



ALBUQUERQUE CHAPTER

Albuquerque AGA Monthly Newsletter

October 2014

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**Citizen-Centric
Report To Our
Members
Program Year
2013-2014
Is Complete!
Please see at
www.agaabq.org**



Happy Halloween!



President's Message

Greetings,

I hope everyone got a chance to enjoy the beautiful balloons filling our skies in the last couple of weeks! Traffic and crowd issues aside, it is a gorgeous time of the year to look up and see the colorful puffs float in the air, above the hustle and bustle of our daily lives. I will be reminding myself of that peaceful feeling often as we head into the bulk of our audit season!



We had a lovely visit from our National President, Bill Miller, on October 6th. He spoke highly of the attentive audience he taught at our first seminar event of the year. CEC members also were able to spend time with him at a New Mexico style (chile breakfast burritos!) breakfast, kindly hosted by REDW. It was certainly a treat to have him join us and get to experience the best charms of our state.

As we shift focus toward the upcoming holiday season, we look forward to more exciting events and activities in the Albuquerque Chapter. Our November luncheon features a speaker who will talk about the ever-changing world of cyber security and malware. IT topics can be very scary, but interesting, which goes well with Halloween coming up! (Please note the change in venue from our education calendar!) Then, before you know it, our toy drive/holiday seminar event will be here, but I will stop there since talking about the winter holidays scares me a little bit at this point! We hope you have a fun and exciting Halloween and fall season, whether you are a scary auditor, zombie fiscal worker, or a superhero for all of the above!

Heather Prudhomme, CPA, CGFM, CGMA

AGA Albuquerque President

CGFM October Promotion



Tell coworkers and friends that October is a great month to become a CGFM candidate! As part of CGFM's 20th anniversary celebration, the online CGFM application fee is only \$20 if submitted in the month of October - an incredible discount of \$65! This is an opportunity not to be missed, so spread the word!



Upcoming Educational Events

November Luncheon

Cyber Security & Malware

Modern malware is cheap to make, easy to distribute and difficult to detect. Every year, hundreds of millions of new malware emerge, while the tools to find and research malware remain primitive. Our speaker, John Donahue is a malware research scientist at CAaNES, an Albuquerque, NM-based cyber security company. He is currently researching and developing tools for the future of malware detection, analysis, and visualization and will share some of his developments with us.

Wednesday, November 12, 2014

11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Pappadeaux Seafood Kitchen

5011 Pan American Fwy NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109

\$15 for members | \$20 for non-members

Provides 1 hour, non-technical CPE

If you'd like to bring food or winter clothing for the homeless we will be collecting donations at the luncheon.

December Seminar

Omni Circular and the SEFA

Released in December 2013, and originally known as the Super Circular, the Omni Circular was created by OMB as part of an effort to reform and strengthen Federal grant making. Speakers, Bobby Cordova, A&A Group Partner-in-Charge and Robert Gonzales, Supervisor, with Accounting & Consulting Group, will detail how the changes will affect you. They will also discuss, in depth, the proper internal controls that should be in place and the process to prepare an accurate SEFA. They will then go over techniques to help avoid the most commonly made mistakes during the preparation of a SEFA.

Wednesday, December 17, 2014

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Crowne Plaza - Garden Room

1901 University Blvd NW, Albuquerque, NM 87102

\$50 for members | \$65 for non-members

Provides 4 hours, technical CPE

This seminar will be followed by a toy drive for the UNM Children's Hospital and networking reception. Please stick around for the festivities...and even if you can't make the seminar, you are welcome at the reception!

RSVP to Marla Gorena at mgorena@acgsw.com or 505.883.2727



National Wreaths Across America Day - Saturday, December 13, 2014



Again, this year the Association of Government Accountants of the San Antonio Chapter is making an awareness to recognize fallen heroes through the “Wreaths Across America” Organization. This year is special as this is the 150th Anniversary of the Arlington National Cemetery. Last year there was an outpouring of many donations for wreaths to cover many gravesites. Again, this year we need to expand this coverage to cover even more gravesites as many more veterans have been placed to rest in our National Cemeteries. In Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery a small city of over 23,000 fallen heroes reside in our community. Please make a difference this year in sponsoring a wreath for those who gave up their lives for our freedom. Sponsor a wreath, go to <http://www.wreathacrossamerica.org>.

