

AGA is the premier association for advancing government accountability.



Volume 15-09 May 2016

President's Message

This has been an amazing year for me with the AGA Seattle Chapter. I have had the opportunity to meet so many of you at our chapter meetings and annual events. It is exciting when I get to match faces with names on our membership list. I am inspired by the work you do and encourage you to continue sharing your stories with other AGA members and others in our profession. The synergy that results when you do is quite impressive. Working with this board has been phenomenal, and I encourage all of you who have been thinking about volunteering or serving on a board to seriously consider joining your Seattle AGA board. We have two very important openings including President-elect (which will move into President the following year) and Education Chair. Speaking with fellow AGA members, education and the CPEs are a prime reason people join AGA. We work collaboratively so the workload when serving on the board is really quite manageable even with all of our busy schedules. Board service is a great opportunity to share your experience and knowledge with our membership and to grow professionally. Give me a call or send me an email if you would like to discuss one of these positions or serving in an at-large capacity.

Earlier this month we were excited



Diane MaKaeli, Chapter President

to honor Lloyd Hara with AGA Seattle's Emerald Award. The Emerald Award is presented annually to a distinguished member of the local government accountability community in recognition of his or her leadership in the field of government accountability and service to the public. Mr. Hara is now a lifetime member of AGA having joined in 1974 and he holds the Certified Government Financial Manager credential. He shared with us the lessons he learned after 50 years in public service, and I found those lessons very valuable for all of us. I have followed Mr. Hara's career for several years and it was truly an honor to see him recognized for

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Welcome New Members

We are pleased to welcome to the Seattle Chapter:

Susan Manaloor, CPA

Business and Finance Officer II

Finance & Administration, King County, WTD, DNRP

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PIERCE COUNTY JOB OPENING DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF BUDGET AND FINANCE

Opening Date/Time:	Fri. 05/27/16 12:00 AM Pacific Time
Closing Date/Time:	Continuous
Salary:	\$8,357.70 - \$11,275.85 Monthly \$100,292.39 - \$135,310.20 Annually
Job Type:	Regular - Other
Location:	Pierce County, Washington
Department:	Budget & Finance

This position is open until filled with first consideration given to applications received on/ or before July 4, 2016.

For further information or to complete and submit an online Pierce County Employment Application, go to www.piercecountywa.org/jobs. Please attach a resume, and letter of interest with your application.

UP COMING TRAINING EVENTS

For further details, go to <https://www.agacgfm.org/home.aspx>

The Importance of Change Management in Federal Shared Services

June 1 | 2-3:50 p.m. ET | 2 CPEs

Webinar Description: This webinar will examine the importance of change management in public sector shared services implementation from the perspectives of a Deputy CFO (user), Director of Shared Services (provider), and government consulting Director (implementer). In addition, the webinar will cover the framework and methodologies of public sector change management.

CGFM Intensive Review Course & Exams

The Intensive Review Course (IRC), offering up to 18 CPEs, will be held in Anaheim, Calif., July 15-16, 2016. The class will run 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. both days.

2016 Professional Development Training

July 17-20 | Anaheim, CA or virtual | 24 CPEs

See next page for further details

training & events



EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT...

PDT2016

July 17–20
Anaheim, CA or virtual
24 CPEs

3 Reasons You Should Attend 2016 Professional Development Training

1. **Earn up to 24 CPE Hours.** Enhance your lifelong learning and gain the knowledge and understanding to better improve your job effectiveness. The presentations are facilitated by both industry experts and colleagues who have faced similar challenges. In doing so, you can earn up to 24.5 CPE.
2. **Stay On The Cutting Edge** Includes top-notch speakers from federal, state, local, academia, and the private sector bringing you key findings and educational experiences to augment your job knowledge and skills.
3. **Network and Connect** AGA's PDT is the place to connect with a variety of government financial experts and industry colleagues from around the nation facing the same or similar issues that you could exchange ideas and moments with to bring back to your organization.

Everyone's Talking About... More than 95 percent of PDT 2015 surveyed attendees said they would recommend PDT to their colleagues.

