



ALBUQUERQUE CHAPTER

Albuquerque AGA Monthly Newsletter

September 2013

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Monthly Luncheon

Date: Thursday,
 September 19, 2013

Location: Chama
 River Brewing
 Company

Speaker: Ray
 Roberts, Managing
 Partner of ACG -
 Ethics topic

Fee:
 Member - \$15
 NonMember - \$20

Contact Laura Beltran
 -Schmitz for
 registration link

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President's Message

Hello Everyone,

Wow! We are down to the last couple weeks of Summer!!! I certainly hope everyone was able to enjoy some time off! As we say goodbye to Summer and welcome Fall, we also welcome the season of football and audits! While I don't really understand the former, I am quite experienced in the latter - I hope everyone's audits are starting off well. I also hope your Fantasy Football teams are doing well!

I would like to thank all the members who participated in the School Supply Drive during our August luncheon. We donated about 10 large bags of a variety of school supplies. We left the supplies at the NM Educators Federal Credit Union because the APS Principal Association had a meeting there a couple days after our luncheon. I received a letter from the head Principal that they were very grateful for our donations. Again, thank you to everyone who participated.

Hope to see you at the September 19th luncheon at Chama River Brewing Company!!

~Laura
 President - Albuquerque AGA Chapter 2013/2014

In the Spot Light

Congratulations to **Diana Ursu**, UNM Student, for becoming the newest board member on the Albuquerque Chapter



Executive Committee! We are excited to work with you!

Congratulations to Jeffrey Brown, U.S. Dept. of Energy, for passing the CGFM exam!! Way to go!!!

Welcome New Member, **Mr. Eric Nelson!** Mr. Nelson works at Sandia National Laboratories Controller Ops. We are happy to have your membership!

*if you would like to recognize a fellow AGA member for a recent achievement, please email laura.beltran-schmitz@claconnect.com

Meet the Board Members

Kimberly Hallatt (Kim), CPA, CGFM, CGMA

Kim is the Finance Policy Area Lead and Cost Accounting Standards Advisor at Sandia National Laboratories. She has worked at Sandia for five years, first in the Contract Audit department, then as a Work for Others funding analyst. In her current position, Kim provides financial policy and Cost Accounting Standards consulting to Sandia's Controller organization and to financial management and staff throughout the laboratory.

Prior to joining Sandia, Kim worked for three years in public accounting in Albuquerque, specializing in state and local taxation. Taxes are her passion, and she provides volunteer assistance on tax filing requirements to several family members. While becoming a CPA was a life-long goal, Kim took a detour, working in the advertising industry for 25 years prior to obtaining her Master's of Accounting degree and CPA license. Her undergraduate degree is in Psychology and both of her degrees are from UNM (go Lobos!). Kim has been a member of the Albuquerque Chapter of the AGA since 2010 and obtained her CGFM designation in August 2012.

Kim is a nearly life-long native of Albuquerque, living for three years in Houston, TX. She is married to Michael Hill, an architect and devoted gardener. Outside of work, Kim and Michael are avid sports fans and, in addition to the Lobos, follow the NE Patriots, Boston Red Sox, Boston Celtics, and Boston Bruins. They are looking forward to a time when they can adopt one or two dogs to walk.

Sean Vineyard

Sean is 28 years old and a graduate from Radford University in Southwestern, VA with degrees in Accounting, Finance, and Management. He started his career as a Financial Analyst with Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC), a large multinational firm in the DC Metro area. After spending two years at CSC, he then joined Kearney & Company, based out of Alexandria, VA, as a Staff II Accountant. Sean is now a Supervisory Senior Accountant at Kearney & Company, where he has done accounting, consulting, and CFO Act audits for the past three years. He is currently in Albuquerque for approximately nine to ten months out of the year assisting in performing and overseeing the completion of the FY13 US Forest Service audit.

CGFM Corner

by James Hartogenesis, CGFM, CPA

Since its inception in 1994, the Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) has become the standard by which government financial management professionals are measured. Its [education](#), [experience](#) and [ethics requirements](#) have served to elevate the most seasoned financial professionals.

More than 15,000 individuals have received the designation so far. Now it's your turn. Experience the benefits of certification first hand. The CGFM is the mark of excellence in your profession. We look forward to adding your name to our distinguished list of [Certified Government Financial Managers](#).