Ways To Sponsor

Wreaths Across America needs your help to reach their goal of placing 500,000 wreaths on veterans graves. Every time you help them honor our veterans and active military, you are also honoring their families and preparing a new generation to appreciate our freedoms. You can add your chapter to start a local fundraising group. The Wreaths Across America organization adds one more wreath each time two wreaths are sponsored through TX0119 AGA San Antonio Chapter.

<http://www.wreathacrossamerica.org/act-now/ways-to-sponsor/> Choose Sponsor a Wreath for Arlington National Cemetery)

CGFM Corner

By James Hartogensis, CGFM Chair-Albuquerque Chapter

Greetings Albuquerque Chapter Members,
This month we bring some CGFM related information from the national office of AGA:

A Unique Way to Earn CPEs

Now is your chance to help the next wave of CGFM candidates complete their examinations, while earning CPEs! The CGFM Program is seeking subject matter experts interested in writing practice questions for the CGFM Examinations. Participants must be active CGFMs and can earn CPE credit towards their CGFM for writing and reviewing questions. Interested? Email Katya Silver, national CGFM Director, at ksilver@agacgfm.org for more information.

This monthly column is intended to update you on the latest CGFM developments and provide helpful information on earning and maintaining your certification. Please let myself or another executive committee member know if you have any questions, or if we can be of any assistance.

AGA Albuquerque Chapter - NM Government Accounting Student Association A Partnership For Student Success!

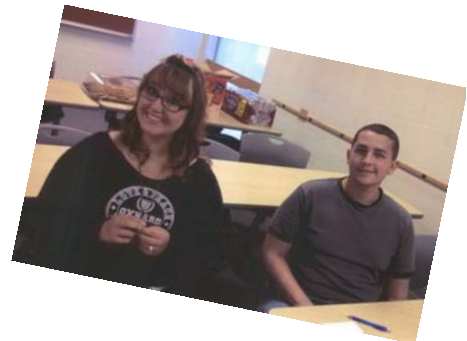
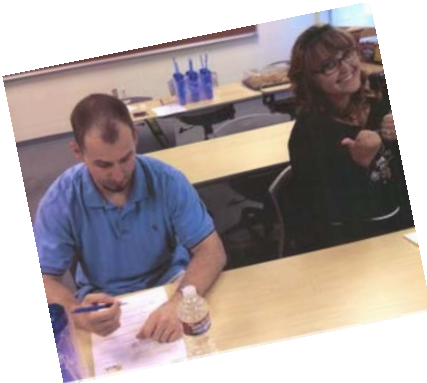
By Diana Ursu, Early Career Chair

We are proud to announce that AGA Albuquerque Chapter has joined forces with the CNM Government Accounting Student Association to support academic excellence and promote student success in the accounting field.

CNM Government Accounting Student Association is a newly formed student organization at the Central New Mexico Community College (CNM) which promotes the accounting profession and “encourages higher learning through internships, scholarships, and networking opportunities with potential employers, government leaders and other students with similar career objectives. The association is beneficial to students with career objectives in all areas of accounting and is not exclusive to governmental accounting.

Our Chapter is working hard with the student organization faculty advisor Martin Epstein, CPA and student Board of Directors. As part of our service and career development initiatives, the Albuquerque AGA Chapter plans to offer whatever support the Chapter may require: speakers to discuss real world employment and expectations, mentoring opportunities, a student corner on our website, free attendance at our educational events and opportunities for scholarships.

We look forward to contributing to our student partner organization through sponsorship and participation!



*Faculty sponsor
Martin Epstein*



**CNM
Government
Accounting
Student Association
1st Meeting**



Maintaining CGFM Designation

CGFM CPE Requirements FAQs

Q: What is my CPE cycle?