2016 Government Accounting and Auditing Conference

The Seattle Chapter of AGA, in cooperation with the Washington Society of Certified Public Accountants, hosted the 2016 Government Accounting and Auditing Conference (GAAC) in Tacoma, Washington April 25-26, 2016. The annual conference, which is the Seattle AGA Chapter's annual Professional Development Training, was attended by approximately 200 participants. The conference took place at the Greater Tacoma Convention Center, with satellite broadcasts to audiences in Everett and Spokane, Washington, as well as a webinar audience. AGA National President John Homan spoke on the topic of "Issues and Challenges in Government Accountability." President Homan shared his theme for the year of his AGA leadership, "Celebration of the Government Workforce," which he hopes will bring public and media attention to the accomplishments and special strengths of government employees. AGA Northwest Regional Vice President Judy Shock from the Idaho Centennial Chapter also spoke briefly at the conference to encourage attendees to get acquainted with the Seattle AGA Chapter and consider attending AGA's annual Professional Development Training in Anaheim, California in July 2016. Other conference speakers included Lisa Parker of the Government Accounting Standards Board, Gil Tran of the Office of Management and Budget, and a variety of accounting, auditing, and management experts from various local and state governments and firms in Washington State.



Pictured left to right: Seattle AGA Chapter PDT Chair Mary Ann Hardy, AGA National President John Homan, and AGA Northwest Regional Vice President Judy Shock.

2016 Emerald Award Luncheon honoring Lloyd Hara CGFM^{1/}

Our Emerald Award winner, Lloyd Hara, managed to compress the highlights of his 50 years of exemplary service to our community into a presentation that highlighted his public service philosophy for getting things done through innovation.

Mr. Hara capsulized his management philosophy into sections using the somewhat unwieldy acronym POSDCORB (Planning, Organizing, Staffing, Directing, Coordinating, Reporting, and Budgeting).

Lloyd also emphasized the importance of networking and rising to one's potential. In particular, Lloyd mentioned when he was a legislative aid in Olympia, working with the equally inexperienced and later U.S. congressman and governor Mike Lowry to develop legislation and a bond both professional and personal. Lloyd made a point that just doing a good job and following existing procedures is not sufficient. He not only identified and pursued areas where he could add value to new situations, but also overcame racial prejudice still lingering, particularly during his early career.

Lloyd's iconoclastic nature shown through at the end of his presentation, when our chapter presented him with a plaque and the traditional case of personalized Jones Green Apple (green like money) Soda. He graciously accepted the plaque and pop, but then insisted that the soda bottles be distributed to those in attendance.



Tim Dobler and Diane MaKaeli present the Emerald Award to Lloyd Hara (center).

^{1/} Mr. Hara joined the AGA in 1974 and was one of the earliest recipients of the Certified Government Financial Manager designation. He recently served as the County Assessor for King County, Washington. During Mr. Hara's tenure, he reformed the office to be internationally recognized as an outstanding Assessor's Office and received 9 awards recognizing these achievements.

Mr. Hara also held other government accountability positions, both elected and appointed, including Commissioner for the Port of Seattle, Regional Director for the Federal Emergency Management Agency, City Treasurer for the City of Seattle, and King County Auditor. In addition, Mr. Hara has been active in various private sector, academic, and non-profit organizations.

On the subject of Lloyd's contributions to our community

J. Paul Blake, Director of the Evans School of Public Policy & Governance, provided introductory remarks for Lloyd Hara's presentation. In his comments, Mr. Blake noted that the Evans School has established the **LLOYD F. HARA ENDOWED GRADUATE STUDENT SUPPORT FUND**. Anyone wishing to add to the fund is encouraged to do so. A form for that purpose is on the following page.



Lloyd F. Hara Endowed Graduate Student Support Fund

*Thank you for making an investment in honor of **Lloyd Hara**, in support of future generations of leaders who are deeply committed to public service.*

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

I am/we are pleased to invest in the Lloyd F. Hara Endowed Graduate Student Support Fund at the Evans School of Public Policy & Governance **with a gift/pledge of:**

_____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$500 _____ \$1,000 Other: \$ _____

This gift will be paid via:

_____ Check (*payable to UW Foundation, Evans School in memo line*)

[OR]

Please charge to: _____ Visa _____ Mastercard _____ Amex

Card # _____ Exp. Date _____ CVV: _____

Signature _____ Date _____

_____ My gift will be matched by (*if applicable*) _____

Company Name

_____ I/we wish to remain anonymous.

Please return this form to Rebecca Ehrlichman Blume, Assistant Dean for Advancement

Mail to: Advancement Office, UW Evans School of Public Policy & Governance,

Box 353055, Seattle, WA 98195-3055.

