

As the calendar turns over to March it is natural to reflect on the promise of spring, new growth and renewal. Have you renewed your AGA membership yet? I hope that you find your membership as rewarding as I do. Remember to renew by the end of the month. You can renew your membership at the AGA national website.

Speaking of growth, have you been wanting to grow your career? Have you been considering sitting for the CGFM? March is national CGFM month and AGA's national CGFM leader, Katya Silver, will be sharing a short presentation about becoming a CGFM at our March 14<sup>th</sup> dinner meeting. Also presenting at our March meeting will be Justin Marsico, from the Treasury Department. He will be speaking about "Analytics with Federal Spending Data."

Our February meeting included a fascinating presentation by Barbara Harris of the US Department of Agriculture's Office of Chief Financial Officer about purchase card fraud. I don't think I will ever look at an ATM the same way.

We are excited for our annual Wizards game event. We will be watching the Wizards take on the Spurs on March 27. Tickets include unlimited food, beer, wine, soft drinks and a Wizards t-shirt! Tickets always sell out fast for this event, so make sure to register early on our website.

Do you know of any students that would like to win \$2,000? Our chapter is offering a scholarship to local full-time students to prepare a citizen's centric report (CCR) for a local government. This is a great way for students to learn more about their local government with the potential to earn some money. Teams must submit their CCRs by Mach 31, 2018 to [accountability@marylandaga.com](mailto:accountability@marylandaga.com). The winners will be invited to our awards dinner in May. For further details, email our Accountability Directors at [accountability@marylandaga.com](mailto:accountability@marylandaga.com).

Keep checking the events tab on our website ([www.marylandaga.com](http://www.marylandaga.com)), and you can see all of the upcoming events, including dinner meetings, workshops, webinars, community service programs, and early careers events. More events are added every week, so check back often. Also, check us out on Facebook for updates as well! #AGAMoCoPG.

If you have any questions or suggestions for any of our events or would like to become more involved in our chapter, please email me at [president@marylandaga.com](mailto:president@marylandaga.com). If there is something that you feel we should be doing differently or something new that you think the chapter should be doing, I would love to hear from you.

Jonathan DeBoer, CGFM—Chapter President

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## Chapter News

Welcome to the March edition of the Montgomery/Prince George George's County Chapter newsletter for the 2017—2018 program year. If you are new to the Chapter or it's been a while since you've looked through the newsletter, please check out the following sections:

- A Member Benefits section, which includes a listing of the discounts, sponsored events, scholarships, and free or discounted CPE that is available to you as AGA and MPGC Chapter members.
- Expansion of the Technical Updates Corner, which includes summaries of recent FASAB, FASB, GASB, GAO, and /or OMB Updates.
- The Chapter Calendar and the National Events sections include listings of both the current and next month's events to give you more advance notice of upcoming events.
- Board Meeting Minutes have been added each month and Chapter Financial Statements will be added when available to make Chapter and Board activities more transparent.
- Reminder—AGA and CGFM renewals are due by 3/31/18, if you haven't already renewed your membership and CGFM certification.

Expanded social media— please visit us on Facebook @[AGA Montgomery/Prince George's County Chapter](#).

Also, we welcome your feedback! If there are any features or content that you would like to see in the newsletter, please contact me at [newsletter@marylandaga.com](mailto:newsletter@marylandaga.com).

- Michelle Merritt, Newsletter Editor

## Young Professionals Committee—Wizards vs. Spurs Game



**Please join us as the Wizards take on the Spurs at the Capital One Arena**

**Date: Tuesday, March 27, 2018**

**Time: 7:00 p.m.**

**Tickets include UNLIMITED food, beer, wine, soft drinks and a Wizards t-shirt!**



**\*\*Additional details, including how to purchase tickets, are forthcoming. Check our website at <https://www.agacgfm.org/Chapters/MontgomeryPrinceGeorges/Training-Events/Event-Calendar.aspx> in the coming weeks for more details\*\***