A: Your first CPE cycle starts on Jan. 1 of the year following the one in which your CGFM designation was earned. For example, if your CGFM was awarded any time in 2013, the first CPE cycle starts on Jan. 1, 2014 and ends on Dec. 31, 2015. See **Calendar of CPE cycles** at <http://www.agacgfm.org/CFGM-Certification/Maintaining-Certification> or a schedule of CPE cycles. This cycle may be different from an employer's CPE cycle or CPE cycles used by other designations.

Q: Is there a minimum number of CPE hours I have to earn every year?

A: No. The requirement is 80 hours every two years. CGFMs are encouraged to earn CPE hours throughout their two-year cycle. See more **CGFM CPE FAQs** at the website above.

Questions About the CGFM Program?

Contact Crystal Robinson, Certification Program Coordinator, at 800.AGA.7211 ext. 316, Katya Silver, Director of Professional Certification, at 800.AGA.7211, ext. 305 or James Hartogensis, CGFM Chair-Albuquerque Chapter

Welcome New Members & Student CEC Member

New Members - September

- Nick M. Telles -Valencia County
- Susan R. Aragon - NM Workforce Solutions Financial Management Bureau
- Cecilia Dominquez - NM Workforce Solutions Financial Management Bureau
- Meredith L. Garcia-Rivera - NM Workforce Solutions Financial Management Bureau
- Martinik Gonzales - NM Workforce Solutions Financial Management Bureau
- Nancy Griffin - NM Workforce Solutions Financial Management Bureau
- Cindy G. Hudzik - NM Workforce Solutions Financial Management Bureau
- Violetta Kempainen-Apodaca - NM Workforce Solutions Financial Management Bureau
- Evelyn M. Lagoy - NM Workforce Solutions Financial Management Bureau
- Andrea Elisa Martinez - NM Workforce Solutions Financial Management Bureau
- Dorothy A. Martinez - NM Workforce Solutions Financial Management Bureau
- Brad A. Mathews - NM Workforce Solutions Financial Management Bureau
- David L. Robbins - NM Workforce Solutions Financial Management Bureau
- Betty Romero - NM Workforce Solutions Financial Management Bureau

Student CEC Member

Mihaela Spilca





Save the Date

The AGA Professional Development Training (PDT)

Your Passport to an
Unforgettable Training Experience

March 30 - April 1, 2015

Formally known as the Professional Development Conference (PDC) - new name, even better program!



Save the Date

AGA Balloon Breakfast With National President Bill Miller

Sponsored By REDW

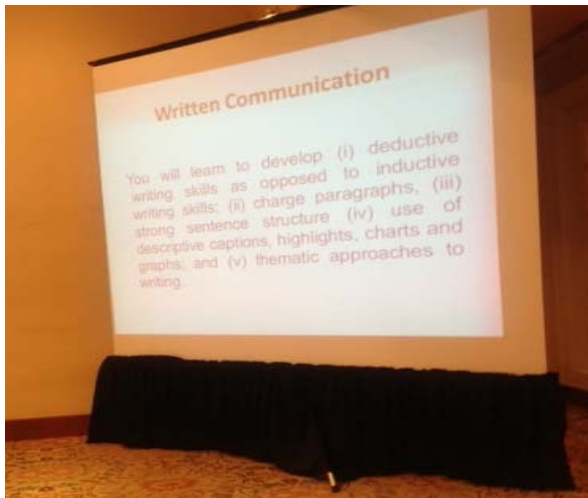


National AGA President Bill Miller Visits Albuquerque - WOW!