Questions? Please contact 206.221.8675 or cadvance@uw.edu

Alternatively, gifts can be made online: <http://evans.uw.edu/about/giving/make-gift>

Thank you for supporting the Evans School and honoring a tremendous public servant, Lloyd Hara!

Sectional Leadership Meeting (SLM) in Salt Lake City attended by Seattle Board Members Sam Lord and Sandra Starnes



Meeting attendees pictured (left to right): Jason Cooper (Northern Nevada Chapter), Chris Floyd (Idaho Centennial Chapter), Sam Lord (Seattle Chapter Treasurer and Community Service Chair), Melanie Brooks (Northern Nevada Chapter), Sandra Starnes (Seattle Chapter Board Member and Incoming Regional Vice President), Vanessa Davis (Incoming Regional Vice President), Stefanie Niemela (Olympia, WA Chapter), Steve Bellomy (Idaho Centennial Chapter)

Sectional Leadership Meetings are annual events designed to bring national, sectional, regional and chapter leaders together with AGA national office staff to discuss the following objectives:

- AGA's national direction and initiatives;
- Expectations of our national, regional and chapter leaders;
- Ways to improve services to retain current members and recruit new members and leaders; and
- How to access information to be a more effective leader.

The Seattle Chapter participation in the SLM helps us keep current on AGA matters and assists us in providing relevant services to our members.

AGA Seattle Chapter Annual Election Results

We are pleased to announce the results of the elections for the 2016-2017 Officers and Board Members to the AGA Seattle Chapter:

President: Mary Ann Hardy

Treasurer: Sam Lord

Membership Chair: Karyn Angulo

Secretary: Sandra Starnes

Community Service Chair: Gabrielle Sivage

CGFM Chair: Gabrielle Sivage

Early Careers Chair: Sam Lord

At the Sectional Leadership Meeting held in Salt Lake City, our current president Diane Makaeli was awarded a



Chapter President Diane Makaeli (left) receiving the Certificate of Service Award from Sandra Starnes

Certificate of Service for her outstanding performance leading the Seattle Chapter during the 2015-2016 chapter year. Since Diane wasn't able to attend the SLM, Sandra Starnes brought the certificate back and made a presentation during our Emerald Award luncheon.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Northwest Run/Walk for Epilepsy

This is the Epilepsy Foundation Northwest's annual epilepsy awareness walk. Now in its 13th year, the Run/Walk raises money for EFNW programs and services and increases public understanding about epilepsy.

To join **TEAM AGA** either by direct participation or contribution, go to <http://www.nwrunwalk.org/faf/home/default.asp?ievent=1158551>

>>>>Details are on the next page.<<<<



TEAM “AGA”

**For Event Information and to sign up or contribute: go to
<http://www.nwrunwalk.org/faf/home/default.asp?ievent=1158551>**

The Northwest Run/Walk for Epilepsy is the Epilepsy Foundation Northwest's annual epilepsy awareness walk. Now in its 13th year, the Run/Walk raises money for EFNW programs and services and increases public understanding about epilepsy.

Event Location:

Waterfront Park
8801 Washington Ave NW
Silverdale, WA 98383

Route will be: Walk from Waterfront Park along the Clear Creek Trail to the bridge behind Goodwill and back.

Event Schedule: June 18, 2016

9:00 am - Registration

10:00 am - Run/Walk

11:00 am - Celebration Ceremony

Fees:

RUNNER: \$25.00
Registration fee as RUNNER

WALKER: \$25.00
Registration fee as WALKER

NEVER MISS A KUDO

The following article highlighting our past President appeared in [AGA TOPICS](#)



Meet Your Fellow AGA Member



Sandra Starnes, CGFM, CPA, CICA
CFS Financial Manager, Port Gamble Skallam Tribe
Seattle Chapter

Q: What do you think is the most important issue in government financial management, today?

A: How to become transparent in a way that truly reflects all the services, we provide. The public all too often does not see the benefits.

Q: What AGA product, program or service do you find most useful?

A: The intergovernmental workgroups active participation in what is important to all levels of government.

Q: How did you choose government financial management as your career?