## Upcoming Chapter Events

### March 14| March Dinner Meeting

**Presentation by:** Justin Marsico, Department of Treasury

**Topic:** “Analytics with Federal Spending Data”

**Time:** 6:30—8:30 PM, Reception 6:00—6:30PM

**Location:** Lebanese Taverna, 7141 Arlington Rd., Bethesda, MD 20814

**Registration:** <https://s01.123signup.com/servlet/SignUpMember?PG=1534687182300&P=15346871911432650300>

#### March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25	26	27	28	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	31

### March 27| Washington Wizards Game

**Time:** 7:00 PM

**Location:** Verizon Center, Washington, DC

Go to <http://marylandaga.com/events/> for more details.

#### April

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	1	2	3	4	5

### March 31| Citizen-Centric Report Contest Deadline (see p. 5 for more details)

The Montgomery/Prince George’s County Chapter of the AGA is hosting its annual contest for teams of **college students** to create a Citizen-Centric Report (CCR) on a governmental entity in Maryland. The winning team will be awarded a **\$2,000 cash prize** to be presented at our May dinner meeting.

### April 11| April Dinner Meeting

**Presentation by:** Scott Bell, Department of Treasury

**Topic:** TBD

**Time:** 6:30—8:30 PM, Reception 6:00—6:30PM

**Location:** Lebanese Taverna, 7141 Arlington Rd., Bethesda, MD 20814

**Registration:** <https://s01.123signup.com/servlet/SignUpMemberPG=1534687182300&P=15346871911432650400>

### April 28| Bright Beginnings, Inc. 5K Walk to benefit homeless children and families in the DC area

**Location:** East Potomac Park, Washington, DC

Contact Ugo Emeaba @ [communityservice@marylandaga.com](mailto:communityservice@marylandaga.com) for more details.

### Free Webinars in March and April

*Sponsored for our chapter’s members by corporate partners CliftonLarson Allen LLP*

**Time:** 2:00—3:50 PM

**Location:** CliftonLarsonAllen, 11710 Beltsville Drive, Ste. 300, Calverton, MD 20705

**RSVP:** Contact Jeff Santos @ [Jeff.Santos@claconnect.com](mailto:Jeff.Santos@claconnect.com) or at 301-931-2050

**3/7/18**—Infrastructure Financing with State and Local Government (2 CPEs)

**3/28/18**—Cybersecurity (2 CPEs)

**4/11/18**—Ethics (2 CPEs)

**4/25/18**—The Data Act (2 CPEs)

## Chapter Event Retrospective



On January 15, 2018, in honor of MLK Day, members of the MPGC Chapter helped to feed the residents of United Communities Against Poverty's (UCAP) Shepard Cove Homeless Emergency Shelter for Women & Children. UCAP's mission is to eradicate poverty in the diverse Prince Georges County, MD area.

## Young Professionals Bowling Event



MPGC County members and their guests joined us at the Lucky Strike in Bethesda, MD on Tuesday, January 9, 2018 for two hours of bowling, food, and fun.



## CGFM

Certified Government Financial Manager® (CGFM®) is a professional certification recognizing the unique skills and special knowledge required of today's government financial managers. It covers governmental accounting, auditing, financial reporting, internal controls and budgeting at the federal, state and local levels.

The CGFM certification can help you to:

- Increase and showcase your knowledge
- Distinguish yourself
- Enhance your marketability
- Advance your career

To earn the CGFM, individuals must apply for the CGFM program and meet the following requirements:

[Ethics](#) — read and agree to abide by AGA's Code of Ethics

[Education](#) — have a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university

[Examinations](#) — pass three comprehensive CGFM examinations

[Experience](#) — have at least two years of professional-level experience in government financial management

Details on the program are available here: - <https://www.agacgfm.org/CGFM-Certification/CGFM-Benefits.aspx>

### Not yet a CGFM or do you know someone who wants to earn their CGFM?

**March is CGFM month (see the Proclamations from the State of Maryland & Montgomery County on pages 6 and 7), which makes this a perfect time to consider adding this valuable certification!**

**CGFM Examination:** Applicants must take and pass three comprehensive examinations to become a CGFM:

- **Course 1:** Governmental Environment
- **Course 2:** Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting
- **Course 3:** Governmental Financial Management and Control

Visit the [AGA National CGFM website](https://www.agacgfm.org/CGFM-Certification/About-CGFM.aspx) at <https://www.agacgfm.org/CGFM-Certification/About-CGFM.aspx> for more details.