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that the employment of accountants and auditors is expected to grow 22 percent between 2008 and 2018, which is much faster than the average of all occupations. Accountants and auditors that hold a college degree or certification will have the best job prospects.

Give Yourself an Edge Over Your Competitors

Recent research has shown that employers attribute their recruiting difficulties to a shortage of qualified

professionals. Give yourself a competitive advantage by showing your commitment to lifelong learning. You need a credential that shows you are qualified and have the skills to lead. The Certified Government Financial Manager does this like no other credential.

The CGFM is the first certification broad enough to cover the whole field of government financial management - federal, state and local. It measures a wide range of knowledge and skills that a professional needs to succeed in the federal government financial environment, or to meet the unique challenges faced by state and local government financial managers.

"In today's complex and changing world, a professional certification provides prospective employers with a degree of confidence that candidates are prepared for the real world." -John Radford, CGFM, State Controller, State of Oregon

Value and Recognition of the CGFM Credential

The foundation of the CGFM is the requirement for [Education](#), [Experience](#) and [Examinations](#). Building on this foundation is a [Code of Ethics](#) and required [Continuing Professional Education \(CPE\)](#).

This designation is already recognized as a professional standard. Each year, more and more federal agencies and state and local governments are realizing the value of the CGFM and are formally embracing the designation. It is often listed as a preferred hiring qualification on federal RFPs. The Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) Board of Regents has also recognized the CGFM. It is accepted as a waiver for part IV of the CIA examination.

Toward the Future

The challenge facing today's government financial managers is to keep up with the changing times. New innovations, new regulations and new methods of implementation require staying abreast of the latest developments.

AGA presents a dynamic program of educational events every year that will expand your knowledge and sharpen your skills.

The field of government financial management will be far different tomorrow from what it is today. Having a broad knowledge and a recognized professional designation will be the way to distinguish yourself from the crowd.

There's no time like the present for joining the thousands of other leaders in government financial management who already have discovered the unique value and benefit of the CGFM designation.

"Professional recognition through certification or other designation provides a distinct advantage in the job market. Certification can attest to professional competence in a specialized field of accounting and auditing." -Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2010-2011 Edition.

One of the key findings of [AGA's 2010 Compensation Survey](#) is that those who had earned a CGFM designation reported a higher average salary than those who do not hold this certification: \$105,815 compared to \$78,905, a difference of 34 percent. When compared to the average salary of individuals with no designations-\$68,416-the average salary of CGFMs was 55 percent higher.

Other Events

On the evening of Thursday, October 10th, the Albuquerque Executive Committee and some lucky members/guests, will have the opportunity to enjoy the Special Shapes Balloon Glow at the Gondola Club. Hopefully weather permits the balloons to inflate, but even if they don't, this will be a fun event with great food, drinks, and company. Members attending the September luncheon will be entered into a drawing to be selected to bring a guest to this event. Complete the raffle ticket at the bottom of this newsletter or bring a business card to the September luncheon!! Don't miss out on this opportunity!!!

Executive Committee:

Feel free to contact any of us w/ questions & comments

President
Laura Beltran-Schmitz
laura.beltran-schmitz@claconnect.com

Past President
Georgie Ortiz
georgie.ortiz@claconnect.com

Treasurer
Matt Bone

matthew.bone@claconnect.com

Secretary
Kim Hallatt
knhalla@sandia.gov

Accountability Chair
Marla Gorena
mgorena@acgnm.com

CGFM Chair
James Hartogensis
jhartocpa@msn.com

Early Careers Chair
Heather Prudhomme
HPrudhomme@atkinsoncpa.com

Membership Chair
Robi Gonzales
Robi.Gonzales@state.nm.us

Education Chair
Johnny Mangu
johnnymangu@aol.com

Community Service Chair
Sean Vineyard
sean.vineyard@gmail.com

Historian
Jeffrey Brown
jeffrey.brown313@yahoo.com

Student Member
Diana Ursu
ursu.diana@gmail.com

Special Shapes Balloon Glow raffle - bring this completed coupon to the September 19th luncheon to be entered into a drawing to attend the Balloon Fiesta event on Thursday, October 10.

Name:

Company:

Email Address:

[Forward this email](#)



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Albuquerque AGA | 500 Marquette Ave NW | Suite 800 | Albuquerque | NM | 87111