



The Ozarks Ledger



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From Nathan's Desk

Registration has ended for the 2020 Fall Seminar, but it isn't too late to register for the 8 CPE Technology and Transformation Summit offered FREE by AGA for members. We are excited to be using GoToWebinar and Conferences i/o to support and host our own webinars for the Ozarks Chapter. These two applications will enable us to provide you with in-house CPE virtually during the pandemic and into the future to meet the needs of those who can't travel to 425 Downtown for monthly meetings.

It is always a good time to renew your membership on the web [here](#). AGA has gone above and beyond to offer free virtual CPE for members this year, and will continue to do so, in addition to our local chapter.

Our sincere sympathies go out to all of you experiencing family loss and hardship from the pandemic, and hope you stay safe and well.

Best,

Nathan Ziegler, CPA



Ozark Chapter Events

Fall Seminar, Part 1 - October 20

- In-Person/Virtual Event

Fall Seminar, Part 2 - October 29

- Virtual Event

November Chapter Webinar - TBD

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

Tour - May 20, TBD

National Events

Virtual Event - November 18

- Technology & Transformation Summit (TTS)

Virtual Event - December 2

- CEAR Reviewer Training



Fall Professional Development Training

Fall Seminar - Part 1: In-Person/Virtual Event

October 20th

7:30-8:00 Breakfast

8:00-4:30 Conference & Lunch

8 CPE Credits Available

Please specify if you will attend In-Person or Virtually

Location: White River Conference Center
600 W Sunshine St, Springfield, MO 65807

Fall Seminar - Part 2: Virtual Event

October 29th

8:00-12:00 Online Conference

4 CPE Credits Available

Technology & Transformation Summit (TTS)

Virtual Event - November 18th

This event brings together more than 1,300 government leaders and industry experts to discuss how IT innovation, workforce, security, and cloud are transforming mission delivery.

8 CPEs Available

Free for Members or \$125 for Government
Non-Members

We now accept Paypal!

News from National/NCC Rep

Hello, everyone!

As governments wrap up the year-end and start preparing their Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports (CAFRs), many also issue Popular Annual Financial Reports (PAFRs) to communicate results to their citizens in a less technical and more user-friendly format. They focus on the flow of resources to the government, how those resources were used and the results that were achieved with those resources.

In an effort to make government spending more transparent and easier to understand, the National AGA office developed the Citizen-Centric Report (CCR) reporting style in 2007, and since then, over 400 government CCRs have been published to provide citizens a clear and concise understanding of where taxpayer dollars are going.

The CCR is a 4 page report format that uses charts, tables and graphics to share useful information on a government's annual financial and operating results. You will see

- a description of the agency and its mission (page 1),
- service and performance metrics and outcomes (page 2),
- financial revenues and expenditures (page 3), and
- upcoming challenges and goals that the entity has in the future (page 4).

The National AGA office and its Chapters use a similar format, the Member-Centric Report, to highlight key information to keep members informed on their annual results and achievements.

Did you know that your Ozarks AGA Chapter produces a Member-Centric Report in the fall? You can find those on the Chapter website. Your Chapter Executive Committee is currently working on our annual report for the 2019-2020 reporting year. We expect to have that report published in early November.

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

Greg Drake

2019-2021 Ozarks Chapter NCC Representative



Random Financial Fact:

In 2019, consumers were expected to spend almost \$9 billion on costumes, decorations, candy, and holiday cards for Halloween. Forget the stomach ache, that makes my wallet hurt!

Visit the National Retail Federation to see the survey results and other top halloween purchases!

Everyone meet, Ashley Bartholomaus



This month we are excited to introduce Ashley Bartholomaus. Ashley is Springfield born and raised and graduated from Missouri State University. She has been with OTC for 3 years now where she enjoys seeing the fun and creative projects that students have going on around campus. Ashley is a newer member who has been with AGA for a year.

Ashley is passionate about volunteer work and helping build and improve the community. She is your typical Ozarkian in the fact that she loves outdoors activities, so you will find her hiking, floating, and camping, as well as volunteering for the gardens at Nathanael Greene park.

Strictly Business:

What was your first job?

I got my first job way back when I was in high school, washing dishes after class at a small country café.

A Little More Personal:

What's a thing most people don't know about you?

I love reptiles and have a pet snake.

What would we most likely find you doing on the weekend?

Out in the garden, pulling weeds and putting down mulch.

Just for Fun:

What's one item you can't leave your home without?

I always have a can or two of La Croix stashed away in my bag for an afternoon pick me up

Motivational Video:

15 Traits That Make Open Minded People Different

Brainy Dose



Anniversaries, Milestones & Achievements

- AGA Ozarks Chapter
 - 28 years
- Dawn Vader, Hickory County Health Department
 - 5 year anniversary
- Deb Fraley, City of Springfield
 - 20 year anniversary

Job Opportunities

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

Quote of the Month

"I fell in love with numbers at a young age. They were my friends. I could depend on them to always be there and always behave in the same way." - Paul Erdos, Hungarian Mathematician

Why the CGFM?