If you are considering taking the CGFM exams in 2018, why not sign up for **AGA's Intensive Review Course** with CGFM examinations **included** – it's a great opportunity to review the course material with a knowledgeable instructor and complete your CGFM.

The Intensive Review Course (IRC), offering up to 18 CPEs, will be held in [Alexandria, VA on April 26-27, 2018](#) (see p. 10).

The class will run 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. both days. The cost of the course for qualified participants is as follows:

- \$375 for AGA members,
- \$425 for non-members

**SPECIAL BONUS:** The CGFM examinations are offered at no additional cost to course attendees — a \$375 savings!

Consider reaching out to colleagues who are not members but might be interested in certification.

# The State of Maryland



## Proclamation

*From the Governor of the State of Maryland*

**CERTIFIED GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL MANAGER MONTH  
MARCH 2018**

- WHEREAS,** *The Association of Government Accountants is a professional organization with a network of more than 14,000 members in the United States and around the world representing state, federal, local and private sector government accountability professionals; and*
- WHEREAS,** *AGA members have responded to AGA's mission of Advancing Government Accountability, as it continues its broad educational efforts, with emphasis high standards of conduct, honor, and character in its Code of Ethics, and are making significant advances both in professional ability and in service to the citizens by mastering increasingly technical and complex requirements; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) Program 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; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) Program of AGA provides a means of demonstrating professionalism and competency by requiring CGFM candidates to have appropriate educational and employment history, to abide by AGA's Code of Ethics and to pass a 3-part examination requiring expertise in Governmental Environment, Governmental Financial Management and Control, and Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting, and requires each CGFM to maintain certification by completing at least 80 hours of continuing professional education in government financial management topics or related technical subjects every two years. Maryland has the second highest number of CGFMs by state.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim MARCH 2018 as CERTIFIED GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL MANAGER MONTH in Maryland, and do commend this observance to all of our citizens.**



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland  
this 2nd day of  
March  
2018

and signed

*Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.*  
Governor

*Robert K. Lathrop*  
Lt. Governor

*John C. Womack*  
Secretary of State



# Proclamation

## Montgomery County Maryland

**WHEREAS,** The Association of Government Accountants (AGA) is a professional organization with a network of 14,000 members in the United States and around the world representing state, federal, local and private sector government accountability professionals; and

**WHEREAS,** AGA members have responded to AGA's mission of Advancing Government Accountability, as it continues its broad educational efforts, with emphasis on high standards of conduct, honor and character in the Code of Ethics, and are making significant advances both in professional ability and in service to citizens by mastering increasingly technical and complex requirements; and

**WHEREAS,** the Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM) program of AGA provides a means of demonstrating professionalism and competency by requiring CGFM candidates to have appropriate education and employment history, to abide by AGA's Code of Ethics, and to pass a three-part examination requiring expertise in Government, Environment, Governmental Financial Management and Control, and Government Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting; and

**WHEREAS,** this examination requires each CGFM holder to maintain certification by completing at least 80 hours of continuing professional education in government financial management topics or related technical subjects every two years;

**NOW, THEREFORE, DO I** Isiah Leggett as County Executive do hereby proclaim the month of March 2018 as

### **CERTIFIED GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL MANAGER MONTH**

in Montgomery County. I encourage residents to join me in recognizing the members of AGA for their continuing contributions to their profession and our community.



Signed this 1<sup>st</sup> day of March in the year 2018.