A: I wanted to give back to my community and do something important. As a government financial manager, I am able to give back by ensuring funding is used in the most effective and efficient manor thus providing more services to the people we serve.

Q: What advice would you give a recent graduate joining the field?

A: Enter the field early at either the state or federal level, it is much easier to move over to the local governments then it is to move from local to state or federal.

Q: What accomplishments are you most proud of in your career?

A: Helping the Tribe become the first in the nation to operate their own foster care program from writing initial grant proposal, to assisting with the setup of policies and procedures to establishing the internal controls for the effective reporting of the program.

Q: Do you have a mentor and how has this person helped you?

A: As the only CPA or CGFM in the Health and Human department at the Tribe, I have had to look to AGA's PDT to obtain the mentorship necessary to grow as a professional. Many of the members have provided mentorship.

Q: What's the biggest challenge you've faced professionally and how did you overcome it?

A: Specializing in such a unique field, Tribal Social Services has isolated me. I have had to learn everything I needed to know to operate a one person Financial/Grant Management Office on my own.

Q: Do you have a professional 'lesson-learned' you would like to share?

A: Don't be shy about approaching AGA members for help and guidance.

Q: Would you like to highlight anything from your AGA chapter?

A: The Seattle Chapter newsletter is one of the most important communication to our members since it is often the most comprehensive information they receive about the chapter

Q: How did you get involved in AGA?

A: Looking for association that would keep me up to date on governmental accounting issues.

Q: Why did you decide to earn the CGFM certification?

A: As a sign of my dedication to the profession.

Q: What tip or advice do you have for potential CGFMs?

A: Even if not recognized by your organization, the feeling of personal achievement is well worth the effort.

Reprinted from May 2016 on-line AGA TOPICS <http://aga.informz.net/admin31/content/template.asp?sid=49069&ptid=2658&brandid=4890&uid=1066185284&mi=5618216&ps=49069>

Board Member John Kurpierz Leaves us for Doctorate Program

John Kurpierz, MPA and AGA Seattle's Early Careers Chair, is headed to the Schulich School of Business at York University to earn his PhD in Administration specializing in Accounting. Schulich is consistently ranked among the world's leading schools and #1 in Canada by *The Economist*, *Forbes*, and *CNN Expansión*. Further, Schulich is ranked #1 in the world by the Better World MBA Ranking, which assesses how well business schools from around the world are integrating social, ethical, and environmental impact management issues into their programs, beating out Cambridge (#7), MIT (#8), and Harvard (#9).

John is ecstatic, but also grateful "AGA Seattle is where I honed my accounting skills, and learned to apply them to government and environmental issues. I couldn't have done this without the help and mentorship of wonderful people like Pat Bohan, Tim Dobler, and Karyn Angulo, as well as Presidents Ken Smith and Diane Makaeli. I've benefitted hugely from the support and knowledge of our chapter's leadership." Some of John's research has been featured in previous editions of *The Sounder*, such as "How to Face Financial Reality" and "Quality of Financial Reporting of Washington State School Districts: Results from a Population-Wide Analysis of Audited Financial Reports."



Even in Toronto, John intends to remain a member-at-large on the board of the AGA Seattle Chapter. "I've learned so much here. I don't want to leave when so many exciting new projects are coming up. I want to be a pipeline for cutting-edge government accounting research between here and Schulich, and help our chapter grow like our chapter helped me grow."

President's Message, Continued from Page 1

his contributions. Thank you!

We wrapped up this month with our annual board retreat on the 21st of May. It was my honor to pass the gavel to Mary Ann, who will be serving as AGA Seattle's President for 2016-2017. Please join me in welcoming her into this very important position. I have been impressed with her skills and professionalism, and I know she will serve us all well. At the retreat the board discussed feedback received from our members, and we planned the coming year accordingly. We will be working on producing a Strategic Plan as well as a CCR (Citizen-Centric Report) for our chapter. We also changed our chapter membership meetings from Mondays to Tuesdays in response to your requests. Meeting dates and speaker topics were established and are available for you to place on your calendars for the coming year. We are also working on remote options for those of us who cannot make it into downtown Seattle for the chapter meetings. We are really excited about this opportunity and will provide more information as it becomes available. Mary Ann noted there were 140+ attendees at this year's Governmental Accounting and Auditing Conference in Tacoma. If you have photos from the event you would like to share with us for inclusion in our newsletter, please feel free to send those to us. Also note that next year's conference will be held in May rather than April in response to many requests to move it a bit later in the tax year. We will also continue our outreach to college accounting and auditing classes as well as to early career members. Your feedback and recommendations are always welcome.