Teresa Allen

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

A: From the first time I heard of it, I was really intrigued and I wanted to do it, but was too intimidated. A coworker at the City said she wanted to pursue it so we decided to do it together.

Q: How has it helped your confidence?

A: It was a tremendous help with my confidence and it wasn't necessarily what I learned, but just knowing I completed it. There is great satisfaction in finishing something challenging.

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

A: The continuing education definitely helps me in my job duties. Staying on top of changes keeps me informed.

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

A: Having someone do it with me was the thing that got me through. I couldn't let her down. I would HIGHLY recommend asking a co-worker if they are interested in the CGFM, you might be surprised!

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

A: When I took it, the practice questions in the guide weren't anything like the real questions. You have to be able to take all the concepts and apply them. DON'T second guess the instinct you have on your first answer to a question.

Q: What resources did you use to help prepare?

A: I used the study guides. We ACTUALLY went to Washington DC for two of the three training sessions at National AGA. It wasn't really necessary



because they kind of just read the book to you.

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: Yes! I think I helped implement that policy. I think it's a great opportunity for those that have to pay for it themselves.

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

A: We really got aggressive about passing the exams when we got back. We met once or twice a week to study together "presenting" a chapter of the study guide to each other at a time. We tackled the hardest book first so we wouldn't forget it. We took that first exam 4 to 6 weeks after returning and we both passed, then we studied the next book and a month later took that test, then the third. I don't remember the application process time but from the time we went to DC to passing the last exam was five really intense months! Not sure if I would recommend it but there is no way I could have done that schedule alone.



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

GASB FOCUS

Webinars

Preliminary Views, Revenue and Expense Recognition

For Financial Statement Users:

- October 27, 2020 2:00–3:00 p.m. EDT (overview of the PV).

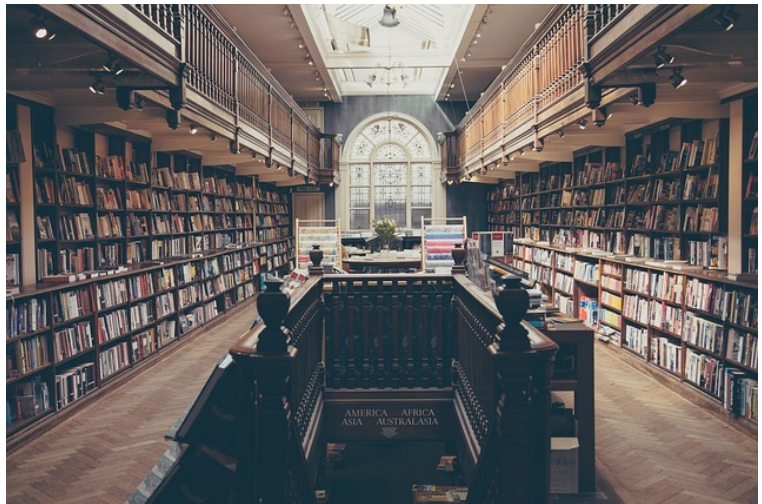
For Preparers and Auditors:

- November 12, 2020 2:00–3:00 p.m. EST (PV Chapters 1–3)
- November 19, 2020 2:00–3:00 p.m. EST (PV Chapters 2 and 4)
- December 10, 2020 2:00–3:00 p.m. EST (PV Chapters 5–7).

Participants in the live webinars (which are offered free of charge) are eligible for 1 hour of continuing professional education (CPE) per webinar. CPE credit is **not** available for group viewing of the live broadcast.

The webinars will be conducted by Paulina Haro, GASB supervising project manager, and Erin McKenzie, GASB project manager. Dean Mead, GASB senior research manager, will moderate the webinar for users. David R. Bean, GASB director of research and technical activities, will moderate the webinars for preparers and auditors.

Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions during the webinar.



Exposure Draft, Financial Reporting Model Improvements

For Financial Statement Users:

November 20, 2020, 2:00–3:00 p.m. EST

For Preparers and Auditors:

December 15, 2020, 2:00–4:00 p.m.

Participants in the live webinars (which are offered free of charge) are eligible for 1 or 2 hours of continuing professional education (CPE) credit depending on the length of the event. CPE credit is **not** available for group viewing of the live broadcast.

The webinars will be conducted by Roberta Reese, Lisa Parker, and Scott Reeser, GASB senior project managers, and Janeen Hathcock, GASB associate practice fellow. Dean Mead, GASB senior research manager, will moderate the webinar for users. David Bean, GASB director of research and technical activities, will moderate the webinars for preparers and auditors.

Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions during the webinar.

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