*Isiah Leggett*  
County Executive



**It's time for our World Famous Crab Feast...  
...the Annual Corporate Sponsorship Social Event!**

**The Sponsorship Committee of the AGA Montgomery/PG Chapter will be hosting our Annual Crab Feast in recognition of our Corporate Sponsors**

**Where: The Bethesda Crab House**

**When: Thursday April 19, 2018\***

**Time: 5:30 pm**

**Cost: \$25 for AGA Members & Corporate Sponsors and \$35 for Non-AGA Members**

*\* Registration ends Tuesday, April 17, 2018*

**The event provides 3 Entrée Options (below) along with Cole Slaw or Corn on the Cob and various seafood appetizers –**

- 1) "All you can Eat" Crabs,
- 2) Jumbo Lump Crab Cake Platter. or
- 3) Snow Crab Legs (2 pounds)

**Please come out and support the Montgomery/Prince Georges County AGA Chapter!**

**Register at: [www.marylandaga.com/events](http://www.marylandaga.com/events)**



On behalf of the Sponsorship Committee and the Montgomery/Prince Georges County AGA Chapter, we would like to thank all of our Corporate Sponsors for their continued support in help giving back to the community and the careers and professional development of government professionals working in the federal, state, and local governments as well as the private sector and academia.

**This Event is open to our AGA Sponsors, AGA Members, and Non-Members**

*Thanks to our Corporate Sponsors... CliftonLarsonAllen, Cotton & Company, Allmond & Company, Becker Professional Education, KPMG, RMA Associates, and Kearney & Company*



## Membership

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](#), some of which are offered at no charge or at a discounted rate for members. Members join a local [chapter](#), through which they gain additional networking, leadership and education experiences.

### Membership Benefits—Local Chapters:

- **FREE\* AGA Webinars**—up to 2 CPEs for participation in each sponsored presentation.
- **Monthly Dinner Meetings**—earn 1 CPE for attending
- **Workshops** featuring relevant and timely topics such as Cyber Security, FASAB Updates, Internal Control Requirements, and Ethics.
- **Networking Opportunities and Member gatherings** such as happy hours and sporting events.

### Membership Benefits—AGA National:

- **Community**—Networking through 100 AGA Chapters, Member and Vendor Directories, Leadership and Volunteer Opportunities, Awards and Scholarships
- **Professional Development, Training, and Career Resources**—complimentary webinars, discounted online CPE courses, member rates for national training events, discounted CGFM renewal fees, group training courses, Online Job Bank.
- **Research and Publications**—subscription to the *Journal of Government Financial Management* and the Topics weekly newsletter, Research and Executive Reports.
- **Free Tools**, including tips to Prevent Fraud, Reduce Improper Payments, Improve Outcomes, Mitigate Risk, and Enhance Collaboration.
- **Participation in Good Government Initiatives**—Input to standards-setting bodies, intergovernmental partnerships, and the Citizen-Centric Reporting (CCR) program.



### Unlimited Online CPE Courses from Becker Professional Education

Becker Professional Education, one of our chapter's esteemed corporate sponsors, and our chapter have joined forces to offer you an incredible new member benefit - discounts on online Continuing Professional Education (CPE) courses.

Becker Professional Education offers a wide variety of CPE courses, including courses that qualify for your CGFM or CPA CPE requirements. The cost for an On Demand subscription is \$299 per year for unlimited CPE courses. **Use Promo Code AGACPE100 to receive 10% off your total.**

A catalog of the courses available through Becker Professional Education can be found at <http://www.becker.com/cpe/courses/course-catalog>.

To view of sample demonstration of the online courses that Becker Professional Education has to offer, please visit <http://www.becker.com/accounting/cpe/courses/preview-a-course.cfm>.