Thank you all for a great year and for your service to our communities. I am extremely proud to be part of such an amazing profession and organization. I am a much better person for the experience.

Diane

Second Annual Board Retreat

Five members of our board ^{1/}met on Saturday, May 21st to plan for the near-term and long-term success of the Seattle Chapter.

Challenges identified include providing better training opportunities to the membership and obtaining greater involvement of members in the chapter, particularly in filling leadership roles.

^{1/} Mary Ann Hardy, In-coming President; Diane Makaeli, immediate past president; Sam Lord, Treasurer and Webmaster; Gabrielle Sivage, CGFM and Community Service Chair; and Kay Angulo, Membership Chair and Historian.

PHOTOS WANTED

We like to decorate the first page of The Sounder with a local photo each month.

If you have a picture to contribute, please send it to Tim Dobler at DOBLER5@MSN.COM.

When we use your photo, we will acknowledge you in our credits section.

AGA Seattle Chapter Recognition Program Points

Chapter Recognition Program categories	Points to Date
Section I - Chapter Leadership, Planning, & Participation	[1] 3,000
Section II - Education & Professional Development	1,850
Section III - Certification	1,800
Section IV - Communications	[1] 3,000
Section V - Membership with a Focus on Early Career and Student Members	[1] 4,000
Section VI - Accountability	0
Section VII - Community Service	1,500
Section VIII - Awards	800
Total	15,950

[1] Chapter has reached maximum points allowed for section.

Recognition Levels:

A **Bronze Chapter Designation** will be presented to any chapter that attains between 10,000 and 14,500 credits for the year. The chapter president's plaque will include recognition that the chapter has achieved Bronze status.

A **Silver Chapter Designation** will be presented to any chapter that attains between 14,501 and 17,000 credits for the year. The chapter president's plaque will include recognition that the chapter has achieved Silver status.

A **Gold Chapter Designation** will be presented to any chapter that attains between 17,001 and 19,500 credits for the year. The chapter president's plaque will include recognition that the chapter has achieved Gold status.

The **Platinum Chapter Designation** will be presented to any chapter that attains between 19,501 and 22,000 credits for the year. The chapter president's plaque will include recognition that the chapter has achieved Platinum status.

Financial Condition as of April 30, 2016

Checking	\$ 5,280.01
Savings	\$ 2,703.30
12 Month Certificate of Deposit	<u>\$ 4,643.70</u>
Total Assets	\$12,627.01
Liabilities	\$ 0.00
Members' Equity	<u>\$ 12,627.01</u>
Liabilities & Members' Equity	\$12,627.01

Cash Flow Report, Month Ending April 30, 2016

Beginning Cash Balances		\$12,540.71
Emerald Award Expenses	\$ 59.18	
Membership Scholarship	\$ 24.07	
Cash Expended		<u>\$ 83.25</u>
AGA Dues Received	\$ 167.52	
Lunch Receipts		
Interest Income	\$ 2.03	
Subtotal Cash Deposits		<u>\$ 169.55</u>
Net Cash Change		<u>\$ 86.30</u>
Ending Cash Balance		<u>\$12,627.01</u>



WE'RE ON THE WEB:
WWW.AGASEATTLE.ORG

AGA serves government accountability professionals by providing quality education, fostering professional development and certification, and supporting standards and research to advance government accountability.

The purpose of the Association and the Chapter is to be an international, professional organization dedicated to the advancement of government financial management. The Association shall serve its members by providing or sponsoring appropriate educational programs, encouraging professional development, influencing governmental financial management policies and practices, and serving as an advocate for the profession. The Association shall serve government officials and the public by sponsoring efforts to ensure full and fair accountability for all public monies, and by providing a variety of pro bono services throughout the United States and its territories that support that end.

AGA Seattle Chapter 2015-2016 Board Members

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Early Careers Chair

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Research Chair

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This newsletter was produced by board member Tim Dobler with the assistance of Karyn Angulo. Thanks to chapter members who contributed articles and photos for this issue. Masthead Photo by John Kurpierz "Cherry Blossoms in U of W Quad."