recruitment with a member-get-a-member campaign. Our target for the 2021–2022 membership year is to recruit 2,022 new members by April 30, 2022.

AGA membership is more important than ever. It is a key link to our profession, an opportunity to learn from others, invest in ourselves and make our profession stronger.

As members, YOU are the best advocates for AGA membership! Only you know how AGA membership has impacted you and your professional career and can easily convey it to others. Tell them *what AGA means to you!* By recruiting new members, you can help strengthen your Association and impact the future of your profession!

In as little as 5 minutes — with a quick call, a Zoom chat, or an email, you can have a tremendous impact!

Plus, by encouraging your friends and colleagues to elevate their professional potential via AGA membership can lead to awards and rewards for you!

Step 1: Reach to Colleagues and Friends

Step 2: Share What AGA Means to You

Step 3: Invite Them to Join AGA

Step 4: Receive Awards and Rewards!

The Fine Print

- All AGA members in good standing are eligible to participate.
- Recruiting free electronic members (students and professors), retired and suspended members do not qualify for campaign awards and rewards.
- The 2021–2022 Recruitment Challenge runs for 9 months! July 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022.

AGA Training Scholarships, Member Recruitment and CGFM Certification

Training Scholarships and Nominations

This year, nominations for the 2022 Professional Development Training awards will open in January 2022. More information will be provided in the January 2022 newsletter. Stay tuned!

Member Recruitment

As treasured members, we can influence the future of AGA by sharing our experiences with peers, colleagues, and others in our organizations with any interest in government financial management. Membership in AGA has many benefits, including education and networking opportunities, awards and scholarship programs, discounts for training, exclusive CPE opportunities and access to our resources, such as free utilization of the CGFM Online Library. Members join a local chapter through which they gain additional networking, leadership and education experience. Start recruiting today. Provide the following information to our prospective members:

- Online application via website: <https://www.agacgfm.org/Membership.aspx>
- E-mail - agamembers@agacgfm.org
- Telephone - (800)-AGA-7211 or (703)-684-6931

AGA Trenton Chapter's November 2021 Balance Sheet

AGA TRENTON CHAPTER NOVEMBER 2021

ASSETS		LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Cash - Savings	\$ 24,190.13	Accounts Payable	\$ 1,348.98
Cash - Checking	\$ 12,421.24	Deferred Income	
Accounts Receivable	\$ 400.00		
Prepaid Expenses	\$ 1,423.74	Fund Balance	\$ 37,086.13
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 38,435.11	TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$ 38,435.11

Special Thank You to Our Sponsors

GOLD

RUTGERS

Rutgers Business School
Newark and New Brunswick

MAACY Program

BRONZE

MCIA

MERCER COUNTY
IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY

CHAPTER DIRECTORS 2021-2022 PROGRAM YEAR

President - Meghan Ellis
 President Elect/VP of Education - Robert Rizzo
 Immediate Past President/Nominating Committee Chair - Jessica Donoher
 VP of Membership - Kiersten Kokotajlo
 VP of Finance/ Administration/Programs - Stephanie Rybak
 Treasurer - Michael Salberta
 Secretary - Michelle Blatt
 National Council of Chapters Representative - Nikki Farrell
 Fall PDT/Technical Coordinator - Co-chairs: Nikki Farrell & Meghan Ellis + Fall PDT Committee
 Spring PDT/Technical Coordinator - Co-chairs: Nikki Farrell & Meghan Ellis + Spring PDT Committee
 Audio Conferences - Rene Gervasoni - Backup: Michelle Blatt
 Sponsorship - Guy Tassi
 Chapter Recognition - Robert Rizzo and Meghan Ellis
 CGFM Chairperson - Margarita Stanislavskaya
 Community Service - Chris Fuccello
 Awards - Stephanie Rybak
 Young Professionals/Early Career - Meghan Ellis
 Budget/Finance - Amanda Ireland
 Newsletter - Marie Samson
 Meeting Chair - Rene Gervasoni - Backup: Joseph Pica
 Paul Vidunas Coordinator - Nat Jackson
 Historian - Rose Todaro
 By-Laws - David Kaschak
 Accountability Outreach Chair - Kiersten Kokotajlo
 Webmaster/Communications - Jennifer Dougherty - Backup: Nikki Farrell

Contact Us



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 Facebook: ***<https://www.facebook.com/AGATrentonNJ>***
 LinkedIn: ***<https://www.linkedin.com/company/trenton-aga>***
 Website: ***<https://www.agacgfm.org/trenton>***