## New Members

The MPGC Chapter would like to welcome the following new members:

Mrs. Sharon L. Casey  
Mr. Philip Nam

Mrs. Kathleen Conley, CGFM  
Ms. Pauline Petitclerc  
Mr. Cane A. Toussaint

Mrs. Veryl-Ann Lansiquot  
Ms. Theresa A. Price

Dual Chapter Members:

Mr. James Alan Cox, Jr. (MPGC & Baltimore)

Mr. Yuliy Litvak (MPGC, DC, and Northern VA)

## Awards and Recognition

**Award Season is underway! Nominate an individual or chapter for one of AGA's Awards of Distinction by March 31. Winners will be recognized at the 2018 PDT Conference in Orlando, FL in July. For more information regarding awards, go to:**

[https://www.agacgfm.org/Membership/Connect/Awards-Recognition/National-Leadership-Awards-and-AGA-National-Awards.aspx?utm\\_source=Informz&utm\\_medium=Email&utm\\_campaign=AGA+Communications&zs=HEKc1&zl=oXbM3](https://www.agacgfm.org/Membership/Connect/Awards-Recognition/National-Leadership-Awards-and-AGA-National-Awards.aspx?utm_source=Informz&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=AGA+Communications&zs=HEKc1&zl=oXbM3)

### Awards

AGA honors members for service both to the association and to the government financial management profession. We bestow awards based on peer nomination to those who have exemplified principles of leadership, transparency and financial stewardship.

### Scholarships

AGA grants scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students pursuing finance careers in an effort to grow the government financial management community and support current and future practitioners from the beginning of their careers.

### Nominations

AGA offers a variety of leadership positions at the chapter, regional and national levels. Learn more about our leadership structure and how you can get involved.

### Recognition

AGA celebrates the commitment and determination shown by members reaching several **membership milestones**. Lifetime Membership is conferred to individuals who have remained paid members for at least 40 consecutive years. The commitment and determination shown by these individuals has made AGA the strong, vital organization it is today. As a token of their achievement, each of these individuals was presented with a Lifetime Member certificate. As Lifetime Members, these individuals no longer pay AGA membership or chapter dues.

**Go to <https://www.agacgfm.org/Membership/Connect/Awards-Recognition.aspx> to learn more about the individual programs.**

## Submit an Article to the AGA Journal

The *Journal* team seeks original content to add to and create conversation about important topics in government financial management. To submit, email [journal@agacgfm.org](mailto:journal@agacgfm.org).

**Process:** AGA's Journal Editorial Board chooses themes for issues that it believes the government financial management community will find compelling, relevant and timely. However, we solicit and accept high-quality, thoughtful articles on a wide range of government financial management topics and October publish articles that do not relate directly to the themes. The Journal will accept material that provides practical insights into any aspect of government financial management. Authors are encouraged to submit articles for review. The Journal Editorial Board is particularly interested in articles from practitioners.

### Writing Deadlines:

- **Summer 2018:** March 1—Building the Profession
- **Fall 2018:** June 1—Restoring Trust in Government
- **Winter 2018:** September 1—Technology Threats, Trends & Tools
- **Spring 2019:** December 1—To be determined

### To be eligible for consideration, submitted material must be:

- no more than 2,500 words;
- original work that has not been previously published; submitted to the editor at [journal@agacgfm.org](mailto:journal@agacgfm.org);
- using endnote rather than footnote format;
- accompanied by a 50-word (or fewer) abstract and concise author biographies;
- accompanied (when applicable) by no more than four charts or graphs, which should be submitted as raw data; and
- accompanied (when applicable) by concise sidebars.

**If you have any questions about the *Journal*, please contact [journal@agacgfm.org](mailto:journal@agacgfm.org).**

## AGA National Events and Updates

### National Leadership Training (up to 14 CPEs)



**February 27-28**

**Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC**

NLT provides cutting-edge information from highly respected and distinguished industry leaders, as well as an unparalleled program in two formats: in-person and virtual. Both formats offer the opportunity to earn up to 14 CPEs.

Register at: <https://www.agacgfm.org/NLT-2018/Registration.aspx>

### CGFM Intensive Review Course (up to 18 CPEs)



**April 26-27, 2017**

**Alexandria, VA**

Sign up for **AGA's Intensive Review Course** with CGFM Examinations *included* – it's a great opportunity to review the course material with a knowledgeable instructor and complete your CGFM.