National President Bill Miller, CGFM, CPA came to Albuquerque on Monday, October 6, 2014. He had a breakfast get together with AGA Albuquerque Chapter leadership early in the morning during the balloons (see photos of the fun event above!) and then presented an afternoon seminar. Attendance at both the breakfast and seminar was excellent! His seminar topic “**Performance Auditing and Report Writing**” was directly related to his highest expertise as a current Performance Auditor in Missouri. Performance auditing is an independent examination of State programs under



Heather Prudhomme and Bill Miller



Yellow Book auditing standards to

determine if the programs meet the mandates established by legislation. Secondly, programs under audit are examined to see if they are operated effectively and efficiently. Finally, the end product of a performance audit is the report, and Bill shared his deep expertise on how to write a report with impact. Bill shared many ideas in his talk including ideas on evaluating risk of state agencies, recommended protocols to make sure you get the right answer in your auditing, illustrative case histories, inductive and deductive writing style, visual considerations in reports, and benchmarking in performance auditing. We appreciate the information shared by Bill Miller and we appreciate the support from the Albuquerque Chapter AGA members!

*Marty Mathisen, CPA, CGFM
Newsletter Editor*

CEC Member Spotlight - Javier Machuca, CPA, CGFM, CGMA

Javier is currently the Albuquerque Chapter’s Community Services chair. He is a Senior Manager at REDW, LLC in Albuquerque, where he is responsible for developing and managing client relationships, and supervising and coordinating audits from start through issuance. Javier also trains and coaches staff, giving them the tools to advance in their careers.

Javier is a graduate of New Mexico State University with a Bachelor’s degree in accountancy. He has been an AGA member for eight years, serving in a number of roles on the Chapter Executive Committees of both the Albuquerque and New Mexico chapters including President twice, Education chair, and Meetings chair. Javier has also twice previously served as Community Services chair.



Outside of work, Javier enjoys spending time with his family, including coaching his kids in basketball and soccer. His favorite movie is the Outlaw Josey Wales, which he will watch whenever he comes across it while channel surfing. This also explains his favorite quote “To hell with them fellas. Buzzards gotta eat...same as worms.” Javier is looking forward to a time when he can visit Spain or Italy for an extended vacation.

The New Green Book

INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP REGISTRATIONS AVAILABLE

The New Green Book

October 22 | 2-3:50 p.m. ET | 2 CPEs

Join us to learn how the '[Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government](#)' has changed and the potential impact of these changes. The U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) recently issued the [new 'Green Book'](#) that provides the overall framework for establishing and maintaining an effective internal control system.

In the first segment of this web conference, **Kristen Kociolek**, Assistant Director, Financial Management and Assurance Team, GAO, will discuss the changes to the Green Book and its impact.

In the second segment, learn how agencies, including state and local governments, can employ and benefit from the Green Book's guidance. **Melinda Miguel**, CIG, CFSA, CBM, CICA, PMP, Chief Inspector General, Executive Office of the Governor, State of Florida, will present.

Registration Fees

1. **Individual:**

AGA Member: \$49

Nonmember: \$69

2. **Group:**

On or Before Oct. 22: \$289

After Oct. 22: \$339

Group registration fee is per site, not per person. Each paid fee includes unlimited attendance at a single location.



**Please join the
New Mexico Association of Government
Accountants**

Fall Harvest Social

Friday

October 24, 2014

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

**Inn of the Governors – Del Charro
101 West Alameda, Santa Fe**

**The Social will benefit the
Food Depot**

**Please bring non-perishable food items for
donation to the Food Depot**

RSVP

Wanda Gonzales

supwmg@nmcourts.gov

MISSION STATEMENT

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

www.agaabq.org

AGA CORE VALUES

Service, Accountability, Integrity, Leadership



AGA Chapter Executive Committee (CEC)

President
Heather Prudhomme
hprudhomme@atkinsoncpa.com

Past President
Laura Beltran-Schmitz
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Treasurer
Matt Bone
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Secretary
Kim Hallatt
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Education Chair
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Accountability Chair
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CGFM Chair
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Early Careers Chair
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Awards Chair
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Webmaster
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Make achieving the CGFM your goal for this program year!

The first two AGA Albuquerque Chapter Members who send in a notice of CGFM award between now and May 31, 2015 (final test must not have been taken prior to September 1, 2014) will receive recognition in our newsletter and \$500 from the AGA Albuquerque Chapter. For more details or to apply for the award please contact James Hartogensis, CPA, CGFM at jhartocpa@msn.com.