The cost of the course is \$375 for AGA Members and \$425 for non-AGA Members. For additional details, go to <https://www.agacgfm.org/CGFM-Certification/Candidates/Preparing-for-Exams/CGFM-Intensive-Review-Course-Exams.aspx>

### CFO/CIO Summit (up to 4 CPEs)



**May 1**

**Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington DC**

Participants will learn the intersection of policies and management issues that impact CFOs and CIOs and how they are working together to improve efficiency and transparency and reduce risks. This program is suitable for participants who are at least mid-level within an organization; have knowledge, skills and ability commensurate with that level; and have operational and/or supervisory responsibilities.

Register at: <https://www.agacgfm.org/CFOCIO/CPE-Credit.aspx>

### Professional Development Training (PDT) (up to 24 CPEs)



**July 22-25**

**Orlando, FL (or virtual)**

Stay cutting edge, network and connect, and earn up to 24 CPEs for attending AGA's premier training and networking event.

**Registration and fees:** AGA member by June 29—\$875 online, \$900 e-mail/mail; Non-member: \$1,075 online, \$1,100 e-mail/mail

Register at: <https://www.agacgfm.org/PDT.aspx>

### AGA Webinars—March/April

**3/7/18**—Infrastructure Financing with State and Local Government (2 CPEs)

**3/28/18**—Cybersecurity (2 CPEs)

**4/11/18**—Ethics (2 CPEs)

**4/25/18**—The Data Act (2 CPEs)

## Technical Updates Corner—FASAB and GASB

### Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB)

#### December 14, 2017—FASAB issues an Exposure Draft on Classified Activities

The Board is proposing guidance to protect classified national security information or activities from unauthorized disclosure in a publically issued General Purpose Federal Financial Report. This proposal represents the first step in balancing the need for financial reports to be publicly available with the need to protect classified information from public disclosure. This proposal would permit component reporting entities to provide GPFRR to the public by including limited modifications necessary to protect classified information from disclosure. This would allow financial presentation and disclosure to appropriately accommodate end user needs in a manner that does not impede national security.

The Board requests comments on the exposure draft by March 16, 2018, and encourages respondents to provide responses to all of the questions raised and the reasons for their positions. The exposure draft and the specific questions raised are available at the FASAB website in PDF and Word format, respectively (<http://www.fasab.gov/documents-for-comment/>).

For more information, go to: [http://files.fasab.gov/pdf/classified\\_activities\\_ed\\_nr\\_2017.pdf](http://files.fasab.gov/pdf/classified_activities_ed_nr_2017.pdf)

### Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB)

#### GASB REQUESTS PUBLIC INPUT ON REVENUE AND EXPENSE RECOGNITION

**Norwalk, CT, February 1, 2018**—The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has issued for public feedback an [Invitation to Comment](#) (ITC) on the development of a comprehensive revenue and expense recognition model for state and local governments.

The GASB's objectives in developing a comprehensive model are:

- To create a more robust framework to address a wide range of transactions, including some for which no guidance exists at present
- To improve the comparability of how transactions are accounted for and reported by governments
- To provide more useful information to users of financial reports for making decisions and assessing accountability.

The ITC, *Revenue and Expense Recognition*, discusses two models: an exchange/nonexchange model, and a performance obligation/no performance obligation model.

The exchange/nonexchange model includes a classification process based on the existing definition for exchange transactions. The recognition process in this model would be based on existing guidance for nonexchange transactions and a standardized recognition approach for exchange transactions.

Interested parties are asked to review and provide input on the document by April 27, 2018. Written comments should be addressed to the Director of Research and Technical Activities, Project No. 4-6I, and either emailed to [director@gasb.org](mailto:director@gasb.org) or mailed to the GASB, 401 Merritt 7, PO Box 5116, Norwalk, CT 06856-5116.

## Chapter Leadership

### • President

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